FSW PARALEGAL STUDIES BREAKOUT MEETING FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025 2-3 PM VIA ZOOM

In Attendance: Department Chair Mary Conwell, Professor Matt Hoffman, Professor Sandi Towers

The following topics were discussed at the January 2025 Paralegal Studies breakout meeting:

1. Chair Conwell discussed the upcoming reapproval visit February 3 & 4 from the American Bar Association (ABA) Site Team. She reviewed the Paralegal Studies faculty’s upcoming meeting with the ABA Site Team.
2. Chair Conwell asked the professors where they see the Paralegal Studies Program in five years. Professor Towers wants to incorporate “legal studies” into the Paralegal Studies Program. Professor Hoffman pointed out that Jacksonville State has completely changed its name. The consensus was that FSW’s Paralegal Studies Program should exemplify and enhance the abilities of pre-law students and continue training future paralegals to be able to seamlessly and effectively enter the legal workforce of law firms, the courts, government agencies, and real estate title companies. Professor Hoffman emphasized the need to update the manner in which FSW’s Paralegal Studies Program is delivered because the practice of law is now completely remote. Therefore, teaching paralegal studies should be entirely remote.
3. Chair Conwell mentioned that adjunct portfolios are due February 1, 2025.
4. Professor Towers brought up how Artificial Intelligence (AI) impacts the practice of law.
5. Chair Conwell reminded the professors that FSW’s School of Business & Technology (SoBT) is hosting an open house on January 23 to showcase the renovated Building K.

The meeting was adjourned.