

Members Present: Purva DeVol, Mike Garrity, Dmytriy Havrylak, Hilary Meyer, Colleen Rockafellow, Shelley Tiwari, and Kurian Tharakunnel

Members Absent: Joe Klinger, Katie Rullo

Others Present: Jeanette Bartley, Lorena Gasca, Denise Jones, Shekinah Lawrence, Jason Lemberg, Jo Perez, Melissa Ramirez Cooper, and Michael Thunberg

Meeting called to order at: 2:33 pm

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting was made by Colleen Rockafellow and seconded by Shelly Tiwari.

I. Student Affairs – Hilary Meyer

Troy Campus Quest:

- Currently targeted at new and early college students.
- Participation has been lower than expected.
- Plan to open the game to the entire student body.
- Will be reintroduced at Corn Roast on Wednesday, September 17th.
- Includes a drawing for a free 3-credit course.

Financial Aid:

- SAP (Satisfactory Academic Progress) webinar scheduled for Sept 24.
- FAFSA 2026–27 will open on time October 1st, first time in two years.

Admissions:

- Exceeded our Fall 10th day goal on the road to 12,000 students
- Events:
 - English Campus Tour: Monday, September 8th @ 5 pm
 - Spanish Campus Tour: Tuesday, September 9th @ 5 pm
 - High School/Middle School Group Visits
 - Menta Hillside Academy: Friday, September 12th, from 10 am to 1:30 pm
 - Westchester Middle School (55 students): Friday, September 19th, from 9:45 am to 11:00 am
 - Ridgewood High School: Tuesday, September 23rd, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am
 - Riverside Brookfield Transitional Math: Wednesday, September 24th, from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm

Student Life:

- Great turnout for Welcome Week events. We had 500+ students for an event and Boba was a hit.
- Corn Roast set for Wednesday, September 17th. Reach out to Student Life to volunteer.
- Movie on the Mounds showing *Elio* on Friday, Sept 26.

Retention & Student engagement:

Advising

- Advising team wrapped up summer and August open registration.
- Academic Planning and Undecided Workshops starting for first-year students.
- Spring Registration Promotions: Taffy Apples returning as part of “Sweet Taste of Registration” spring registration kickoff.

Transfer Center

- The semester kicked off strong with our Transfer Center Kick-Off events.
- We are now preparing for the Fall Transfer Fair at the end of the month, with 45 institutions confirmed to participate.
- Transfer Center Pop-Ups will also take place this semester, starting September 10th.

TRIUMPH & SURGE Program:

- Revised intake process to be more collaborative.
- Strong student turnout: recent workshop had 25 students in attendance.

New Student Orientation:

- Summer orientation attendance increased:
 - 312 students in Summer 2024
 - 488 students in Summer 2025 (*students only, not including guests*)
- 50% were already registered, remaining were able to register at orientation.

II. Business Services – Colleen Rockafellow**Communications & Media:**

- Media interest is growing, especially around the Cernan Center.
 - Featured on WGN Morning News.
 - Director Kris McCall interviewed by the *Chicago Tribune*.
- All media coverage and assets are available in the Triton Newsroom.
- Video production team shifting focus to:
 - Student stories
 - Commercials
 - Triton branding videos
- New virtual campus tour being planned, featuring new programs (Cosmetology, Barbering, HVAC).

Marketing:

- Finalizing new website design—a year-long collaboration with IT.
- Preparing Fall Fest materials as well as Trunk or Treat and Friday Night Lights (partnership with Fenwick High School).
- Supporting upcoming Hispanic Heritage Month and Italian Heritage Month.
- Managing increasing marketing requests from cost center managers and departments.

Alumni Relations:

- Glow Golf event happening Friday, Sept 12 (sold out and growing in popularity).

Financial Aid:

- Financial disbursements to students were completed on September 2nd.

- Collaborating on the upcoming SAP webinar in September.

