minutes

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Meeting

04/03/2019 @ 5:30pm | Meeting called to order by David Dammon

# In Attendance

Advisory Committee Members Present:

Chris Hathcoat— Genoa Police Department

Joe Przybyla —Patrol Commander, NIU

KC Presence:

Dave Dammon—Executive Director of Campus Operations, KC

Jose Jaques— Criminal Justice Instructor, KEC

Terry Lyn Funston — Director of Curriculum, KC

Jud Curry— Dean ACSS, KC

John Holiday—Criminal Justice Adjunct Instructor, KC

Sarah Brown— Student Worker, Recorder, KC

# Welcome and Introductions

Dave thanks everyone for coming. He welcomes the newest member of the committee, Chris Hathcoat. Jud explains that the CRJ program has now shifted from being a part of the CT division to the ACSS division so he will be the dean overseeing the program.

# Handout/Info

Approval of the Fall 2018 Minutes:

Dave asks that everyone look at the minutes from last semester. He calls for approval. Jose motions to approve, Joe seconds. No opposition so motion carries.

Enrollment Figures SP19 CRJ Courses:

Dave explains that the enrollment is down throughout the entire college. He asks that everyone look at the 10th day report. There are 249 duplicated heads in the CRJ program. They’re up 1.6% which isn’t bad compared to other programs in the college. Unfortunately, the program is down 40% since 2012. Dave suggests the lower enrollment is due to the fact community colleges are now free for city residents. He is interested to see how the enrollment will look in the fall because there are a lot of May KEC graduates. Dave asks if anyone is in the testing. Joe says yes, 70 have applied but they have only filled 1/5 spots. Joe mentions he would be interested in seeing a cross training program for EMT and Police. He would like to look into having some EMT courses count as CRJ electives. He has noticed that the number of overdose calls he has gotten over the years has doubled so it could be a good option for some of the students to have some sort of basic medic license.

Looking Ahead- What is the future of Law Enforcement?

The committee talks about how one of the most difficult things has been trying to get the best quality candidates. Younger students tend to lack more developed communication skills which is a large portion of criminal justice. The program is just looking to produce the best students who are well trained and oriented in the criminal justice field.

# New Business

CRJ Graduation Statistics for 2019:

Dave talked with student services and there will be 12 graduates for the program, which is roughly a quarter of the students that are showing completion of the program. It is good that the time to completion of the program has dropped which means the students are more actively pursuing the degree and wanting to complete it at a faster pace.

Local Police Testing Numbers:

Joe has been doing the Police testing and they’ve only filled 1 out of the 5 spots. Genoa is doing testing this summer. Chris says there are normally 80 people who apply, but last year they only had 40 people. Dave explains Belvidere is also down as well. He has been noticing the decline in enrollment in all CRJ programs in our area. They are looking into doing some community based programs that might get more students interested. Chris says that Genoa will be starting a police explorer group and he will be overseeing it. Joe's explorer group is a mix of staff, faculty, and students.

Dave will send announcement out about testing to the students and post the information on the job board for CRJ. Joe also mentions that the students can work as dispatch or security guards at NIU until they turn 21. If they work there then they get full tuition reimbursement for part and full time positions.

TI Firearms Simulator Lab New Equipment Funding:

Dave announces they got some innovation money to buy new equipment for the program. He asks committee members what they feel should be bought for the TI Simulator. Since they already have pistols, the committee feels it’s a good idea to get Tasers and the holsters for them.

Hope and CRJ Club Donations FA18/SP19

Dave explains that the Hopes Club helps people with everyday supplies. They did a drive collecting items for people who are homeless and ended up collecting a lot of supplies. They will do the donation day near the end of the month. Dave states it has been harder in both clubs to get more students. They used to do around 3-4 donation drives per semester but since they don’t have enough students, they could only do one this semester.

The CRJ club is going on a Statesville Prison tour soon. Jim Robar and Steve Jones will be taking them. They will also be going to three different colleges to do college visits. Terry Lynn announced that they are currently in the final stages of a 3 + 1 Agreement where the student will do three years of school here at Kishwaukee and then the last year of college will be done fully online at Iowa Westland to get their bachelor’s.

Jose mentions trying to recruit from students taking Sociology and Psychology classes. There is a discussion on having a 2 year forensics degree that is heavily science based at Kish. Instead of developing a degree, they could look into doing some sort of certificate. Dave suggests doing some sort of short term training that stacks to a certificate. Terry Lynn suggests doing a focus group to see if there’s a demand for it in this area.

Future Need for New Lead CRJ Instructor- Master’s Degree:

Dave states they will be looking into hiring a new lead instructor at some point in the future. Until then, they will continue utilizing the adjunct instructors. Jud states that next year there will be two teaching chairs. These are faculty members who can work with the adjuncts who will help out with assessment. They won’t be content experts, but they will be helpful in administrative things.

New Kish Adjuncts/Realignment due to ICCB Requirements:

Dave states there are 3 out of 14 courses for CRJ that are IAI courses, which means they transfer to universities. The instructors have to have master’s degrees in order for that to happen though. The courses will transfer currently even though there isn’t a faculty member with those credentials teaching but in the future there will need to be.

# Old Business

SKILLS USA 2019- No Crime Scene Team This Year Again:

There is no crime scene team this year because there weren’t enough students. This year there were only two students interested in going. Next year they will push for more students to go.

Cadet Corp for FALL 2019-Need 6-8 Students:

Dave states there are 9 students this year for Cadet Corp. Two are returning next year. Jose will mention this to his KEC students. The job pays 12-13 per hour and they would work around their school schedule. They help serve the students and faculty and do security for college activities such as sports games. The current Cadet Corps are all CRJ students and need to maintain a 3.0 GPA and be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours.

Online/Hybrid Course Development Status:

They are currently at a standstill with developing the online/hybrid courses. They aren’t adding any classes. The Crime Scene 1 and 2 class is doing a hybrid format for the first time. When the students meet, they do their labs. This class has been working well for a hybrid format and the students seem to enjoy it. The students can get their AAS degree almost completely online except for that one hybrid class.

Local Police/Corrections-Credit for Academy Courses- UPDATE:

Dave explains they currently give 12 credits for the police courses and 6 for corrections. The students would be getting an entire semester worth of credits just for going to the police academy.

Local Trends in new recruits/what should we be teaching? Discussion. :

Committee members agree that the students need to focus less on material things and more on soft skills. Jose did a questionnaire for CTS kids and the questions on professionalism, ethics, and communication were the things that less than 50% of students got right. The students know the right things to do they just don’t know how to apply them to real life situations. At some point, Dave hopes to integrate the law classes into one class and take those 6 credits and turn them into soft skill oriented classes. There is a discussion on having the corrections students take an abnormal psychology class. The students could also take a technical writing class since a lot of police work involves filling out paperwork.

# Next Meeting

Date and time TBD. Will send out poll to the members to find time and date that works best.

Motion to Adjourn by Jose at 7:05pm.