School of Criminal Justice Alumni Association Board of Directors
October 4, 2013
Galaxy Room, Kellogg Center

Attending: Steve Brett, John Donovan, Dennis Halverson, Tom Hendrickson, Marlon Lynch, Bill Nash, Nancy Oesch, Mike Oltersdorf, Bob Parsons, Gene Pawlik, Shawn Rowley, Traci Ruiz, Paul Sparks

Guests: Candy Curtis, Ed McGarrell, Bruce Sokolove, Bill Wilson, Mary Lee VanderMoere

Meeting called to order: by President Paul Sparks at 1:10 pm

Sparks: thanked everyone for taking time and money to be there and participate in Board activities.

Approval of Minutes: from April 27, 2013.

Parsons: asked for a correction on page 5. Parsons said they did not make any "formal" recommendation about partnerships; please strike that from the minutes.

Oesch moved and Parsons seconded to approve minutes with the correction. Motion carried.

Board Elections:

Sparks: Reported that there are five board terms expiring. Three members are eligible for re-election (Lynch, Halverson, and Rowley) two are not (Nash, Oltersdorf) Board Members Lynch, Halverson, and Rowley have agreed to stay.

Hendrickson: Moved and Oltersdorf seconded to re-elect Lynch, Halverson, and Rowley. Motion Carried.

There was discussion about three new candidates, eligible for the two vacancies. Sparks recused himself, and he and Wilson exited the room as the discussion continued.

Parsons: asked for discussion/comments. He suggested looking at "fields" that might not be represented already on the Board. Heraux has no "field" experience which might be important.

Oltersdorf moved, Donovan seconded that Bill Wilson be reappointed. Motion Carried.

Parsons: moved and Ruiz seconded, to elect Ralph Hobart and. Motion Carried.
Financial report:

Sparks: Asked about the ASC reception expense.

Curtis: Replied that the School hosts a reception at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting each year. It is attended by a large contingent of our PhDs. This provides a good way to keep in touch.

Sparks moved and Rowley seconded to approve financial report as distributed. **Motion Carried.**

Director’s update:  
*Ed McGarrell*

McGarrell: Reported that Audrey Martini, the Director of our Outreach unit, is phasing into retirement by going part-time now. In conjunction with that transition the School is conducting an assessment of the unit. Board members are welcome to share with Alex Weiss. We hope the review will be done fall semester.

Oesch: Asked if the School wanted Board members to include anything specific in their conversations with Mr. Weiss?

McGarrell: Responded that he didn’t want to set the agenda, but hoped to get as much feedback as possible. Example: If you thought that Staff and Command was helpful, why not bring it to Florida? What should a School of our stature do for professional training?

Oesch and Sparks are anticipating talking to Weiss in the very near future.

McGarrell: Another example would be what kind of training for the Law Enforcement professional community, perhaps cybercrime?

Pawlik: Asked if there was a limit to what you want to do? So it doesn’t affect the other mission of the School?

McGarrell: Responded Yes and No. We might learn that some of this we are doing we don’t need to do, and we should be doing something else. Our Outreach activities have to be self-supporting. One of the challenges of the Outreach unit is how to create the resources (grants or something with/from MCOLES) and fees for the training.

Ruiz: Asked if they could talk about research? McGarrell responded yes of course.

Sparks: Thanked McGarrell for inviting the Board to be part of this assessment.
McGarrell: Reminded the Board that they had talked at the spring meeting about the field placement of crime analysts. A few students have been placed. (Most students are full-time professionals). We have interest from Michigan and across the county. We are going to explore these placements with students at the senior level, where they can pursue their masters while getting this experience.

This is probably an area where we will need to come back to the Board time to time, and ask them to reach out to agencies. There are approximately 100 students in the LEIA program, the majority of the students are full-time professionals, but some are more traditional students. We are telling the agencies that they have the ability to pay they will probably get a larger pool of applicants who want the experience, but we do have students who might be in the area and would be willing to get the experience without compensation. We have a number of highly qualified students wanting the experience. We will work with agencies to make it happen.

Sparks: Said the Board could find the point of contact at their respective agencies and then share that with McGarrell so contact could be made these agencies to make a placement for a student.

VanderMoore will re-circulate the description of the program.

New School Web Page

McGarrell: Reported that a new School web page should be launched in the next couple of weeks.

Director Position

McGarrell: Reported that he will be stepping down at the end of this academic year (August 15, 2014). He has come to realize that he can’t manage 8 federal grants and be an administrator. There are no search details yet. An Advisory Committee within the School is to meet with the Dean and then they should have more information. He will be happy to communicate with the Dean on how the Board felt at the last Director Search attempt so that it doesn’t happen again.

Sparks: Asked Parsons to be the point of contact for the Board.

MCOLES

Sparks: Asked McGarrell if he would clarify the relationship with MSP.
McGarrell: Responded that he understood MSP was sending a proposal to MCOLES for a special academy of MSU/Davenport College students. There were many concerns about the MSP proposal by the MCOLES Board. LCC had concerns about an academy in competition with another academy. MSP pulled their proposal before the MCOLES meeting.

MSP decided to work with us to make a concerted effort to recruit our students to their next academy. That is moving forward and there has been a series of MSP meetings with our students and this has been very well received. Approx 50 students have attended the informational meetings. About 30 have taken the civil service exam. They are going through the stages of any other MSP recruit. The academy will occur next summer.

Sparks: Asked if students get MSU credits?

McGarrell: Replied that they can get 0-18 credits at the end of it.

