



College Update
October 17, 2016

Happy Monday!

We recently heard some good news from two grant sources. First, the Coalition of Colorado Campus Alcohol and Drug Educators (CADE) selected the Trinidad campus to participate in the CADE Collaborate 2016-2018 Cohort Group. This opportunity brings \$5,000 to spend over the next two years for awareness and prevention training, which is very similar to the award received by the Valley campus last year. Second, we received a 2016-2017 State Grants to Libraries award of \$4,000 for educational materials to support efforts to improve literacy and learning.

Last January, we learned that our *unofficial* 2013 Three-Year Cohort Default Rate (CDR) was 20.3%. After several successful appeals by our Financial Aid office, this number has shifted. According to the US Department of Education, the *official* 2013 Three-Year CDR for Trinidad State is 19.9%. This is much improved from our nearly 30% rate a few years ago. To put this into perspective, public two-year institutions have an average CDR of 18.5%, down from an average of 19.1% for the 2012 cohort. We are doing well, thanks to the hard work of several individuals – congratulations, Kerry, Wilma, Misti, Leslie and Rosalie.

Last Friday, it was a privilege for me to address the Colorado Adult Education Professional Association (CAEPA) in Denver. My talk was guided by the conference theme – Empowering Learners through Partnerships and Innovation. Many representatives from both of our Adult Education programs attended the conference and our own Anna Mae Lindsay led the effort as CAEPA President. It was a great conference!

Members of the State Faculty Advisory Council (SFAC) visited the Trinidad campus last week on Friday, led by SFAC Vice-Chair and State Board Representative Candace Garrod of Red Rocks Community College. Trinidad State faculty members Kathy Carpenter (Nursing) and Sue Nesbitt (Psychology) provided a tour of the campus, including pre-arranged stops in Nursing, Robotics, and Gunsmithing and a short video of the Valley campus. Discussion of the Positive College initiative took place toward the end of the day. Although it would have been great for me to also say hello to the group, my arrival back from Denver was about five minutes too late. Sorry, Sue and Kathy!

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 cursive script that reads 'Carmen M. Simone'.

Carmen M. Simone,
President