The subject of this article, the possibilities of strengthening ties between ESC and ASC, may seem somewhat delicate when keeping in mind the original intentions of ESC founders. As one founder, Jossine Junger-Tas, who recently passed away on January 22, 2011, wrote in one of her articles: "When colleagues and I launched this society, we wanted to distinguish European criminology and develop an independent identity from the American scientific tradition, which many considered too dominant" (Junger-Tas 2002:2). The time passed since our foundation, the activity of the ESC and the participation of ASC therein all prove that this scientific endeavour is no obstacle in the cooperation of the two societies.

This cooperation and the ASC’s supportive attitude are manifested in several ways, first of which being the presence of then-past-president of the ASC, Ronald Huff at the very first annual meeting of the ESC held on September 6-8, 2001 in Lausanne, together with Chris Eskridge. The organization and modus operandi of the ASC have no doubt influenced the formation of ESC’s institutions, such as its presidential system or the organization of annual meetings. Members of ASC and officials of the Division of International Criminology are regularly present at the annual meetings of ESC, not to mention that the lovely ‘ice cream breaks’ of ESC annual meetings are sponsored by ASC.

The article dealing with the prospects of more intensive cooperation between the two societies in the future has been proposed by Ross L. Matsueda, indicating that the ASC Board is seeking closer ties with the ESC. In our article, we will present the reasons behind this effort, and propose possible areas of strengthening our relationship. However, we will start with a brief description of the history of the European Society of Criminology and its present-day activities, followed by a comparative overview of the objectives of ESC and ASC, their understanding of criminology, and the most important characteristics of criminology as a discipline and as an education program in the US and Europe.

(Continued on page 3)
UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS
For a complete listing see www.asc41.com/caw.html


2012 SUMMER EVALUATION INSTITUTE, June 3 - 6, 2012, Atlanta, GA. For more information, please see: http://www.eval.org/SummerInstitute12/default.asp


STOCKHOLM SYMPOSIUM, June 11 - 13, 2012, Stockholm City Conference Center. For more information, please see www.criminologyprize.com/extra/pod/

21ST INTERNATIONAL POLICE EXECUTIVE SYMPOSIUM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ARMED VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, August 5 - 10, 2012, United Nations Headquarters, New York City. For more information, see www.ipes.info

24TH ANNUAL CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN CONFERENCE, August 13 - 16, 2012, Sheraton Hotel, Downtown Dallas, Texas. For more information, please see http://www.cacconference.org/ or contact conference@dcac.org.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS (SSSP) 62nd ANNUAL MEETING, August 16 - 18, 2012, Denver, CO. Program Theme: The Art of Activism. For meeting information visit: www.sssp1.org

ASIAN CRIMINOLOGICAL SOCIETY, August 20 - 22, 2012, Seoul, South Korea. Submission Deadline is April 30, 2012. For more information, contact: acs2012@korea.com

INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL CONFERENCE "CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND SECURITY IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE" (PREVIOUSLY POLICING IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE), September 19 - 21, 2012, Ljubljana, Slovenia. For more information, please see: http://www.fvv.uni-mb.si/conf2012/


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1. Go to the Wiley InterScience homepage - http://www3.interscience.wiley.com

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For easy access to Criminology and/or CPP, save them to your profile. From the journal homepage, please click on “save journal to My Profile”.

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The history and present of the European Society of Criminology

ESC was founded by 26 criminology academics and civil servants in 2000. (The list of founders can be found in Section 13 of the ESC Constitution: [http://www.esc-eurocrim.org/constitution.shtml](http://www.esc-eurocrim.org/constitution.shtml). The kick-off meeting of the organization was held on April 7-8, 2000 in the Hague, Holland, its first president was Swiss Professor Martin Killias of the University of Lausanne.

The Constitution of the ESC defines the objectives of the society as follows: a) To bring together, in one multi-disciplinary society and on a European level, persons actively engaged in research, teaching and/or practice in the field of criminology; b) To foster criminological scholarship, research, education and training within academic institutions; c) To encourage scholarly, scientific and practical exchange and cooperation among those engaged in criminology, particularly at the European and international levels; d) To serve as a forum for the dissemination of criminological knowledge at the European level.

Founders of the ESC wished to reach the mentioned objectives primarily through the organization of its annual conferences. The first meeting of Lausanne in 2001 had 351 participants, all of which were by then members of the ESC. Out of the eleven conferences organized thus far, the Bologna conference of September 26-29, 2007 had the highest number of participants with 806 people present. The venue of the annual conference is decided by the Executive Board, keeping in mind during the selection process the appropriate rotation of the different countries and regions of Europe.

The presentations of the European Criminology Award and the ESC Young Criminologist Award have been traditional events at the conferences since 2007. Recipients of the European Criminology Award, which recognizes a lifetime contribution to European criminology, have been so far: Anthony Bottoms (2007), Lode Walgrave (2008), Josine Junger-Tas (2009), Nils Christie (2010) and Inkeri Antilla (2011).

The recipients of the ESC Young Criminologist Award, which is presented annually to a criminologist of 35 or under, for an outstanding article published in a peer-reviewed journal in a European language within the three calendar years preceding the year of the proposed award, have so far been: David Green and Philip Verwimp (2007), Joris van Wijk (2008), Georgios Antonopoulos (2009), Torbjørn Skardhamar (2010), Sappho Xenakis (2011).

The spectrum of activities of the ESC has gradually expanded through the years. The ESC Newsletter was first published in 2002, entitled Criminology in Europe. It is published three times a year, and contains not only ESC related news and information, but also shorter articles. The editor of the newsletter was Michael Tonry until Csaba Györy took over the post in 2011.

On compliance with the intentions of the founders, ESC launched the European Journal of Criminology (EJC) in January 2004, together with Sage Publications. The purpose for this was to create an English language academic journal, which concentrates on the European issues and problems of crime and criminal justice, and provides a forum for the presentation of the best research findings in European criminology. David J. Smith, editor-in-chief of the EJC from its launch until 2006, emphasized the need for this journal with the following words: “This is all the more important because, unlike mathematics, criminology is not a set of abstracts and universal truths and, unlike physics or chemistry, it is not based on a single, largely uncontested set of methodologies. Rather than a single discipline, with a coherent set of values and standards broadly accepted by all practitioners, criminology applies a wide range of disciplines to crime and criminal justice in their social and political context. It cannot be uprooted from the societies in which it was cultivated without a loss of meaning. Its findings will always be hotly contested and used in national and regional political debate. There will always be a universalizing tendency, but attempts to formulate more general theories can only grow out of an understanding of basic concepts such as ‘crime’ and ‘justice’ as they emerge from a specific cultural context” (Smith 2006: 5-6).

Apart from traditional publications, the journal, with Julian V. Robert as editor between 2006-2011, succeeded by Paul Knepper in 2012, regularly features so-called ‘country surveys’, which provide overviews of trends in crime and punishment, the criminal justice system, newest research findings and publications in criminology of a given country.

The European Journal of Criminology, as a refereed journal, which is free of charge for members of the ESC, quickly gained recognition, as indicated by the growing number of issues published (from four annually to six issues starting 2009), and ranking of the journal in 2010. According to Thomson’s 2010 Journal Citation Report, the EJC has received its first impact factor of 1.159. This means that for its first year in the rankings, the journal ranked 16 out of 46 in the Criminology and Penology (Source: www.euc.sagepub.com: 2010 Journal Citation Reports, Thomson Reuters, 2011).
(Continued from page 3)

The Working Groups of the European Society of Criminology enable members to continuously and regularly cooperate on research, education and professional levels. The ESC has 15 thematic working groups today, which are formed around curriculum and teaching, life course criminality, policing, prison and gender, crime and justice, just to give some examples. (A detailed description of the activity of the working groups can be found on the ESC website: www.esc-eurocrim.org.)

The ESC is celebrating its 12th anniversary in 2012, and counts 732 members of which 14 Canadian and 52 American. It can be safely stated that it has evolved along the lines of its founders’ intentions and operates in accordance with the objectives set by the Constitution. As a result, the professional relationship of European researchers and educators intensified, together with cross-national research and educational cooperation. Consequently, European criminology has reached a higher level; the common European knowledge of criminology is richer than it was before 2000. A step forward would be more comparative studies in which the American Society of Criminology could be a key partner.

In terms of closer ties between ESC and ASC in the future, it is significant to compare ‘European’ and ‘American criminology. Before that however, we will briefly discuss what the respective constitutions of ESC and ASC perceive as criminology.

What is criminology and who is a criminologist according to the European Society of Criminology and the American Society of Criminology?

Criminology in Section 1 of the ESC Constitution is defined as follows: “The term criminology, as used in this Constitution, refers to all scholarly, scientific and professional knowledge concerning the explanation, prevention, control and treatment of crime and delinquency, offenders and victims, including the measurement and detection of crime, legislation and the practice of criminal law, and law enforcement, judicial, and correctional systems.” The concept of criminologist is defined in this context in a by-law of the ESC, the Rules of the ESC Awards - European Criminology Award, stating that the term ‘criminologist’ refers to persons that are “currently or formerly engaged in research, teaching and/or practice in the field of criminology”.

The ASC Constitution has a more practical approach to defining criminology and criminologist, or the conditions of ASC membership, to be more precise. Instead of a straight-up definition, the ASC Constitution indirectly defines the scope of criminological knowledge in its Preamble, as follows: “The American Society of Criminology is an international organization whose members pursue scholarly, scientific and professional knowledge concerning the measurement, etiology, consequences, prevention, control and treatment of crime and delinquency.” In addition, according to Subsection 1 of Section IV (“Membership”) of the ASC Constitution, eligible active members are: “Those engaged in the discipline of criminology, as defined in the Preamble.”

The above comparison clearly shows that the difference in the approaches of ESC and ASC concerning the definitions of criminology and criminologist is more formal than substantive.

Is there a contextual similarity between ‘European criminology’ and ‘American criminology’? The next section will answer this question.

Comparing European and American criminology

A comparison between US and European criminology shows an overall clear similarity. The problems addressed, the methods used and the theories applied seem on the whole to be the same. Though coming from partly different traditions where Europe has had more of law and psychiatry the dominant approach in departments of criminology is now the sociological. This should not conceal that criminological research both in the US and Europe is conducted within a number of different disciplines like economics, law, history, psychology, social work and medicine.

One main reason for the similarity is the dominance of the USA in criminology. This dominance shows in different ways. The annual meetings of the European Society of Criminology have some 700 visitors. The American Society of Criminology attracts several thousands. Until the ESC was formed, the conferences of the ASC were the largest gatherings of European Criminologists.

Several European criminologists have had part of their training in the USA through generous scholarships from the country. Even the politically radical European Group for the Study of Deviance and Social Control was conceived by three young Europeans at Berkeley. The Americans were originally not even allowed in – the exception being the Berkeley School of Criminology and single scholars that could be invited. The main reason for this restrictive approach to Americans was their money and their sheer numbers. It was seen as a risk that the Americans would be in majority in this European Society and even crowding out Europeans.

