FSW PARALEGAL STUDIES, ARCHITECTURE, CONSTRUCTION, & ENGINEERING BREAKOUT MEETING FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2025 1:45-2:45 PM VIA ZOOM

In Attendance: Department Chair Mary Conwell (Full-Time Professor), Professor Matt Hoffman (Full-Time Professor), Professor Sandi Towers (Temporary Full-Time Professor), Professor Ed Estes (Adjunct Professor), Professor Munir Al-Suleh (Adjunct Professor)

The following topics were discussed at the March 2025 Paralegal Studies, Architecture, Construction, & Engineering breakout meeting:

1. Textbook selection. Chair Conwell stated that a list of textbooks for Fall 2025 would be sent to all full-time and adjunct faculty for their input about changing or keeping textbooks.
2. American Association for Paralegal Education (AAfPE) Virtual Conference. The AAfPE conference will take place over spring break. All Paralegal Studies faculty are enrolled. Faculty may view videos of the sessions after the conference is over.
3. Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Videos & Visit. Professor Towers mentioned that the HLC podcasts are quite good. The upcoming HLC visit was discussed by faculty.
4. American Bar Association (ABA) Tech Show 2025. Chair Conwell stated that she will attend the ABA Tech Show 2025 in Chicago April 2-5. The ABA Tech Show is essential for staying up-to-date about technology’s impact on the legal profession.
5. Academy of Legal Studies & Business Conference. Professor Matt Hoffman will attend this prestigious conference the last week of July in Providence, Rhode Island.
6. Competencies & Assessment. Professor Matt Hoffman informed faculty that most other public Florida colleges just measure two general education competencies, whereas FSW measures seven general education competencies. He stated that assessment should be for students’ benefit. While the State of Florida does not care about this, the accreditors do care. Professor Hoffman remarked that the accreditors’ perspective on assessment is to just do it. He also pointed out that everything FSW has done in the past ten years regarding assessment was for naught. Chair Conwell asked how was it discovered that everything FSW did in the past ten years for assessment was invalid and for naught. Professor Hoffman explained that it was known that what was being measured was meaningless for most programs at FSW, but the individuals who had developed what was being measured were attached to the categories that they created.

The meeting was adjourned.