**Year 2**

**Criminal Justice**

**Outcome**

1. Identify the PLO your program assessed this academic year.

PLO 1. Students will gain a solid base understanding of how to critically gather, analyze, evaluate, and utilize information about the criminal justice system.

PLO 2. Demonstrate the ability to think critically about crime and justice programs and policies.

**Process**

2. Identify the artifact(s) (i.e. student work) that you used to assess the PLO. [Papers, presentations, portfolios, test items, specific assignments, capstone work]

PLO 1 and PLO 2:

* Oral presentations
* Essay exams
* Research papers
* Capstone internship experiences

3. Identify the tools (e.g. rubrics, surveys, performance on standardized test questions) used to assess the artifact(s) (i.e. student work).

PLO 1 and PLO 2:

* + Faculty used rubrics on research papers and oral presentations.
  + A survey of internship agency supervisors is used to assess these PLOs in the capstone internship experience.
  + A survey of graduating seniors

**Findings**

4. Explain the results of the assessment activities.

PLO 1:

* More than 70% earned a grade of B- or higher for an oral presentation assignment in which students conducted an interview with a CJ practitioner and presented info to class about person’s career; students utilized basic web research to present info on organization person worked for (e.g., NYPD, PA State Police, etc.); students also expected to connect presentation to class material. NB: this is one of the few course assignments that students are expected to earn full credit; allows students to bolster course grade
* More than 70% earned a grade of B- or higher for an oral presentation (5-6 minute); students required to analyze a recent crime/criminal from their hometown using one or more theories learned in class; students also required to incorporate basic crime statistics from web-based databases like the FBI’s Uniform Crime Report; students also expected to connect presentation to class material. NB: this is one of the few course assignments that students are expected to earn full credit; allows students to bolster course grade

PLO 2:

* An average of 64% of Introduction to Criminal Justice students earned a B- or higher on three regular semester exams and one cumulative final exam; included questions asking students to critique criminal justice programs and policies (e.g., mandatory sentences, private prisons, etc.)
* An average of 62% of Criminology students earned a B- or higher on three regular semester exams and one cumulative final exam; included questions asking students to explain how crime theory informs criminal justice policy/procedure

PLO 1 and PLO 2:

* 100% of students received a 70% or higher on research methods and statistics papers
* 100% of student interns received a rating of at least an 80% on items related to these PLOs
* 100% of graduating seniors surveyed stated that at least 75% of their courses addressed critical thinking skills
* 99% of graduating seniors surveyed stated that at least 75% of their courses addressed writing skills
* 94% of graduating seniors surveyed stated that at least 75% of their courses addressed information literacy skills

5. Where applicable, outline the steps you will take to make improvements to the program based on the results of assessment activities identified in #4.

* We need to work on clearer, more uniform ways for assessing these PLOs.

6. Are there any new resources needed to make program improvements? If so, please include the resources and provide justification for each in the Budget section of the Annual Report.