The Criminologist
The Official Newsletter of the American Society of Criminology

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Editor’s Note: As promised last issue, here Jim Lynch, Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), describes his vision for this federal agency. These BJS activities are critical to many ASC members, so please note Jim’s invitation to engage in this discussion. In parallel with John Laub’s vision of NIJ printed in the previous issue, ASC members have an unprecedented opportunity to support this redirection of effort. I’m sure everyone joins me in wishing them good luck and endurance in the months ahead as they negotiate these exciting initiatives.

Cheryl Maxson, ASC Vice-President

A STRATEGIC VISION FOR THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS

Jim Lynch, Bureau of Justice Statistics

As a principal federal statistical agency, the charge of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) is “to build, maintain, and utilize statistical systems that describe the extent and characteristics of crime in our nation and the status and response of the justice system.” In seeking to fulfill this charge the BJS director must make strategic decisions about how to invest resources which are linked to ongoing collection efforts and specific initiatives for new collections efforts. This brief article outlines the general strategy that underlies my approach to achieving the agency’s mission, current initiatives that flow from this strategic approach, and some important organizational and institutional issues that affect the success of these initiatives. I hope that the ASC membership will support these initiatives and will be partners in seeking the institutional arrangements that will help BJS succeed.

Strategies

The Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) panel that evaluated BJS defined success for the agency as having routinely available statistics describing crime and all major decision points in the criminal justice system, as represented by the “funnel” defined in Al Blumstein’s Justice Simulator Model (JUSSIM) more than 40 years ago (Groves and Cork, 2009). Since its creation BJS has worked to meet this standard but is not yet there. To achieve this goal BJS must continue to emphasize the building and maintenance of statistical infrastructure, that is, basic statistical systems that describe crime and the major decisions in the federal, state, and local justice systems nationwide. In my view this means that the agency should normally spend its resources on these systems rather than on one-time data collections or on statistical systems that do not address major decisions points in the criminal justice system. The decline in the quality of the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) over the last decade provides an important lesson of what occurs when the priority of building and maintaining statistical infrastructure is ignored or cannot be followed because of inadequate funding.

A potential price of emphasizing infrastructure is the loss of relevance. If statistical systems do not adapt to an ever changing world, then policymakers may look elsewhere for evidence to inform policy development and assess their impact. To avoid this loss of relevance, BJS must aggressively seek opportunities to enhance on-going statistical systems as well as supplement them by including topics of current interest. Given the lead time required for supplementation, BJS will need to be in close contact with the field to fully anticipate information needs. At the same time, BJS must identify and adopt dissemination practices that increase awareness of the utility of data from on-going statistical series. Routine reports based upon statistical series capture only a fraction of the information available in a specific series and seldom combine series to leverage this information further. Later in this piece, I will mention some ways that this potential of statistical systems can be tapped to interest new audiences.

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2011 CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS
For a complete listing see www.asc41.com/caw.html


INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION TRAINING 2011, June 13 - July 8, 2011, Ottawa, Canada. For more information, please visit: http://www.ipdet.org/


20th ANNUAL MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL POLICE EXECUTIVE SYMPOSIUM, June 26 - 30, 2011, Buenos Aires, Argentina. For more info, visit: www.IPES.info

THE YORK DEVIANCY CONFERENCE, June 29 - July 1, 2011, University of York, UK. For more information, please visit: http://www.york.ac.uk/depts/soci/newvork/

PRAGUE SUMMER SCHOOLS 2011, July 2-9, 2011, Prague, Czech Republic. Please visit www.praguesummerschools.org for more information.


BRITISH SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY 2011 CONFERENCE, 3-6th July 2011, Web: www.northumbria.ac.uk/bscconference

CRIME & JUSTICE SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE: BROADENING PERSPECTIVES & PARTICIPATION, July 11 - 29, 2011, Ohio State University. Please see our web site to apply (http://cjrc.osu.edu/rcej-n/summerinstitute)

16TH WORLD CRIMINOLOGY CONGRESS, August 5-9, 2011, Kobe, Japan. Website: http://wcon2011.com/

23rd ANNUAL CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN CONFERENCE, August 8 - 11, 2011, Dallas, TX. For more info: www.caconference.org

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HOW TO ACCESS CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY & PUBLIC POLICY ON-LINE

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

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3. Click on Journals under the Browse by Product Type heading.

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Initiatives

Within the boundaries of a strategy that emphasizes building and maintaining infrastructure, BJS has given high priority to specific initiatives. The choice of these initiatives is influenced heavily by the review and recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) (Groves and Cork, 2009) panel report, *Ensuring the Quality, Credibility, and Relevance of U.S. Justice Statistics*, and by challenges and opportunities that have presented themselves since the Panel concluded its work. These initiatives include:

1) restoring and redesigning the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)
2) building the capability to use operational data for statistical purposes
3) improving prosecution and adjudication statistics
4) improving statistics on supervision and the flow of persons between correctional institutions and society.

Redesigning the NCVS

The NAS panel stated that as a result of flat funding over decades the NCVS had cut quality controls and sample to the point where it could no longer serve its principal function of providing annual estimates of the level and change in level of victimization for the nation (Groves and Cork, 2008). Since the NAS report additional funding has been provided for the NCVS. Some of that funding is currently being used to restore the sample size and to reinstate procedures to ensure the quality of the data. This restoration must be done in a manner that does not affect the time series in unknown ways. If this re-instatement cannot be done quickly and in a manner that limits the effect on the on-going time series, BJS will seek an organization other than the Census Bureau to conduct the survey in the future.

The NAS panel also recommended that steps be taken to increase the utility of the NCVS. BJS is working to address this issue by changing the administrative structure of the core survey and by engaging in research and development on ways to expand the usefulness of the survey. We are changing the administrative structure of the survey by increasing the number of analysts producing reports from the survey. In particular, BJS will establish partnerships with universities and research organizations to write BJS reports using the NCVS and in collaboration with BJS staff. In addition, we intend to change the administrative structure to allow BJS to fund supplements to the survey rather than relying exclusively on funding from other agencies. In this way the information content of the survey can keep pace with information demands of the policy making process.

The research and development aspects of the NCVS redesign initiative address three main issues: (1) producing estimates for sub-national areas, including states, counties, and large cities, (2) considering changes in the design to obtain better data on the crimes of rape and sexual assault, and (3) exploring ways to better capture victimization involving juveniles.

