HSEM BAS & AA Degree Program

February 21, 2017 Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Location: Pierce College Fort Steilacoom

Present: Rich Axtell, Lit Dudley, Marvin Ferreira, Dan Guerrero, Chris Johnson, Jeff Kaliner (new board member), Patrick Knouff, Jennifer Lord, Denise Mack, Gabriel Marcus (new board member), Curry Mayer (new board member), and Richard Schroedel

Staff: John Pennington, Ron May, Jamie Krause, and Paul McNeil

Guests: Linda Crerar, Wendy Freitag, Kellie Hale, Amy Hatfield, Anita Janis, Darren Linker, Jim Mullen, and Mark Todd

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements:

Chris Johnson called everyone to order. The Advisory Board has three new members: Jeff Kaliner (Homeland Security Instructor/ Criminal Justice II Internship Coordinator – Cascadia Tech Academy), Gabriel Marcus (Disaster and Business Continuity Planning Specialist – Costco Wholesale), and Curry Mayer (Emergency Manager – City of Bellevue).

Recognition of retiring Advisory Board Members for their service: Gerry Fiola, Patrick Massey, Andy McKellar, Peter Rasmussen, and Steve Reinbrecht

Program Update – HSEM Associates Degree

Ron May spent a few minutes talking about the HSEM Associates degree such as enrollment data and collaborating college.

List of HSEM AA collaborating colleges:

1. Big Bend Community College, Moses Lake
2. Cascadia College, Bothell (Will be enrolling summer or fall)
3. Columbia Basin College, Pasco (Will be enrolling fall)
4. Edmonds Community College, Lynnwood
5. Highline College, Des Moines
6. Lower Columbia College, Longview (Will be enrolling fall)
7. Olympic College, Bremerton
8. Peninsula College, Port Angeles
9. Skagit Valley College, Mount Vernon

Note: There are more collaborating colleges this year than last year.

Ron also shared a comparison between fall 2015 and 2016 and enrollments. He also provided comparisons for winter 2016 and 2017 enrollments.

Gabe Marcus asked, "There shows a decrease in enrollments. Do you know why?"

Ron replied, "We don't have access to the data of students from the partnering colleges. That is hard to access. Enrollments have gone down throughout all of the colleges across the state."

"The 102 is the intro class of the HSEM program. First impressions are everything. If a student has a good experience in that first class, then they will most likely move forward in the program." Said John Pennington.

Ron also mentioned class evaluations and how they are a challenge, "Challenge with class evaluation is that return rate is very bad. Some students don't do end of quarter evaluation."

"Some of the courses in the HSEM program can be used as an elective for other programs. So while one class may get a lot of students enrolled for a quarter, next quarter it could see a decrease in student enrollment." Linda reminded everyone.

Check out the link to view the HSEM course outcomes:
https://my.pierce.ctc.edu/webapps/dci/detail.aspx?uid=57

Degree completion -

- 2013-14: 5
- 2014-15: 3
- 2015-16: 11
- 2016-17: 1 (big bump up from this year; projection is 15-20 graduates)

HSEM BAS Degree

John: Tried to design a program as one phase, but utilizing to help people get jobs. Guiding philosophy while building this program is how HSEM is no longer a subset of public safety. It's not a retirement field. It is broad. Students will come into a class and they don't think of themselves as emergency management professionals until after going through the course. Trying to design a program where there is an intersection between business continuity and emergency management.

We are lifting a lot of the material that we developed with Emergency Management Institute (EMI) National Emergency Management Advanced Academy (formerly Leader Academy) and it into the Pierce College Bachelors of Applied Science HSEM degree program.

Problems with a lot of the HSEM course (specifically the lower level courses). There is no consistency between courses and they will need to be reviewed and revised. Two BAS courses have been developed and are being offered now. Three new ones will be offered this next spring quarter. The BAS degree appears to have five significant pipelines for recruitment: 1.) JBLM

pipeline, 2.) public safety disciplines, 3.) social and physical science, 4.) youth and running start, and 5.) Emergency Management Institute.

Skillsets: Web EOC knowledge, reverse notification, and corporation of tribes (how tribes fit into HSEM).

Rich Axtell asked, "What are we doing for veterans who get immediate hiring, but don't get the additional training? There are no programs to help them get that transition."

John replied, "I don't have an answer for that, but I understand where you are coming from. There is a transitional phase veterans go through that can be hard.

Rich mentioned, "Employers are kicking veterans out, because they are unable to adjust to certain aspects of civilian life.

John: The certificate program as it is right now does not help students get a job. It needs to be jacked way up in its content. The internship program is going great. A big thanks to Wendy Freitag for that success. For the Associates and BAS degree courses, there are going to have to be some hybrid courses in the future. Certain HSEM courses are offered sporadically. We need to come up with something creative and are currently in the process of figuring it out. Still looking at the administration issues along with the hiring issues. Will work to meet the original vision of the Advisory Board had and how we move forward.

The demographics of HSEM are changing which is due to the Department of Defense. A lot of the current national curriculum does not show the diversification of the field.

Wendy brought up the need for a balance of private sector with public sector knowledge in the curriculum.

John explained he has representatives from Home Depot, Target, and John Deere who have all agreed to help with incorporating more private sector lingo in the curriculum.

Adjourn – 3:47 p.m.

Action Item:

Next Advisory Board meeting will be May 9, 2017. Time and location: TBD