

CRI Meeting Notes (30MAR06)

Lots of rumors ... untrue ... Mike and Alan called ... chose "not to have the case tried in the press, but chose instead to have students file" ... aggressively doing discovery, ordering depositions, case to be presented to the administrative law judge in September ... door (to school) locked to keep out the media-folk.

Rumors: School is facing closure; not true. No agency forcing closure ... school going bankrupt ... financially, school is fine.

License: CR license challenged. Other parts of the school okay. CR portion challenged because of student complaints ...

Lots of schools under attack, schools usually win on appeal.

Worst case: If CR license denied (doesn't believe it will happen), it will not affect any currently enrolled students, just new ones. Funding not in jeopardy ...

Network Admin classes (now gone): Dot-bomb killed off ... retrained students for other fields. More Networking students than CR students

Does not believe they will lose ... but if so, student loans forgiven, but must train in another field. Reimbursement through WA State Tuition Reimbursement fund; school has paid \$60k ... all schools contribute to this fund ...

CRI student captioned the academy awards ???

Stenograph rep says the job market is great ...

John Dall, legal instructor ... also lawyer for CRI

Questions:

Financing backing removed for two issues: DOE audits a school, and a new directive came down to alter the funding.

AJ: Order to not enroll students stayed until September ...new students protected ... (subject to postponement)

Several supportive calls from working reporters ...(?)

Q: What about the low graduation rate? Some people leave early, some people move to other states (no licensing exams)... Success rate is lower than other schools ...

Q: This school has low rate of graduation, compared to other schools ... average time good for other schools, but not this one.

Alan says our average is nationally averaged ...

Q: Large dropout rate ... lots of grumblings ... until article came out, no worries ... just thought it was disgruntled students, pointing fingers ... now having second thoughts ... lots of inconsistencies and untruths ... what are they? I see truth ... When enrolling, she (DH) was told that because she's been self-employed for over 25 years, she could easily finish in two years.

Not so; June 1 is 2 year anniversary date ... (discussion of the average completion time mentioned in the 2004 catalog) ...

Old machines, badly maintained (she's had five) ... non-certified teachers, private tutoring: struggling students no longer here; one still enrolled, but may not make it, but no tutoring as article says. ...

No computer classes at night, or sales and marketing... from a business aspect, curious as to how the school stays afloat, no new classes, etc. ...

A: Alan says ... yes, we know ... admin staff downsized accordingly ... small company, adjustments made ... instructional hours added ... CR division in Seattle are downsizing, others okay.

Sales and marketing and Office Applications (?) have classes; largest school in CA (??)

Q: She understands all that, but it does not help; not going to finish in 2 years ...

Not cheap to attend ... two years thing leading ... does not wish to be here for 8 years ("nothing personal ...") ...

What parts or the article are untrue?

A: Not trying to badmouth issues ... under dep now, to be presented in September; can't discuss.

Offers for tutoring/strategies/etc. ...

Q: Student (DH): Working on 140s ... not being pushed enough. 80-140 in this class; lots of lower speed oral dictation ... 140 may as well be 200; too big a jump; not being challenged enough ...

Student (Matt): 4 years time at CRI ... lost a few months (just passed his 200s) Avg. night student time to graduate: 3.5 years. Three tests left. Disappointed for not making it out at the two year mark? Yes, but ... it's real tough to convey how hard this is when you enroll ... the longer you're here, the more you realize how tough it is.

"Butt-in-Seat" time is important ...

DH not worried about butt-in-seat time ... not afraid of a challenge ... believes the 2.5 year goal/idea sets people up for disappointment

Alan says ... individual questions later ... group questions now.

Agreement deceiving ... Alan says they believe they're up front ... but it's time to dismiss the meeting! See you Tuesday...

Student was not happy about being "dismissed" like that, but happy with new hires ... but not getting pushed enough ... "will you be hiring someone else to do 60-100s?"

Alan defers to Sandra: Lisa: New hire, to separate out the lower speed level classes a bit.

Q: What about tests that increase in 10 wpm increments vice 20?

A: 10 wpm vice 20 wpm not quite available ... but looking into the idea.

Student: AIB, in Iowa ... checked out the school, went for a day, just to get an idea of how things worked ... similar things there, too ... 60 percent dropout when you talked to the students ... next push: 140-160; also 20 wpm increments ... same issues, same complaints ...

Q: State pass rate: State test issues ... not CR-administered, but DOL ... can CRI change that?

A: (Sandra): A year ago or so, there was a committee to find out what was wrong with the test. Changes made, things to get better. Need to ensure it's a fair (standardized, consistent) test. Better tests coming, new company to make the tests being looked into, last two tests had CRs there while test was going on ... to ensure all is well.

Changes in how the test should be counted out, and the density of the dictation ... school not involved as far as making demands, but they have been able to give input ... pass rate was bad to the point where students aren't even close, but not in the range ...

Student: Worrying about things you can't control adds stress ... attitude is a good thing to have ...

Mentor program ... zero interest when offered a few months back ...

State test prep: 7 minute takes, etc. in the last six weeks of class ...

New digital recordings coming (\$1k spent) ... "scalable" speeds ...

Q: Some confusion about what can be checked out, etc. ... needs a packet on formatting of Q&A. ... nothing written down for how to/what to check out.

Video and audio tapes ... CDs ... she wants a list of what's what, with a check-off ...

A (Alan): We have an inventory, and copies available on request ... new stuff, though ... so not everything is on there, so ...

Question about the formatting of Q&A, JC, etc. -- an actual packet with examples printed out.

A: Sandra is working on it ...

Q: Bad Rumor: Waiting until high speed to teach CC ...

A: Alan says: Some schools teach it early, some teach it later. CRI would rather students work on Speed

Goal: learn how to use it in high speed, so you can use it in high speed, because it's hard to remember that