With regard to sub-national estimates, we have assessed the ability of the current design to produce annual direct estimates and three-year average estimates for violence and property crime for large cities and states. Additional work on this topic involves three major projects. One project evaluates changes to the sample design that would expand the survey’s ability to provide direct estimates of victimizations for sub-national areas while minimizing the negative impact on national estimates. A second project is developing modeled-based indirect estimates for states, counties and large cities. We intend to vet these alternative approaches to providing sub-national estimates with the statistical community and user groups for technical sufficiency and utility. A third project is developing low cost screening methods to facilitate conducting separate surveys in states and localities to obtain sub-national estimates. Later this spring, we will begin vetting the products of this work with key consumer groups in order to obtain feedback on the usefulness and credibility of these estimates.

We are beginning to explore possible changes in the way we capture rape and sexual assault in self report surveys. Self-report data on rape and sexual assault are essential because these crimes are so poorly reported to the police, yet there is intense disagreement over how these statistics should be collected (Fisher and Cullen, 2000; Rand and Rennison, 2002; Kirkpatrick, et al. 2009). Estimates from the NCVS have been considerably lower than other surveys devoted to measuring rape and sexual assault that use very different samples and procedures (Lynch, 1996). These differences and the ensuing debate have undermined the credibility of self report measures of these crimes. It is important to reach a consensus on the most appropriate procedures for identifying rape and sexual assaults in surveys. BJS is pursuing research with the CNSTAT that will determine the optimum set of procedures for collecting self-report data on these crimes and whether these procedures can be accommodated in the on-going NCVS or some variant of the current design.

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Finally, a similar program of research will be undertaken for collecting data on victimization of juveniles. Response rates for juveniles are extremely low in all surveys, even the NCVS which uses expensive methods, e.g. in-person interviews for hard to reach cases. BJS intends to fund research to develop and test alternative methods for contacting, recruiting, and screening populations between 12 and 18 years of age and even children under 12. If these methods prove successful, they will be assessed for their ability to be accommodated in the on-going BJS.

Building the Capacity to Use Operational Data for Statistical Purposes

Traditionally, federal statistical systems have been built to be centrally administered and funded, and they have relied upon altruism, coercion, and funding to ensure compliance. It is no longer clear that BJS can rely on this model for building and maintaining statistical systems. Response rates in household surveys are a prime example of the limits of altruism and the impact of technological change on survey methodology, a mainstay of statistical systems. As our statistical systems have come under increasing strain, operational data systems within criminal justice agencies have developed and improved substantially. The future of our statistical systems on crime and criminal justice may depend on using these operational data for statistical purposes.

The Justice Department’s information sharing initiatives, including the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM), offer one strategic approach to doing this. It assumes that information systems are based on a series of information exchanges that occur automatically between the operational system and the statistical system. Such exchanges are built into the system and require no additional effort by the data provider. NIEM also assumes that the willingness to provide the information is based on a quid pro quo in which participating agencies receive in return information that makes it easier for them to do their job. BJS has three initiatives underway to test the viability of a NIEM-like approach.

The first of these initiatives uses federal and state criminal history record information (CHRI) to gather statistics on recidivism. This record system was developed and is currently used to check the background of persons purchasing guns. Here the exchange of information has already been established, and we are exploring whether the data are adequate to be used for statistical reporting. These records hold the potential to provide recidivism data that are more accurate, cover more states and can be provided more quickly than in the past. In addition to exploring the adequacy of CHRI data on recidivism, we can assess the difficulty of solving a number of problems inherent in using operational data for statistical analysis, including the development of a consolidated, uniform rap sheet format, development of software for parsing text fields, and development of crosswalks between varied structured data and codes used by state systems.

In a second initiative BJS will again use the CHRI data to report statistics on arrests in a number of states. This effort has the potential to provide statistics on arrests and arrested persons that are more accurate and have much greater coverage than currently available data. In addition, these statistics can also be available more quickly after the end of the year and may tell us more about arrested persons. This initiative will allow us to test these potential benefits as well as establish new crime classifications and reporting formats that can be used with the CHRI data. This will also give us the opportunity to negotiate memoranda of understanding (MOU) with states and police departments that can serve as the basis for statistical use of these data. We can also explore different approaches to a quid pro quo that contributing agencies would find worthwhile.

A third initiative will attempt to establish an automated information exchange with state departments of correction, which may allow the National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP) data on admissions and releases from custody to be reported in real time. This project has the potential to provide data on flows for more states and in a more timely fashion than is done currently. In exchange for providing information on admissions and releases the states will be given recidivism data from the criminal history analyses referred to in the first initiative reported in this section. This will provide a test of whether this quid pro quo will be sufficient to encourage information exchange and whether the state systems are sufficiently developed to support this exchange.

A fourth initiative will attempt to establish a sample based system of incident-level police data on offenses known to the police. A substantial number of police departments make such data available on websites. Another large number of departments participate in NIBRS or contract with data aggregators like Crime. Reports.org. As a result, a large portion of any nationally representative sample of police agencies may already have some capacity to exchange incident-level information. Completing such a system would mean establishing an information exchange with those departments in the sample that do not already engage in an exchange and to ensure a minimum amount of uniformity across agencies. The first phase of this work would involve drawing the sample of agencies and determining how many agencies in the sample are not engaged in an exchange. If the number is small enough, we will begin a pilot program in which we establish protocols for exchange with a small number of departments that are not currently involved in an information exchange. If the pilot program proves successful, the program would be expanded.

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Improving Prosecution and Sentencing Data

The pretrial process, adjudication and sentencing are currently described by two sample-based systems—the State Court Processing Statistics (SCPS) and the National Judicial Reporting Program (NJRP). Together they provide a very partial picture of the “funnel” from filing to sentencing. The SCPS and NJRP samples have different coverage and some of the relevant information in one system is not in the other. Efforts are underway to redesign these data collections to broaden participation to all states and to obtain both pre-trial and sentencing data in the same collection.