(Continued on page 5)
This ambivalence towards the USA and sometimes also towards the UK had in part to do with the language. English gave an advantage to the scholars from these countries and Europeans could feel somewhat stupid when they could not express themselves in their native tongues. Today, however, the working language of the ESC conferences is English and also for the European Journal of Criminology in spite of German being the largest language in the European Union.

The theoretical perspectives shared by Europeans and Americans are almost all of US origin like the ecological school, labeling, social control, and situational crime control. American textbooks are to a high degree used in Europe. There was a time when student of criminology in Europe would know the names of streets in New York and Chicago better than in European large cities, including even the capitals of their own countries. American textbooks would also be and still are very American. There are few references to other countries – one explanation probably being the language barrier. There is however also a clear change taking place. Europeans increasingly produce their own textbooks and Americans become more internationally oriented.

In sum, the main impression is the similarity between US and European criminology. Historically they have been clearly integrated and the intellectual and political challenges and problems have been shared. That can be seen from among others in the analysis by Dario Melossi, Controlling Crime, Controlling Society. Thinking about Crime in Europe and America.

But there are also differences in at least in tendencies or focus. From a European perspective there seems to be a particularly strong emphasis on criminal justice in the USA. Criminal justice systems are taught at colleges, special courses are given for future police and correction officers, and the Division on Corrections and Sentencing takes a large space at the annual meetings of the American Society of Criminology. Evidence based criminology also seems to be particularly strong in the USA even though spreading fast to Europe. The question of race and ethnicity has since long a central position even though it has increasingly come to the forefront in European research.

A European specialty is probably the criminology taking place in the East and Central European states. Criminology was under the earlier communist regimes regarded as a bourgeoisie science and when it was carried out it was usually quite ideologically laden. The criminology since the fall of the wall is both theoretically and politically interesting. The interpretations of crime are typically done in structural and historical terms and causes cannot be reduced to individual traits.

European criminology might also have a stronger tradition of research on historical criminology and as a connected theme the historical and structural determinants of criminal policy. This might reflect a difference where European criminology is relatively more academic and less applied.

Regarding the differences, one further aspect should be mentioned. It seems as though European criminologists, at least in some countries, have a more significant role in the preparation of documents concerning criminal justice policy, as well as those of the European Union and Council of Europe related to action against crime, than American criminologists do in similar matters. It can be stated that in Europe there is not such an extreme contrast between criminological knowledge and the practice of criminal justice as in the US (Morris 2002:10).

A comparison between US and European criminology should of course not be limited to one between The American and the European Society of Criminology. Critical criminology that has its place in both Societies is also to be found in other contexts like Law and Society in the USA and The European Group for the Study of Deviance and Social Control. Equally police science or cultural criminology, for instance, could find a place in the national societies of criminology or mainly belong to other disciplines and appear in alternative journals and conferences.

**Prospects of future collaboration**

A closer collaboration between US and European criminology it seems would have comparative studies as its focus. The conditions for such research already exist both in the USA and Europe but in partly different ways. The 50 states of the USA give good opportunities for comparative research. There is a clear variation between the states that however takes place within the same contest. The difference between the European nation states makes comparisons more difficult because of larger differences and special contexts. At the same time these larger variations might allow for further comparisons, including that of deviant cases. The country surveys in the European Journal of Criminology could here perhaps serve as a start.
Expanding the comparisons to that between single states or the whole of USA with different European countries increases variations that otherwise might not have been seen. Examples could be differences in homicide rates and prison populations. The preconditions for comparisons have now also increased through the publication of the *European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics – 2010*. Another source of prison statistics is of course that published by the London based International Center for Prison Studies.

Comparative research by European criminologists has, however, thus far been fairly limited. It goes for comparisons between European nation states and even more for comparisons with the USA. This has recently been demonstrated in an analysis by Bitna Kim and Avlida V. Merlo at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (*Newsletter of the European Society of Criminology*, 2011:3). The analysis can be seen as an appeal and a challenge.

Another natural area for collaboration and comparative research seems to that between different Divisions in the American Society and the Working Groups of the European Society.

Research focusing on the European ‘imports’ of American innovations, such as the three-strikes laws and zero tolerance policing, would be extremely useful. It would be worthwhile to examine within this framework the reasons behind the ‘import’, the success of adaptation and to compare the European and American efficiency indicators.

European criminologists visit the annual meetings of the American Society and American Criminologists equally go to the meetings of the European Society. In terms of memberships in the European Society the USA is already fifth largest (European!) country. This already gives opportunities for establishing research contacts. Maybe the time now is also particularly ripe. The USA still dominates criminology. Compared to earlier, however, European criminology now stands stronger and with a society and a journal of itself. The European criminologists can meet the Americans as equals.

The next Annual Meeting of the ESC would provide an excellent opportunity to discuss the pertinence of our situation analysis, the concretization of our suggestions and the technical details of cooperation with the members of ASC’s Executive Board. This meeting will be held between September 12-15, 2012 in Bilbao, Spain, and is entitled: Rethinking Crime and Punishment in Europe. (The conference website is: [http://www.eurocrim2012.com](http://www.eurocrim2012.com)). We hope to see as many members of the ASC there as possible, and that our article will be successful in promoting the strengthening of ties between the two societies.

**References**


Kim, Bitna and Avlida V. Merlo, V. Avlida. 2011. “An Examination of International or Comparative Studies under the Aegis of the ESC.” *Newsletter of the European Society of Criminology* 3: 6-7


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John Paul Wright (University of Cincinnati) Life-Course Theories of Crime; Biosocial Criminology; Longitudinal Methods
Roger Wright (Chase College of Law) Criminal Law and Procedure; Policing; Teaching Effectiveness
AROUND THE ASC

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2013 ELECTION SLATE OF 2014 - 2015 OFFICERS

The ASC Nominations Committee is seeking nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President and Executive Counselor. Nominees must be current members of the ASC. Send the names of nominees, position for which they are being nominated, and, if possible, a current c.v. to the Chair of the Nominations Committee, at the address below. Nominations must be received by September 15, 2012 to be considered by the Committee.

Eric Stewart
College of Criminology
Florida State University
634 West Call Street
PO Box 3061127
Tallahassee, FL 32306
estewart2@fsu.edu

PH.D. GRADUATES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE, CRIMINOLOGY AND RELATED FIELDS


Martin, Kimberly, “A Multilevel Analysis of County and State Variation in the Severity of Sentences Imposed in Large Urban Courts.” Chaired by Beth Huebner, 2011, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Nichols, Andrea, “Feminist Advocacy in Community Based Responses to Domestic Violence.” Chaired by Kristin Carbone, 2011, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Oliver, Brian, “Recidivism: A Multi-Level Explanation.” Chaired by Rick Rosenfeld, 2011, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Taylor, Caitlin J., “Family Support and the Successful Reentry of Formerly Incarcerated Individuals.” Chaired by Kate Auerhahn, May 2012, Temple University.


Wozniak, Kevin, "The effect of exposure to political rhetoric on public opinion about criminal justice." Chaired by Joanne Savage, March 2012, American University.
AROUND THE ASC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Western Society of Criminology Conference

In February 2012, the Western Society of Criminology (WSC) held its annual meeting at the Fairmont Hotel in beautiful Newport Beach, CA. The presentations made by academics and professionals working in the field of Criminology and Criminal Justice covered a variety of topics including gangs, juvenile justice, drug treatment, and crime analysis. The conference was well-attended with 160 participants representing numerous colleges, universities, and professional organizations located in different states and countries. Conference participants enjoyed attending the plenary session with Michael Gottfredson to learn about the “More Police, Less Imprisonment” question. You can read more about his presentation in the Spring 2012 issue of The Western Criminologist available online at http://westerncriminology.org/publications.htm. This presentation contributed to the success of the 2012 conference as did the quality of papers presented and the conference sponsorships. WSC conferences are a great place to hear new ideas, meet new colleagues, mentor students, and spend time with friends…and the next one is in Berkeley, CA. We are returning to the Bay area to celebrate our 40th annual conference and we hope to see you at this very special meeting!

OBITUARIES

Roslyn Muraskin

Dr. Roslyn (Roz) Muraskin, ACJS Secretary and professor of criminal justice, passed away on Saturday, April 21 after a two-year battle with ovarian cancer. She was 71 years old. Roz was an accomplished criminal justice scholar and a leading advocate for women’s rights in the workplace. Her scholarly research focused on women’s leadership development; gender, race and the criminal justice system; and women prisoners in correctional facilities. She authored or co-authored more than 15 scholarly works, including five books. A prominent advocate for women’s rights and a breast cancer survivor, Roz founded the Long Island Women’s Institute (LIWI) in 1991 to encourage women to become successful leaders and to break the proverbial “glass ceiling.” Her honors have included the Woman of the Year Award for Excellence from the Minorities and Women Section of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences; the Fellow Award (twice) from the Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences; and recognition for her work in AIDS education from the Long Island Association for AIDS Care. She served on the board of the “Herstory” women writers’ workshop. Roz is survived by husband, Matthew Muraskin, an attorney; sons Seth and Craig; a daughter, Tracy Birkhahn; and six grandchildren, Lindsay, Nickia, Benjamin, Zachary, Sloane and Sydney. She is also survived by her mother, Alice Cashman, and brother, Richard Cashman. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to ovarian cancer research. A memorial service is being planned for September at LIU Post.

Tony Peters

The one metaphor that consistently comes to mind when trying to grasp the enormous diversity of Tony Peters’ work in criminology is that of a ‘builder of bridges’. His double major in sociology and criminology provided him with a clear understanding of the societal dimension within total institutions like prisons, and the young researcher already in the 1970s visited prisons in Paris, New York and California to learn from other countries. In the 1980s, he shifted his attention to victims and victimology, and ten years later to practices of restorative justice between perpetrators and victims. He was able to integrate and even shape these three fields in a very creative and pragmatic manner. During four decades he travelled the world to give lectures on issues of detention, victimhood and restorative justice, and inspired many audiences with his vision of crime and justice.

Secondly, Tony Peters also liked to build bridges between institutions. In Leuven in the 1990s, he served as one of the founding fathers of the Erasmus programme in criminology, the coordinator of the EU-funded student and staff exchange project between Europe and Canada on Victimisation, Mediation and Restorative Justice, and the first director of the English Master Programme in European Criminology at the Faculty of Law. In his last years he was also the creator of the Observatory of Academic Criminology Programmes, aimed at providing information about such courses to students and scholars from all over the world.

His impressive international career culminated in his 15-year long service to the International Society for Criminology. He became the President of its Scientific Commission in 1998 and the general President of the Society in 2006 until his untimely death in April of 2012. Although a giant in criminology, Tony always remained a very modest person. Both in his academic and personal life his Leitmotiv was ‘respect and tolerance’ for all persons, ideas and practices, except the ones that are intolerant and disrespectful themselves; and being a wise man he was always able to make that distinction.
Dissertation Scholarship Award

The Division on Corrections & Sentencing of the American Society of Criminology announces a dissertation scholarship award. The DCS will grant a monetary award of $1,000 to assist a doctoral student with completion of his/her dissertation. Doctoral students who have, or will have, successfully completed their dissertation prospectus defense at the time of the award are eligible to apply. The award is aimed specifically at students who are working on a sentencing or corrections topics for their dissertation. These monies can be used to assist with data collection or to offset other costs associated with the dissertation research. To be eligible, students must have completed all required course work, passed qualifying comprehensive exams, and have successfully defended the dissertation prospectus by the award date (November, 2012).

