**2018-2019 PROGRAM REVIEW**

***Western Nevada College***

*Associate of Applied Science, Criminal Justice*

1. **Description of Program reviewed**

The Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice provides the academic knowledge and skills needed to succeed in the criminal justice field. Students are given the opportunity to explore all areas of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement, policing and investigations, corrections, parole and probation, prosecution and courts, juvenile justice, and rehabilitation options within the community. Students receive valuable access and networking with experienced instructors who have studied and worked extensively in all areas of the criminal justice system.

Students who complete the Associate of Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice are expected to demonstrate they can:

* Meet the general education requirements of WNC.
* Maintain proper professional attitude for law enforcement.
* Articulate the legal requirements of search and seizure.
* Recognize and evaluate criminal law.
* Process crime scenes.
* Analyze theories for committing crimes.
* Maintain vocabulary necessary for criminal justice.
* Have an acute awareness of cultural diversity.
* Maintain crime scenes.

1. **Review Process and Criteria**

Academic Program Review at Western Nevada College is guided by the Program Assessment and Review Committee (PARC), with additional guidance and support provided by the Vice President of Instruction and Institutional Effectiveness (VPIIE), Institutional Research and Effectiveness (IRE), and the Academic Division Director overseeing the academic program undergoing review.

The Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice program review was conducted by a Program Review Team headed by academic faculty members Richard Finn (now retired) and Greg Sly. WNC Professional and Applied Technology (PAT) Division Director Georgia White was selected as the internal reviewer, and Katie Durbin was external reviewer.

The process involves a program self-assessment, curriculum review, formal report, presentation of findings to the college community, and student panel interviews. Following the presentation and review of the report, WNC President Vincent Solis, VPIIE, PARC, and the Program Review Team met to discuss program review conclusions and recommendations. Finally, the Program Review Team used these findings to develop a five-year action and assessment plan for the next five-year period.

1. **Major Findings and Conclusions of the Program Review**

After completing the AAS Criminal Justice program review, the program has concluded that creating a two-year course schedule with an appropriate mix of online and in-person course offerings will help enrolled students better plan and complete the degree program in two years. Additionally, while there has been past interest in exploring an AA in Criminal Justice as a transfer degree option, the program review found that there is not sufficient student enrollment to support an AA degree offering at this time. Instead, the degree program will remain an AAS. Students interested in transferring to a four-year Criminal Justice program are encouraged to instead declare WNC’s AA degree and work closely with WNC academic advisors to take appropriate Criminal Justice transfer coursework.

1. **Next Steps for this Program Based on Program Review Findings and Recommendations**

PARC provided the following recommended next steps following the program review presentation and exit interview with the Program Review Team and WNC leadership:

* Revising and updating program Mission.
* Creating an annual plan with specific goals for the AAS Criminal Justice Program.
* Creating a regular schedule of face-to-face and online course offerings to better enable two-year program completion.
* Working with Information and Marketing Services to update AAS CRJ Program Guide information in print and online.
* Working with Counseling and faculty advisors to provide a clear pathway for AA students looking to transfer into four-year CRJ programs.
* Beginning a project to realign CRJ course, program, and WNC institutional learning outcomes.
* Working to standardize first week assessment in CRJ 101 to better evaluate and track student goals and interests within the program and upon completing the program.
* Greg Sly’s upcoming work in the Assessment and Planning Lead Faculty position to continue developing and tracking meaningful course and program learning outcome assessment.
* Hiring a full-time instructor.
* Reviewing the need for a program coordinator or additional administrative support to coordinate adjunct faculty and program assessment at all levels.
* Moving forward with previously described positive changes and projects within the program.

1. **Descriptive Statistics**
   1. **Number of students with declared major in the program area:**

2018-19 83

* 1. **Number of graduates from the program for the following years:**

2016-17 12

2017-18 20

2018-19 8

* 1. **Headcount of students enrolled in any course related to the program (duplicated):**

Fall 2018 203

***VI.*  Please submit a copy of the corresponding institutional report. You may submit this in the form of an electronic file (e.g. PDF or Word) or you may provide a weblink to the report from which we will create a file. These reports should be formatted in such a way that they do not include any information that should not be made public. These reports will be filed in a web location that interested parties may access via a weblink that we will create. Please indicate below whether you are attaching the report or providing a weblink:**

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