Improving Data on Correctional Populations

The CNSTAT report called for more data on supervision populations and the re-entry process. BJS is undertaking several initiatives to respond to this recommendation. There is an initiative to examine the recidivism of federal probationers using the same CHRI data and technology as described in the data collections on state prisoners. Efforts are also underway to collect data on probation and parole officers assaulted and killed similar to the data collected on law enforcement officers in the Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) program maintained by the FBI. BJS will also conduct the next Survey of Inmates of State and Federal Correctional Facilities (SISFCF) simultaneously with the next Survey of Inmates of Local Jails (SILJ) and introduce a number of changes to better address re-entry issues. These changes include—

1) focusing on the “harm” that offenders presented to society, their risk of recidivism, and reentry needs;
2) sampling jail inmates to represent both the one-day population (cross-section) and jail “flow” (inmates arriving from arraignment during the interview week) to provide better data on this volatile portion of the jail population;
3) linking administrative records of inmates to interviews to free up survey space (using official records of offenses and sentences and eliminating the detailed criminal history) and for other issues such as program participation, mental health issues, medical problems, and treatment programs;
4) exploring the possibility of linking future criminal history records of inmates over time.

Issues

In order for BJS to pursue these strategies and initiatives certain institutional arrangements should be in place that 1) ensures the agency’s independence, 2) permits access to individual level data while protecting privacy, and 3) provides an in-house analytical capability to better serve the needs of the Department and other executive branch agencies. While we have some ideas about how to address these issues, BJS would benefit from ASC’s perspective on these matters.

Independence

Statistical agencies must be independent and be perceived to be independent in order to accomplish their charge. The CNSTAT panel recommended a number of steps to ensure that independence, such as a fixed 6-year term for the director and having the agency report directly to the Attorney General (Groves and Cork, 2009).

There is considerable disagreement over whether these recommendations will make the agency more or less independent. However, some steps can be taken within the current organizational structure to foster the independence of BJS. These steps would influence the day-to-day interactions among BJS, the Justice Department, other executive branch agencies, and Congress that define independence. It may be useful to take advantage of the current climate within OJP to develop clear guidelines concerning BJS autonomy regarding routine statistical reports, press releases, and other communications; direct access to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB); and the relationship between BJS and support offices, including the Office of Communications, the Office of the Chief Information Officer, and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. These guidelines would be in place even if future OJP leadership were less amenable to scientific principles, and could be monitored by the newly created Science Advisory Board (SAB).

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Access and Disclosure

For decades the BJS has collected data on organizations and individuals and made them available in the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD). In 2009, these data were used in 462 articles some of which were undoubtedly written by members of the Criminologist readship. The explosion of personal information in statistical and operational data bases both in and outside of the government, coupled with its availability on the internet and the advent of data mining and matching technologies have raised fear of identifying and thereby harming individual respondents and data providers. At this point statistical agencies are not only concerned with disclosing identifying information in a particular data collection or even in their entire holdings. Rather we must be concerned about disclosing identities and personally identifiable information as a result of combining our data with any conceivable data on the web. This prospect has lead to data suppression and limiting access to data for secondary analysis through enclaves and virtual enclaves. I am as concerned with these reductions in access as I am with the prospect of harm coming to respondents and the loss of public cooperation with requests for data. Fortunately, the federal statistical agencies, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the OMB and others are engaged in building institutional arrangements that can balance the protection of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) with facilitating access to statistical data for research purposes. I hope that the ASC lends it voice to those of other professional organizations in supporting innovative solutions that do not rely exclusively or even principally on suppression and access reduction.

Institutional Research and Statistics Capability

BJS is often called upon by Congress, and other components of OJP, the Justice Department and the executive branch to provide data in support of specific management, budgeting and policy-making activities. While it is important to support these activities, they often distract agency staff from their principal task of building and sustaining major statistical series and disseminating products based on this information. Moreover, servicing these requests does not appear in any formal metric used to assess BJS' performance. The result is that both the agency’s primary mission of building and utilizing statistical infra structure and the service of these management and budgeting needs get short shrift. We would propose that an in-house analysis capability be created in the Department of Justice to serve the need for research in support of management and budgeting functions. This group should be able to do both quantitative and qualitative analysis of data and not be forced to rely on contractors to do this work. The contracting process simply takes too long to serve this need. It may be useful to create a “virtual unit” comprised of staff lines for BJS and NIJ to address this issue. Requests for institutional research can be channeled to this group. Some attention will need to be paid to setting priorities for this unit and for monitoring its effectiveness. This could be tested on a temporary basis and, if it proves to be successful, the temporary lines could be transferred to permanent positions. This new unit, as I noted above, can also be used to showcase the additional utility of routine data collections that is not apparent in routine reports. By exacting additional information out of these series or leveraging that information by merging data sets and bring it to bear in a timely way on immediately relevant questions, this unit may be able to demonstrate the importance of statistical series and by extension the importance of building and maintain statistical infra-structure.

Conclusion

The foregoing describes the strategy and major initiatives that BJS is pursuing to achieve its responsibility for building, maintaining and utilizing statistical systems. It also identifies a number of organizational issues that facilitate achieving these goals. We look forward to your comments and advice on these matters.

References


GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE
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The Faculty

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Michael L. Benson (University of Illinois) White-Collar Crime; Criminological Theory; Life-Course Criminology
Susan Bourke (University of Cincinnati) Corrections; Undergraduate Retention; Teaching Effectiveness
Sandra Lee Browning (University of Cincinnati) Race, Class, and Crime; Law and Social Control; Drugs and Crime
Francis T. Cullen (Columbia University) Criminological Theory; Correctional Policy; White-Collar Crime
John E. Eck (University of Maryland) Crime Prevention; Problem-Oriented Policing; Crime Pattern Formation
Robin S. Engel (University at Albany, SUNY) Policing; Criminal Justice Theory; Criminal Justice Administration
Bonnie S. Fisher (Northwestern University) Victimology/Sexual Victimization; Public Opinion; Methodology/Measurement
James Frank (Michigan State University) Policing; Legal Issues in Criminal Justice; Program Evaluation
Paul Gendreau (Queens University, Visiting Scholar) Correctional Rehabilitation; Organization of Knowledge; Program Evaluation
Scott Jacques (University of Missouri-St. Louis) Drugs and Crime; Comparative Criminology; Qualitative Methods.
Edward J. Latessa (The Ohio State University) Correctional Rehabilitation; Offender/Program Assessment; Community Corrections
Paula Smith (University of New Brunswick) Correctional Interventions; Offender/Program Assessment; Meta Analysis
Christopher J. Sullivan (Rutgers University) Developmental Criminology, Juvenile Prevention Policy, Research Methods
Lawrence F. Travis, III (University at Albany, SUNY) Policing; Criminal Justice Policy; Sentencing
Patricia Van Voorhis (University at Albany, SUNY) Correctional Rehabilitation and Classification; Psychological Theories of Crime; Women and Crime
Pamela Wilcox (Duke University) Criminal Opportunity Theory; Schools, Communities, and Crime, Victimization/Fear of Crime
John D. Wooldredge (University of Illinois) Institutional Corrections; Sentencing; Research Methods
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 2012 ELECTION SLATE OF 2013-2014 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, 2011 to be considered by the Committee.

