Advisory Minutes February 10 2015

The Administration of Justice and Fire Tech Advisory committees held a joint opening session. Chief Shull and Professor Jefferson welcomed the attendees and explained that ADJU and Fire Tech were exploring opportunities for collaboration and joint training opportunities our students and in-service personnel in both industries.

Interim Dean of Technology and Health, Jemma Blake Judd thanked the attendees for attending and reemphasized the importance and responsibilities of the advisory committees in offering their input and suggestions for the college to meet its challenges in educating students and meeting their industry’s needs.

After lunch the committees met separately.

Minutes:

The minutes of the May 23, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

Program updates:

12:25 Dr. Scroggins joined the ADJU meeting and updated the committee on the budget from the State and College level. He stated that for the first time in several years we are experiencing growth in state revenue. While the overall picture is brighter, we still face tremendous challenges. Dr. Scroggins emphasized THE SKILLS GAP - the distance between training and skills employers need. How do we partner with our clients to create bridges to close the gaps?

Statewide Task force - Money, procedures, and the eight state training agencies Money is being provided to training (Career Technical Education dollars came to MtSAC) He reemphasized the importance of the Advisory Committee to tell us, what skills employers need. “We will listen to industry, and we will act”.

Professors Jefferson and Heard gave a program update. This year we are offering 34 class sections compared to 23 sections a year ago. The college awarded 13 AS degrees and 14 Certificates for ADJU, compared to 1 AS degree and certificate. Because of the low amount of degrees and certificates awarded in the field of Corrections, the Corrections program was discontinued. We are looking at keeping a relationship with corrections curriculum.
Curriculum, Degree, Certificate, Class size Modifications:

While we may not offer a degree the students are still employable with an AS degree or certificate in law enforcement. To that end we propose a modification to CORS 10 (intro to Corrections align with CID, and add as an elective to AJ transfer degree. As part of the curriculum modifications we also advised the committee of the need to adjust our class sizes from 50 students to 35.

The Advisory approved the recommendations as related to curriculum, degree, certificate, and class size modifications.

The committee still expressed the need to stress report writing and ethics. The committee was advised that ethics is incorporated into every class offering. The committee was further advised that they will be in contact with the English department to explore the creation of an English course designed to assist students and current officers in law enforcement report writing.

Work Experience:

Paul Jefferson talked about the creation of the program and the subsequent expansion. Rachel Brown went into more detail about the program. Prior to Work Experience it was Service Learning. Many students want to enter the workforce pre Bachelor’s degree, To better equip them we created the Work Experience program which equates an hour to unit ration for Work Experience Credit. The program gives the students firsthand view of the industry. Student must make 16 week commitment of at least 4 hours a week. Each student is checked upon 3 times during the semester. They receive a mid and end of year evaluations. Rachel invited to monthly chiefs meeting to promote the WE program

New Business:

The committee was advised as part of the statewide effort to have student move through their college years as fast as possible, the college was looking at potential partnerships with four year colleges. The goal is to have a 4 year college offer classes and 4 year degrees on the MtSAC campus. While no specific format has been adopted, a good starting point is to look at the arraignment between the college’s aviation program and Southern Illinois University.

The committee was asked to forward any suggestions for an on campus 4 year school.
Employment Opportunities:

The department of Corrections reminded everyone that they are looking to hire 7,000 people and they are offering preferential hiring to applicants who are will to accept position in certain hard to staff locations.

The committee all agreed that law enforcement agencies across the state are hiring in both sworn and non-sworn positons.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by Lance  Heard