



As we begin this summer semester, I want to celebrate several highlights from the spring. During last month's virtual Retirement & Recognition Ceremony, Triton celebrated milestone years of more than 170 employees, recognized newly tenured faculty and the Full-time and Adjunct Faculty of the Year recipients. You can view it [here](#).

This month, approximately 350 Triton College students participated in a socially distanced Commencement ceremony. I am grateful for the opportunity to personally congratulate each graduate who walked on stage this year. With each and every graduation, I have the privilege of sharing in the success of students! I am consistently inspired by the achievements of our dedicated students, as well as the commitment and support you embody on their behalf. Consider these notable points of [spring commencement](#):

- Triton conferred 1,300 associate degrees and certificates.
- More than a third of our students this year were first-generation college students.
- Our youngest degree earner was 18 years old, our oldest was 66 years old, and the average age of our graduates is 27.3.

There are few moments in life where our institution's mission of valuing the individual, educating and serving the community so visibly intersects with our students' ambitions than commencement. Several graduates shared stories at commencement that reinforce that idea.

*A fire science major sees his graduation as a life milestone. Despite completing his degree during the pandemic, he committed to graduating so he could be an inspiring example to his children and family.*

*A graduate shared she rode two buses to attend classes because she felt her Triton College education was unmatched. Triton College meant more than just attaining a degree. The care and concern exhibited by faculty inspired her to achieve her academic dream.*

*Ready for her new chapter in life, one graduate said commencement was bittersweet. She will miss how Triton's mentors, counselors and advisors prepared her for life after college by helping set a plan for her future.*

Even as the academic year came to a close with commencement, our athletes made strides on the field. Most recently, our softball team reached the 50-win milestone and has been crowned Region 4

Champions! The team will head to the Division II national competition this week. Read how they got there [here](#).

These are just a few of the stories and accomplishments that make our work at Triton so wonderfully uplifting. Our students' challenges in the college experience and life strengthened their resolve and made each moment of success one of great pride. We are all fortunate to have been a part of their educational journey.

In the coming months, as we engage with our students and Triton colleagues and participate in other activities, I sincerely hope you have a refreshing summer. May every day this year continue to be a good one.

President Moore