College Update
October 21, 2013

Happy Monday!

We are very fortunate to have W. Scott Lewis, a partner with the National Center for Higher Education Risk Management, on the Trinidad campus this Friday. He will be discussing several legal issues related to higher education with us, including topics such as harassment, accommodative services, student privacy, and disruptive students. He presented similar information to the Valley campus during In-Service week this past fall, with great reviews. Everyone, of course, is invited to attend.

A few weeks ago, we submitted our Budget Data Book to the System office. This fiscal analysis has caused us to begin a review of our budget and planned spending for this year. According to the document, we spent just over $1.5M of our reserves last year. While much of this spending was strategic, we cannot sustain this pace for the long term. Fortunately, these early signals will allow us to plan appropriately for the future. One of our long-term strategies to address this situation is to continue our push to grow enrollment.

On Wednesday, we will be holding a meeting of the gun range committee. This group assists us in the proper running of the Bill Prator Gun Range, which is located just outside of Trinidad and is owned by the TSJC Educational Foundation. As you may have heard, the Foundation recently received the donation of a small home, which has been relocated to the property, and we will soon begin advertising for a live-in Director of Gun Range Operations.

Just FYI, our September payroll included payments for 395 individuals – including faculty, staff and students – totaling $1,071,652. Many thanks to Blanca Menendez, Accounting Technician, for her meticulous work in Banner which results in our pay checks.

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