

## Paralegal Program Focus Group – 5/26/17

### Academic Senate Office



Attending: (L-R) Destiny Drake , Celia Smith, Prof. Jordan, George Ebroyan, Ivan Rodriguez, Jocelyn Cardenas, Isamar Montalbo

#### Results:

1. Consider adding a project based/performance based PLO which includes projects, internships, capstone, etc. to show and demonstrate competence, and also commitment to working and assisting the community such as mentoring, tutoring, self-help legal access centers, etc.
2. Update PLO #1 to add "legal reasoning & analysis"
3. Add and imbed in each of the 12 law classes at the start of the semester – resources, videos, and an assignment to help students learn legal analysis, legal reasoning, and how to brief law cases
4. Add at least one research assignment in each of the 12 law classes to help students learn how to conduct effective legal research (PLO #2)
5. Obtain access for all students in the paralegal program to a "free" legal research program, or low cost, such as Westlaw or Fastcase.
6. Add more activities to the paralegal program - require them as part of each class, and add them in the syllabus. Such activities as moot court, attending law seminars, having law speakers on campus, volunteer work, going to the law library,
7. Get membership in the law library for all of our law students
8. Add more lectures and online videos to the online and on campus classes.
9. Add a capstone final project to each law class
10. Apply to a law or paralegal honor society so our students can join
11. Set up a law scholarship, and imbed a writing competition in each class, and then tie that to the scholarship award each spring awards ceremony similar to the AJ Program scholarship
12. Work on reframing the paralegal program curriculum – have 8 required courses with 4 elective courses including criminal law, immigration law, intellectual property law, constitutional like, and the like.
13. Set up a program, initiative, or internship where students can get a certificate in mediation. Currently there is a mediation certificate available to our paralegals at the LA City Attorney Office Dispute Resolution Program

14. Imbed activities in each class and require it. Students who cannot do the “outreach” or “community based” activities could choose to do a special final project which could be shown at “Paralegal Showcase” every year.
15. Have a Legal Justice or Public Law Interest Day
16. Set up meetings for online students on campus – Regular “Meetups” so that they can get a sense of belonging to Mission
17. Have more focus groups