

# SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE

## Message from the President

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Dear SCAC Community,

Like all other communities throughout the world, we ourselves can—and must—act with courage, wisdom, and faith in responding to, and ultimately in overcoming, the serious health threat posed by the continuously spreading coronavirus disease (COVID-19). In this regard, San Carlos Apache College continues to promptly take a number of virus-mitigating and other strategic measures to protect the health and safety of its students and employees—and their families. These measures have included transitioning all of our classes to online and other virtual platforms, implementing protocols to enable College employees to work from home, and working diligently to meet our students' and employees' needs for the IT equipment, Internet access, and training on online instruction that are essential for the College to continue delivering high-quality instruction to its students.

We continue to transform our College's website and Facebook to provide all members of our community frequent updates on the most current status of the COVID-19 pandemic, on the newest SCAC-relevant issues emerging from this pandemic, and on the latest preventative measures for protecting ourselves from the COVID-19 virus. We also continue to consult with, and follow the directives and guidance of, the elected leaders and health professionals of our nation, state, and tribe. In addition, we will continue working very closely with our accreditation aegis, the Tohono O'odham Community College (TOCC)—and with our advocate at the national level, the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC). These two key partners are assisting us to continue fulfilling our College's obligations and unwavering commitment to academic excellence and student success.

Because our highest priority is to ensure the safety, health, and overall well-being of our students and staff, we have established a **SCAC COVID-19 Newsroom** to manage and monitor the College's operations and essential functions, and to coordinate the College's ongoing critical communications with its community. I urge you to frequently visit our **Newsroom**—and our website in general—for new developments plus valuable calendars and website links that we will be continuously updating for you related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its implications for our SCAC community. You can visit our College's website at [www.apachecollege.org](http://www.apachecollege.org).

To all of our College's wonderful students, I want to remind you that your Regents, faculty, and staff care a lot about your holistic well-being—mental, physical, emotional, cultural, and spiritual—as well as the fulfillment of your academic and career dreams. We all view ourselves

as members of your extended family. We are therefore genuinely committed to always being at your side—supporting, guiding, and inspiring you throughout your collegiate journey with us. The astonishing events associated with the COVID-19 pandemic is a poignant reminder to all of us that it really does take a village to run a college, like ours, which focuses entirely on ensuring your full success. I myself look forward to contacting each of you often, on a one-on-one basis, as the most important and rewarding President's work I want to do during this difficult times.

I know this are defining moments in the life of our students in which they must continue to think deeply, clearly, and positively about what they want and need most from college—and what they want to achieve in life. I applaud our students for choosing San Carlos Apache College as their partner in this never-ending process of self-discovery, planning, and self-determination in forging an ideal future for themselves. The promise we made to you when you launched your collegiate journey with us is being hereby reaffirmed: Our College will continue to do everything in its power to prepare you to be a successful *global citizen* who is anchored in Apache thought, philosophy, and values—and to transform you into a leader whom the Apache Tribe can entrust with its future. You are the future of the Apache Nation. Embrace this calling with great faith!

In closing, I want to applaud our College's amazing faculty and staff for all of their hard and brilliant work on behalf of our students. I find it a special honor to be able to work by their side.

Respectfully,



Dr. Martín Miguel Ahumada  
President