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

- Keeping true to its mission of serving the entire community, the TSJC Valley Campus has formed an ad hoc committee/task force to help identify unmet needs of individuals with disabilities. Partnering with other community agencies, the task force will help in developing programs for teaching job training and/or life skills to individuals with disabilities.

- With no emergency funds available and the desire to keep students in school, the Trinidad State Junior College Student Success Center put together a plan, “Mitigating Economic Crisis at TSJC: Improving Student Retention via Emergency Funding.” Toni DeAngelis, Foundation Director, has sought assistance from local banks in both Trinidad and Alamosa. Three local banks, Alamosa State Bank, San Luis Valley Federal Bank, and Rio Grande Savings and Loan, have contributed to the fund bringing the total for the Valley Campus to $4,000.

- Concerned with active duty military and veterans access to Colorado institutions of higher education and their ability to obtain appropriate college credit for military education and training, State Representative Marsha Looper called for action by Colorado colleges at a September 27th meeting at the El Pomar Foundation. As a result of this meeting, and TSJC’s knowledge of the issue, the educational service officers at Fort Carson and Peterson AFB have invited TSJC to partner with them in creating programs geared towards the needs of the military community in TSJC’s service area.

- Beginning with the spring 2012 semester, TSJC’s Valley Campus will schedule classes from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursdays. According to the Valley Campus leadership team, the objectives are to improve access for non-traditional students while also increasing enrollments. Currently 74.6% of the campus’ sessions are scheduled between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. The goals of the scheduling changes are to: 1) at a minimum, offer 45% of all sessions to begin after 5 p.m., 2) Add at
least 75 additional sessions, of which 65% need to be CTE sessions specifically designed and scheduled to attract non-traditional students, and, 3) Schedule historically low occupancy courses/sessions to begin at 5 p.m. with the intent of capturing both day and evening students and increasing per session student counts.

- TSJC is privileged to be the beneficiary of a recent award to CSU-Pueblo. The Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) has been awarded a five-year grant of $2,115,000 to assist low-income and first-generation residents of southeast Colorado enter postsecondary education. This is the only pre-collegiate program in the region with the primary focus of assisting disadvantaged adults in gaining access to higher education. The grant’s objectives are related to: Attainment of GED or other alternative high school diploma programs, completion of college admissions and financial aid applications, and enrollment in postsecondary education. Services provided by the program include: Information about college and career opportunities, assistance in completing admissions and financial aid applications, referrals to GED and college preparation programs, information about scholarship opportunities. Financial literacy training changes to the program included in the new grant: increased use of computer technology for serving remote locations, services directed at increasing the financial literacy of students and outreach to military service members and their families. The central office will continue to be located on the CSU-Pueblo Campus with satellite offices at the Pueblo Community College, Pikes Peak Community College, Trinidad State Junior College, Otero State Junior College and Lamar Community College.

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

- Using the 3.3 acres of unimproved land previously donated to TSJC, the college has begun work on the development of an experimental station as part of its Valley Campus. Initial activities will include alternative crop demonstration projects and alternative/sustainable energy projects.

- Trinidad State Junior College’s advanced gunsmithing students enrolled in the Brownells-Trinidad American Firearms Technology Institute were invited to test Barrett Industries’ new MULTI-ROLE ADAPTIVE DESIGN System (MRAD). The MRAD is the latest technology design for the soldier in the field to deal with terrorist threats and long range protection for troops in harm’s way. Students were allowed to fire the MRADs at distances of 500 yards, producing groups of less than 4" at that distance in winds as high as 30 mph. Barrett techs took the time to explain to the students the new features of the MRAD in dealing with long range threats
and in the disassembly and re-assembly and maintenance of the U.S.
military’s latest anti-terrorist tool.

- The Trinidad State Junior College Nursing Program hosted an
  accreditation site visit by the National League for Nursing Accreditation
  Commission (NLNAC) on October 11-12. Following the site visit, TSJC
  President Felix Lopez announced, “TSJC satisfactorily met the
  requirements in all six standards required to advance to the next level of
  review to receive national accreditation.” The six areas reviewed were:
  Mission and Administrative Capacity, Faculty and Staff, Students,
  Curriculum, Resources, and Outcomes. The site review team noted
  particular areas of excellence: 1) The “Keys Program,” an academic
  support program through TSJC’s student support services, as a best
  practice; and, 2) They also noted the exceptional community financial
  support in terms of grants and scholarships, and community support for
  the nursing program overall. The NLNAC reviewers praised the strong
  student support services on both of our campuses and highlighted the
  high student pass rates for the state board exams. Two additional
  NLNAC committees will evaluate and review the site review team’s
  conclusions as well as TSJC’s application materials before final
  accreditation status is determined, around the first week in March.

