



ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE
PARALEGAL STUDIES PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 08, 2010

MINUTES

PRESENT: Sean Scott, Christy Powers, Stan Vittetoe, Kay Burniston, Karen McLead, Gary Graham, Amy Rush, Jenna Kemp, Iryna Bandaryk, Jane Helms, Thomas Spencer, Andy Sasso, Angela Herchy.

The meeting was called to order at 4:11 p.m. in room 160 of the Social Science Building on the Clearwater Campus (Paralegal Program's New Courtroom).

After Introductions, Dr. Scott began with agenda topic one, discussion of new courtroom. He addressed the future of the courtroom updating appearance with flags and discussed the technology and conduits of the courtroom.

Dr. Powers reviewed the upcoming Mock Trial Activities. She discussed the potential of a competitive team and possible state competitions in this area. She stressed the need of Mentors and Coaches for these teams and voiced that any willing participants could contact her or Dr. Demers. She further briefly touched on the need for Mock Trial Activities such as this and discussed the setup- four teams and four persons to a team with one coach. Total of sixteen students is the goal. Planned to begin in Mid May Beginning of June, hoping for meeting twice a week between teams and face to face meetings with coaches. Dr. Powers answered a question from Thomas Spencer regarding Stetson students or former students coming and either participating or coaching. Dr. Powers response was to keep it amongst the paralegal program students, starting out, but opens the door to any coaches or mentors.

Dr. Scott Reviewed the website, stated a need for a direct link to the Paralegal A.S degree. Then previewed the video on the Bachelor of Paralegal Studies and voiced that an updated version will portray the future of SPC Bachelor Program i.e. the new Courtroom as a setting.

Dr. Scott previewed the most recently added course to the Paralegal Program, Evidence Law and Animal Law. He then briefly discussed the curriculum. He pointed out the need of this Evidence Law via demonstrating the limitation in teaching evidence say in a Civil Litigation Course. Animal Law and Evidence both to be offered as Summer Courses. Susan Demers to teach Animal Law, covering anything

from Pet Trust to Animal Actors. Dr. Powers voices the interest of Thomas Spencer as adjunct for Evidence Law Course. Course information regarding curriculum and other information distributed before meeting was called to order.

Dr. Powers discussed the sequencing of courses. Offers up Legal Research, Advanced Legal Research, and Legal Writing Seminar as an example. She expressed that students are asking and may be obtaining an override into these class and may not meet the specific skill set to take these classes either out of succession or at the same time. Dr. Powers mentioned the 8 Class Post Bachelorette Certificate and the mapping of courses. Dr. Scott and Dr. Powers both offered copies of rotation and possibility of them being sent out via email to those present. Both again welcomed feedback of the Program's set rotation plan at this point.

Dr. Powers also talked about the Computerized Legal Research Course and the skills being taught in that class. She further welcomed and an extended the offer of tutoring. Tutoring needed for those students that have not maybe reached the bar in certain areas of legal writing and research. Asked the committee to have anybody interested in devoting sometime for one on one tutoring for these Students to contact us and the that the Paralegal Program is more than happy to have them.

Dr. Powers discuss the increase of enrollment as outlined in the agenda. She conveyed the need for adjunct professors to teach courses to house all the student enrolled. Dr. Scott pronounced the recent approval of a new full time faculty position. Slated to be filled for the Fall term.

Dr. Powers briefly talked about the Paralegal Society Annual Law Day Event to be held on April 30th at 5:30 p.m. at the Gathering Place of Suncoast Hospice on Roosevelt. Light Fare provided and the Silent Auction discussed briefly. Invitation disseminated to Committee members prior to meetings opening.

Dr. Scott did a follow up seeking updates on the focus group to study technology skills and the focus group to replace spring employer survey. Kay Burniston expressed a concern for meeting time and extent needed. Dr. Scott and Dr. Powers offered to look into the aforementioned concerns.

Dr. Powers discussed the two computer course available in the Program. The Computerized Legal Research Course at the Lower Level and the required Computers in the Law Office Course on the Upper Level. She addressed the importance of these computer skills. Dr. Powers then discussed the need for guest speakers for any course and the need to show real life scenarios possibly via these guest speakers.

Open Floor for questions.

Dr. Powers adds that the above Evidence Law and Animal Law classes have been approved by the college.

Dr. Scott. voices that the Summer Term schedule is done and that the Fall schedule is almost completed, He then states that those classes being offered will be sent out.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45p.m.