



College Update
November 27, 2016

Welcome Back!

Service to the Higher Learning Commission Peer Review Corps is an important part of my own professional development. To that end, my time early this week will be committed to reviewing a technical institute in South Dakota as part of a ten-year reaccreditation team. The Commission will be paying for my travel, which will occur from Sunday through Wednesday, but Trinidad State will undoubtedly benefit from my widened perspective of higher education.

On Thursday, we will begin hosting the 81st Annual Trinidad State Junior College High School Basketball Tournament. For three days, Scott Gym will be filled with players and fans, celebrating the longest consecutively running high school basketball competition in the State of Colorado. This is an important recruiting event for the College and a cherished tradition for the region. *Thank you to all the volunteers who make hosting this tournament possible.* My travel should bring me back to campus just in time for the ceremonial tip-off toss of the first game ball.

Just prior to break, the Strategic Planning committee suggested slightly modified mission and vision statements for further consideration. College Council will review the proposed changes before submitting final versions to the State Board early next year. The updated language is provided below and your comments are welcome:

Mission

Enriching our diverse communities through quality educational experiences and lifelong learning.

Vision

Adapt to change, embrace diversity, educate for the future.

The conclusion of the Fall 2016 term is near, signaled by the upcoming Rocky Mountain Lineman School rodeo and graduation ceremony. This Friday, several of us will be in Colorado Springs to formally recognize these new graduates, including Dave King, who is completing his last semester as a Trinidad State employee. We are grateful for his commitment during this transition and we look forward to welcoming additional part-time instructors in the spring.

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