Doris MacKenzie
Justice Center for Research
Penn State University
University Park, PA 16801
dlm69@psu.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Crime/Law/Deviance Section at Risk of Losing Sessions on ASA Program**—DID YOU KNOW that the number of Crime/Law/Deviance (CLD) sessions we are allotted at the ASA annual meetings depends on the size of our section membership? For the first time in years, CLD section membership could slip below the 600 member benchmark that we need to meet in order to avoid losing one of the four sessions we have allotted on the ASA program. We are appealing to you, the Criminology community, to help ensure that this does not happen. In order to maintain our representation on the ASA program, we ask that you make the commitment to activate or renew your membership to the CLD section. Not only can you help to secure the 4 sessions we are allotted, but if we hit the 800 member benchmark (a new record for us), we will be allocated an additional 5th session. Please take time now to activate or renew your membership and send emails to colleagues within and outside your department to help the CLD section maintain its presence within the community of ASA scholars. Join or renew your ASA-Crime/Law/Deviance membership at: [http://www.asanet.org/members/join.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/members/join.cfm)

- Dr. Louise Shelley has been promoted to University Professor at George Mason University. She is also now serving as the co-chair of the just established Global Advisory Council of the World Economic Forum.

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


Kubena, Jiletta Leeanne, “Convergence or Divergence: An Intergenerational Examination of Male and Female Offending,” Chaired by Dr. Scott Menard, May 2011, Sam Houston State University.


Pollock, Wendi Kaye, “Disproportionate Police Contact: An Examination of the Correlates of Police Contact and of Perceptions of Fairness in Police Contact Situations across Time and Generations,” Chaired by Dr. Scott Menard, May 2011, Sam Houston State University.
Dissertation Scholarship Award

The Division of Corrections & Sentencing of the American Society of Criminology announces a dissertation scholarship award. The DCS will grant one 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 sentencing or corrections topics for their dissertations. These monies can be used to assist with data collection or to offset other costs associated with the dissertation research. To be eligible, the student must have completed all required course work, passed qualifying comprehensive exams, and have successfully defended the dissertation prospectus by the award date (November, 2011).

Proposals should include the following:

1. **Narrative:** A narrative of no more than 1500 words 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.
4. **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 richard.hartley@utsa.edu no later than September 15, 2011 at 5pm. The narrative, budget, and vitae 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 e-mail address. The winner will be notified in October 2011 and be recognized during the annual DCS breakfast at the November ASC meeting in Washington, DC. Any questions regarding eligibility or appropriate dissertation topics should be directed to Richard Hartley at the above e-mail address or to Jodi Lane, Division Chair, via e-mail at jlane@ufl.edu.
The ASC Division on Corrections & Sentencing Requests Nominations for Annual Awards

*NEW* “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 Faye Taxman, Awards Committee Chair, at ftaxman@gmu.edu no later than September 15, 2011.

“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 Faye Taxman, Awards Committee Chair, at ftaxman@gmu.edu no later than September 15, 2011.

“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 Faye Taxman, Awards Committee Chair, at ftaxman@gmu.edu no later than September 15, 2011.

“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. Please send papers to Beth Huebner, Student Paper Award Committee Chair, at huebnerb@umsl.edu no later than September 15, 2011.
AROUND THE ASC

ASC'S DIVISION ON CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY
CALL FOR EDITORSHIP OF
CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY: AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

The DCC invites applications for a new editor for the Critical Criminology journal to begin December 31, 2012, although the new editor will also need to be involved informally before then for a smooth transition.

The duties of the editor include:

- Overseeing all of the processes of the journal from submission, sending out for review, overseeing the publication and editorial process and commissioning special issues;
- Working with Springer to ensure success of the journal and DCC interests;
- Reporting on the journal to DCC members at the Annual American Society of Criminology, Division of Critical Criminology Executive and Business meetings.

Editors serve a three year term of service and receive support from Springer. Additionally, editors may be re-elected for one additional term of service, but not to exceed a total of six years.

Applications for the Editorship need to be received by June 1st, 2011. The following support materials are required:

- Statement of Eligibility to include philosophy you would bring to the journal as editor, previous experience as an editor or on editorial boards, and previous service to DCC;
- The statement should specifically address include something about one's understanding of critical criminology;
- The statement should address the applicant’s envisioned plan or commitment to keep the journal international;
- CV and;
- Two letters of support

Please send your inquiries and materials to Paul Leighton (paul@stopviolence.com) or Gregg Barak (gregg.barak@emich.edu). Eastern Michigan University; Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology; 311 King Hall; Ypsilanti, MI 48197.
AROUND THE ASC

ASC'S DIVISION ON CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY
CALL FOR BOOK REVIEW EDITORSHIP
CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY: AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

The DCC invites applications for a new book review editor for the Critical Criminology journal to begin December 31, 2012, although the new editor will also need to be involved informally before then for a smooth transition.

The duties of the editor include:

- Overseeing all of the processes of book review submissions and soliciting reviews for books sent by publishers.
- Working with the general editor and Springer to ensure success of the journal and DCC interests;
- Book Review Editors serve a three year term of service and may be re-elected for one additional term of service, but not to exceed a total of six years.

Applications for the Book Review Editorship need to be received by June 1st, 2011. The following support materials are required:

- Statement of Eligibility to include philosophy you would bring to the journal as book review editor, previous experience as an editor or on editorial boards, and previous service to DCC;
- The statement should specifically address include something about one's understanding of critical criminology;
- The statement should address the applicant’s envisioned plan or commitment to keep the book review component of the journal active and timely;
- CV and;
- Two letters of support

Please send your inquiries and materials to Paul Leighton (paul@stopviolence.com) or Gregg Barak (gregg.barak@emich.edu). Eastern Michigan University; Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology; 311 King Hall; Ypsilanti, MI 48197.
AROUND THE ASC

ASC’S DIVISION ON CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY - 2011 AWARDS
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The DCC Awards’ Committee invites you to consider nominating your critical criminology colleagues for one of the following awards:

**The Lifetime Achievement Award** honours an individual’s sustained and distinguished scholarship, teaching, and/or service in the field of critical criminology.

