minutes

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Meeting

10/03/2018 @ 6:00 | Meeting called to order by David Dammon

# In Attendance

Advisory Committee Members Present:

Gene Lowery — Chief of Police, DeKalb IL.

KC Presence:

Dave Dammon—Associate Dean of Career Technologies Division, KC

Jose Jacques— Criminal Justice Instructor, KEC

Sarah Brown— Student Worker, Recorder, KC

John Holiday—Criminal Justice Adjunct Instructor, KC

# Welcome and Introductions

Dave thanks everyone for coming. Asks that everyone looks over Spring meetings minutes.

Dave makes motion to approve minutes. John seconds this. Motion carries, no opposition.

# Enrollment Data

FA18/SP19 Courses:

Headcounts were down last semester by 7.9%.  For this semester, enrollment is up three heads, but class credits are down. For FA18 credits for CRJ, it went from 759 in 2017 to 815 in 2018. This is an increase in 7.4% in credits for this fall semester. Dave explains this is due to an overall trend they are seeing in low enrollments of colleges all over. Dave unfortunately states how for the first time ever, the machine shops have been empty.

Looking Ahead:

Dave believes enrollments will be up again because of the new online classes that will be offered. He explains how the CRJ DPT no longer has a full-time faculty member, only adjuncts. They may be looking in the future for a full-time employee, but not right now. The number of courses CRJ is offering has also reduced, but on the positive note the CRJ program has the third highest fill rate of the college, next to speech and math. They have about an 85% fill rate considering the fill rate of most other CT classes have a fill rate of about 51%.

# New Business

CRJ Graduation Statistics:

The Illinois Community College Board, ICCB, looks at the grad rates for the program (students known as competitors) getting degrees and certificates. Dave asks committee what they believe we should do to get more students interested in going to college for criminal justice. Gene said that NIU is offering a grant program, which could be up to 3000 dollars, to create a bigger feeder pool for students to transfer from local community colleges to their university. Dave explains that a lot of local agencies do not require any college courses to be taken prior to getting hired. He asks if there is any way to get some of the employees to come back to school and get some continuing education credit. The option of night classes is brought up. Dave explains how they used to offer night classes, but enrollment was too low to continue running them. Jose wonders how the students are being directed, in other words, are students coming to the program to specifically become police officers? Dave explains how his statistics show that only half of the students want to go into police/law enforcement. A lot of students want to go into different fields such as forensics, TSA, or other private means of work. Dave brings up the idea of contacting NIU about a possible articulation agreement for pre-law to a bachelor’s degree. He isn’t sure how many students will be interested, but it is just a possibility to think about.

TI Firearms Simulator Lab:

Dave announces the Simulator Lab is up and running with its new recent update. They will be putting it out there for NITAB to use. It was purchased in part through a grant that was available through the foundation here at Kishwaukee College. It is also available to the local law enforcement. Gene says that NIU is seeking a grant for a 300-degree simulator for a research project. He says that if they do get that, it would be a huge asset on a regional basis.  Gene also said that the county will be getting a new outdoor firing range south of DeKalb. He said that it could be a possibility of having the KEC kids out there for a field trip for one of the days.

Hope and CRJ Club Donations FA18/SP19

At every meeting, it is important to discuss the student organizations. Dave announces that the college no longer allows for on-campus bake sales, so the students are working on finding new and creative ideas for fundraising. They are also still deciding on who they are going to be donating to; Hopes of Ogle County and a Christmas Toy Drive are what they have chosen so far. In the Spring they will pick two more, so he will have more information on it at the next meeting.

Assessment Campus Lab:

Every year we discuss assessments. It is just to make sure that the SLO are getting done. This can be done in tests, papers, or other ways. CT was falling behind, so Will Michaels is getting us caught up on the assessments.

# Old Business

Cadet Corp/ Community Service Update:

Dave said there is a group of 10 students who are helping the sheriff's dept to cover positions. They are getting a little bit of experience/training while doing this. They are not armed, but will have pepper spray. They also will have cell phones given to them to allow easier communications. Last year, all students but 1 graduated. This group is just an extra set of eyes on campus. NIU also does a student security program like this as well.

Online/Hybrid course development:

Dave announces that next year, they will have a degree available that can be done almost completely online. There will just need to be at least one class that can be taken on campus because of the cost. Dave thinks that by 2019, we will be close to having a fully online associates degree. The class that will need to be hybrid is Crime Scene. Hopefully this will bring enrollment up in the program.

KEC New CRJ Instructor:

Jose is the new KEC Instructor. He has brought up the idea to do some dual enrollment with welding, and is bringing many other great ideas to the college.

New Kish Adjuncts/ Realignment:

Currently using all adjuncts, and will be in spring as well. Does not affect number or quality of classes that are offered. The adjuncts have picked up a lot and Dave is grateful for it. We will manage this way for another year or two. The current students so far are really liking the online classes this semester.

Local Police/Corrections- Credit for Academy Courses:

If the officers have been to correction school or basic law enforcement academy, they don’t need to comp test out, and they will just get college credit. Could get 9-12 credits which gives them good jump starts to a certificate or degree. If the students are military and have military transcripts, they will try to substitute and give them credit for any classes they can. They can transfer up to 45 out of 60 credit hours- the 15 credits have to be taken at the college to get the degree.

Skills USA-

Skills USA last year didn't send team to state. They only had one team since there were fewer students interested. Jose said that he will be going to a conference in NOV to get names for Skills USA. Dave said that the Skills USA in our area is getting harder to find people for since enrollment is down locally.

Co-Chair Model for Advisory Committee:

Dave explains how all of the colleges are going through a change in how they do advisory committee meetings. They switched to the co-chair model so that the stakeholders will have a say in what is discussed at the advisory meetings. Gene offers to be the co-chair for the CRJ Meetings.

# Other

Gene discusses how soft skills have been a huge issue that he has been noticing. A lot of students who are of younger generations lack these skills, mostly communication. There is also a discussion of online books. The students and instructors both love them. This semester, they are running 4 online classes. Jose also asks Dave for the process to get his students into the gym. He wants to have his students actually take Power Tests. Dave said that he will email him the request form with specific information on how to go about it.

# Next Meeting

Date and time TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.