Proposals should include the following:

1. **Narrative:** A 1500 word narrative outlining the dissertation topic as well as data collection methods and strategies.
2. **Budget:** A separate detailed budget page. Students should also include a detailed explanation of how they expect the monies would be expended.
3. **Curriculum Vitae:** A current copy of the student’s curriculum vitae.
   **Support Letter:** The student's dissertation chair must submit a signed statement of support describing (a) the current status of the proposed work, and (b) the student's potential to successfully complete the dissertation (see eligibility requirements above).

Applications should be submitted via e-mail to dcs.dissertation@gmail.com no later than Friday, September 14, 2012 at 5pm. The narrative, budget, vitae, and letter of support should be submitted on separate pages and in one pdf document. The letter of support can be attached as a separate document or sent directly by the dissertation chair to the above email address. The winner will be notified in October 2012 and be recognized at the November ASC meeting in Chicago, IL. Any questions regarding eligibility or appropriate dissertation topics should be directed to Kate Fox at the above e-mail address or to Aaron Kupchik, Division Chair, via e-mail at akupchik@udel.edu
The ASC Division on Corrections & Sentencing
Requests Nominations for Annual Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award
This award honors an individual's distinguished scholarship in the area of corrections and/or sentencing over a lifetime. Recipients must have 20 or more years of experience contributing to scholarly research. Retired scholars will be considered. Nominations should include a nomination letter and the candidate’s curriculum vitae and should be submitted to Pauline Brennan, Awards Committee Chair, at pkbrennan@unomaha.edu no later than September 14, 2012.

Distinguished Scholar Award
This award recognizes a lasting scholarly career, with particular emphasis on a ground-breaking contribution (e.g., book or series of articles) in the past 5 years. The award’s committee will consider both research in the area of corrections and sentencing and service to the Division. Recipients must have 8 or more years of post-doctoral experience. Nominations should include a nomination letter and the candidate’s curriculum vitae and should be submitted to Pauline Brennan, Awards Committee Chair, at pkbrennan@unomaha.edu no later than September 14, 2012.

Distinguished New Scholar Award
This award recognizes outstanding early career achievement in corrections and sentencing research. The award’s committee will consider both research in the area of corrections and sentencing and service to the Division. Recipients must have less than 8 years of post-doctoral experience. Nominations should include a nomination letter and the candidate’s curriculum vitae and should be submitted to Pauline Brennan, Awards Committee Chair, at pkbrennan@unomaha.edu no later than September 14, 2012.

Student Paper Award
This award is presented in recognition of the most outstanding student research paper. Eligibility is limited to papers that are authored by one or more undergraduate or graduate students and have not been previously published or submitted for publication. Submissions will be judged on five evaluative criteria including the overall significance of the work; its research contribution to the field; integration of prior literature in the area; appropriateness and sophistication of the research methodology; and overall quality of writing and organization of the paper. Papers should not exceed 30 pages of double-spaced text. References, tables, and figures are not included in the page limit.

Please send papers to Tom LeBel, Student Paper Award Committee Chair, at lebel@uwm.edu no later than August 31, 2012.
AROUND THE ASC

The Division of International Criminology
Nomination Reminder for 2012 Awards
For Distinguished Scholar, Book, and Student Papers

The DIC is pleased to offer a variety of ways to encourage and recognize scholarship on international and comparative crime and justice to those who have contributed to the body of knowledge in the field.

Jay Albanese, Chair
ASC Division of International Criminology
www.internationalcriminology.com

Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar Award
The Division of International Criminology (DIC) of the American Society of Criminology is currently soliciting nominations for the Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar Award. Nomination requires a letter of nomination and a complete CV to be sent electronically to the Adler Award Committee chair, Professor Jo-Anne Wemmers at joanne.m.wemmers@umontreal.ca. The letter must explain why the candidate is qualified to be considered for the award. Nominations are open to distinguished candidates regardless of residence or citizenship status. The deadline for nominations is July 1, 2012.

2012 Distinguished Book Award
The Division of International Criminology (DIC) is seeking nominations for the 2012 Distinguished Book Award. The award is given to the author of a book published on any topic relating to the broad areas of international or comparative crime or justice with a formal publishing date in calendar years 2010 or 2011. We encourage nominations from publishers, colleagues and authors. Nominated books for the 2012 award are due to the Distinguished Book Award Committee chair, Dr. Jennifer C. Gibbs no later than deadline May 1, 2012. She can be contacted at JGibbs@wcupa.edu.

Outstanding Student Paper Awards
We are accepting submissions from students enrolled in Master's or doctoral programs, studying subjects related to international crime and justice. The paper topics must be related to international or comparative criminology or criminal justice. Submissions must be authored by the submitting student (only). Co-authorships with professors are not accepted. Manuscripts must be submitted as an e-mail attachment in Word or as a .pdf or .rtf file only. Submissions should be accompanied by a cover sheet which includes the author’s name, department, university and location, contact information (including e-mail address) and whether the author is a master’s or doctoral student, and the precise name of the degree program in which the student is enrolled. Winning submissions in each category will receive a monetary award and be recognized at the meeting of the American Society of Criminology in November. Submission deadline is May 1, 2012 to Laura L. Hansen, Ph.D., Chair, DIC Student Paper Award Committee, lauralynn.hansen@wne.edu
THE DIVISION OF EXPERIMENTAL CRIMINOLOGY

The Division of Experimental Criminology (DEC) of the American Society of Criminology seeks to promote and improve the use of experimental evidence and methods in the advancement of criminological theory and evidence-based crime policy. The DEC is also home to the Academy of Experimental Criminology (AEC), founded in 1998 to recognize experimental criminologists.

We invite all members of the ASC to join the DEC and to visit our new website (http://gemini.gmu.edu/cebcp/dec.html). DEC membership fees and contributions support our many activities and member benefits throughout the year, including Journal of Experimental Criminology subscriptions, workshops, awards, newsletters, and ASC activities.

TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP: Please check the DEC’s membership box on the regular membership forms for the ASC. For organizational membership, please visit http://gemini.gmu.edu/cebcp/DEC/MembershipInformation.pdf for more information.

DEC AT ASC 2012-CHICAGO

We look forward to welcoming current and prospective members to our exciting program of events during this year’s ASC Conference, featuring:

- Tuesday afternoon workshop led by John Roman on multi-site randomized controlled trials, with numerous special guests.
- Joan McCord Lecture and induction of new AEC Fellows
- DEC Awards Ceremony and Afternoon Tea
- Announcement of the Stockholm Prize in Criminology
- Six special panels and presentations highlighting the work of our members

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR ORGANIZATIONAL SPONSORS

Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy, George Mason University (Gold)
Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge (Gold)
Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence!, George Mason University (Silver)
School of Criminal Justice, Rutgers University (Silver)

Thank you for your continued support of experiments!
The Oral History Criminology Project, under the guidance of its Advisory Board and through its partnership with the American Society of Criminology, represents an ongoing effort to preserve prominent scholars’ accounts of their role in shaping the evolution of the field. Through the use of taped interviews, an enduring record—an “oral history”—is established of how personal and professional factors have interacted to give rise to criminology’s landmark ideas. Scholars are asked to reflect on the development of their careers, on their most significant writings, and on the discipline in general. The goal is to move beyond what is captured in published texts to explore the story behind these scholars’ careers and research contributions. Collectively, it is hoped that the interviews will enrich our understanding of criminology as a craft and of how scholarly paradigms arise and are elaborated.

The Oral History Criminology Project (OHCP) has its own rather compelling past. For those of our colleagues who have had questions about the project since its inception seventeen years ago, we now have the answers.

The OHCP was initiated in 1995 by Frank Taylor while he was a Library Fellow at the Rutgers University School of Criminal Justice Don Gottfredson Library. The members of the Advisory Board were Freda Adler, Todd Clear, Chris Eskridge, and William Laufer. With limited funding provided by the American Society of Criminology, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and the National Institute of Justice—and with donated space and borrowed equipment—the first interviews took place.

In 1996, Frank Cullen and John Laub were named as Vice-Chairs of the Advisory Committee. By that time, over fifty interviews had been conducted and were in the Project’s collection. In March 1997, a well-attended roundtable session was held at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences meeting to discuss and answer questions about the status of the project. The participants included Freda Adler, Ron Akers, Frankie Bailey, Dorothy Bracey, Frank Cullen, Julius Debro, John Hagan, Donna Hale, Carl Klockars, Frank Morn, and Gerhard O.W. Mueller.

The OHCP then encountered the practical problem of preserving the existing videotapes and of securing consistent funding. Most important, the Project did not have a “home.” Rather, individual videos were stored at various institutions without systematic tracking. By 2001, having run out of options, it became clear that outside funding was necessary in order to preserve existing videos and to sustain the project. In April of that year, Chris Eskridge, in his role as Executive Director of ASC, met with a major publisher to sign an agreement transferring rights to the videotapes in return for the preservation of the old interviews, editing, formatting (at that point they were VHS, Beta, ¾ and mini DVC), and the continuation of the project.

At that time, all videos had to be located and sent from the many places where they had been shelved. In December, 2001, the last of the videos had been forwarded to the publisher. They were ready for editing and eventual conversion to DVD (The editing process has its own history: In one case, there were no names on either the jacket or tape used during the interview. The production team playfully commented that they were the best looking participants they had had and that was probably because they were father and son. And so, Michael and Don Gottfredson’s names were added!)

By October of 2002, the publisher had made a few new videos, drawn from over 100 hours of footage. They consisted of short clips from a small sample of scholars who had been interviewed—an excellent first step in chronicling the history and field of criminology and criminal justice. But then the Project experienced a worrisome hiatus. Between 2002 and 2007, there was little communication about the OHCP due to personnel and structural changes taking place with the publisher. Our concerns grew that the videotaped interviews perhaps had been lost. Most of those who had had any prior association with the OHCP were contacted, but the collection had seemingly been mislaid.

A search continued for the missing interviews. In the summer of 2008, Freda Adler received a message by telephone that all of the videos had been discovered in a warehouse that we believed the publisher was about to vacate. Arrangements were made to have them immediately delivered to the University of Pennsylvania and converted to DVDs.

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At this point, it was decided that the Oral History Criminology Project should be revived—with old interviews (now on DVD) made available and a new effort made to undertake sessions with prominent contemporary scholars. Todd Clear, Frank Cullen, William Laufer, and Freda Adler volunteered to work as an Advisory Board. Given that my research into the origins and evolution of criminology has applied an oral history approach, I was asked, and honored, to serve as Project Director. Cheryl Lero Jonson of Northern Kentucky University was subsequently recruited to serve as a member of the Project Committee.