- Brownells-Trinidad American Firearms Institute student, Kenton Schuett,
  placed first over in his first bench rest shooting competition held at the
  NRA Whittington Center in Raton, NM this past June. Since this time, he
  has been contacted by several industry representatives offering him
  employment with their companies.

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

- Trinidad State Junior College has been awarded a $3,875,000 STEM grant
  from the U.S. Department of Education’s Hispanic Serving Institutions
  (HSI) STEM and Articulation Program. The purpose of this program is to
  increase the number of Hispanic and other low-income students attaining
  degrees in STEM fields and to develop model transfer and articulation
  agreements between the 2-year and 4-year HSIs in such fields. The grant,
  entitled ‘Invertir en STEM!’ (Invest in STEM) will improve and transform
  the science, technology and mathematics programs within an 8-county
  region of southern Colorado, including 20 high schools. TSJC will also
  develop formal articulation agreements for STEM programs with at least
  three four-year institutions in southern Colorado, including, but not
  limited to: Colorado State University-Pueblo, University of Colorado-
  Colorado Springs, and Adams State College. Over a five-year period, the
  grant funds will be used for salaries and fringe benefits, professional
development, endowment and outreach, remodeling laboratories, and equipment and supplies, TSJC will provide comprehensive academic support for STEM students, develop and implement bridge programming, serve 1,500 students through STEM outreach activities, add new 100 and 200 level STEM courses in traditional and online formats and increase STEM enrollment, retention, graduation and transfer rates.

• TSJC’s Valley Campus has partnered with a number of federal agencies as well as the school districts of the San Luis Valley to provide elementary and secondary students with improved STEM opportunities. The Valley Campus has already coordinated to establish annual regional visits by the National Science Center’s Mobile Discovery Center (grades 4-9) and the involvement of local middle school students in the national e-CYBERMISSION competition (grades 6-9). Additionally, with the improved science and math laboratories that will result from the recent HSI-STEM and Articulation Program grants, the Valley Campus will be able to host the Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Sciences (GEMS) program (grades 7-12) and the UNITE four to six week summer program for high school students interested in pursuing engineering careers (grades 9-12).

• Working with the Southern Colorado Higher Education Access and Completion Project (SoColo Reach), TSJC’s Valley Campus will be using two small grants to develop: 1) an introductory course for new students entering CTE programs, and 2) a summer program to introduce high school students to higher education. Both projects incorporate and support the important elements for new curriculum development delineated in SoColo Reach’s 2011 Annual Report. Additionally, both projects incorporate national best practices in addressing persistent barriers in higher education to student matriculation, retention and graduation.

• Following a disappointing fall enrollment, TSJC’s Valley Campus has formed a task force to concentrate on increasing enrollments within the San Luis Valley. For the first time in recent memory, non-traditional students will be a primary target of the Valley marketing effort. According to Valley Campus Vice President, Mike Doyle, “It had become apparent that we were no longer offering the course selection at the proper time to attract non-traditional students. We were also spending too much effort outside of the San Luis Valley and not enough effort reaching outlying communities.” The task force, led by Dean David Pearse, has been tasked with increasing enrollments among both traditional and non-traditional students. Evening information and recruiting events will be held at community centers at Alamosa, South Fork, Sierra Grande, La Jara and Sargent as well as all fourteen Valley high schools.
• The Valley Campus will host a day-long seminar for high school counselors and principals on October 12th. The seminar will focus on 1) the economic forecast for the San Luis Valley and the types of career and vocational opportunities that are foreseen in the next 10-15 years, and 2) the development of a more robust CTE bridge between Valley high schools and TSJC. The seminar will include outside, expert speakers on the issues of San Luis Valley economic development and on career and technical education.

• Trinidad State Junior College Upward Bound Classic Program for high school students concluded another productive year with an exciting six-week summer program. Each year the students have been challenged more and more academically with this year’s goal being a 3.0 or higher GPA to stay active in the program. During the summer, students are required to take classes in math, science, English and a foreign language. As a reward for their hard work this past school year, the students had the additional opportunity to participate in Celtic music, song-writing and dance, Japanese culture and art, an ecology field course, journaling, recycled art, yoga, weight training, health and nutrition classes among other fun activities. The Trinidad community responded to our request for job shadowing opportunities for our seniors allowing them to work at the South Central Council of Governments, TSJC President’s office, Mt. San Rafael Hospital, Trinidad Fire Department, District Attorney Frank Ruybalid’s office, TSJC IT Department, and Trinidad Physical Therapy. College campus visits included Colorado State University and University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. It was not all work and no play. The Upward Bound students got to see the Rockies play in Denver, went rafting in Taos and topped the summer off with a Mesa Verde tour followed by a day of paintball and zip-lining in Durango. Fall activities resume with a parent-student dinner at TSJC on September 12.

