**Forensic Science Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**December 22, 2023**

1. **Program update-** given via e-mail on Dec. 18, 2023
2. **Advisory committee members:**
   1. Ted Prell, Professor Emeritus, Criminal Justice, Ventura College, [tprell@vcccd.edu](mailto:tprell@vcccd.edu)
   2. Cari Lange, Professor of Anthropology and Forensic Science, Asst. Dept. Chair, Life Sciences, Ventura College, [clange@vcccd.edu](mailto:clange@vcccd.edu)
   3. Laz Salinas, Department Chair, Criminal Justice, Ventura College, [lazaro\_salinas1@vcccd.edu](mailto:lazaro_salinas1@vcccd.edu)
   4. Debbie Newcomb, Dean, Career Education Division 1, Ventura College, [dnewcomb@vcccd.edu](mailto:dnewcomb@vcccd.edu)
   5. Gabby Wimer, Crime Scene Investigator, Ventura Police Department, [gwimer@cityofventura.ca.gov](mailto:gwimer@cityofventura.ca.gov)
   6. Dennise Heridia, Forensic Scientist, Ventura Sheriff, Crime Lab, [dennise.heredia@ventura.org](mailto:dennise.heredia@ventura.org)
   7. Marylinda Arroyo, Captain, Santa Barbara PD, [marroyo@vcccd.edu](mailto:marroyo@vcccd.edu)
   8. Traci Blanton, Crime Scene Investigator, Simi Valley PD, [tblanton@simivalley.org](mailto:tblanton@simivalley.org)
   9. Bill Johnson, Crime Scene Investigator, Oxnard Police Department, [bill.johnson@oxnardpd.org](mailto:bill.johnson@oxnardpd.org)
   10. Michael Ullemeyer, Senior Crime Scene Technician, Santa Barbara Sheriff

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1. **Participating partners from California State University, Channel Islands**
   1. Colleen Delaney, Chair, Antthropology Program, Coordinator, Freedom & Justice Studies, [colleen.delaney@csuci.edu](mailto:colleen.delaney@csuci.edu)
   2. Susan Kuzminsky, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Anthropology, [usan.kuzminsky@csuci.edu](mailto:susan.kuzminsky@csuci.edu)
2. **Vote of support for program: Certificate and Associates Degree** 
   1. Background: Advisory group first met Oct. 26, 2021 to discuss the need and interest in developing a Forensic Science Associates Degree program at Ventura College. At that time, it was unanimously agreed that such a program would be useful for employment in Ventura County, as no such program currently exists. A partnership was developed with CSUCI, who is now in the process of developing a four-year Forensic Science degree. Ventura College Committee met four more times over the course of two years to develop the most appropriate courses for the program that could lead to both transfer into a four-year program and/or entry level employment.
   2. **Vote of support for this program at Ventura College was unanimously reaffirmed in December, 2023.**
3. **Discussion/confirmation of program’s initial course offerings**
   1. The final Course Outlines of Records for the courses proposed to be included in the educational plan for the Forensic Science were discussed. **All courses were approved unanimously.**
   2. It was determined that CJ V04, Legal Aspects of Evidence, should be included in the required course list for students, while CJ V01, Introduction to Criminal Justice, should be moved into the majors elective category. With this change, **the plan of study was approved by majority vote.**