With the support of Todd Clear and Rutgers University, the Project has acquired state-of-the-art digital recording equipment. Interviews are once again being conducted. Most of the interviews have been placed, for open access, on the ASC website. As Project Director I have been working in conjunction with Chris Eskridge and his staff to execute this task. The generous participation of major figures in criminology—and of the scholars who volunteer to prepare for and conduct these interviews—promises to yield an invaluable living account of criminology. Most importantly, the intent is for the interviews to serve as more than historical artifacts. These accounts will also serve to enrich the classroom experience. The oral accounts offer future generations of students the opportunity to hear criminology as told in scholars’ own voices—including those who have since passed. At the 2011 ASC meetings, the Project officially became operational once again. Recorded interviews were conducted with Robert Bursik, Delbert Elliott, Michael Gottfredson, Frank Scarpitti, and Neal Shover. Efforts are now under way to arrange another set of interviews at the upcoming meeting in Chicago. The intent is to continue to preserve the history of criminology by interviewing a number of scholars at each conference and, when possible, at other locations.

Those now associated with the OHCP hope that the ASC membership will share our enthusiasm over the renewal of the Project and will find the posted interviews to be of value. Your support, through sharing these with students and colleagues alike, in the time ahead will be much appreciated.

Finally, this Project is dedicated to Freda Adler. Without her persistent efforts over two decades to support and then, more recently, to resurrect the Project, no interviews would be available. We owe Freda our deep appreciation for her commitment to preserving our past and to providing us with special insights into the criminological enterprise.

**Project Director:**

Brendan D. Dooley, University of Maryland

**Project Committee:**

Cheryl Lero Jonson, Northern Kentucky University

**Advisory Board:**

Freda Adler, University of Pennsylvania
Todd R. Clear, Rutgers University
Francis T. Cullen, University of Cincinnati
William S. Laufer, University of Pennsylvania
JAMES QUINN WILSON  
(MAY 27, 1931 – MARCH 2, 2012)  

By Joan Petersilia and David P. Farrington

Joan Petersilia writes:

James Q. Wilson, one of America’s leading public intellectuals, died in Boston on March 2, 2012 from leukemia. He was 80 years old.

On the day that I heard that Jim Wilson had died I thought, “Wow, what a legacy of wisdom this man has left.” Over the past forty years, his clear and prolific scholarship has informed almost every area of America’s crime policy. Whether you agreed with his positions or not, there was no denying that his writings were a force to be reckoned with on such diverse topics as the death penalty, gun control, drugs, juvenile justice, crime prevention, deterrence, prisons and policing. He single-handedly changed the American conversation in these and many other substantive areas. In a tribute to Jim on the day following his death, the Wall Street Journal wrote, “Our current political and social ills will be harder to solve without his rigor and brilliance.”

Most of the media headlines reporting Jim’s death mention his famous ‘Broken Windows’ policing article published in the Atlantic Monthly (1982) with George Kelling. That article argued that if the police stopped ignoring minor law infractions, such as graffiti and public drinking, the rate of more serious crime would go down. The notion is that “untended” environments lead to a public perception that disorder and crime will be tolerated. This article became a touchstone for the move towards community policing in many U.S. cities, including New York and Los Angeles. Interestingly, Jim once told me he hoped he wasn’t mostly remembered for Broken Windows Policing, since when he and Mr. Kelling wrote it, he viewed it as just a psychological theory in need of testing. But that article—like so much else Jim published—turned out to be extraordinarily influential.

Jim didn’t start out his career to influence crime policy. It just turned out that way. He was born in Denver, but grew up mostly in Long Beach, Calif. He graduated from the University of Redlands (AB, 1952) near Los Angeles, and then served in the Navy during the Korean War (not in combat). He subsequently attended graduate school at the University of Chicago, where he earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. (1959) in political science. From 1961 to 1987, he taught political science at Harvard. He later taught at UCLA, Pepperdine University, and Boston College. His writings while at Harvard established him as one of the nation’s premier political scientists, with a special interest in policing and crime control.

His early book Varieties of Police Behavior (1967) led to an invitation to work with President Johnson’s Commission on Crime and the Administration of Justice. The Commission was appointed in the midst of one of the sharpest increases in crime in the U.S., and its mandate was to identify how the nation should respond. The Commission issued a ground-breaking report, The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society, ” (1967) which included more than 200 recommendations for curbing crime. What was needed, the report declared, was a massive government effort to eliminate the root causes of crime, poverty, and racism. Prominent criminologists worked on the commission, including Lloyd Ohlin and Vincent O’Leary, and they endorsed expanding social programs to reduce crime (interestingly, Alfred Blumstein was Director of Science and Technology for the Commission).

And here began Jim’s major beef with sociologists and criminologists.

A few months after the Commission report was published, Jim wrote an article in The Public Interest that was highly critical of the Commission’s findings and recommendations. He lambasted the Commission for endorsing recommendations that lacked empirical support. He wrote, that while the Commission recommended more funding for social services, there was no rigorous research showing that such programs had any effect on criminal behavior. The report also called for shorter prison sentences and diverting criminals to probation, although nothing at the time demonstrated that community alternatives protected the public better than incarceration. He wrote that nearly all of the Commission’s ideas were untried and untested, and that just six out of the 200 recommendations actually addressed public safety. He felt that the Commission had been predisposed to endorse more programs, led by some of its members’ ideological convictions rather than the facts.

As Heather MacDonald observed in the New York Post (March 4, 2012), “That article set the pattern for Wilson’s career. Over the next 45 years, he continued to patiently point out when the emperor had no clothes, to exercise skepticism toward conventional wisdom and to drive his ground-breaking insights from a close attention to the facts on the ground.”

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From then on, he was hooked on thinking about crime and crime control measures. He published his first wide-ranging book on the topic in *Thinking About Crime* (1975). This watershed book established Jim as a nation’s leading conservative on crime policy. This book basically argued that government is ill equipped to remedy the root causes of crime even if those causes could be identified; that criminal activity is largely rational, shaped by the relative risks and rewards offered; and that public policy decisions regarding crime should work to increase the risks and lower the relative rewards of crime, thereby helping to deter it. He again attacked left-leaning criminologists, writing that they were ideologically pro-treatment in the absence of any supporting evidence.

I was a young sociology student when *Thinking About Crime* was published. It was a tour de force, and the book’s chapter on criminology challenged me to become more rigorous in my work. My first job after graduate school was as a research assistant at The Rand Corporation in Santa Monica, California. As luck (or fate) would have it, Jim Wilson was on the Board of Trustees of RAND. I met him for the first time in 1974 and was star struck from the start (and I never got over it). I couldn’t believe I was actually going to get to work with THE James Q. Wilson. We published our first article together some years later, and bar none, he was the most brilliant man I have ever met. We worked together off and on over the next 35 years, and he never ceased pushing me to find more convincing evidence for my arguments. He made me a better researcher and he made criminology a better discipline.

By the time Jim published his *Crime and Public Policy* book in 1983, his critique of academic criminologists had softened. In fact, he chose to compile that book *precisely* because he felt that the study of crime had become more scientific and that its findings should be widely disseminated. He wrote in the Introduction, “In my view, the study of how policies affect crime today is today a far richer and more exciting field than ever before. We have created a more analytical approach to crime policy.” In 1995, he invited me to collaborate with him on future volumes of this type and we co-edited *Crime* (1995), *Crime: Public Policies for Crime Control* (2002), and *Crime and Public Policy* (2011). Each time we assembled the listing of authors to invite for these volumes, he would remark at how impressive the field of crime scholars had become. I believe that his concluding chapter (entitled “Crime and Public Policy”) in our latest volume together is his very last essay reflecting on crime matters. In fact, he reviewed the page proofs just after he was diagnosed with leukemia nearly a year before his death. I went back and read it again this week and was amazed at how his ideas had changed over the years. But I was also amazed at how the ideas that he professed so long ago are no longer so controversial. Clearly, we influenced him and he influenced us.

The list of awards and accolades that Jim received in his 80 years is far too long to list here. He is the rare academic who bears a Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor. When President George W. Bush presented him with the Medal in 2003, he said, "Whatever his subject, James Q. Wilson writes with intellectual rigor, with moral clarity, to the appreciation of a wide and growing audience." He was the author of nearly 20 books, and his textbook, *American Government* (now in its ninth edition with John Dilulio) is more widely used on University campuses than any other textbook on government. He also chaired or served on numerous national commissions, most recently chairing the National Research Council’s Committee on Law and Justice. He served as president of the American Political Science Association, and he had received honorary degrees from six universities, including Harvard.

It is important to remember the type of person Jim was. Throughout all of the accolades and criticisms, Jim remained steadfast and centered. It is almost impossible to find anyone who ever worked with him or met him who has an unkind word for him. He was mild-mannered and reserved, bordering on shy. He was thoughtful, never quick to opine. He had high expectations of everyone. He possessed a formidable memory and an encyclopedic knowledge of philosophy, government, and many areas of the social sciences. He never stopped asking hard questions, believing we still didn’t have sufficient answers to the most pressing problems of our time.

Above all, Jim was a devoted family man. He adored his high-school sweetheart-turned-bride, Roberta. Three years ago, they returned to Boston to be closer to their two children and grandchildren. In one of my last conversations with Jim before his death, he said that he was incredibly happy living in Boston, although he missed the sun, water, and sunsets of Malibu. He also loved fast cars and driving the windy Pacific Coast Highway from his home atop the Malibu bluffs to his office at UCLA. I once drove with him in his sporty Datsun 280z, and I can tell you the Indy 500 drivers had nothing on him. At one time, it was reported that he had lost his license in three states!

Rest in peace, Jim. You may be gone, but you left a legacy—as a mentor, colleague, and true intellectual icon—that will continue to inspire.
David Farrington writes:

I first met Jim Wilson around 1982 at an editorial board meeting for the *Crime and Justice* series edited by Norval Morris and Michael Tonry. I then met him quite frequently throughout the 1980s, as we worked together on a variety of projects. These included the National Academy of Sciences Panel on Criminal Career Research, the NIJ-MacArthur Foundation Program on Human Development and Criminal Behavior, and some Harvard executive sessions that Jim organized with Glenn Loury that produced a series of books on “From Children to Citizens”.

It may surprise some criminologists to hear that Jim was a great advocate of early, especially family-based, prevention of offending. He wrote an essay in *Atlantic Monthly* in 1983 entitled “Raising Kids” in which he recommended parent training programs. While writing this essay, Jim (characteristically) took the trouble to visit Eugene, Oregon, to find out first hand about Gerry Patterson’s pioneering work on parent training. The great thing about Jim was that he was very willing to change his views when faced with high quality scientific evidence. The great thing about *Atlantic Monthly* was that they required every fact to be checked and substantiated, and I well remember Jim recounting to me the efforts he had to take to try to discover the first name of D. J. West (which was Donald).

Jim was a great advocate of developmental and longitudinal research on offending, and he was extremely important in persuading the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to mount their three “Causes and Correlates” programs in the 1980s. He also played a major role in persuading the MacArthur Foundation of the need for longitudinal research in criminology, and he coauthored the MacArthur-sponsored book “Understanding and Controlling Crime: Toward a New Research Strategy” in 1986 with Lloyd Ohlin and myself. In chapter 1 of that book, he set out his crime control strategy: Identify high-risk youngsters at an early age and provide services, counseling, and assistance to their families. Improve their neighborhoods and help them to succeed in school and employment. But if they commit a serious crime: Arrest and prosecute them promptly and send them to a correctional program that is suited to their temperament and personal history. On release from the program, help them find a job and give them financial and other forms of assistance to encourage desistance.

