



Trinidad State Junior College

Report of Activities - September 2009

Felix M. Lopez, Interim President

Student Access- All Coloradans shall have access to comprehensive community college educational programs.

As of August 27, 2009 FTE is 119 above last year's final fall FTE.

Over \$3.7 million in scholarships and grants, \$274,000 in athletic awards and \$2.16 million in students loans, work study, etc. have been awarded to 2009-10 undergraduates.

Student Success - The demands of Colorado businesses and communities shall be met through the development of a high skilled workforce.

TSJC is working in partnership with the Colorado Department of Corrections to place inmates who are being released into CTE programs during their parole. The ultimate goal of this partnership is to see these offenders obtain valuable skills that will provide them with employable skills that will set them on a path of success.

Through a partnership with the Trinidad/Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce and the South Central Council of Governments, TSJC has created a business incubator and Community Development Resource Center in a building currently owned by the TSJC Educational Foundation. The Colorado Small Business Development Center also provides business assistance in the Center. This project has been made possible through a HUD Hispanic Institutions Assisting Communities Grant.

TSJC's premier Gunsmithing school will be expanded to a third year beginning in January of 2010. Expansion of the program is made possible through a partnership with Brownells, the leading supplier of firearm accessories, gun parts and gunsmithing tools. Brownells is providing \$180,000 in equipment and covering faculty salaries for the 3rd year staff for two years. Third-year students will gain hands-on experience in running their own business through this program.

TSJC has been awarded a slot in the Colorado Space Consortium. The team will be comprised of five students who will conceive a science mission, design and build a "satellite", which will be launched into the "edge of space" in January 2010.

Student Success - Colorado students shall have seamless opportunities to transition from high school into college and from two-year institutions into four-year institutions.

TSJC and Adams State College in Alamosa are working together to students may complete a Bachelor's degree from Trinidad. Degrees are available in elementary education, business and sociology.

TSJC currently offers 108 State-wide guaranteed transfer classes.

Using a Temporary Aid to Needy Family (TANF) grant awarded by Las Animas County, TSJC has been able to enroll seven students, ranging in age from 26 to 54 years of age, who are working toward completing a Basic Job Skills Mini-Certificate Program. TSJC is providing tuition assistance for TANF eligible students to complete the program. The Basic Job Skills Program will reduce the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation and workplace skills. The curriculum will specifically include core and elective classes. Core classes for the Basic Job Skills Program include: Keyboarding Applications; Word Processing; Interpersonal Communication; Safety in the Workplace; Career Exploration; Principles of the Workplace Environment; and Job Search Skills.

In addition to these core classes, students will also select elective courses including but not limited to: Mathematics in the Workplace; Business Communication/Report Writing or Admin. Office Management; Desktop Publishing; Workplace Spelling and Vocabulary; and Workplace Problem Solving. In total, students will take 21 credit hours to earn the Basic Job skills Mini-Certificate offered at TSJC.

The Basic Job Skills Mini-Certificate Program will provide a solid foundation for TANF eligible Las Animas County residents to gain skills, confidence and ultimately employment. This program was established years ago as the "Essential Skills in the Workplace Program" and has been successful at providing participants with valuable workplace skills.

Students are provided with a variety of opportunities for remedial and student support services through TSJC's Learning Center where they can obtain one-on-one tutoring in any subject, personal assistance on writing projects in the Writing Center and drop-in math tutoring in the Math Mastery Lab. The new Ruth Ann Woods Student Success center located in the library offers placement assessment (Accuplacer) testing, referral and support services, transfer advising, support for hybrid classes, study space for guided study groups and skills and personal development workshops.

Student Success - Colorado students shall have the opportunity to succeed through high quality, cutting-edge instruction and educational services.

Funding for professional development is available to TSJC faculty and staff through a Title V Professional Development Grant. Using these funds two faculty members are currently working toward their Ph.D., one is working toward a M.A. and one CTE faculty member is working toward his B.A. These funds have also made it possible for faculty members to attend various continuing education workshops and seminars.

Title V funding also provided faculty and staff the opportunity to hear Dr. Keith Jacobus speak on *Brain Based Learning* during the recent fall in-service.

TSJC currently offers hybrid and video distance learning classes. STEM students will soon be able to take advantage of classes using podcasting capabilities. It is hoped podcasting will be expanded to other areas soon.

Grant funding and private donations have recently made it possible for several classrooms to be updated to "Smart" classrooms with one room being set up with high-definition conferencing equipment.

Operational Excellence - The financial stability of the system's institutions and the physical safety of its students shall be ensured.

An updated facilities plan is being prepared at this time.

TSJC is working with the Las Animas County Health Department to coordinate flu shot and H1N1 Swine Flu shot clinics on campus for students and staff. Hand sanitizing stations have been set up in all buildings. A pandemic plan is being prepared.

Windows and boilers are being replaced in TSJC dormitories.