**The Critical Criminologist of the Year Award** honours a person for distinguished accomplishments which have symbolised the spirit of the Division in some form of scholarship, teaching, and/or service in a recent year or years.

To nominate for the Lifetime Achievement Award or the Critical Criminologist of the Year Award please send e-copies of the nominee's vita, nomination letter and supporting materials.

**The Graduate Student Paper Awards** recognise and honour outstanding theoretical or empirical critical criminological scholarship by graduate students.

**The Undergraduate Student Paper Awards** recognise and honour outstanding theoretical or empirical critical criminological scholarship by undergraduate students.

To nominate for the Undergraduate or Graduate Paper Awards please submit e-copies of the paper and a brief biographical note on the student.

Please do not submit materials as email text but rather as attachments.

Nominators will receive an email reply acknowledging receipt of the nomination. Look for this receipt to ensure your nomination was received.

All materials should be sent to Stephen Muzzatti (muzzatti@ryerson.ca) no later than Friday 9 September 2011.

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NOTES REGARDING THE ANNUAL MEETING

November 16 – 19, 2011 in Washington, D.C.

- 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](http://www.asc41.com/annualmeeting.htm).
- Please direct all questions regarding the Program to the Program Committee email address, crim-asc2011@fsu.edu.
- The new phone number for the Program Chairs is: (518) 442-4647.
- Meeting Registration forms are now available on the ASC website. Fees are as follows:

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AROUND THE ASC

MORE FUNDS FOR COPS, NOT PRISONS,
MESSAGE OF COSSA, ASC CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING

On February 15, the American Society of Criminology and COSSA presented a congressional briefing, *Crime and Imprisonment: How to Reduce Both*. Based on the current issue of *Criminology and Public Policy*, which courtesy of its publisher Wiley-Blackwell was distributed to the almost 100 people attending the session, the briefing focused on the lead paper by Professors Daniel Nagin of Carnegie-Mellon University, and Steven Durlauf of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

After brief opening remarks by Thomas Blomberg, editor of the Journal and Dean of Criminology at Florida State University, and Richard Rosenfeld, special editor of the current issue and Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Missouri, St. Louis, Nagin and Durlauf summarized their paper. Responses to their ideas followed. They were delivered by former Attorney General and Governor of Pennsylvania Richard Thornburgh, former Boston, New York and Los Angeles Police Commissioner Bill Bratton, current Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs Laurie Robinson, and Cambridge University and University of Maryland Criminology Professor Lawrence Sherman.

The Nagin-Durlauf thesis is that we can reduce imprisonment and crime by shifting from severity-based to certainty-based sanction policies and by shifting resources from corrections to policing. While admitting that there are some potential crime prevention effects of imprisonment such as incapacitation, the literature, they contend, has established only a modest, marginal deterrent effect of increasing already lengthy prison sentences. Furthermore, they maintain that there is little evidence that incarceration has a specific deterrent effect on criminal activity.

Rather than focusing on severity as a method of deterrence, Nagin and Durlauf argued for a focus on deterring crime in the first place. That can occur, they asserted, by creating certainty of apprehension through deployment of police in effective ways. According to the authors, the evidence indicates, that with the right deployment, such as hot spots and problem-oriented policing, there is a substantial marginal deterrent effect on crime prevention.

Therefore, in an era of budget difficulties, especially in states where prison costs are a substantial part of state spending, Nagin and Durlauf recommended that policing should get a larger share of decreasing crime and criminal justice budgets. They also suggested creating mechanisms to move resources from state-level corrections to local-level policing.

Since there are still lots of questions regarding policing and sentencing, Nagin and Durlauf also called for a "scientifically sound and policy relevant research program" with the National Institute of Justice as "the natural candidate for taking on this mantle." Among the items for such a research program, they suggested, are examinations of the severity effects of shorter sentences that occur in some European countries, and the policy of targeted identification of high rate offenders. They also called for better studies of stigma and stereotyping effects of imprisonment and improved state level data on sentencing.

**Commentary from Bratton, Thornburgh, Robinson and Sherman**

Bratton citing his forty years of experience declared he knows what works. "Cops count, police matter," he asserted. The Durlauf and Nagin study talks about things that have already been done. In NYC and LA "we embraced community policing and problem solving policing." Crime went down; incarceration went down, he proclaimed. If police can control behavior, they can change behavior, he stated. He talked about his experiences in NYC and LA, noting tactics including stop and frisk that although controversial are supported by the public. Police actions focusing on prevention can reduce incarceration, especially for minority males, he contended. The current financial difficulties faced by states and municipalities will provide experiments to see if cities can maintain these reductions, he concluded.

(Continued on page 15)
AROUND THE ASC

(Continued from page 14)

Thornburgh said he was there to bring "a reality check" to the feasibility for implementing the Durlauf and Nagin recommendations. He believes it would be difficult to translate the savings from reducing prison populations into more money for the police, particularly in the current difficult financial straits the states now face. "There is a long list of competitors" for the saved dollars, he declared. He spoke strongly in favor of improving services for offenders both in prison and when they are released. He acknowledged, however, that this is a "difficult sell politically" because of public resentment against lawbreakers receiving government services. "This is a visceral thing," he commented. He called for more research, delighting the academics, particularly on public attitudes and cost/benefit analyses of the paper's proposals. He also recommended finding champions in the public sphere for the Durlauf/Nagin proposals.

Robinson applauded the session for having academics reaching out to policymakers and not just talking to each other. She urged criminologists to become more "pragmatic and politically intelligent," so that policymakers will act on science, not anecdotes. She advised using the rubric of "public safety," as this phrase resonated with policymakers. She discussed the initiatives in the President's FY 2012 budget for research and statistics, including the three percent set-aside as well as the Evidence Integration Initiative and the What Works Clearinghouse. She argued for strengthening research at the National Institute of Justice and the implementation of the recommendations in the recent National Research Council report. She noted that there are real world examples of the reforms Durlauf/Nagin suggest. She cited the Justice Reinvestment Movement, one of whose strong supporters is Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA), Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the Office of Justice Programs. She worried that the current financial difficulties, particularly cutbacks in funding for parole and probation programs, could reverse recent reductions in prison spending in some states.

