



College Update
August 20th, 2018

Happy First Week of Classes!

Thank you so much for the fantastic In-Service sessions last week. In particular, it was great for me to have the opportunity to stop by the Faculty Retreat in Blanca while traveling between campuses for meetings on Wednesday. The energy and enthusiasm in the room were palpable **and the room was full**. Last fall, we began the year with 42 full-time faculty members; this fall, we have 48. What a great sign of strength for us.

Last Friday evening, Dr. Melissa Kleinschmit met me at the University of Colorado – Colorado Springs for her orientation as our ethics champion this year. In the past, Genia Rasmussen and LiAnn Richardson participated in this unique program, sponsored by the Daniels Fund. Dr. Mel will connect with several other faculty members from across southern Colorado this year and she will have access to materials that ultimately enable us to include ethics training in our course offerings.

Shared governance is gearing up once again at Trinidad State. Please join me in thanking Kathy Carpenter, Julie Kotalik, Mike Salbato and Jack Wiley for agreeing to represent faculty and staff on College Council this year. These individuals will provide continuity to our discussions. As you know, we also began a process to identify individuals to fill the remaining four seats last Friday. Please nominate colleagues whom you feel would best represent faculty and staff perspectives on College Council. Nominations are due by August 29th and the full Council will be seated in early September.

Finally, the 2018-2019 Implementation Plan is currently in draft form and ready for review. The Strategic Planning Committee will discuss the document, provide revisions, and forward it to College Council. The first meeting for this committee will be Wednesday, August 29th at 4:00 pm via telepresence. We have had some turnover on the Strategic Planning Committee, so if you would like to serve, please let me know. This would be an especially interesting committee assignment for new faculty and staff members, who would bring fresh perspectives to our work.

[As always, if you have questions, concerns or information to share, please let me know.](#)

Hope you have a great week!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carmen M. Simone'.

Carmen M. Simone,
President