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

• TSJC Valley Campus has formed a task force to focus on consolidating efforts and resources to create an outcome-based, centralized, remedial/developmental education and tutoring center. The goal of the task force is to develop a master operational plan to access, remediate and retain high-risk students more quickly in an atmosphere which offers seamless transition points.

• The Student Success Center at TSJC’s Valley Campus has continued the Lunch and Learn series. The Lunch and Learn series is intended to help supplement the skills that at-risk students, including first-generation and
low-income, are deficient in. Some of the topics include Reading Comprehension Strategies, How to Develop a Monthly Budget, and How to Write a Winning Scholarship Essay. Since its inception in April 2010, the Lunch and Learn series has had over 580 participants.

- Speedy Gonzalez, instructor for Trinidad State Junior College’s Brownells-Trinidad American Firearms Technology Institute, has been invited to speak at the American Custom Gunmakers Guild Show, January 2012 in Reno, Nevada. The ACGG Show is one of the most prestigious gatherings of firearms builders in the world. Gonzalez will address guild members in a three hour symposium presenting the application of skills and processes that earned him a seat in the U.S. Benchrest Hall of Fame.

- Student Success Center staff on the Trinidad Campus are hosting a series of Lifelong Learning Academies for faculty and staff. Topics of upcoming sessions include “Back to School: Understanding the Mindset of Today’s Modern Student”, “From Enlisted to Employed: Educating Military Veterans for Civilian Careers” and “Creating a Participatory Classroom Environment.” In addition, SSC staff will be hosting the monthly “Common Grounds: Faculty Coffee Hour” where teaching faculty will have the opportunity to meet in a relaxed environment to enjoy catching up and camaraderie to build community and contribute to the development of balance in the lives of the people who help TSJC fulfill its important educational missions.

**Operational Excellence – The financial stability of the system’s institutions and the physical safety of its students shall be ensured.**

- TSJC is happy to welcome Michael Jolly as the new Vice President of the Administrative Services/CFO. Jolly, a native of Trinidad, also has close ties to the San Luis Valley, as he holds both bachelor and master degrees from Adams State College. He has taken doctoral classes from Colorado State University in Education and Human Resources Studies. Prior to accepting this position at TSJC, he served as the Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services and Interim Executive Director of Human Resources at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho.

- TSJC also welcomes Dr. Paula Davis as the new Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Davis comes to TSJC from Colby Community College in Kansas, where she served as the Vice President of Academic Affairs. She served as Dean of Instruction at Independence Community College in Kansas, and was also employed with several proprietary schools, including Dean of Academic Affairs at State Spartan College of Aeronautics, Oklahoma, and Dean of Education at the Art Institute of Houston.
Some of her accomplishments in previous positions included implementing online assessment processes, implementing successful new programs and outreach sites through industry partnerships, increasing enrollment through outreach and extended learning, and planning and implementing many federal grants. She continues to serve as a Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Reviewer. Dr. Davis holds a number of graduate degrees including an Ed.D. from the University of Arkansas.

**Other**

- The men’s golf team finished the fall season with 27 wins and 3 losses. The highlight came when they finished 4th in an NCAA Division II tournament beating six of the ten 4-year schools in attendance.

- Women’s volleyball is 12-13 at this time, which is the first time in five years that they have had a record that close to 500.

- In an effort to better connect with the San Luis Valley community and to solidify its position as TSJC in the Valley, TSJC’s Valley Campus will be holding a Homecoming on October 22nd from noon to 3 p.m. The intent is to embrace anyone who ever attended school (elementary, vocational-tech, and TSJC) in the building now occupied by TSJC as alumni. In addition to food and music, other activities will include group photos of alumni by eras (1920’s, 1930’s, etc.), face painting, cake walk, and other games.

- The Susan G. Komen Foundation is dedicated to education and research about causes, treatment, and the search for a cure for cancer. It is the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer in the world. The TSJC softball and baseball teams joined in the fight against cancer as both teams took part in the 2011 Raton Fall Baseball and Softball Bash on October 1st and 2nd. The scrimmages were held in Raton, New Mexico as the Trojan baseball team faced New Mexico Military and Otero Junior College on October 1st and then on Sunday, October 2nd, faced Luna Community College of New Mexico in a doubleheader. The Lady Trojan softball team played three games on October 1st winning all three games against Luna Community College, Frank Phillips College of Texas and Northeastern Junior College of Sterling, Colorado and then on Sunday, October 2nd, swept Frank Phillips College of Texas in a doubleheader. The Lady Softball team wore pink jersey’s and also used pink softballs in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness and all proceeds from the games when to the “Susan B. Komen for the Cure” foundation.