Finally, Sherman advised focusing on the front end of the crime problem - prevention - rather than the back end - imprisonment. "People love police and hate prisons," he asserted. It is also very politically difficult to reduce prison spending by releasing offenders. We have made considerable progress, he contended with 'smart focused policing," e.g. hot spots. It is now time, he argued for "offender management policing," which would have the police take on more of a parole and probation function. It would divert low risk offenders from the criminal justice system and could include home visits, drug rehabilitation, and not sending first time offenders off to prison. At the same time, the police can hold the "Sword of Damocles" over offenders heads in that if they don't shape up, they can be charged with the crime they have committed. It is also time to spend considerably more funds on policing rather than prisons, Sherman proclaimed. In the U.S. it is about 50-50; whereas in Britain, spending on police is three times more than spending on prisons. Sherman cited the beginning of modern policing under Sir Robert Peel as the model for the new way of policing. The test of success is not punishment, but reductions in crime, he concluded.

This article originally appeared in COSSA Washington Update, Volume 30, Number 4, February 21, 2011.
Criminal Courts for the 21st Century
Third Edition

Lisa Stolzenberg and Stewart J. D'Alessio

The third edition of *Criminal Courts for the 21st Century* offers a comprehensive collection of 20 criminal justice articles, all culled from leading scholarly journals. The reader offers the student an up-to-the-minute look at our courts, judiciary, and the entire criminal trial from pretrial procedures to punishment and sentencing. The articles of *Criminal Courts for the 21st Century* bring the newest issues to light—a must for professors who want to show the dynamic, ever-changing atmosphere of the modern courtroom. Articles are accessible to all students, including those with no background in statistics.

I. COURTS, PROSECUTION, AND THE DEFENSE
2. Dennis the Menace or Billy the Kid: An Analysis of the Role of Transfer to Criminal Court in Juvenile Justice, Eric K. Klein
3. A Moral Standard for the Prosecutor's Exercise of the Charging Discretion, Bennett L. Gershman
5. The Criminal Defense Lawyer: Zealous Advocate, Double Agent, or Beleaguered Dealer, Rodney J. Uphoff

II. PRETRIAL PROCEDURES AND EVIDENTIAL ISSUES
6. Plea Bargaining and the Death Penalty, Albert W. Alschuler
7. Guilty Plea Courts: A Social Disciplinary Model of Criminal Justice, Mike McConville and Chester Mirsky
8. The Silencing a Woman's Choice: Mandatory Arrest and No Drop Prosecution Policies in Domestic Violence Cases, Jessica Dayton
9. The Use of Amateur Videotapes as Evidence in Criminal Prosecutions: Citizen Empowerment or Little Brother's New Silver Platter?, Nicholas R. Mack
10. How the Pretrial Process Contributes to Wrongful Convictions, Andrew D. Leipold

III. THE CRIMINAL TRIAL
12. The American Jury: Handicapped in the Pursuit of Justice, Saul M. Kassin
13. Ten Reasonable Men, Richard H. Menard
15. Cameras in the Jury Room: An Unnecessary and Dangerous Precedent, Abraham Abramovsky and Jonathan I. Edelstein

IV. PUNISHMENT AND SENTENCING
16. Themes of Injustice: Wrongful Convictions, Racial Prejudice, and Lawyer Incompetence, Bennett L. Gershman
17. The Gender Gap Argument: Exploring the Disparity of Sentencing Women to Death, Melinda E. O'Neil
19. Sentencing Eddie, Gerard E. Lynch
20. 'Three-Strikes and You're Out': A Good Political Slogan to Reduce Crime, but a Failure in its Application, Ilene M. Shinbein

E-mail westonpub@comcast.net for a PDF exam copy and complimentary hard-copy upon class adoption.
THE ASC SYLLABUS COLLECTION UPDATE AND SOLICITATION

By Rachel Cunliffe Hardesty, Ph.D
Portland State University
ASC Teaching Committee (member)

A couple of years ago, when the teaching committee first formed, one of the requests of it was that it initiate a syllabus collection project. When I became chair a year later, Bonnie Berry explained that new faculty often appreciated being able to scan syllabi for courses they were now expected to teach. The syllabus project had begun by soliciting syllabi for two courses: Introductions to Criminology and Introductions to Criminal Justice. These syllabi can be found on the ASC website. Along with the syllabi are lists of films, classroom activities, and suggested reading assignments collected in documents co-edited by Denise Paquette Boots of the University of Texas, Dallas and William Reese of Augusta State University.

Here may be found examples of not only the content that such syllabi have covered, but also an interesting range of ways to present syllabi to students, along with ideas for distributing points across assignments and activities in these classes (although examples of rubrics are still quite scarce); examples of the faculty policies which can do so much to save time and hassle when busy with new course loads, advising, and the general orientation that is necessary as a new faculty member negotiates a place in a new department.

Courses included range in length from a six week course offered by Dr. Christie Gardiner during an abbreviated summer session to full semester length offerings such as those offered by Dr. Boots and Dr. Alan Bruce, providing an opportunity to think about how content can be condensed or extended during different term lengths. Altogether, there are 13 courses introducing criminology and nine syllabi introducing criminal justice.

Even those of us who are experienced can learn something from looking at these syllabi about a way to more clearly present our own communications for students regarding expectations, boundaries, and opportunities within the classes we teach, or a more interesting way to meet an objective we have for a particular learning outcome.

However, in addition to the interest we may have as teachers in the syllabi which have been collected, we are also building an interesting resource for scholars who would examine and document the breadth of our field. No two syllabi are exactly alike, with the result that the syllabus collection provides a unique opportunity for us to consider trends in the content which is being shared with students in our discipline.

The current committee, on which I am still serving, now chaired by David Klinger, is continuing this project. We would like to continue to solicit syllabi for these introductory courses. The syllabi in the collection at present are all syllabi for teaching classes in the face to face modality, yet many of us are under increasing pressure to include web-based teaching in our tool kit. However, most of us have little to no experience of having been taught that way ourselves and so blending web and traditional modalities, or teaching entirely online, may feel intimidating. Syllabi for hybridized and online courses are often extremely comprehensive and can be mined for information on course set up. In addition, they provide ready access to those who have gone before should it be helpful to make direct contact for the purposes of sharing tips and ideas for effective web-based teaching. We are hopeful of including these varieties in the syllabus collection.

In addition, we would welcome direction as to syllabi the Society would like to see collected. Undoubtedly, it will be helpful to continue to build a sense of the core syllabi for our programs. The two we will focus on this year are crime analysis (to include research methods, data analysis, uses of crime data etc), and theories of crime. It would also be interesting to see the breadth of courses we teach and so we’d like to encourage anyone who is teaching classes considered a bit outside the ordinary to contribute their syllabi.