Jim was a brilliant and persuasive speaker. He always spoke very clearly and convincingly, avoiding jargon, and he was adept at marshalling arguments point by point. I was not surprised to hear that he had won the national student debating championships two years in a row. Typically, he would say: What do we know? What do we need to know? How can we find out?

Jim gave me the whole manuscript of the book “Crime and Human Nature” (1985) that he had written in collaboration with Dick Herrnstein, to read and comment on, in a huge shoulder bag. I was very impressed by its wide-ranging reviews of the literature. Wilson and Herrnstein were both uncompromising in their discussion of controversial topics. For example, on p.157 they said “By itself the existence of an average difference separating the IQs of middle-class and lower-class children no more proves test bias than the average difference in height between Swedes and Japanese proves bias in yardsticks”. The book is written in a very readable, accessible style, and their statements are usually carefully qualified and backed up by evidence.

Jim was a very fit, athletic person. He and Roberta, his beloved wife of nearly 50 years, were keen scuba divers. Together with my family, I visited Jim and Roberta in 1992 at their home in Malibu, which was a beautiful house with lots of glass that facilitated glorious views of the Pacific Ocean. Jim and Roberta presented my daughter (then aged 17) with a signed copy of their book “Watching Fishes: Life and Behavior on Coral Reefs” (1985). This was typical of their kindness.

In the last 20 years, I had few occasions to meet Jim, but he kindly wrote forewords to two of my books, on “Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders” (with Rolf Loeber, 1998) and “Saving Children from a Life of Crime” (with Brandon Welsh, 2007). He was undoubtedly a highly intelligent man. Indeed, it is said that Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan once introduced him to Richard Nixon with the words, “Mr. President, James Q. Wilson is the smartest man in the United States”. Jim undoubtedly had a great deal of influence on US (and UK) politicians and in many ways he was a nationally-famous public figure. I think that it is a great pity that his work was never recognized by the ASC (e.g. by the Sutherland Award), possibly because he was viewed as an extreme right-winger and as an advocate of just-deserts sentencing and zero-tolerance policing. Perhaps it would have been different if ASC members had been more aware of his contributions to developmental and prevention research.

In contrast to his brilliance in public speaking, Jim Wilson was very quiet, modest, and unassuming in his personal interactions. He was an inspiring man with fierce intellectual honesty who made great contributions to knowledge, and I will remember him with great affection.
THE ASC EMAIL MENTORING PROGRAM

The ASC email mentoring program is free to all ASC students, offering a range of mentoring services. The site lists about 100 ASC members (university faculty, researchers, and administrators) who have volunteered to serve as mentors to our students. These mentors represent ASC experts in the US and internationally, from a variety of demographic features (age, race, and gender). We have a search feature that allows ASC students to search the site for mentors by specialization. So, type the word theory (for instance) in the search bar and, voila, up pops all the mentors who do theory. Also, the site is more accessible than ever as well as being password protected.

Please utilize the web site at http://ascmentor.anomie.com (or access it via the ASC main page).

Current Mentors

If you have changed your affiliations, email addresses, or areas of specialization, please let me know and I’ll make the updates. Also, if you want off the list, tell me and I’ll remove you.

Call for New Mentors

If you’re an ASC non-student member and you’d like to sign up for the ASC email mentoring program as a mentor, please email me the following information (below). The program has been a very rewarding experience for those of us serving as mentors and we always welcome new people. We seek not only university faculty but also those working in research institutes (private or public), practitioners, and administrators in any field related to the discipline of Criminology. Students need mentors from a variety of specializations as well as various ages, races, and genders. Interested? Email me your:

Name
Affiliation
Email address
Areas of specialization (e.g., women and crime, technology, community corrections, etc.)
Month and year of birth (optional)
Gender
Race/ethnicity

Students

The program is available and free to all ASC student members. We encourage you to make use of our top-notch national and international experts. The ASC developed the mentoring program in 1994, with the purpose being to link ASC students with experts in the field of Criminology outside their own universities. Students may ask mentors about career choices, research and theoretical issues, personal-professional concerns (such as what it’s like to be a minority Criminologist in a variety of work settings).

The ASC Email Mentor of the Year Award

Students, please nominate the mentor who has been most helpful to you via the ASC email mentoring program. I will forward your recommendation to the ASC Board. The award is then delivered at the ASC annual meetings, along with a very impressive plaque. Please make your nominations to me by September 1 of every year.

Let me know if you have any questions or suggestions for improvement.
Students and Mentors are encouraged to contact me at:

Bonnie Berry, PhD
Director
Social Problems Research Group
Mentor_inbound@socialproblems.org
RECYCLING AND REUSING AT ASC

By Chris Eskridge, Executive Director

There has been some interest expressed of late with respect to “recycling and reusing” at ASC. We thought we might take up a few lines in this month’s issue and update the membership as to what we do now, and what we are planning on doing in the future.

We have been recycling/reusing meeting bags and badges for many years. At the end of the meetings, some attendees turn in their unwanted badges and bags. We ship those back to Columbus and use them again. We are going to be more forward leaning as to the latter from now on, and will have a large recycling box placed near the registration area where meeting participants may return not just unwanted bags and badges, but also unwanted program books, and meeting papers/flyers for reuse and recycling.

One particular area of concern has always been the disposal of our unused/unwanted program books and various papers/flyers at the end of the meetings. We have worked for years with hotels to dispose of our unwanted program books and printed materials via their recycling program, and will continue to do so. Some hotels do not have a recycling program, and it is cost prohibitive for us to bring in an outside recycling company. We will continue to work with hotels in this vein, and will use whatever pressure we can on those who do not recycle, and urge them to do so.

The topic of unused/unwanted program books warrants some additional thought and discussion. We have posted the preliminary program on-line for years. There are some who download the preliminary program in advance and use that at the meetings. Some folks do not take a printed program book when they register. We have thought about this further, and we are now going to post not only the preliminary program (which usually goes up in July), but also the final program on-line. We will post the final program on-line sometime in October in pdf format. This will allow meeting participants to download the program onto their laptops, ipods, smart phones, etc., well in advance of the meetings, and/or print any part of it. Those who do this will perhaps opt out of taking a printed meeting program when they register. We will track this, and in time we fully expect to print fewer meeting programs, which obviously saves ASC money and results in fewer trees being destroyed.

We also look for other ways to be environmentally and socially responsible in this arena. All ASC meeting flyers and handouts are printed double-sided, but we have no control over what outside advertisers give us. When possible, we donate left over food from the meeting receptions to homeless shelters. State and city laws at times prohibit us from doing this. In that event, we ask that the hotel give the unused food to hotel employees, which is what we did last year. While we obviously try to estimate membership figures as precisely as possible to minimize our printing and shipping costs, we do have a few print overruns of Criminology and CPP. We regularly recycle those, generally through Ohio State’s recycling program.

We appreciate any other ideas that you might have as to how we might be more responsible citizens in this regard. We will be holding a session at the upcoming meetings in Chicago that will look at recycling. ASC members Meredith Worthen (mgfworthen@ou.edu) and Jessica Hodge (hodgejp@umkc.edu) will head up that session, and they have also started a discussion group to explore this matter further. Feel free to contact them of course, and/or contact Chris Eskridge (ceskridge@unl.edu), or the Columbus office (asc@asc41.com). Thanks for your efforts in recycling and reusing!
The best list resides with Valassis. Our All Inclusive Database provides superior coverage allowing you to survey every possible household in every neighborhood that you are targeting. It’s the most comprehensive list available anywhere.

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THE ASC AND ACJS SHOULD MERGE

By Todd R. Clear

For the good of academic criminology and criminal justice, the American Society of Criminology and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences should merge.

At first reading, this must seem like a radical proposal. But it is not. Historically, the academic and scholarly interests served by these two organizations were pursued under a single organizational banner, before the ACJS split off from the ASC in 1963. The reasons for the split no longer apply. The disciplinary advantages of retaining the two organizations separately are far outweighed by the advantages to be gained in a single, larger organization. What academic criminal justice and criminology must accomplish in the face of coming challenges to the field will be far easier with a single, unified and larger constituency. Craig Hemmens, president of ACJS, recently proposed this idea in an essay to that membership; I write in support of merger to the ASC membership.

On a personal note, I have served as president of both organizations, and have at least 20 years’ combined membership on their boards. There are distinctions between the two groups, but these are vastly outnumbered by their similarities. To explain why we need to re-merge them—and to confront some of the more troubling difficulties we will face in doing so—I will be frank in some of my remarks. Since I have very good friends as active leaders in both organizations, I hope I will be forgiven for my frankness. And I hope this essay will be accepted in the spirit intended—to advance the good of the field.

Advantages of merger

The most obvious advantage of merger would be size. According to my recent count of the membership lists on the two websites, the organizations each have about 5,600 unique members between them. This combined membership would significantly grow our size and make us more comparable to specialty scholarly associations as well as other sub-disciplines.

1. Institutional advantages. When it comes to having impact on the academic and policy arenas, size matters. It is factually true that far too many criminal justice programs on college campuses around the country serve as cash cows for traditional disciplinary programs that do not pay their own way in student enrollments. Criminology programs within disciplinary departments often suffer the same kind of devaluation. A larger academic society will give us a larger footprint in the academic playspace, leading us down a road that provides institutional legitimacy to the value of the topics we study and the standing of the venues in which our work appears. Too many college administrators define criminal justice as a fad and criminology merely as a disciplinary sub-area. This misperception continues in the face of hard facts showing the field’s vitality, high inter-disciplinary standing and mainstream academic participation. With numerous separate schools, over a hundred PhDs annually, and large enrollments scattered across many campuses, we deserve better recognition than we get. Organizational fragmentation has made it easier for the people who run our institutions to ignore us.

Size will also help us in our most pressing national agenda items. We already participate as members of COSSA (The Council of Social Science Associations) but our membership there is dwarfed by disciplines like political science and economics, who tend to redirect the conversation in ways that do not always reflect our most important priorities. Our ability to comment meaningfully on research funding infrastructure for crime and justice would be greatly enhanced by joint membership.

A combined membership will strengthen our claim that criminology/criminal justice deserves to be treated seriously as a field of study by the National Research Council of the Academy of Sciences, in its influential evaluations of academic programs. We will be seen as a core academic program, not unlike public administration or social work, rather than an unclassified add-on. We will also gain a sense of permanent presence in the academic sphere.

Finally, size will give us flexibility. The organizations’ leadership is often hard-pressed to meet external requests for partnerships and joint activity. A larger pool would increase our ability to share objectives and actions with related groups on the practitioner side, such as the Justice Research and Statistics Association as well as the academic side, such as the American Statistical Association.

In short, greater size will make us count more in the institutional sense. The greater diversity of membership will make us stronger. We owe the next generation of crime and justice scholars—the students we are training—the opportunity to enter the profession with the kind of academic infrastructure that matches their aspirations to be a mainstream part of the academic world they have joined.

