



LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE 1600 Maple Street, Longview, WA 98632

Criminal Justice BOARD MINUTES

Thursday, May 23rd, 2019 5 p.m. Alan Thompson Library
University Center, Room 130

I. Meeting called to order at 5 p.m.

II. ATTENDEES

Nate Hockett, Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office
Doug Kazensky, Longview Police Department
Keith Lawrence, Cowlitz County Guardian Ad Litem
John Reeves, Longview Police Department
Kevin Tate, Kelso Police Department
Anita Quirk, LCC
Lynell Amundson, LCC

III. AGENDA ITEMS

a) Advisory Board overview

Attendees were given an overview of the role of advisory boards for professional/technical programs at Washington community colleges; two new potential members in attendance.

b) Program Updates

a. Enrollment

Enrollment is down in Criminal Justice Program, similar to what programs across campus and at colleges around the state are experiencing; year to year comparison graph provided to members showing reduced numbers in every quarter. Board discussion about lowest unemployment rate in decade and state of economy effect on college enrollment.

Nate Hockett asked about outreach to high schools; Anita Quirk said LCC does reach out to schools, continue to have issues with students starting college with low math and writing skills, remediation creates delay for students getting into program specific course work.



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John Reeves asked how Centralia's program compares to LCC's. Doug Kazensky told the board that most LPD officers choose to enroll at Centralia College because of its Credit for Prior Learning policy and online options.

b. Degree changes

Anita handed out Criminal Justice Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Program Planner and described changes to degree that were approved by board members and curriculum committee in February; shared information about the addition of juvenile justice course and defined other courses that fit within the Criminal Justice Center of Excellence (CJ-COE) work to have common courses across the state for criminal justice degrees – Introduction to Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Juvenile Justice.

c. Future of program

Board discussion about online options; Anita shared that many courses are hybrid, meeting only once or twice a week on campus, many topics/concepts difficult to cover in online environment; American Legal Systems as example, students struggle with differences between civil and criminal justice.

The three courses recommended by CJ-COE will be offered Fall 2019.

Doug asked about option for LCC to offer Reserve Academy along with CJ degree. Washington is increasing number of hours required and it is going to be nearly impossible for agencies to maintain pool of reserve officers even though more and more people are wanting to get into it; many agencies rely on reserve officers; there is a real need to offer an academy locally; Clark County is no longer offering it; Skagit Valley College has a program. What does it look like? Could LCC adopt? Students earning Reserve Academy Certificate and CJ Degree would be well positioned for career placement. Enrollment in CJ program may increase if Reserve Academy option was integrated into program. Doug moved to research delivering Reserve Academy and review of Skagit program, Nate seconded; board approved. Doug will send LCC information regarding change to Reserve Academy hour requirements. LCC will research Skagit program and see how it might fit with CJ degree or be offered as a pathway.

c) Labor market information

Bureau of Labor Statistics shows growth in several careers where a Criminal Justice Degree would be applicable; 5 to 15% across the board in careers like probation officer, law enforcement officer, investigator, security guard, corrections, victims' advocate.

d) Employment opportunities



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LPD currently has eight positions open.

Cooperative Education - Any internship would require background check. Board recommends exploring how this would work.

IV. UPCOMING PROGRAM OR COMMUNITY EVENTS

a. Member news/Board discussion

Board discussion about number of applicants failing background check, automatic disqualifiers for employment with law enforcement, courts, including maintenance and security positions at the Hall of Justice. Kevin Tate moved to have a pre-vetting/screening document for students when they apply to enter LCC's Criminal Justice Degree program. Motion seconded by Doug Kazensky and approved by the board. Anita will develop and send out draft to members for review.

Kelso Police Department has replaced half its sworn officers, currently looking for replacement after retirement of Chief Andy Hamilton. Longview PD currently has eight openings and is expecting to lose 10% of its sworn officers over the next 10 years due to retirement.

Kelso High School has a Police Science program open to all area high school students; Mike Milosevich instructor retiring; Kevin Sawyer replacement. LCC needs to update articulation agreement according to Anita.

b. NEXT MEETING (DATE/TIME/PLACE): 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16th, location TBD

V. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.