

Minutes for Business Advisory Board Meeting

Meeting Date: August 22, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 10:50 AM

Location: Zoom

Attendance

Faculty Present:

- Nathan Tribble
- Chris Han
- Kymeshia Taylor

Guest:

- Priscilla Lopez (Dean)

Committee Members Present:

- Michael Kim
- Missy Coffey
- Alexis Diaz
- Daryl Kato

Introductions and Overview

The guest, Dean Priscilla Lopez, was welcomed, and committee members introduced themselves.

The purpose of the meeting was established as a review of new certification proposals and an exploratory discussion of a Bachelor's Degree in Business Psychology.

Their remarks highlighted:

- The college's role in serving the community and supporting transfer pathways,
- The department's focus on aligning curriculum with both academic and workforce needs, and
- The importance of developing innovative credentials to meet student demand.

Faculty members Chris Han, Kymeshia Taylor, and Nathan Tribble opened the meeting with introductions and an overview of Los Angeles Harbor College and the Business Department.

New Business

1. Consideration of New Certifications in Business

Discussion: Members reviewed the proposed certifications and their alignment with workforce and student needs.

Noted: Committee members expressed enthusiastic support for the certifications, recognizing their strategic value for the department.

2. Discussion of Proposed Bachelor's Degree in Business Psychology

Discussion: The committee reviewed initial findings from the landscape analysis and discussed the potential impact of the program on students, faculty, and the college.

Noted: Committee members voiced strong enthusiasm for pursuing this program, emphasizing differentiation within the region and strong alignment with institutional mission.

Committee Member Contributions:

- Michael Kim emphasized the need for graduates to demonstrate applied, tangible skills such as valuation, forecasting, and case competitions, in addition to certificates. He highlighted the role of market psychology and behavioral finance, noting their increasing importance in financial markets and investor behavior. He also suggested frameworks for distinguishing top students (e.g., Dean's List, awards).
- Missy Coffey underscored the importance of data and technical skills, asking how well students would be prepared in statistics, coding (Python), and data analysis. She also suggested implementing student showcases or capstone fairs to connect students with industry partners and highlight their skills.
- Alexis Diaz expressed strong support for both the certifications and degree, and recommended adding project and configuration management exposure, as well as technical communication. She noted the value of internships and partnerships with local industries such as JPL, and praised the department's philosophy of being "bridge builders instead of gatekeepers."
- Daryl Kato endorsed both initiatives, emphasizing the value of communication, motivation, and conflict resolution skills alongside technical expertise. He noted that interpersonal effectiveness is often the most challenging yet essential part of business practice and strongly supported inclusion of psychology to prepare students for these realities.

3. Unified Motion

Motion: Alexis Diaz moved, with Daryl Kato seconding, to approve moving forward with development of the new certifications and to continue exploration and planning of the Bachelor's Degree in Business Psychology.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Next Steps

- Program leads will proceed with detailed planning for the certifications, including marketing and implementation timelines.

- The bachelor's program will continue through the exploratory stage, with further landscape and articulation research to be brought back to the committee.
- Integration of market psychology, behavioral finance, project management, technical communication, and data/coding skills will be considered in future curriculum development.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 10:50 AM.