



MINUTES

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Meeting

Date | time 4/5/2017 5:30 PM | Meeting called to order by David Dammon

In Attendance

Members Present:

Christian Kuhns—Sergeant, DeKalb County Sheriff's Office

Tom Phillips—Chief of Police, Northern Illinois University

Charles "Chuck" Rose—Attorney, Law Office of Charles G. Rose

Jim Robar- Kishwaukee and Wabauensee College, Kane County Youth Court

Others Present:

David Dammon—Criminal Justice Instructor, Kishwaukee College/Sergeant, Belvidere Police Department

Matthew Feuerborn—Dean of Career Technologies, Kishwaukee College

Joanne Kantner—Executive Dean of Learning Services, Kishwaukee College

Bill Nicklas—Executive Director, Kishwaukee College Foundation

LaCretia Konan—Director of Business and Training Partnerships, Kishwaukee College

Brianna Hooker—Administrative Assistant to Instruction, Kishwaukee College, Recorder

Welcome and Introductions

David Dammon welcomes everyone to campus and thanks them for their participation on the CRJ Advisory Committee. Dave announces that we are always looking for members to join our committee so if there is anyone in mind, please contact Dave at David.Dammon@kishwaukeecollege.edu (815) 825-9538).

Committee members and college employees introduce themselves to the group.

Approval of Minutes and Enrollment Report

The minutes from Fall 2016 are reviewed.

Dave makes a motion to approve the minutes. Chuck seconds the motion. Unanimous vote to approve minutes.

Dave reviews Declared student data as well as enrollment numbers and confirms to the committee that enrollment is down slightly this semester. However, headcounts for students pursuing a Forensic Tech degree are up.

| SP16 Heads | SP17 Heads | Heads Change | | SP16 Credits | SP17 Credits | CH Change | CH% |
|------------|------------|--------------|--|--------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
| 248 | 246 | -2 | | 728.0 | 726.0 | -2.0 | -0.3% |

Summer/Fall 2017 Courses Report

For Summer 2017, we plan to run the same courses as Summer 2016, and they will all be online courses. Last summer, 60% of the students enrolled in online CRJ courses were not regular Kishwaukee College students.

Dave reports having placed emphasis on talking to high school seniors enrolled in KEC courses with the hopes of them enrolling in the CRJ program in Fall 2017. Intent among student seems strong which should help our enrollment numbers.

For Fall 2017, Dave reports working with Matt, Dean of Career Technologies, to eliminate some sections in order to fill the courses that do run. They have also been working efficiently to offer CRJ classes at times that will not conflict when other core degree courses (such as ENG, COM, MAT, etc) are being offered to avoid as many scheduling conflicts as possible for the students. Dave expresses intention of developing and offering more online courses within the program as well. Enrollment for evening courses has been significantly low the past few semesters, so again, we will be limiting the number of evening courses offered in FA17. However, there is an ability to offer more courses shall the need arise (if available courses fill/potential waitlists).

CRJ Course Realignment/ICCB

Dave explains course realignment efforts in response to ICCB standards pushing for A.S. degree programs be limited to 60 credit hours. In developing new curriculum/program planners, Dave reached out to past graduates of the program for feedback on what students wished they had more of and/or what they did not find particularly useful in the program and that feedback is reflective in the new curriculum/program planners. The new curriculum has passed through appropriate channels and will be in the FA18 catalog.

Review of Program Planners for Criminal Justice General Degree #228 and Criminal Justice Forensic Technology Degree #350.

Newsletter—Issue 5

The digital copy will be available by the end of the month and Dave will send it out to committee members.

CRJ Graduation Statistics

Dave reports working with Matthew Crull, Director of Research and Data Management for the college. However, response rate from graduates is very low. Current statistics depict that our enrollment numbers and graduation numbers do not align well so Dave is going to investigate the reason further. Dave reached out personally to as many graduates as he could find and has heard from nearly 80% of graduates. Nearly 75% of graduates are working in the field, some have continued their education, and a couple are working in completely different fields (one is now an accountant).

18 current students are expected to graduate the program this semester.

I SLOs, P SLOs, and C SLOs Update and 5 Year Plan Report

Dave explains Student Learning Outcomes briefly to committee members. Measuring these outcomes are a way to evaluate our programs and determine where changes need to be made. With regards to the 5 Year Plan, Dave confirms the program is up to date.

HOPES and CRJ Club Donations from FA16-SP17

Dave is pleased to report that club membership remains strong despite some decrease in enrollment. Last semester, \$1,000 was raised via fundraisers (bake sales, walking tacos) and was donated to Safe Passage, Tails Humane Society, and Hope of Ogle County.

Last semester, CRJ Club partnered with the Collision Repair Technology students to donate a repaired vehicle equipped with car seats for children and gift certificates for gas to a mother from Safe Passage.

