Minutes of the AJ Advisory Meeting  
November 30, 2007

Members in attendance were Rachel Schulz, Elena Avila, Chaiyant “Johnny” Chanchang, Jess Martinez, Andrea Greene, Mark Lunn, Frank LaFlamme, Darlene Simon, Mari Rettke, David Jordan, Leslie Milke, Gary Nanson and Kelly Enos. President Moreno attended the last part of the meeting as a guest.

Introductions were made by Mari Rettke and Kelly Enos regarding the purpose of the meeting. Everyone of the panel members also introduced themselves. Lunch was then served.

A call for nominations for Chair and Co-chair were made. Lt. Nanson recommended and nominated Kelly Enos for Chair since Kelly would be the point man for the program and because of his position in the AJ program he would make the most sense as Chair of the committee. Vote was taken and was unanimous. Frank LaFlamme nominated Mark Lunn as Co-chair and the vote was unanimous.

First order of business was the Basic Preparation Academy Skills Award. The purpose of the skills award is to offer AJ courses that prepare students to enter the police academy. East Los Angeles College implemented this skills award several years ago in their AJ program and have had great success with it and increased enrollment. All of the classes in the skills award would also be degree applicable. Leslie Milke recommended we tailor the physical education component to what LAPD and LASD use for their academy preparation. Leslie recommended the P.E. class be degree applicable.

Gary Nanson also recommended to structure the P.E. class to what LAPD and LASD need for applicants. Elena Avila recommended looking at the CAPS program at LAPD for subject matter experts regarding the P.E. class. Mark Lunn and Johnny Chanchang agreed. Elena Avila will get CAPS information to Kelly later.

Mari talked about an advisory for the AJ14 class as part of the skills award. We may have to have a prerequisite of English 28. Jess Martinez also talked about the idea of including an english class to the skills award. Gary Nanson recommended that a prerequisite be included in the skills award to the AJ14. Both Gary and Jess agreed that writing skills in criminal justice are very important. A motion was made and passed unanimously recommending English 28 as a prereq for AJ14. The basic academy skills award was passed unanimously pending the recommended changes/additions.

Gary Nanson recommended offering on-line courses using LAPD and LASD systems. The committee recommended we explore the idea.
Next item on the agenda was a review of the existing certificate programs in AJ starting with the Security Certificate. Gary Nanson talked about the security certificate and how it might be more appropriate if targeted as a corporate security certificate. All of the members were advised and given copies of two surveys conducted in 2005 and 2007. One of the questions on both surveys was “what part of the criminal justice system are you most interested in”. Both surveys were consistent in the responses and indicated students were not interested in security curriculum and the preferences were in the following order; policing, corrections and forensics. Jess Martinez stated the security certificate was not appropriate for college students and that we would be wasting our time offering it to students. Mark Lunn echoed the same feelings as Jess and recommended tabling or shelving the security certificate. Andy Greene also agreed we should do away with the security certificate and take into consideration what students had stated on two surveys regarding their career choices. Several other members agreed the security certificate was not appropriate in the AJ program and that we should be focusing on the A.S. degree. Many agencies in criminal justice give little value to certificates, especially in law enforcement. A motion was passed recommending we shelve the security certificate until further notice.

David Jordan recommended we offer or collaborate with the community on earthquake preparedness. David also recommended we have a law enforcement day on campus inviting different agencies onto the campus. Elena Avila asked about job fairs where law enforcement would be on campus. Kelly related that a law enforcement job fair was probably going to be conducted in spring or fall of next year and all agencies would be invited.

President Moreno attended the last part of the meeting and thanked the members for participating. He talked about some day he would like to see AJ become a big program and perhaps include fire technology. The new PE building going up has approximately 7-14 acres of open land where nothing is planned. He asked the members to consider building something that would benefit the program and other police agencies.

At approximately 2:15pm the meeting was adjourned. It was agreed the committee would meet again in the spring of 2008 preferably on a Thursday.