



College Update
December 19, 2016

Happy Monday!

Congratulations to Lynette Bates, who wrote a successful proposal for the second round of Innovation Challenge Awards to implement ***Bold Solutions*** – the System strategic plan. With this, we will begin updating the TSJC machining curriculum through the development and incorporation of badging credentials. Brenda Perea from the System Office, in conjunction with our current adjunct instructors, will assist this effort. This brings \$94,000 in support to us and should, without a doubt, propel us to the cutting edge of industry standards in machining.

With the cross country season officially in the books, we have discussed the possibility of initiating a Track and Field program for the College. With the blessing of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), we have taken the first steps in doing so. Four of our head coaches – Lauren Martin, Aaron Miller, Melissa Hardman, and Peter Freeman – have worked with Mike Salbato to make participation ***this spring*** a reality for students on both campuses. Three of our current student-athletes have already represented us at the ASU Early Bird Open held earlier this month and we plan to attend track meets in Albuquerque, Gunnison and Alamosa next semester. This is a great opportunity for our coaches, for our students, and for Trojan athletics.

Last week, we received word that Tori Eckes will be leaving the College in late January. As you may know, she wears many hats within Student Affairs, including testing support and workforce center outreach. On another note, we will be joined by Kelly McGillivray in January, replacing Dave King for the Colorado Springs Line Technician program. Please join me in wishing Tori well and in welcoming Kelly to the College. As is often said, the only real constant is change.

On Tuesday, we will hold a joint meeting of the Advisory and Community Councils in Trinidad. Along with dinner and a tour, the groups will participate in a brief discussion of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) facing the College over the next planning cycle. Shortly after this discussion, we will send an electronic survey to the group to collect further insights. We are fortunate to have such strong support and guidance from our communities.

This is the last update until January 9th. *Hope you have a great break, whenever it begins for you!*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Carmen M. Simone'.

Carmen M. Simone,
President