PARALEGAL STUDIES Advisory Committee Meeting December 7, 2005

Summary Notes

Present: Ms. Debbie Bailey, AC Paralegal Studies Coordinator Ms. Rhonda Brashears, CLA; Chair Mrs. Jana Comerford, AC Library Network Ms. Kim Davis, Director of C.E. Ms. Susan Grim, CLAS Mrs. Paula Badger, AC Business Division Adm. Asst. Mrs. Gay Mills, Office Administration Coordinator Mr. Delton Moore, AC Director of Institutional Research Mr. Michael Pope, Paralegal Studies Major Mr. Mike Smiley, Attorney; Paralegal Supervisor Mr. Robert Sloger, AC Business Division Chair Ms. Shirley Vessel, Legal Assistant Ms. Regina Vieth, Member-at-Large Absent: Ms. Frances Abernathy, Coordinator, AC Job Placement Mr. Tom Boyd, Attorney Mr. Scott Brumley, Potter County Attorney Mr. Ron Faulkner, Workforce Training Coordinator Ms. Sharla Fowler, CLA, TBLS Dr. Steven Jones, AC President Ms. Janice Joyner, Division Advisor Mr. Mike McDearmon, Firm Administrator Ms. Carol McRoberts, CLA Dr. Paul Matney, VP Ms. Carolyn Ottoson, WTA&M Law Librarian Ms. Cathy Peek. CLA Ms. Rita Saldierna, CLA Ms. Cassie Williams, Program Graduate Mr. Don Sanders, Member-at-Large Ms. Luisa Vigil, WT Legal Services

The Paralegal Studies Advisory Committee met for a 12:30 luncheon in the Private Dining Room of the College Union Building. Rhonda Brashears and Debbie Bailey welcomed the committee members. Debbie introduced guest Delton Moore, Director of Institutional Research, and Gay Mills, Program Coordinator for Office Administration

Introduction of New Committee Members

Scott Brumley, Potter County Attorney Sharla Fowler, CLA, TBLS (Paralegal for Gwinn & Roby Law Firm)

Minutes of May 4, 2005 Meeting

The minutes were available for review and were accepted as submitted.

Status Report on ABA Approval Process

Rhonda presented the correspondence from the American Bar Association concerning program approval. The Standing Committee on Paralegals has recommended the Paralegal Studies p rogram at Amarillo College for approval. The Standing Committee on Paralegals will recommend that the American Bar Association House of Delegates adopt its recommendation at the ABA midyear meeting in February 2006. Advertisement cannot begin until final approval has been received.

ABA wants more instructor evaluation documentation. Paralegal Studies instructors will be evaluated every semester (which is more than the institution requires) beginning Fall 2005.

Delton Moore reported on the status of the electronic version of the Paralegal Studies Graduate Survey and requested the committee's input.

Status Report on Continuing Education Courses for Paralegals

The committee will be meeting in early spring. Rhonda Brashears discussed the need for continuing legal education courses.

Paralegal Studies Transfer Student Policy

The policy was written by Dr. Gene Byrd, who has now retired. ABA does not want a student to transfer in to an ABA approved program only needing General Education classes. Students who transfer to AC as Paralegal Studies majors must complete at least 18 hours of LGLA courses at Amarillo College.

Fall 2005 Enrollment

Fall 2005 Majors = 90 Fall 2005 Graduates = 6

Adjournment

Rhonda thanked the committee for attending, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Badger Administrative Assistant Business Division