(Continued on page 23)
2. Practical advantages. For members, there would be important practical advantages. Merger would mean that for one dues payment, members would get four journals and a newsletter. They would no longer have to spread their travel funds across two national meetings. And the organization could afford to grow its staff in ways that would support stronger services to members and a more effective voice in the public arena.

A careful, unified fiscal plan would have to be worked out, but the cost of a single large organization is not twice that of small organizations. There would be only one central staff, not two; one national office, not two (and ACJS owns it office near the nation’s capital and pays no rent), one annual off-site board meeting, not two. The journals make money. The annual meetings make money, and would, if larger, make proportionately more money as the costs for one larger meeting would be much less than the costs for two meetings. Without doubt, the total cost of one larger organization would be a fraction of the cost of the two smaller, separate organizations, and the benefits would be more than double.

Impediments

Important impediments to merger immediately come to mind. Each is a problem, but none is insoluble.

1. Annual meetings. The two organizations have contracted for annual meetings decades out, and these contracts would have to be honored. This is actually a good thing, since it means that once the decision to merge has been made, there will be plenty of time to plan the gradual merger and finish all the legal work that would be needed. Indeed, with travel funds scarce (and getting scarcer) most people would benefit from having to budget only a single annual meeting into their year. A larger meeting would enable us to negotiate more generous contracts. It would probably mean a regular rotation of locations whose capacity can handle our size. How does it sound to rotate among Washington, DC; Chicago; San Francisco; and Atlanta every four years? (These are all locations that get heavy turnouts because they are quite popular destinations.)

Large academic associations are strengthened by the contribution of active regional associations: sociology, economics, and political science all have strong regional bodies, for example. ACJS is affiliated with regional groups, and this would provide the groundwork for a ready-made regional structure. Most of these regional associations already have journals. In other words, after merger (done with consideration for the regional concept) we could come out looking like disciplinary academic groups many decades our senior.

2. Leadership. Having been around both organizations leadership boards for a while, I can say (sadly) that some members of each group see most members of the other group as insular and “good ol’ boy.” They irony is that both groups have a point; while democratic elections determine the boards’ memberships, nobody gets nominated or elected in either group without the support of an informal network. If we were to expand the size of the organization, we would have to find ways of expanding the number of leadership roles available for members. This would not be hard. An active regional structure provides leadership roles, and some organizations have executive boards selected from among delegate groups that have distinct organizational roles. My point is not to craft a solution here, but just to say that one might easily see how a solution could be crafted so that every member who wants to have some leadership role in the new organization would be able to pursue it. There could be more, not fewer, opportunities for people to get involved in the single, larger organization and the reinvigorated regional organizations.

3. Sections and Divisions. Both organizations have quite active sub-groups. Merging them would be conceptually not so hard, since there is already cross-pollination going on, from shared journals to shared memberships. Indeed, the fate of the divisions and sections might be improved as part of a larger organization, since the solution to the leadership problem (above) might involve formalizing the division participation in governance.

4. Quality. One of the concerns often raised in comparing the two organizations has to do with quality. Let me not mince words. There is a stereotype that ACJS is of lower academic quality than ASC. (This is ironic to me, given that it is the ACJS that has promulgated academic standards for higher education, and not ASC…but that discussion is for another day.) But the good sessions in each meeting are not different in quality. And—at the risk of being indecent—not meeting is of such vast quality that it cannot stand improvement. That would be one of the points of merger: a single, improved, annual meeting. There would be room for peer-reviewed sessions with previously prepared papers, as well as non-peer-reviewed submissions, poster sessions, and discussion groups. People who want to participate in the meeting in different ways would be able to do so, but a collection of “proceedings” would be possible as well. In other words, the overall quality of the annual event could grow.

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5. **Awards.** Let me just say that there has been grumbling on both boards that there are too many awards, and this would be an opportunity to pare them down. That said, every award could live on after merger, if the new organization so wishes.

### The key issue

Why propose this now? Isn’t it the case that both organizations are doing fine, and we should leave well enough alone? Won’t it be hard so hard to do this that it is not worth the effort?

These are challenging questions. The answer to them depends mostly upon how we see the role of our scholarly association. If what we are looking for is not more than a place to present our research, get up-to-date on new ideas, and produce a solid body of scholarship for each other, then perhaps what we have now serves us well enough. These are, of course, good aims for a scholarly association. Essentially, then, if the purpose of our association is to look inward, then I believe we are sufficiently organized to do that.

But if we are looking for a scholarly association that looks outward, that represents what we do to others and affects the way the academy views us, then having two national associations dilutes our impact. In other words, we would change our field’s organization foundation so profoundly, because we want equally profound change in what the organizations provide for the field. We would re-unify the field, because a unified field is a superior characterization of what we are, not just to ourselves, but to the academic world within which we work. I believe the case for such change is compelling.

### Getting there from here

Some fifty-odd years ago, ACJS founding presidents Donald F. McCall and Felix M. Fabian, created a new organization that split from the ASC. Their main complaint was that the ASC was only concerned with “criminology” and had no interest in the new area of study that would later come to be defined as criminal justice. They were looking to form an organization that would enable their work—law enforcement, justice, and corrections—to have a seat at the scholarly table. That complaint no longer applies. Any outsider who would look at the annual meeting programs for the last few years for the two organizations would find them hard to distinguish by the content of their sessions. Maybe the social events are different; maybe the profiles of those in attendance have differences. But the content is much the same. The reasons that underlay the formal case for having two organizations have been eliminated by time. After we have been a single organization for even a short while, the informal reasons will be equally in the past.

There would be a four-step process for merging.

**Step 1. Discussion and referenda.** Each of the organizations would have a series of discussions at its annual meetings of the desire for merger. Indigenous spokespersons would preside over the discussions. There would then be a referendum requiring majority vote. If both votes support merger, then the next steps would occur.

**Step 2. Ad-hoc committee and strategic merger overview.** The two organizations would nominate members of an ad-hoc committee to propose the conditions of and steps for a merger. This committee would begin with a resolution for an overriding philosophy of merger planning (that is, how to deal with conflicts in by-laws, etc).

**Step 3. Merger plan.** Once both boards approve the merger philosophy, the ad-hoc committee would consult with various constituencies in the two organizations in order to prepare a formal plan, including constitutional language, by-laws, national and regional structure, annual meeting strategy, annual budget and dues guidelines, and so forth, as directed by the statement of philosophy. The plan would also have a timetable. It would have to be approved by majority vote of both boards.

**Step 4. Up or down vote.** The two organizations’ memberships would then vote the plan up or down (people who are members of both organizations would have a vote in each).

Now is the time to act. The two organizations have grown in size and strength in recent years, and regional associations have also begun to thrive. There have been several successful collaboration across the organizations’ borders, including the national work of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Policy Coalition and the various cooperative intersections of ASC and ACJS divisions and sections. There is no longer an argument between criminology and criminal justice; they have melded into comparable orientations on the same issues. Continuing the division forces upon our work an unnecessary dissection of the field. It should end now. We should merge.

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POLICY CORNER

THE BUDGET NEWS

By Todd R. Clear

The Washington, DC, budget politics have already begun. As you know from my previous column, a coalition of the ASC and ACJS has been working to strengthen support for federally funded research on matters of crime and justice. In particular, we have been working to inform Congress of the importance of federally funded research in the areas of crime and justice, and to underscore the value of healthy funding for the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

A few weeks ago, President Obama made public his budget request for FY 2013. The request for NIJ is $48M and BJS, $60M, which is an increase in funding for both groups: $8 million for NIJ and $15 million for BJS. The budget also retains the 2% set-aside from OJP programs to fund research, money that would also go to NIJ and BJS. Taken as a whole, the President’s budget proposes a significant increase in resources for federally funded research on crime and justice.

The president’s proposals for the Office of Justice Programs can be found at: http://www.justice.gov/jmd/2013summary/pdf/fy13-ojp-bud-summary.pdf

This will surely be hotly contested money, because the politics of the federal budget are—as we all know—intense in this election year. We do not yet know what the Republican budget will recommend for NIJ and BJS. The only point of comparison we have is the Ryan budget, which was adopted by Congress on a party-line vote. This budget statement uses broad categories instead of line items, in proposing to cut the federal budget overall and the budget of the Department of Justice, in particular. To accomplish this will without question require cuts in the funding of BJS and NIJ.

Here is the Ryan budget: http://www.roadmap.republicans.budget.house.gov/

We have met with people involved in the appropriations process from both sides of the aisle. The story we get from Democrats is pretty consistent:

“We support these two agencies and the President’s proposal. But this is a very rough budget climate, and lots of good ideas and worthy programs will not get money or be cut substantially.”

What we hear from Republicans is very similar, but with a twist:

“We support these two agencies and their work. We have always been a bit concerned about inefficiencies in the way federal research is carried out, but we know that public safety is a high priority for our constituents. In this budget climate, everyone will have to give up some of their priorities.”

You can read these as saying the same thing. Or you can read the differences as being pretty important. The closer we get to the November election, the more heated this will become.
EARLY SCHOLARS’ KEYS TO SUCCESS

MEET THE MEMBERS OF YOUR SEARCH COMMITTEE (PART I)

Stephen K. Rice, Seattle University
Kevin M. Beaver, Florida State University
John R. Hipp, University of California - Irvine
Charis E. Kubrin, University of California – Irvine
Alex R. Piquero, University of Texas – Dallas
Travis C. Pratt, Arizona State University

While profession-centered articles in criminology and criminal justice (CCJ) have done a thorough job assessing research productivity, collaboration patterns amongst faculty, journal impact factors, and research topic trends and specializations, surprisingly little attention has been paid to a topic of supreme concern to the ABD: how to land a cherished faculty position.

While this topic no doubt warrants article-length discussion (e.g., MacKenzie and Piquero, 1999), The Criminologist provides a useful outlet for what we perceive to be best practices in successful position hunting. Namely, begin your “search” years before the Ph.D. defense, pay attention to detail, use the web for institutional intelligence, and aim to establish yourself as a future departmental citizen.

Begin your “search” years before the Ph.D. defense. Given demanding course loads, TA / RA responsibilities, and perhaps off-campus professional and/or family obligations, the CCJ doctoral student forgets sometimes that the clock is running – that he or she will soon be entering a worldwide market of ABDs from CCJ, sociology, psychology and related fields aiming for attractive assistant professor positions at wonderful universities with engaging colleagues. As such, it’s wise for students to consider any and all term papers as potential peer reviewed publications or early explications of dissertation research questions, hallway conversations with faculty as segues to dissertation committee mentorship, and ASC or ACJS meetings as means toward building a professional network.

As of its 2011 Survey Report, the Association of Doctoral Programs in Criminology & Criminal Justice (ADPCCJ) reported only forty-one active programs (Decker, Huebner, Roberts and Simpson, 2011, p. 1). Although this number does not include terminal Master’s or Bachelor’s degree programs, it does reflect that despite its notable undergraduate and graduate enrollments, CCJ is still a small enterprise compared to its older sister disciplines. Connections matter, connections form early, and CCJ scholarship networks are quite robust (Rice, Hickman and Reynolds, 2011).

