CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
May 29, 2008 – 2:00 pm

1. Sign-in and Introductions
   a. New members Daniel Pingrey, Chief of Shoreline PD, Louis Montgomery, Lt. with Monroe Correctional Complex, Trooper Jon Nelson with WSP and Deputy David Palus with KCSO recruiting were introduced.
   b. Current members in attendance: Chief Al Compaan, Edmonds PD; Chief Forrest Conover, Bothell PD; Sgt. Bryan McNaghten, Kirkland PD; Dean Ken Lawson, IAS/SS/Business; Berta Lloyd, Dean of Workforce Education; Professor Linda Forst and Professor Ken Conder.

2. Approved minutes of October 2007 meeting

3. Recruitment The efforts toward recruitment were being discussed including marketing efforts and the new brochure.

4. Enrollment issues Dean Lawson indicated that he is concerned about the numbers being down in the criminal justice program and this issue was discussed.

5. Common Course numbering The new statewide common course numbering was explained. This is a numbering system being used by all community colleges in the state effective this summer and ultimately will also be used by the 4 year colleges in the State of Washington. Ultimately, it should make advising easier particularly when students transfer from other community colleges in the state. Though many class numbers are changing effective Summer 08, all documents indicate to students what the old numbers used to be and it shouldn't be a problem.

6. New brochure / planning sheets It was explained that we are recommending a change to the AAAS planning sheet whereas we are increasing the number of Criminal Justice Professional Electives from 8 credits to 13 credits. Those 5 credits will be coming from the general academic electives which is currently 10 credits and will decrease to 5 credits. This change is in the process however the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee strongly supports this change. It was also detailed that the new brochure provides a little more information about the instructors and their police experience and networking as this seems to be a strong asset of our program according to our students.

7. Program requirements
   a. English / Writing Dr. Forst explained that we are trying to get the Report Writing Class to be an option for students to take as an English requirement. Currently it is listed as an elective and many students do not get to take it as they have other electives they take. The ones that do take it strongly recommend it as it gives them writing experience in the law enforcement venue. While spelling, grammar and sentence structure are stressed, the type of factual, concise and organized writing necessary in paperwork that will be scrutinized by attorneys, judges, the media and insurance companies as well as possibly end up in court will be emphasized. The Advisory Committee strongly supports this effort.
b. P.E. / Defensive tactics  It was also explained that we are in the process of attempting to get the Defensive Tactics class to be an option for the PE requirement. Again, the Advisory Committee strongly supports this idea. It is a highly physical course and the type of course that would be appropriate for students to take as much as possible (they will get it in the Academy also) as it helps to ensure their safety and minimize the use of force they have to use.

8. I-BEST program  Mr. Conder discussed the efforts being undertaken to implement an I-BEST program in the area of private security officers. This is a program which will involve a Criminal Justice Professor teaching in tandem with an ESL teacher to assist under-prepared learners (higher level English speakers) to prepare for entry level positions in the private security sector. Mr. Conder has been in contact with employers in this field who indicate there is a real need for employees in this area. While the committee doesn’t necessarily see this as a stepping stone to a law enforcement career – though it could possibly be with some individuals who go on to obtain citizenship etc.- they view it as a good thing in that knowledgeable security guards are also an asset to public safety. This is significant especially with the growth in the private sector that has taken place since 9/11. Mr. Conder will keep us updated.

9. ACJS conference  Dr. Forst related her experience at the conference in March in Cincinnati on a “recruitment” issue roundtable panel. The law enforcement agencies around the country are facing the same issues as here in Washington. There is a little more money available for students however so the college programs do not seem to be facing the same challenges as Washington.

10. Internships  Dr. Forst related that all of the interns placed during the winter and spring quarter (law enforcement agencies, SPD’s Victim Support Team, juvenile organizations, and a defense attorney) were very positive for all concerned and she thanked agencies for their participation.

11. Marketing  Dr. Forst and Mr. Conder are both involved in K-12 School district Career and Technical Advisory Committees and are also placing ads in sports and performing arts programs around the area in an effort to expand our outreach to students in other districts. Dr. Forst also participated in a mock crime scene for a forensics class at Kamiak HS involving the Mukilteo PD and FD and other community volunteers.

12. Successes  Several students were mentioned who have attained their career goals through jobs, internships and 4-year college graduations (including Rutgers U in NJ) in the past year.

13. CRJ Advisory committee membership  No discussion other than new membership as above.

14. Other business  There was a discussion of expanding the on-line offerings in an effort to attract “in-service” students of law enforcement agencies. Several of the agencies offer tuition reimbursement and the officers’ primary obstacle is their work schedule. It is felt that if the officers could obtain their degree on-line they would do so and it would lead to increased enrollment. This will also become even more critical for our pre-service students due to the escalating cost of gasoline. Several committee members also offered to place the information or a link on their websites for their officers. Dr. Forst and Mr. Conder will follow up with this and make it a priority and Dean Lawson will facilitate attaining this goal in any way he can.

15. Set date for Fall 2008 meeting  The next meeting will be Thursday October 23rd 2008 at 1400 hrs.