Fall 2013 SLO/PLO ASSESSMENT REPORT – Administration of Justice

Date: January 21, 2014

Name of Person Reporting: Kelly Enos

Name of Department and/or Discipline: Administration of Justice

1. What courses/certificates/programs have you assessed this past semester?

Courses assessed include AJ1, AJ4, AJ5, AJ6 and the Basic Police Academy Preparation Certificate.

2. Summarize the analysis of your assessment results for the fall semester course assessments in your area. Did the students achieve the established benchmarks (standards for student success)?

For all the courses assessed in fall of 2013, we used a pre-test/post-test with twenty questions for students to answer. These questions were imbedded in the individual courses. For AJ1, AJ4, AJ5, and AJ6 students generally performed better on the post-test than the pre-test. However, we have been re-assessing how we assess student learning in the Administration of Justice program and whether the pre-test/post-test is a good indication of student learning. We are finding that it may not be the best way to assess student learning. In addition, we have learned that some of the existing student learning outcomes for the courses may have to be revised because of the difficulty in measuring them.

For the certificate program, we used a survey mailed to 13 students who had completed the program in the last year. Four students responded. The results were generally favorable with students indicating the certificate program successfully prepared them to graduate a police academy. Most of the respondents indicated they wish they had more hands on activities during their classes for the certificate program.

3. Based on the discussion and analysis of your assessment results, what changes have you made or do you plan to make?

For AJ5, we are going to use a different assessment technique. Instead of a pre-test/post-test we will be having students process a mock murder scene as their final project for the course. The project will assess one of the student learning outcomes for
the course, “students will be able to process a basic crime scene”. For AJ1, AJ4, and AJ6 we will be exploring over the spring 2014 semester what other ways we can better assess student learning. During the fall 2013 semester, all adjuncts in administration of justice were issued a book on classroom assessment techniques. Adjuncts were encouraged to study the textbook and use some of the assessment techniques in the spring 2014 semester. We are also encouraging our instructors to use real world scenarios or problems in their assessment techniques.

4. **Follow up on previous assessments:**

   (1) If this SLO was assessed previously, compare the results with the earlier assessments. Have the recommended changes been implemented?

   Yes. For the previous assessment of AJ4 in 2010, students consistently scored low on three questions concerning rights defendants are given at the time of arrest and during trial, questions 8, 10, and 16. More time was spent in class in these areas and as a result, students scored better on these questions than the previous pre-test/post-test in 2010. For the previous assessment of AJ5 in 2010, students consistently scored low on four questions concerning crime scene searches, blood spatter and gunshot residue. More time was spent in class in these areas and as a result, students scored higher on these questions than the previous assessment in 2010. For the previous assessment of AJ6 in 2009, students consistently scored low on three questions concerning the history of police patrol and searches of suspects. More time was spent on these areas in class and as a result, students scored higher on all of the post questions than previously in 2009. For AJ1, this was the first time Mr. Loman assessed this class.

   (2) How have the findings led to improved student learning and the achievement of the college mission?

   We have started to take a closer look at how we are teaching and assessing student learning in the AJ program. By looking at the previous results and adjusting our teaching, it has led to improved learning in those areas that students scored low in.

5. **How have the results of your assessments been shared and discussed among the members of your program? (Provide dates and any minutes of meetings as evidence.)**

   Results of the previous semester’s assessments (Spr 13) were shared with members of the AJ faculty at the SLO Summit on October 11. We will be sharing the results of the fall 13 assessment with our adjunct faculty during the spring semester.
6. **How have the results of your assessments been shared and discussed with members of your advisory committee (if vocational program)?**

We are planning on having our AJ advisory board meeting in the spring of 2014 where we will be sharing the results of the assessments and asking for any feedback from our industry partners.

7. **What resource requests are planned as a result of the assessments?**

We will be planning to provide more training to our adjuncts in course assessment techniques during the spring and fall 2014 year.

8. **Have the assessment results been posted on the online system?**

Yes.