Facilities Updates:

- Paving Project: Final phase ongoing, to be completed by end of October.
- Mechanical replacements in A and J Buildings to be finished this fall.
- A Building exterior repainting planned.
- Hot water line replacements completed.
- Gym bleacher replacement in R Building completed—new bleachers look great.
- Cosmetology lab and residential HVAC lab officially completed.
- R Building roof replacement (capital project) planned for 2026.
- Landscaping restoration is part of contract specs. Opportunities for future beautification may be considered.

Finance & Budget:

- FY26 budget going to Board of Trustees in September.
- FY27 budget planning begins in October.
- FY25 audit completed results to be presented at September Finance Committee meeting.

III. Human Resources – Joe Klinger

No report.

IV. Information Technology – Mike Garrity**Wi-Fi & Aruba Wireless Network:**

- Unexpected Wi-Fi crash at the start of the school year:
 - Took 2 weeks to resolve with HP and two vendor partners.
 - Environment is now stable, but not optimal.
- Only 60 oldest access points were replaced; 150 older ones remain and may not perform well.
- In discussion with HP to replace remaining access points.
- Will delay rollout of new secure SSIDs until all hardware is updated.

Ongoing Projects:

- Modern Campus website redesign still in design approval stage.
- Work continues on:
 - Gainful Employment reporting in collaboration with Financial Aid (due by October 1).
 - Follett-Colleague integration to be completed this fall.

Completed Summer Projects:

- Red Rock TracCloud went live.
- Milestone server replacement completed.
- AwardSpring scholarship platform implemented.
- Follett Cortex eBook tool implemented.
- AIM platform for CAAS launched.
- FormPort successfully updated to a modern OS — avoided needing replacement.
- Common App is live:
 - Integration with Recruit still in progress.

- Future potential: Direct Admit feature for local applicants (under discussion).
- Plasma screen platform replaced with NoviSign:
 - Marketing team trained.
 - Rollout across campus ongoing.
 - Improved functionality, same outward appearance.

ID Card Machines:

- New ID card machines installed at the Welcome Desk.
- Issues:
 - Ribbons being consumed quickly.
 - Cards frequently getting stuck.
 - Troubleshooting ongoing; root cause unclear (hardware or software).
 - Machines are new, but still causing problems during peak ID issuance season.

Wi-Fi Range Clarification:

- Coverage is primarily indoors.
- Some parking spots may receive weak signal.
- Reliable outdoor Wi-Fi requires outdoor-specific access points.
- Brick buildings require multiple access points due to signal interference.

DEI – Purva DeVol**Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration:**

- Event Date: Thursday, September 18th at 1:00pm in Room B-204.
- Includes:
 - Food, candy, and beverages
 - Cultural showcases by employees
 - Games and activities
- Hispanic Heritage Month Recipe Book:
 - Created from employee-submitted recipes
 - Distributed to all attendees

Italian Heritage Month Celebration

- Event Date: Wednesday, October 29th at 11:00am in Room B-204.
- Features:
 - Italian sweets and refreshments
 - Partnerships with Foundation, Alumni, and local businesses
 - Short Italian film and Italian trivia
- Plan to create an Italian recipe book:
 - Employees encouraged to submit cherished recipes
 - Call for submissions sent via Triton Today and email

Event Promotion:

- E-cards for Hispanic Heritage Month going out next week.
- Italian Heritage Month e-cards will follow closer to event date.

V. Guided Pathways – Shelley Tiwari

Overview of D.E.R.A. (Developmental Education Reform Act) program presented by Dean Jeanette Bartley and Dean Denise Jones:

- Mandated in Illinois (March 2021): Requires students to complete gateway Math and English within two semesters.
- Replaces lengthy developmental education (dev ed) sequences with accelerated pathways.
- Reforms at Triton are already producing measurable improvements. Work continues to close equity gaps, aligning with the Equity Plan, and ensuring student progression and completion.

Triton's Early Implementation:

- Triton was already ahead before the legislation:
 - Had implemented corequisite models and placement measures.
 - Ongoing focus on assessment, data analysis, and refining processes.

Placement Reforms:

- Expanded placement options:
 - High school GPA (recent grads: 3 years for English, 2 for Math).
 - SAT/ACT scores, prior coursework, GED.
- Adjusted cut scores in collaboration with faculty.

