



ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE
PARALEGAL STUDIES PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

September 09, 2014, EpiCenter Campus, Largo, Florida
4:30-6:00pm

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Susan Demers, Christy Powers, Deborah Eldridge, Rachel Bennett, Rebecca Frank, Robert Williams, Candi James, Karen McLead, Jane Helms, Ashley Caron, Robert Schumaker, Nathan Suedmeyer, Iryna Bandaryk, Brittanie Strickland and Leta Shafer.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. in Room 3-303 on the EpiCenter Campus.

Following introductions Dr. Powers began the discussion with information from her trip to Chicago in June for the E-Reporting Seminar. She also discussed the pending status of the Interim Report for the ABA which was submitted in March 2014. Dr. Powers passed the Interim Report book around so everyone could view it. Dr. Powers mentioned part of the information gathering process was through our one college support system. The information, searchable through Business Intelligence and will eventually become automated. Dr. Powers showed the one college support website and how it actually tracks information per course. We are currently waiting on the final approval from the ABA on the Interim Report.

Dr. Powers spoke briefly about current Initiatives and Projects. One current project which is in the process of transition is our online learning management system. There are various modalities which students take courses rather in class blended or all online. Currently, students use Angel. The new system is known as Desire to Learn (My Courses). The plan of action is to have all courses transitioned over to this new software by spring 2015.

Dr. Bennett then reviewed the Legal Studies Society updates. Dr. Bennett addressed that the Legal Studies Society will be going on a trip to Clemson, South Carolina to attend a center for academic integrity event. She presented the Fall Flyer for all events that the Legal Studies Society would participate in. Dr. Bennett discussed the activeness of the Legal Studies Society and how they have been charged with working through Judge Todd to create a newsletter that will assist with pro-bono activities. Dr. Bennett discussed that they are currently working on the next Law Day event to raise funds for their organization.

Dr. Banks reviewed the Legal Research and Writing updates. Dr. Banks stressed the importance of identifying students who struggle with writing. There are a total of four instructors who are available to

give the students the help they need in order to be successful in their writing skills and successful in the course PLA 4949.

Dr. Bennett reviewed the purpose of paper surveys to get real information from students to help improve the courses by the information provided by these surveys. Depending on the length of the course via 16 week, 12 week or 8 week.

Dr. Eldridge reviewed the internship and cooperative work experience placements. Dr. Eldridge asked the committee for suggestions of what could be done to provide more places of businesses that interns could complete their internship. Dr. Eldridge introduced the new learning management system for spring (Student Paralegal Commons) would be a great asset to assisting students to get internships. She currently has two positions open for the Clearwater Marine Aquarium, a non-profit organization.

Dean Demers opens floor for discussion to seek places we could send students for internships. Everyone present participated and offered ideas plus contact information for various law/legal based internships. These reached as far as Pasco and Manatee counties neighboring Pinellas County where SPC is located.

Dean Demers and Dr. Christy Powers ended the meeting with a reminder of the Spring 2015 meeting. The meeting ended at 6:03pm.