Please send your syllabi and your thoughts and comments on the collection project to Rachel Hardesty at hardesty@pdx.edu who will sort them and categorise them, creating a directory and resource on the ASC website.

In case you are not aware of it, some of the divisions are producing very rich syllabus collections of their own. Two of the Division collections can be found under the division tab on the homepage of our website. The Division of Critical Criminology includes links to faculty sites, some of which include class related materials created by those faculty, and the Division of Women and Crime has links to teaching resources on its homepage including documentaries, free online videos, lists of fiction and non-fiction and examples of syllabi in a compendium which includes syllabi on gender, armed conflict, security, and international relations. We would be delighted to directly link Division syllabus collections from the central ASC syllabus page if Divisions would notify me of their desire that we do so.

I look forward to hearing from you.
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Argues that not all sex offenders are the same and harsh ‘one size fits all’ policies can unfairly punish other offenders of lesser crimes, needlessly targeting citizens from their own communities.
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NEW IN PAPERBACK
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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
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The Faculty

Lyndsay Boggess- (University of California, Irvine)- Community context of crime, Race/ethnicity and crime
Max Bromley- (Nova University)- Campus policing, campus community crime
John Cochran- (University of Florida)- Death penalty, Micro- social theories of criminal behavior, Macro- social theories of crime and crime control
Richard Dembo- (New York University)- Alcohol and drug use, Juvenile justice
Lorie Fridell- (University of California, Irvine)- Police use of force, Violence against police, Racially biased policing
Kathleen Heide- (State University of New York at Albany)- Juvenile homicide, Adolescent parricide offenders, Violent offending
Wesley Jennings- (University of Florida)- Trajectories, Hispanics, Sex offending
Shayne Jones- (University of Kentucky)- Personality and antisocial behavior, Jury and judicial decision-making
Michael J. Leiber- (State University of New York at Albany)- Race, Juvenile Justice, Delinquency
Michael J. Lynch- (State University of New York at Albany)- Radical criminology, Environmental and corporate crime, Green criminology, Racial bias in criminal justice processes
Tom Mieczkowski- (Wayne State University)- Drugs and crime, Violent sexual offenders
Ojmarrh Mitchell- (University of Maryland)- Race and crime, Drug policy, Meta analysis
Wilson R. Palacios- (University of Miami)- Adult hidden populations, Qualitative research methods and analysis, Social epidemiology of drug use/abuse
Christine Sellers- (University of Florida) Criminological theory, Juvenile Delinquency, Intimate partner violence
M. Dwayne Smith- (Duke University)- Homicide, Capital Punishment, Structural correlates of violent crime

Dual Appointment
Amy Cohn- (University of Georgia)- Alcohol and intimate partner violence, Treatment for alcohol use disorders, help-seeking for alcohol and drug problems in offender populations
TEACHING TIPS COLUMN
Edited by David Klinger
University of Missouri-St. Louis - klingerd@umsl.edu

The ASC Teaching Committee is responsible for the “Teaching Tips” column, which is geared toward sharing ideas that will help improve teaching in both undergraduate and graduate level criminology and criminal justice courses. Tips can consist of:

- Pedagogical or curriculum resources (e.g., helpful books, websites, agencies)
- In-class, small group exercises
- Ideas for stimulating and leading discussion on difficult, challenging, or controversial topics
- Innovative teaching techniques (e.g., using music, videos, clickers, television dramas, or newspapers in the classroom)
- Examples of service learning, experiential learning, or problem-based learning activities
- Examples of writing assignments that help students understand theories, concepts, and/or processes related to the field
- Tips for making teaching more manageable and enjoyable (e.g., time savers, topics that generate discussion, ways for engaging students)

Please send submissions for “Teaching Tips” to David Klinger at klingerd@umsl.edu. Submissions should be approximately 500-1,000 words, but can deviate from this guideline.

Thanks – David Klinger, Chair, ASC Teaching Committee

TEACHING TIP: FOUND! Teaching Treasure in ASC Meeting Registration Bags

Crystal A. Garcia
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Have you read either of the edited volumes published by Wadsworth, Cengage Learning that were placed in our registration bags at the 2009 and 2010 ASC meetings? If not, you should. Disclaimer: I was a co-editor of the volume published for 2010 meeting. However, none of the editors (or ASC for that matter) will receive any proceeds from the sales of these volumes, so this column should not be seen as an advertisement.1 My motivation for writing this comes from my belief that these two volumes, Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice Policy and Contemporary Issues in Criminological Theory and Research: The Role of Social Institutions (particularly when used in conjunction) make a wonderful teaching tool. Simply put, the combination of both anthologies, constitute a teaching treasure!

The Aha Moment. At the 2009 meetings, I found Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice Policy, edited by Frost, Freilich & Clear (2010) in my registration bag. I have been a member of the society for over two decades and do not remember ever receiving a proceedings monograph. It quickly occurred to me that this volume would be a useful teaching resource. However, Drs. Rosenfeld, Quinet and I had were already in the midst of planning the 2010 meetings and developing our own volume. Once we completed our work, I read the Clear et al. (2010) volume cover to cover. That is when I had my teaching epiphany—the combination of these two books would make a wonderful foundation for a capstone course. Therefore, in the spring of 2011, I redesigned my Crime and Public Policy course using both the Clear et al. (2010) and the Rosenfeld et al. (2012) anthologies. Together, these volumes provide an instructor with a collection of theoretical pieces and policy prescriptions that are both timely and timeless.

What is so wonderful about these books? In a very deliberate way, they combine discussions of policy, social institutions and criminological theory. Many books on the market do one or two of these—and sometimes do them well, but rarely, if ever, do they do all three. Let me take a moment to describe each volume and then discuss how they are currently being used in my course. The Clear et al. (2010) volume includes 23 policy proposals and 30 response essays presented at the 2009 ASC meeting. These papers are organized into thematic areas: overall justice policies, drugs and alcohol, terrorism, immigration, policing, juvenile justice and corrections. The Rosenfeld et al. (2012) anthology includes a total of 26 essays comprised of lead articles and response essays presented at the 2010 ASC meeting. The essays deliberate on the relationships between society’s major social institutions (i.e., family, education, religion, the economy and politics), crime and crime policy. Both volumes are invaluable in that they incorporate thorough literature reviews, theory, research and think pieces authored by subject area experts and many of the most respected names in Criminology. I can attest to the fact that the pieces in these books provoke critical thinking and lively debates in class!