English and Math Sequence Changes:

- Reduced from multiple dev ed courses to 2 pathways:
 - RHT 090 → 090 / 097/101 co-requisite path.
 - Enables college credit within one semester.
- STEM vs Non-STEM tracks introduced:
 - Courses: Math 055, 065, 085.
 - Math 065 targets STEM-bound students who do not meet placement for 085.
- Students now have clearer and more appropriate entry paths.

Gateway Enrollment & Equity Data:

- English:
 - Overall enrollment increased: 64% to 72%
 - Black student enrollment: 55% to 75%
- Math:
 - Overall: 49% to 71%
 - Black students: 52% to 61%

Graduation Rates:

- Institutional average: 29%
- Dev ed cohort graduation rates:
 - English: 19%
 - Math: 22%

Continuous Improvement:

- Participated in Partnership for College Completion (17 colleges):
 - Shared practices, reviewed GPA, retention, credit data.
- Alignment work:
 - English 090 to 101/102 curriculum alignment underway.
- Internal faculty development for co-requisite teaching continues post-Title V grant.

Additional Student Support

- Embedded tutors in 12+ math sections (as of Fall 2024).
- Strong support from Academic Success Center, Student Assistance/Early Alert System, and TRIUMPH & SURGE (supporting underrepresented students).

Challenges

- STEM math placement guidance lacking at the state level.
- GPA usage inconsistencies:
 - Unclear which semester's GPA (6th, 7th, 8th) to use for placement.
- Dual credit placement rules vary widely across institutions.
- Faculty hiring issues:
 - Shortage of qualified adjuncts for dev ed and co-req courses (especially English).
 - Difficulty finding instructors with proper composition credentials (not just literature degrees).

Triton's State-Level Leadership

- At state convenings, Triton stood out for being well ahead of many institutions.
- Other colleges still developing basic structures (placement models).
- Demonstrates institutional commitment and effective implementation.

VI. Research – Kurian Tharakunnel**New Reports Available on Portal:**

- Spring 2025 Student Satisfaction Report:
 - Now fully available on the portal.
 - Highlights already shared with College Council.
 - Full report provides more in-depth insights.
- Early Momentum Report (Annual Report):
 - Focuses on first-time, full-time & part-time students.
 - Tracks key performance indicators (KPIs) such as:
 - 6 credits in first semester
 - 12, 24, and 30 credits within the first year
 - Tied to Guided Pathways initiative as leading indicators of student success.
 - Report covers 5 years of data, comparing last year to this year.
 - Easy to read: just two pages and data-rich.

Where to Find the Data:

- All data and reports are available on TRAC in the Portal.

Team Update:

- Welcoming a new data analyst, who recently joined the research team.

1. Student Representative – Dmytriy Havrylyak

- Second-year engineering student at Triton College.
- Aspires to transfer into computer or electrical engineering.
- Current TCSA (Triton College Student Association) President.
- Expressed interest in:
 - Supporting college initiatives.
 - Providing student input or information to help advance institutional goals.

VII. Academic Affairs – Katie Rullo**Career Services:**

- Sharing flyers for Workshops including resume writing, job search strategies, LinkedIn 101 and career ready.
- Save the Date: Career Fair Wednesday, October 1 from 10am-1pm.
- 57 out of 60 employers already confirmed.
- Career Workshop Series is now live on the website.
- SuperStrong Assessment campaign:
 - Goal: Collect 90 completed assessments by end of September.
 - Eligible participants: Students, community members, employees.
- Campaign has been pushed via Oli Bot texts to all current and new students with valid phone numbers.

Health Careers:

- Barbering and Cosmo reported 17 students in each program (Great goal achieved for enrollment).
- Nursing was able to submit a report to the IDFPR.
- New office assistant started this month in the Nursing area.

2. Old Business**FY26 Goals Next Steps:**

- Members encouraged to discuss potential goals with subcommittees over the next month.
- Further suggestions and discussions to happen offline.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 3:29 PM

Next Meeting

Date: Monday, October 6th, 2025

Time: 2:30–4:00 PM

Submitted By: Xavier Skinner