

President Antoinette Trujillo-Fergus, MBA, CRCST, CST



Antoinette Trujillo-Fergus, MBA, CST, CRCST, is the Director of Surgical Services at Pikes Peak State College in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where she leads the Surgical Technology and Sterile Processing programs. She holds a Master of Business Administration from Colorado State University–Pueblo and maintains dual professional credentials as a Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) and Certified Registered Central Service Technician (CRCST).

Trujillo-Fergus is currently pursuing a Doctor of Education (EdD) in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Higher Education Leadership & Organizational Studies at Bay Path University. Her doctoral studies focus on leadership, organizational change, innovation, and addressing complex practice problems in higher education.

In her leadership role at Pikes Peak State College, she focuses on program development, accreditation compliance, curriculum and instructional quality, clinical partnerships, and strengthening workforce pathways within the surgical sciences.

Trujillo-Fergus serves as President of the ARC/STSA Board of Directors and Treasurer of the Colorado/Wyoming State Assembly of the Association of Surgical Technologists. Her professional work reflects a commitment to strengthening surgical technology and sterile processing education, supporting educators, advancing the surgical technology profession, and preparing competent healthcare professionals who contribute to safe, high-quality patient care.

“I am passionate about education and accreditation because the quality of a surgical technologist’s education ultimately reaches far beyond the classroom. It reaches the operating room and, most importantly, the patient on the table.

As both a CST and CRCST, I have had the opportunity to see surgical services from multiple perspectives. The work that happens before an

instrument ever reaches the sterile field is just as important to patient safety as what happens during the surgical procedure. That perspective has shaped the way I approach education and reinforced my belief that every member of the surgical team deserves high-quality education and preparation.

As an educator, I have seen the influence a strong program can have on a student's confidence, competence, professionalism, and future. As an accreditation leader, I also understand that quality education cannot depend solely on who happens to be teaching a course or leading a program at a particular moment. Students deserve consistent expectations, appropriate resources, meaningful clinical experiences, and an education that prepares them for the realities of the profession.

Accreditation creates accountability for those expectations and gives programs a framework for continuous improvement. I am passionate about being part of that process because strengthening education strengthens our profession. When we support educators, hold programs to meaningful standards, and continue adapting education as healthcare evolves, we prepare better surgical professionals and ultimately contribute to safer patient care."

- Antoinette Trujillo-Fergus

Fun or Interesting Fact

I co-authored a surgical technology textbook, *Time Out: Everything You Need to Know About Surgical Technology Foundations*. One of my favorite parts of being an educator is finding ways to take information that can feel overwhelming to students and make it understandable, practical, and relevant to what they will actually experience in the operating room.