In our view, most successful (i.e., hired) CCJ ABDs are purposeful from early points in their graduate careers, understanding that competitive applications are built not only from hard work and intelligence, but also attention to collegial relationships and coherent research, teaching and service agendas.

To this point, attention should also be drawn to a key subtext: student agency. To channel The Black Eyed Peas, while most CCJ faculty wish nothing but success for their students, vigorous and optimally successful mentor / protégé relationships require that students meet faculty half way. That is, take responsibility for uncovering areas of common interest, proactively explore collaborations on the article, conference presentation, or grant circuits, and simply be fully “present” in the graduate education experience.

Pay attention to detail. Search committees may review one hundred or more applications for a single assistant professor position. Add to this that some institutions have more than one position open at a time, and the workload placed on any one committee can be sizable. As such, search committee members appreciate predictability and quality of presentation. They do not want to have to search for publication, presentation, or teaching information on a CV, they do not respond well to vagaries in ABDs dissertation defense dates, and they do not do typos.

Nearly all search committees experience cases where an otherwise competitive application is derailed because of a lack of attention to detail. Did the call for applications request three letters of recommendation, a reflection on institutional mission, no more than three writing samples, and demonstration of teaching competence? If so, do no less (or more, in the case of writing samples). Put simply, meet each of your candidate institutions’ application requirements; by not doing so, you will appear to be disinterested and merely going through the motions.

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Use the web for institutional intelligence. Despite their somewhat limited mediums, cover letters and phone interviews can be enhanced greatly through one simple tool: your candidate institutions’ websites. For example, through a few simple clicks, one of this article’s contributors was able to ascertain where a prominent department of criminology “fits” within its provost’s strategic plan: how and which university planning and steering committees attend to the department’s charge, how well the department appears to be meeting the provost’s graduate education initiatives, and how the department characterized itself in a recent self study.

A Google advanced search for “criminology” or “criminal justice” within a university’s domain name tends to provide a great deal of information on a department’s successes and challenges – information which can be utilized during the application and interview process. “Customized” cover letters and phone interviews can be key differentiators.

Online resources are also invaluable in helping a candidate frame his or her potential contributions to departmental scholarship and teaching. Most faculty in most departments make their CVs available for public view. As preparation for an interview question such as “It’s important for new faculty to not only complement, but also supplement, the research and teaching agendas of our incumbent faculty. How well do you think your hiring would achieve this goal?”, successful candidates make themselves intimately familiar with core faculties’ records to more easily situate their own accomplishments within them. Beginning an interview in a faculty member’s office with “Now are you the corrections or crim theory person?” is not a good idea.

Aim to establish yourself as a future departmental citizen. In The Survival of a Mathematician: From Tenure-Track to Emeritus, Steven Krantz (2009) reminds readers that unless they are endowed Chairs, faculty life in the Academy will include service – and oftentimes lots of it. You will be expected to serve on a multitude of committees (including search!), you may find yourself revising your department’s curriculum, and you may serve on task forces developing relationships with local CJ agencies or other university departments.

While it is true that many tenure-stream faculty do not go out of their way to assume administrative duties, a phone or face-to-face interview is no time for the junior faculty candidate to indicate an unwillingness to chip in. As Krantz (2009) reminds us, “(Service responsibilities) are part of your job, and you should endeavor to acquit yourself professionally and admirably in their dispatch. If you do so, and it becomes widely known that you are an estimable colleague on committees, one who does his/her homework and contributes constructively, then you will be admired and respected as a departmental citizen” (p. 143).

In sum, to make your candidacy as fruitful as possible, bear in mind these simple but crucial points: be prepared, be purposeful, be present, be informed, and aim to communicate how you can fill departmental needs.

References


“Part II: The Interview” to follow.

This column is based partly on a panel discussion titled “Meet the Members of your Search Committee” at the 2011 ASC Annual Meeting, Washington DC.

Please send all submissions for the “Keys to Success for Early Scholars” to Bonnie Berry, Social Problems Research Group, research@socialproblems.org.
THE EDITOR’S CORNER

ADVICE FOR AUTHORS

By Eric Baumer, Rosemary Gartner and Wayne Osgood
Editors of Criminology

We thought it might be useful to devote this issue’s column to passing along a few tidbits of advice for authors that we have picked up from handling the roughly 400 manuscripts that came our way in our first year and a half on the job. These are simple points that are relatively easy to follow, but experience tells us that they are all too easy to miss.

1. Filling the gap. Not all gaps need to be filled, such as the space between David Letterman’s front teeth or the famous pass in the Cumberland Mountains. Authors often justify the question their papers address by pointing to a gap in the literature, noting how ‘surprising’ it is that no one has filled it. On its own, this is not a sufficiently compelling justification for a study. Some gaps in our knowledge exist because they aren’t interesting enough to fill; think of what we don’t know about the relationship between people’s font preferences and their likelihood of tax evasion or about sex differences in juvenile offenders’ understandings of particle physics. Authors need to persuade readers of the theoretical, methodological, and/or empirical importance of filling the gap their study addresses; they shouldn’t rely solely on the fact that there is a gap.

2. Standing on the shoulders of others. If you have an idea that moves the field ahead, good for you! Don’t inadvertently play down that accomplishment by implying that others were pretty dim not to have beat you to it. As you argue for the importance of your work, be kind to those whose work you draw on to justify or frame your own. Criticizing others who came before you for not filling that gap or previously implementing your new approach is likely to be misguided and counter-productive. The advances we propose are made possible by the work that came before ours. Keep in mind that all research – including the most widely respected as well as your own – is flawed; that’s the nature of the business. If there were no gaps to be filled or weaknesses to correct, we’d all be out of jobs. Being unnecessarily critical of others’ work is also not very strategic. Quite likely some of those whose work you criticize will be reviewers of your paper. After all, their work is especially relevant to yours. And you can’t expect people to be kind to your work if you are inappropriately harsh about theirs.

3. What’s the question? Some authors, who appear to be great storytellers, occasionally build the suspense in the early pages and leave the punch line of the paper’s focal point for later. This strategy can backfire, given the space constraints of journal articles and the difficulty of covering material in sufficient depth. Many different styles can be effective for developing a strong paper, and we sincerely appreciate diverse approaches, which keep things more interesting for all of us. Yet a general issue that seems constant across styles is that failing to identify the guiding research question(s) or objective(s) of the research efficiently and clearly creates problems. Delay tends to bother readers, who may feel at sea or give up on a paper if they aren’t sure where it’s going. We suggest that you make clear the point of your paper as soon as possible, and definitely within the first two pages.

4. With a little help from our friends. We have to reject far too many papers that appear to have been submitted before they were ready. Let your friends help keep this from happening to you (and do the same for them). Writing is a solitary task, and preparing a paper to submit for publication means many long hours at the keyboard. Despite the great relief of finishing that final paragraph, we discourage you from immediately heading to the Criminology web site and pressing the submit button. Instead, make publication a team sport by seeking feedback from friends and colleagues. Perhaps you are too shy to show your paper to anyone other than anonymous reviewers, or maybe you think such brilliant work needs to be shared with the world immediately. The smartest thing you can do at this point, however, is give it to people you trust for honest and well-informed comments. We all need others to point out where we were less clear and convincing than we thought, what potential weaknesses we haven’t yet countered, and which strengths need more emphasis. Your work will be stronger and your success rate will be higher if you put your paper through a round or two of this informal revise and resubmit before you send that paper to your favorite journal. And if your paper has multiple coauthors, beware the temptation of diffused responsibility, in which everyone limits attention to their own sections. The paper will be far stronger if all serve as mutual critics, working to insure the quality of the whole paper.

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5. **There’s oh so much to say.** Authors sometimes ask how long their papers can be. We have no hard and fast limit at *Criminology*, and length should be contingent on the nature of the research. That said, the typical manuscript we publish has about 25 pages of text; we often ask authors to trim especially long papers to no more than 40 pages before review, unless we see a clear need for extra space. We know that some authors are very attentive to detail, which can yield dense papers that extend well beyond 40 pages. Details are indeed important, but longer papers do not appear more successful in the review process. Instead, our experiences as reviewers and editors show that excessively lengthy papers often elicit negative reactions. Instead, reviewers (and editors!) most appreciate papers that are kept briefer by maintaining a clear focus and avoiding tangents, while still providing the most relevant details. Thus, an additional benefit of overcoming one's shyness and asking colleagues for pre-review feedback is getting advice about where it is safe to cut your paper in order to carve out the most effective submission.

6. **Credit where credit is due.** After devoting years of study to your topic, it may be tempting to show how much you know by citing all of the 23 studies that support the claim you make in sentence three of paragraph four. Yes, acknowledging previous work relevant to the topic your paper addresses and to specific claims you make throughout it is important for a number of reasons. Further, often reviewers will take you to task for not citing certain work, and so, when revising papers, you frequently will need to include additional citations. However, authors can go overboard on citations (and reviewers on their requests for them). Articles are not comprehensive exams or dissertations, and strings of six to twelve citations at a time can make it hard for readers to find the actual text of a paragraph and to follow what you are trying to say. Typically, citing one or two key works on a topic or claim will be sufficient, and knowing the key pieces to cite shows good judgment and a strong grasp of the field. It’s understandable to be more rather than less thorough in citations in an initial submission; but don’t be frustrated if an editor asks you to cut back on these in later versions.

7. **Mind the details.** We promise that we won’t reject your paper because you left an item out of your reference list or didn’t format your subheadings according to *Criminology*’s official style. We can deal with these things later, once we see there is a good chance we’ll publish your paper. Even so, more polished papers that attend to the details tend to be more effective. Citing sources not listed in the references, or referencing material not cited can give rise to a perception of sloppiness. Perhaps more important, not providing complete references can be distracting and upsetting to reviewers who want to locate a cited paper for further reading to help them make the best possible recommendation. Along the same lines, details such as citation and reference styles are post-acceptance considerations. It would be smart, however, to show that you know the journal and its audience by using a style that is not too far afield from ours, rather than, say, the very different citation formats of journals in the humanities or medicine. If you want to be bold and submit papers that have the full appearance of being designed for *Criminology*, you can find our style guidelines at: [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/%28ISSN%291745-9125/homepage/ForAuthors.html](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/%28ISSN%291745-9125/homepage/ForAuthors.html). We won’t think that’s being presumptuous about the prospects of acceptance.

8. **Trust your word processor?** Though the three of us remember well the days when a dictionary and thesaurus were musts for our writing desks, we also recognize that the world has changed. Computer programs generally do a great job of spell checking, and they can help us all become better wordsmiths. Heck, they even do reasonably well providing basic grammatical advice. Just remember that it can be a mistake to leave all of this to the computer. A computer might not recognize that an empirical test of "stain theory" is fundamentally different from a test of strain theory, or that associating with deviant peers is distinct from associating with deviant pears, and in some cases a computer might think that all instances of strain should be stain or all peers should be pears. Integrating some old-fashioned proofreading with the current technological wonders would likely yield a "cleaner" and less "fruity" paper.
TEACHING TIP: BRINGING VOIR DIRE TO LIFE

By Deborah A. Eckberg, Ph.D.
Metropolitan State University

Each spring, I take my Criminal Court System class on a field trip to the largest judicial district in our state to watch court in action. Because I plan the trip months in advance, it is difficult to predict what the students will be able to witness during that morning in April when we attend. One consistent theme, however, is jury selection. In the five years that I have been taking students to court, my class has seen at least one jury selection each time we visit. While many might argue that this is one of the least stimulating experiences my students could experience during the courthouse trip, or, I believe there is pedagogical value in watching the dynamics of the courtroom players during voir dire.

