I DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM

The Administration of Justice (ADJ) program at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo (UH Hilo) prepares graduates for entry into professions associated with the administration of justice, including, but not limited to, law enforcement, corrections, probation, parole, social work, and law. It is also designed to qualify those already in these professions (except law) for promotion to supervisory positions, as most State and local law enforcement and corrections positions do not require a baccalaureate degree for entry but do require, or strongly encourage, such a degree for promotion. Virtually all Federal agencies require a baccalaureate degree for entry.

The ADJ B.A. degree started at UH Hilo in 1991 as a Liberal Studies option, designed as the second part of a 2 + 2 program involving Hawai‘i Community College and the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. Students who received an AJ degree from HawCC could transfer to UH Hilo as ADJ majors and earn a B.A. in Liberal Studies with an option in Administration of Justice. There were at the time no baccalaureate programs in Administration of Justice in the University of Hawai‘i system. The program was quite successful, but students wanted a baccalaureate degree in Administration of Justice, not Liberal Studies. A proposal for a B.A. in Administration of Justice was approved by the Board of Regents in January of 2002.

The ADJ program is unique in that it requires at least one course from a community college as a core course in the major and allows at least three courses from a community college as major electives. It is also unique in that all of the upper division major courses are offered by a variety of departments, ranging from Anthropology to Sociology (see attached catalog description, Attachment 1).

II IS THE PROGRAM ORGANIZED TO MEET ITS OBJECTIVES?

The primary objective of the program is to prepare its graduates for entry into, and/or promotion within, various public and private agencies associated with the administration of justice. It does not try to replicate a police academy or any other vocational training but instead offers courses designed to prepare the graduate for managerial or supervisory positions through such courses as Human Resources Management (MGT 330), Ethical Theory (PHIL 315), and Public Administration (POLS 360). Prospective students are made aware of this focus in the UHH catalog, which is also available on the UH Hilo web site. Although not required, internships in local public and private non-profit agencies are strongly encouraged.
III IS THE PROGRAM MEETING ITS LEARNING OBJECTIVES FOR STUDENTS?

The learning objectives (see Attachment 1) are wide-ranging due to the many career options available to graduates. All graduates are expected to have met these objectives. Due to the unique nature of the program, it is very difficult to test graduates on these objectives. The entry course is normally taken at a community college (or at a baccalaureate institution offering an ADJ major), and there is no “capstone” course required as part of the major, again due to the unique and diverse nature of the courses required or optional for the major. Informal feedback from graduates, however, is highly positive. Successful completion of degree requirements meets the goals of student learning.

IV ARE PROGRAM RESOURCES ADEQUATE?

There are no faculty members dedicated solely to the ADJ program, nor does the program have a budget. The program head is a member of the Political Science faculty, and that department also supports the minimal costs of the program. Although the recent hiring of a new faculty member in the Sociology Department has resulted in additional courses as ADJ electives, the program needs a faculty member dedicated solely to it and additional courses focused specifically on administration of justice topics. A recent program review of the Political Science Department by an outside evaluator suggested the addition of one or two faculty members, one of whom would focus almost exclusively on ADJ. See Attachment 4.

V IS THE PROGRAM EFFICIENT?

It is virtually impossible to calculate program efficiency using cost as a measure, as all required and elective courses for the major are taught by faculty from departments with their own alphas. Those departments are credited with the Student Semester Hours (SSH) generated by ADJ majors. No additional sections of any required or elective courses are necessary to accommodate ADJ majors. All advising is done by the program head, who also teaches General Education and Political Science major courses. Additional measures of efficiency such as average class size, SSH/faculty, cost per major, etc., are not applicable. Table ZA6 (Attachment 2), however, does list the SSH generated by ADJ majors from Fall 2004 through Spring 2006. Success/persistence rates are good for the major as well (Attachment 6). It should also be noted that a significant number of ADJ majors are also majoring in another subject.

VI EVIDENCE OF PROGRAM QUALITY

The program has not compiled systematic data regarding its graduates due to lack of resources. ADJ graduates have been admitted to law schools and other graduate schools: Eric Todd, Cooley Law School (2004-05), Jenna Mandraccia, Gonzaga Law School (2000-01). Others have accepted positions, or have been promoted in, law enforcement agencies. Responses to the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) indicate that ADJ seniors differ somewhat from the average UH Hilo senior (see Attachment 3). The external evaluation of the Political Science program referenced above included positive comments about ADJ as well. The program head has a solid record of research and publications in the field of law/administration of justice, and was recently invited to Japan to make presentations to the faculty at Chuo Law
School and the Police Policy Research Center of the National Police Academy. Lecturers teaching courses in the program include prosecutors, corporation counsel, former judges, and attorneys in private practice. (See program head vita, Attachment 4, and list of lecturers, Attachment 7).

VII ARE PROGRAM OUTCOMES COMPATIBLE WITH THE OBJECTIVES?

The number of ADJ majors is increasing. See Table ZA1 (Attachment 2). Based on the number of inquiries received via email and the trend over the past three years, there is every reason to believe that the numbers will increase. It should be noted that ADJ majors outnumber majors in such fields as Japanese Studies, Performing Arts, Philosophy, Chemistry, Geology, Mathematics, Nursing, Physics, Education, Geography, and History. Transfer students from HawCC continue, as do transfers from other community and baccalaureate colleges in Hawai‘i and elsewhere. It is the only such degree offered in the UH system, and employment opportunities continue to increase.

VIII ARE PROGRAM OBJECTIVES STILL APPROPRIATE FUNCTIONS OF THE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY?

The University of Hawai‘i at Hilo is a comprehensive, primarily baccalaureate institution offering undergraduate liberal arts and professional programs. While Administration of Justice is usually considered a professional program, the ADJ program at UH Hilo was designed to fit into the liberal arts category, as it is interdisciplinary with a heavy liberal arts focus. Employment opportunities continue to be excellent. Law enforcement agencies (including corrections) are understaffed, judicial and youth services agencies cannot fill their vacancies, and non-profit agencies continue to increase as privatization and increased federal funding becomes available.