Course Development for a CIS or Computer Forensics Cert.

Dave reports discussing with David Klick, a Computer Information Systems instructor, to develop a Computer Forensics Certificate where students will learn software for phone/computer investigations. Will discuss further as this project progresses.

Skills USA 2017

Skills USA is a workforce preparatory skills competition held for high school and college students annually. The Illinois Skills USA is held in Springfield and the national competition has been held in Louisville, KY the past few years.

Dave plans on taking a group of crime scene students to the competition this year which will be held April 27-29. Previous group have taken first place in the state competition and have gone to the national competition the past 3 years in a row. The national competition is being held in June this year.

NRA Grant/Foundation/NITAB—For firearms simulator

Kishwaukee College Criminal Justice Program received a partial NRA grant worth ~\$2,200 toward a new firearms simulator. Bill Nicklas plans to propose a donation toward the simulator at the next Foundation meeting in May.

Tom believes this would be a great asset for the college, both for class use as well as professional development. NIU does not currently have a firearms simulator, although Tom would find great value in having one.

Christian shares that DeKalb County Sheriff's Office has one that is permanently located at the Sycamore Police Department currently. Dave says Kishwaukee College students as well as KEC students have been able visit the simulator in Sycamore but having one on campus would be very beneficial.

Equipment in Forensics Lab for DNA Testing

With the help from Charles Raimondi from the Electronics Department here on campus, some of the DNA Testing equipment has been refurbished in the Forensics Lab. Dave is hoping to update more equipment next year. Will address further at next meeting.

Western Illinois University 2+2 Program for LEJA/CRJ

Dave reports that Enrollment Services has created transfer guides for the 2+2 program with WIU which should hopefully be finalized this summer. 7 out of 24 graduates last year, transferred to WIU. Dave also took 7 students this school year down to visit WIU where they met with admissions, financial aid, housing, etc.

Tom seeks details on any partnerships with NIU. Dave reports that we do have an active agreement with NIU, however, NIU offers a Criminology Degree under the Sociology Department so it does not directly translate with our Criminal Justice program.

Dave reports that we also have agreements with UW Platteville, Aurora University, and Olivet Nazarene.

5 Year Program Review

Dave reports that Retention rates are an area of concern for the program and would like to investigate into the reasons why students drop the program? Are they finding jobs? Is it a funding issue? Transferring to a different school?

Dave hopes to find students who were enrolled in the program but didn't graduate the program to investigate this further.

LaCretia explains the WIOA grant funding that we currently have in place for students who have barriers to employment who need funding help with school. To be eligible for WIOA, we need to ensure these students discover this grant BEFORE they are enrolled. Programs like WIOA are often underutilized and would likely assist with student retention.

Dave seeks committee ideas for increasing enrollment.

Tom mentions Sycamore High School having a new Explore program that Dave could look into.

Local Police/Corrections Outreach—Credit for Academy Courses

Dave would like to focus some attention to current local police departments and corrections facilities because many current officers may not realize that they will receive college credit for academy courses as well as military. Most academy coursework will transfer in as 9 credit hours.

Tom reports that although NIU is a highly educated department, they are an exception to the rule. NIU has education waivers for their police officers so he often encourages more education. Also, recent literature is showing a decrease in requirements around the country which is not necessarily a good thing.

Chuck is curious if officers are being compensated well for having more education, if not that could contribute to some officers not choosing to pursue higher education. Tom explains officers need at least 60 credit hours/A.S. Degree to be promoted to Sergeant, promotions above Sergeant require a B.S. Degree, and must have a Master's Degree to be qualified for a Chief position. Also, recent literature is showing a decrease in requirements around the country which is not necessarily a good thing.

Online/Hybrid Course Development

Dave reports currently offering 7 online courses and 5 hybrid courses within the program. There is a strong demand for online and hybrid courses among students. However, many new traditional college students are not particularly successful in online courses. However, adult learners tend to better succeed in online courses. Dave find some conflict between common perception of the college student generation being very technologically literate and reality. Several students struggle with online classroom software and other students do not have internet access at home which presents difficulty.

The committee recognizes value of online coursework but also the need for face-to-face interaction for success in the field. Hybrid courses offer a balance between these two demands.

Tom and Dave lead discussion on wide variation among online formatting with regards to online programs. Many programs are significantly different and even within the same program, instructors can vary their classes considerably. Tom has found "Skype"-style classes to be valuable.

Questions/Comments

Tom reports NIU has an under-utilized ride-along program and encourages Dave to send students. NIU has an internship program as well. Tom will have someone from his department contact Dave for more information.

Next Meeting

10/4/2017 5:30 PM, Kishwaukee College, Room TBA

Meeting Adjourned at 7:00 PM.