It stands to reason, however, that the more the students know about voir dire before watching it, the more they are likely to get out of it, and as with many learning opportunities, reading the textbook pales by comparison to engaging in the activity itself. For these reasons, I have begun conducting mock jury selections in the classroom. Many have discussed the value of mock trials for students, and I agree that trials are an extremely valuable teaching tool for criminal justice faculty, especially with regard to learning how the courtroom functions. However, while mock jury selection class activities are somewhat less common than mock trials, I would argue that what is learned from engaging in voir dire is less about logistical process and more about social psychological dynamics.

During the class unit on juries, my students and I discuss jury selection and typical voir dire questions. I explain the difference between challenges for cause and peremptory challenges, how many challenges prosecution and defense are allowed, and examples of valid reasons for both types of challenges. We debate about some of the implications of race and gender diversity on the jury, but mostly we consider how the attitudes, beliefs, and experiences of jurors might color their decision making ability when called to determine the fate of a particular defendant.

I then have the class count off in 3’s, naming “1’s” the jury pool, “2’s” the prosecution, and “3’s” the defense. I present the case to them, trying to incorporate some characteristics they might not expect. For example, I have presented a hypothetical domestic assault case, but instead of the typical domestic assault offender and victim, I tell the class that the defendant was a white female police officer and the victim her African-American husband. This raises some more unusual issues for students to consider, such as female on male violence and an atypical racial composition of offender and victim, while still addressing the power differential inherent between spouses when one is an officer of the law.
I then take the “jury pool” out in the hallway and tell them to improvise when they are questioned; in other words, I allow them to become whatever persona they would like to be and answer the voir dire questions however they would like. This is not to encourage juror dishonesty, which we will have already discussed at this point, but rather to protect students who may not be comfortable sharing personal details of their lives. I then bring the jury pool back in and have them sit in front of the class and face the “prosecution” and “defense” teams.

While I am out in the hallway with the potential jurors, the prosecution and defense teams are discussing the case amongst themselves and formulating questions. I may have as many as ten prosecutors and ten defense attorneys, and while these are larger groups than I would normally have during a class activity, I prefer this to choosing only two “attorneys” and relegating the rest of the class to spectator status.

In order to keep things moving and interesting for all, I deviate slightly from how the voir dire process would operate in reality. I begin with the defense attorney group, and allow them to pick one juror and ask him/her up to 5 questions. At the end of their questioning, they can elect to keep the juror or use one of their challenges for cause or peremptory challenges. If they elect to keep the juror, the defense is then asked to question the same juror, again using up to 5 questions, and deciding at the end of questioning whether to keep or challenge that juror’s involvement. When moving onto the next potential juror, I allow the prosecution to take a turn picking the person and being the first to question, and we continue alternating turns until all potential jurors have been questioned.

I have enjoyed the creativity in questioning I have heard from some of my students. In the case above regarding the female law enforcement officer accused of domestic abuse, certain questions were to be expected, such as:

- “Have you had any positive or negative experiences with police officers?”
- “What is your marital status?”
- “Do you believe a man can be victimized by a woman?”
- “Has anyone in your personal life been a victim of domestic abuse?”

However, some more interesting and unexpected questions have arisen as well. For example:

- “What are your views on interracial marriage?”
- “Do you think police officers take liberty with the law?”
- “Do you think police officers are more violent than people in other professions?”
- “What is your perspective on racial bias in the criminal justice system?”

Eavesdropping on the conversations among the attorney teams, I have heard discussions of not only jurors’ answers to questions, but evaluations of body language and facial expressions. Without telling them to do so, my students quickly recognize the nuances of the voir dire process, and get a taste of the challenges real attorneys face as they attempt to determine the perspectives of individuals they have only had exposure to for a few moments, an assessment that could significantly impact the lives of any given defendant or victim. Whatever learning stems from this classroom activity is hopefully reinforced when the students watch actual prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges select or reject potential jurors in the courtroom later in the semester. Witnessing the process on a trail they have walked themselves serves to more deeply immerse the students in the learning experience, substantially increasing the educational significance of at least one aspect of the court field trip.
DOCTORAL STUDENT FORUM

THE INVALUABLE EXPERIENCE OF ATTENDING PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES AS A GRADUATE STUDENT

Kirsten Hutzell, Doctoral Student
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For the past few years, we have had the opportunity to attend a number of professional conferences and events, such as the American Society of Criminology (ASC), the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), and the Law and Society Association (LSA). Our experiences of attending these events have proven to be invaluable in developing a greater knowledge base about the criminology discipline and have helped to provide us with a foundation to launch our careers as academics. We write this column hoping to share some of our experiences with you, highlighting, what we find to be, the most beneficial aspects of attending professional conferences and events.

Presenting research

As young scholars, professional conferences and events provide an opportunity to present your research to other students and scholars in the field. While this may sound intimidating for many people, it can be a very constructive and motivational experience. Comments and suggestions from the audience will likely improve your research and/or introduce ideas for future projects. Attending presentations can be equally inspirational, as this type of forum allows you to explore your area(s) of interest as well as develop a better understanding of topics that you may be unfamiliar with and wish to know more about.

We recommend presenting your research as often as possible and attending as many presentations as you can. At the ASC meeting, for example, you can choose from several presentation formats, such as thematic panels and roundtable sessions. Some of these formats are intended to be more formal, while others facilitate discussions between the presenters and audience members.

Networking

Professional conferences and events also provide opportunities to meet and network with other students and scholars. The contacts and personal connections you develop and maintain with these individuals can last a lifetime and are an important resource you can draw on throughout your academic career. These associations can foster intellectual growth and professional development whether you are beginning to explore your interests or are at the point of seeking employment and research opportunities. As a side note, we must admit that it is a completely awesome experience to put a face with (and possibly meet) scholars whose work you have read and who have been monumentally influential in the field of criminology.

We recommend taking advantage of the many different opportunities available at each conference to speak with other students and scholars. For instance, the ASC meeting hosts an ice cream social, a presidential reception, and evening festivities which allow for informal discussions. We really enjoy attending these events, especially the Division of Experimental Criminology Social and Dance, featuring the Hot Spots.

Although it is very easy to get caught up in the intensity and demands of a doctoral program, we encourage students to attend professional conferences and events as often as possible. It is a rewarding experience that has continued to benefit us personally and professionally long after the event has ended. We return feeling inspired from days of intellectual debate and exchange and with a greater appreciation of the field. This undoubtedly enriches our personal research and provides us with a wealth of information to share with our peers.

We invite you to continue this discussion and share your thoughts about the benefits of attending conferences on the ASC-Student Affairs Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/pages/American-Society-of-Criminology-Student-Affairs/321855684515486).

Submissions of future “Doctoral Student Forum” columns are encouraged.
Please contact Bianca Bersani: bianca.bersani@umb.edu (Chair of the Student Affairs Committee).
POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CRIMINOLOGIST will regularly feature in these columns position vacancies available in organizations and universities, as well as positions sought by members of the Society. A charge of $175.00 with the absolute maximum of 250 words allowed will be made. Half pages and full pages may also be purchased for $225 and $300 respectively. It is the policy of the ASC to publish position vacancies announcements only from those institutions or agencies which subscribe to equal education and employment opportunities and those which encourage women and minorities to apply. Institutions should indicate the deadline for the submission of application materials. To place announcements in THE CRIMINOLOGIST, send all material to: aarendt@asc41.com. When sending announcements, please include a phone number, fax number and contact person in the event we have questions about an ad. The Professional Employment Exchange will be a regular feature at each Annual Meeting. Prospective employers and employees should register with the Society no later than three weeks prior to the Annual Meeting of the Society. The cost of placing ads on our online Employment Exchange is $200 for the first month, $150 for the second month, and $100 for each month thereafter. To post online, please go to www.asc41.com and click on Employment.

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA The College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Alabama invites applications for a full-time, non-tenure track instructor position to teach statistics from a social science perspective for several social science departments. The teaching load is four classes per semester for fall and spring. The position will be housed in the Department of Criminal Justice and at least two of the courses offered each semester will have a Criminal Justice focus. The remaining courses might be interdisciplinary serving students from a variety of departments and colleges. Position begins August 16, 2012 and is a three-year renewable contract position based on availability, funding, and departmental performance. A Master’s degree in a social science, statistics, or related field and demonstrated experience teaching statistics at the undergraduate level are required. Preference will be given to applicants with a PhD in criminal justice, sociology, or another social science. Submit resume, cover letter, and evidence of teaching effectiveness at https://facultyjobs.ua.edu to apply. Have three letters of recommendation mailed to Statistics Search Committee, Attn: Dr. Debra McCallum, University of Alabama, Box 870216, Tuscaloosa, AL, 35487-0216. Review process will begin March 19. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The University of Alabama is an Equal Opportunity Action Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE, Patchogue, Long Island, New York. Assistant Professor Position Fall 2012. The Criminal Justice Department at St. Joseph’s College invites applications for a tenure-track position in Criminal Justice to begin Fall 2012. Ph.D. in Criminal Justice or Criminology preferred. ABD considered. JD not applicable. The successful candidate must be a generalist and able to teach Research Methods. Knowledge of Community Corrections and web-based instruction a plus. The preferred candidate will demonstrate excellence in teaching undergraduate criminal justice courses, active research/scholarship, and a commitment to academic and community service. Equal Opportunity Employer. Please send Curriculum Vitae and supporting materials to: Office of the Provost, St. Joseph’s College, 155 West Roe Boulevard, Patchogue, N.Y. 11772. For more information, go to www.sjcn.edu
NOTES REGARDING THE ANNUAL MEETING

68th Annual Meeting
November 14—17, 2012
Chicago, Illinois
Thinking About Context: Challenges for Crime and Justice

- The deadline for submissions has now passed.
- The Call for Papers, link to the submission site, and other Meeting information can be found on the ASC website, www.asc41.com/annualmeeting.htm.
- Please direct all questions regarding the Program to the Program Committee email address, crim-asc2012@uc.edu.
- The phone number for the Program Chairs is: (513) 556-2746
- You may register using the online form on the ASC website. Registration fees are as follows:

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<th>ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1 OR ONSITE</th>
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## Mark Your Calendar

**Future ASC Annual Meeting Dates**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Location, State</th>
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<td>November 20 – 23</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
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<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
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<td>November 17 – 20</td>
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<td>Palmer House Hilton</td>
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## 2012 Annual Meeting

**Make Your Reservations Early for Chicago**

**November 14 - 17, 2012**

*Palmer House Hilton Hotel*

17 East Monroe St.
Chicago, IL 60603
Ph: (312) 726-7500

$215 single/double occupancy

*You MUST mention that you are with the ASC to obtain this rate.*