Happy Monday!

As we enter the second week of classes, we are watching enrollment numbers. Headcount stood at 1,395 students last Wednesday, with a full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of 539.8. We anticipate significant increases in those numbers yet, with targets of 1,809 students and 632.4 FTE, which were recorded last spring. With late start classes, another CCCOnline session, and concurrent enrollment, there are still many opportunities for continued growth. Around the System, there is a similar trend, with twelve of the thirteen colleges reporting decreased enrollment. Only Colorado Northwestern CC is in positive territory, with a 5.8% increase in headcount. Right now, Pueblo CC is in the worst shape, registering a 24.9% decrease in headcount. We will be monitoring these developing trends.

As you heard during in-service, we are continuing to work on the new TSJC website. This next version will be responsive, accessible and slimmed down from our current site. Our target date for a public launch is Friday, March 13th, though the committee still plans to share the site internally prior to this date for your feedback.

Several of us are attending the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade (SHOT) show in Las Vegas, NV this week. Highlights of the event will include a meeting of the five NRA-affiliated gunsmithing schools and a meeting of the national advisory committee for our program. While we are there, we will also visit with Bill Poole (Director of Education and Training for the NRA) and Sean Thornton (Program Specialist with the NRA Training Department) to discuss further details related to the new NRA Certified Training Center in Trinidad.

Earlier this month, we received notification from the Accreditation Council for Education in Nursing (ACEN) that our nursing program has once again been deemed eligible for participation in the candidacy process for initial accreditation. We will have one year to complete the process and the NCLEX pass rates for our students this spring will play a critical role in the review. To that end, we have been exploring ways to offer testing vouchers to our students to remove the financial barrier for completion of the examination.

As always, if you have questions, concerns or information to share, please let me know.

Hope you have a great week!

Carmen M. Simone,
President