



College Update
December 3rd, 2018

Happy Monday!

My role as a Peer Reviewer for our accrediting body, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), has taken me to Phoenix, AZ for the next few days. These types of opportunities provide some of the very best professional development available. Trinidad State will continue to benefit from future HLC activities, as Kerry Gabrielson also serves as a Peer Reviewer.

This past Friday, we held our 21st semiannual Trinidad State Junior College Rocky Mountain Lineman School commencement in Colorado Springs. We honored twenty-five new graduates in a heartfelt ceremony, with many friends and family members in attendance. This program is one of our many, many bright spots at the College and this celebration with students was my last as a college president.

Several weeks ago, Judy MacLaren quietly informed us of her intention to retire next August. She plans to transition from her status as a full-time faculty member to an adjunct instructor, continuing to teach our online algebra course. Please join me in thanking Judy for her years of dedicated service! Soon, we will post a vacancy announcement for a full-time chemistry faculty member. The successful candidate would begin work in August for us.

Over the past several years, we have struggled to support our efforts in alumni relations through a piecemeal approach at the College. At the same time, we have tremendously missed the work of Elise Russell, who returned to Kentucky last spring after providing several years' worth of excellent graphic design to us. To remedy both of these situations, we have decided to hire a full-time Marketing and Alumni Coordinator. This will allow Todd Cotton to refocus his efforts on design rather than production, better utilizing his time and talents. We believe we know an ideal candidate, so cross your fingers – we hope to have an official announcement soon.

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