

Administrative and Educational Support Report*

Department of Criminal Justice

**Annual Action Plan
Annual Assessment Report**

June 2004 – May 2005

***Student Learning Outcomes for this department are available at
<http://ie.panam.edu/CoSBSLearningOutcomes.htm>**



Annual Action Plan: June 1, 2004–May 31, 2005

Unit: Department of Criminal Justice

UTPA Mission: The University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) serves the higher education needs of a rapidly growing, international, multicultural population in the South Texas Region. The University preserves, transmits and creates knowledge to serve the cultural, civic, and economic advancement of the region and the state. The University provides students advanced instruction in academic programs offered through innovative delivery systems that lead to professional certification, and baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees. Through teaching, research, creative activity and public service, UTPA prepares students for lifelong learning and leadership roles in the state, nation and world community.

Division: Academic Affairs **Unit Head:** Dr. S. George Vincentnathan

Unit Mission: The Department of Criminal Justice’s mission is to teach a body of knowledge and the critical-thinking skills of the social sciences; to add to this base of knowledge and skills through high-quality research; and to utilize the knowledge and skills in service to our local and professional communities. We will accomplish this mission with:

- Excellence of **teaching** that utilizes pedagogically sound teaching techniques, based on the principles of academic freedom, and that help our students to become committed to life-long learning, critical-thinking, social involvement, and to dealing ethically and empathetically with others.
- **Scholarship** that promotes collaboration in the discovery, testing, and dissemination of knowledge and that can improve the social conditions of our society, our region, the global community, and our professions.
- **Service** based on principles of collegial decision making that contributes to the well being of our university, our respective professions, and our regional, national, and international communities.

Unit Goal: Increase academic and co-curricular opportunities for new undergraduates and graduate students

Link to UTPA Goal(s):
 1: Ensure undergraduate student access and success
 2: Enhance graduate education and research

Unit Objective (Action Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome for Unit Objective (AA-Measurable Objective)	Strategy(ies) to Achieve Expected Outcomes	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods for Expected Outcome	New Resources Needed in FY05
Approval of learning community course (1)	2	Design an approved learning community class by May 2005.	Report to the dean on the tentative design of a learning community class.	Demonstrate to the CoSBS Dean by May 1 2005 that Criminal Justice has designed at least one approved	None

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			<p>Submit a progress report to the dean on the development of a new learning community class.</p> <p>Obtain approval by administration of the proposed learning community class. The course must be approved for offering class no later than 2005-06 academic year.</p>	learning community class.	
Growth of extra- and co-curricular activities (2)	2, 4	Increase by at least 5 percent the number of extra- and co-curricular activities by May 2005	<p>Submit report to Dean on the number of extra- and co-curricular activities the department held specifically for new students during the 2003-04 academic year.</p> <p>Submit report to Dean proposing new extra- and co-curricular activities to be organized for freshmen.</p> <p>Submit report to Dean describing new extra- and co-curricular activities that took place during the Fall, 2004 semester and that will take place during Spring, 2005.</p>	The total number of extra- and co-curricular activities for Criminal Justice will be compared between the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 academic years.	None

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			<p>Submit report to Dean about the list of extra- and co-curricular activities that took place during the 2004-05 academic year. Also report on 2003-04 and 2004-05 comparisons of numbers of activities.</p>		
<p>Approval of freshman seminar (3)</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Design an approved freshman seminar by May, 2005.</p>	<p>Submit a report to Dean on the tentative design of a freshman seminar.</p> <p>Submit progress report to Dean that demonstrates significant progress in the design of a freshman seminar and communication with the UTPA freshman seminar coordinator.</p> <p>Obtain official approval for the design of a freshman seminar from the UTPA freshman seminar coordinator that will be offered by no later than 2005-2006 academic year.</p> <p>Submit a final report on department's design of an approved freshman seminar.</p>	<p>Demonstrate that Criminal Justice has developed an approved freshman seminar by May 1, 2005.</p>	<p>None</p>



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Approval of learning community course (1)	2	Design an approved learning community class by May, 2005.	Demonstrate to the CoSBS Dean by May 1 2005 that Criminal Justice has designed at	No CRIJ learning community course was offered in 2004-05.	The chair has planned discussion of this topic by the faculty during the fall semester.

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			least one approved learning community class.		
Growth of extra- and co-curricular activities (2)	2, 4	Increase by at least 5 percent the number of extra- and co-curricular activities by May 2005	The total number of extra- and co-curricular activities for Criminal Justice will be compared between the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 academic years.	<p>The comparison made reveals that the extra- and co-curricular activities increased by more than 5 percent. More students participated in internship and volunteer services in criminal justice agencies. Students made many trips to criminal justice agencies and interviewed criminal justice officials, and wrote about their learning experiences. Federal, state, county, and community level criminal justice agents visited and gave talks about their agencies and job opportunities available for the students. Career information was also provided through Career Days and through the Career Placement Center.</p> <p>Based on information gathered from faculty, it is estimated there was at</p>	Further improvements are planned to integrate extra- and co-curricular activities with curricular activities in FY05-06.

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				least a 10% increase in the extra- and co-curricular activities (this is not easily quantifiable).	
Approval of freshman seminar (3)	2	Design an approved freshman seminar by May, 2005.	Demonstrate that Criminal Justice has developed an approved freshman seminar by May 1, 2005.	<p>Freshman seminar was discussed before the beginning of the academic year in the CoSBS, but subsequently became the Learning Framework course.</p> <p>Six to seven sections of Learning Framework course were offered each semester this year, Fall & Spring, in the CoSBS. A separate group of instructors were selected and trained to teach these courses, in which all the departments in the CoSBS, including Criminal Justice, participated by providing presentations on each field of study.</p>	Feedback on the presentations to the learning framework courses has been positive. The department has planned to continue the presentations next year.

Additional Resources Needed (if any) that were requested for FY06 during the budget cycle: None