Nash: Questioned how does this help local law enforcement?

McGarrell: Said it does not address the local. Originally students weren’t guaranteed a placement and it wasn’t free. They would have been MCOLES certified. The LCC collaboration addresses local and county but not certified to MSP. The difference is students pay for this academy.

Nash: Asked if a student transfers in from LCC and then wants to do the MSP academy. How do they earn the credits?

McGarrell: If a CJ student is from LCC they probably have the flexibility to get the credits. If a student changes majors they may not have a choice in their elective credits. If a student can afford it they can enroll in MSU/LCC credits and pay for both.

Said there’s not a distinction of whether you’ve been to LCC or MSP. Depending on that you took at the community college and your major, if you change your major you may have more challenges on what credits are available to you for internship or electives.

Sparks: Asked if McGarrell saw any way that we can work the community college choice like MSP?

McGarrell: We learned that students who walked in as seniors and want to do an academy might not have the credit options. We are now letting students now early in their academic career about that option; the student needs to work with their advisor to have credits available so they can enroll in the academy.
We recognize that students need to plan early in their academic career to make sure that they have the open credits so they can go to an academy. You can only transfer 56 credit hours, period. Last 56 are required from MSU. This is the position of MSU. He has not found a solution for this hurdle.

Oltersdorf: would like to see this Board, by motion, write a letter expressing that the CJAA Board thinks they should establish a training academy enhancing the criminal justice experience.

Donovan: Suggesting adding “so when a student graduates they are employable at a police institution.”

McGarrell: Further explained that what was attractive about the MSP proposal is that SCJ would be in charge of the credits. We didn’t have to worry about the transfer credits. Since they already have the facility they don’t incur the additional cost and could offer it to us less expensively. Students are only paying for MSU credits, could complete the 18 credits at a lower cost and be certified.

The academy would be at the end of their academic career, the academy being their last credits to a degree.

Oltersdorf: Said the best case scenario is our control of oversight at this university. We should ask the President to sign the letter on behalf of the Board. Oltersdorf will start the draft.

Oltersdorf: Moved that he draft a letter requesting MSU establish a basic law enforcement training academy. This will enhance the CJ opportunities (certification)

Donovan: Seconded.

Sparks: Appended the motion, to request review the policy of transfer of credits from community colleges, or seek a true partnership with an existing academy. The letter should be addressed to President Lou Anna K. Simon with copies to Dean Marietta Baba and Acting Provost June Youatt

Donovan seconded the amended motion. Motion Carried.

Sparks: Reported that he was having breakfast with Andrew Lindeman, the Director of the Mid-Michigan Academy at LCC the following day. He will e-mail the Board with an update following that.

Public Safety Memorial update:
Nash: Reported following this Board meeting they were honoring the memory of 3 individuals, plaques are here, (Committee: Rowley, Ruiz, Nash).

Sparks: Noticed a plaque in Baker honoring an Officer Terry Jablonski, who was enrolled in the program at time of his death. Sparks would like him to be added to the wall of remembrance.

Curtis: Reminded the Board that if they expand the criteria they have to find a way to support it. We need a strategy for funding. The decision had specific criteria to begin with for a reason. Need to think about these things first.

After some discussion it was determined that there would be a New Committee, chaired by Rowley, with membership that included Ruiz, Oesch and Hendrickson.

There was a Straw Vote, with the question: Should honorees be currently enrolled as a graduate or undergraduate student or should they have graduated from the School. Vote was 3 out of 13 in support of the “graduate” option. It was determined that graduated students be the honorees on the Public Safety Memorial.

**Board of Directors and SCJ Faculty Meeting:**

Parsons: Reported that he attended a recent School Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting as a rep for the Board. He (1) re-introduced the Board to faculty; (2) reported where we are at and what we are about, (3) briefed them on our partnership proposal with LCC; (4) He also earnestly requested communication between Board and faculty; and (4) extended a personal invitation to them to bring the Board projects they are involved in. He would suggest they plan on attending the spring meeting and make a presentation and question and answer period. He felt the initial response was very positive.

McGarrell: Added that he had faculty contact him and tell him that they appreciated Bob’s attendance. They hadn’t been thinking about how the Board might assist.

If you have preferences about topical areas you want addressed at the next meeting, let us know and we can prioritize accordingly.

**New Business**

*MSU SCJ Alumni Association Initiative*

Sparks: Reported that he was intending on hosting an MSU function at his house for the MSU/UM game. He’ll work with Candy to get e-mail addresses for his invitation. (He did have the list from the last time he did that and planned on using that also.)
He wondered if we could get a list for Board members to cold call graduates and ask them to join the MSUAA. (Or minimally, email addresses)?

**Dates to Remember:**

**Career Fair:** February 13, 5:00-8:00 pm (Kellogg Center)
**Spring Meeting:** April 25 (Friday), from 1:00-4:30 pm. (Baker Hall)
**Fall Meeting:** October 10 (Friday) 1:00-4:30 pm. (Will be in Kellogg Center)
**Wall Of Fame Induction Ceremony:** October 10 (Friday) approximately 5:30 pm

**Miscellaneous:**

Sparks: Expressed the Board’s thanks to retiring Board Members Bill Nash and Mike Oltersdorf, and presented them with a small gift of appreciation.

McGarrell: Thanked the Board for their help, particularly in regards to the memorial.

**Adjournment**

Oltersdorf: moved the meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Nash. **Meeting was Adjourned** at 4:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lee VanderMoere

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Record Secretary