(Tips continued on page 23)
How I Incorporated the Books into my Course. Textbooks are adequate for a number of lower division courses. But, they allow students to be lazy because they do much of what students should do for themselves—consume a wide variety of topics and synthesize the information in a meaningful way. I want my students to do that but also think critically about what they have read and be able to make informed judgements about justice and crime policy. My preference for the Clear et al. (2010) and Rosenfeld et al. (2012) volumes is not that they simply cover a wide variety of criminological and criminal justice topics; they certainly do that. What excites me most is they also demonstrate true breadth and depth in the field and are authored by giants in our discipline and promising new scholars; American and international scholars; and other subject area experts who come not only from academics, but who are immersed in the policy arena.

Another reason I incorporated these volumes into my course is that they compliment a teaching strategy that I have been developing. Honestly, I am concerned about my students’ ability to critically think about complex issues. So, I designed a critical thinking model to guide their examination of criminal justice issues and crime policies (see Figure 1 below). This past semester was the first time that I used the model to guide the way students consumed their readings. From day one, students were told they were going to “learn how to become careful consumers of information, learn to think in a deliberate and systematic way, and learn to apply what they have learned to the real world.” In essence, I wanted them to become critical thinkers—though many of them did not really understand what that meant. Thus, we spent a lot of time differentiating what it means to think versus what it means to think critically. Then, I requested that they ask themselves questions related to each of these issues in Figure 1 when they read the essays in both the Clear and Rosenfeld volumes. They were also instructed to ask questions related to the issues in the model of me and each other in class when we discussed the readings or debated policy issues. Finally, they were urged to construct these same types of questions when they heard about justice issues in the media, other courses, or their social networks.

As reflected in Figure 1, the crime and justice concepts that I believe essential for students to consistently reflect on are: ethics, the rule of law, discretion, equity (specifically as they relate to what I refer to as the isms—racism, classism, sexism, ageism), and the reasoning (i.e., theories) behind crime and crime policies. A question you might be asking at this point is “How or why does this model fit with the volumes you are recommending?”

I am not claiming that this model (or one like it) cannot be worked with other books. What I do claim is that the majority of the readings in both volumes incorporate most, if not all, of the critical thinking concepts that criminal justice and criminology students should consider as they deliberate about how the system works, how it should operate and the changes that need to occur to create a more fair, equitable system.

In addition to readings from both the Clear et al. (2010) and Rosenfeld et al. (2012) volumes, the course architecture included three exams, two mini-papers, one group paper, and ten just-in-time (JiTT) quizzes. JiTT quizzes use a web-based course management system to deliver timed quizzes comprised of questions that are based on the readings that will be discussed in class after students take the quizzes. My students take their quizzes at least two hours before class starts. Grading the quizzes prior to class allows me to determine if the students read and to modify the lecture according to what appears to be deficits in understanding. I also require three essay exams that include various types of questions. For example, I asked students to: (1) discuss a particular issue that various authors in related pieces agreed or disagreed about (even when the papers were not written in response to one another); (2) explain how a particular author would respond to a hypothetical question given what they argued in their essay; and (3) consider how the critical thinking concepts in Figure 1 relate to the essays they read and what that means for how policy is implemented in the real world.

Figure 1. Critical Thinking Concepts for Crime & Justice
The mini-papers were brief and aimed at honing critical thinking skills. They offered me a sense of the students’ abilities to provide feedback to one another and their ability to identify and use the major sources of crime data (as they will need these statistics for their final papers). Finally, students were placed in groups and assigned a criminal justice problem/issue. The list of issues came from the policy papers in the Clear et al. (2010) volume that were purposefully not assigned as required readings for the class (e.g., marijuana regulation, immigration, reentry). Students were told that these articles, along with the few that were not required readings from the Rosenfeld et al. (2012) volume should be used as a jumping off point to help them decide what direction their papers should take. The groups were instructed to produce an issue brief that begins with a problem statement, a justification for why this problem really is a problem, a thorough review of the extant literature (including a discussion of the role that social institutions play in relation to the problem), and a discussion of the critical thinking concepts from Figure 1 that are relevant their issue/problem. Finally, the groups were to conclude their paper with a policy prescription meant to address the issue they were studying. The final advice given to students was to pay close attention to the essays that were not assigned from the Rosenfeld et al. (2012) anthology as they were relevant to a number, if not all, of the issues assigned to the groups. This was an effective strategy as it resulted in students reading nearly the entirety of both volumes!

What the Students Thought. Beyond the fact that these new volumes fit my needs as an instructor, they were also warmly received by the students. When asked whether they thought these volumes should be used in the capstone again, they were enthusiastic in their responses—Yes! The majority of students really enjoyed them. Only two students (out of 60) preferred “old school” textbooks “because they are easy to memorize.” The students liked these books for the following reasons. First, the students appreciated that the combined cost of these two books was far less than any one book assigned for their other classes. Second, they thought the essays were timely, interesting and easy to understand. Third, the students were amazed to learn that people in the field disagree about research ideas, concepts, theories, and policies. As one student explained, “You just don’t see these types of debates in textbooks.”

I am quite pleased with my decision to redesign my course based on the Clear et al. (2010) and Rosenfeld et al. (2012) volumes. I taught Crime and Public Policy in the same manner for 10+ years. While my course evaluations have always been strong, I was getting bored and my approach stale. These volumes inspired me to think differently about how to approach the course. I encourage you to take a careful look at these two volumes. For if you do, they just might inspire you as well.

References


2 See Paul (1993) for a comprehensive discussion of what it means to be a critical thinker.

3 Other concepts may be just as informative about crime and policy (e.g., cost/benefit, implementation, and intended vs. unintended consequences). However, these concerns were covered in later lectures. I merely use this model to train the student to think in a systematic way.

4 For a full discussion of the various ways to implement JiTT see Novak et al., 1999.

5 For more detail about course assignments or for a full copy of the syllabus, contact me at crgarcia@iupui.edu.
I write this column hoping to start a discipline-wide discussion about the availability of support for young scholars beginning their careers in criminology and criminal justice. Upon completing my Ph.D. in the spring 2012, I wish to secure a tenure-track faculty appointment, as do so many of us who pursue doctoral degrees. Facing the job market this fall, I began to look into job prospects, and I admit to being somewhat disheartened about the limited scope of opportunities for young criminologists.

It seems to me that only two paths are readily accessible: taking a policy analysis job at a think tank or government agency, or immediately pursuing a tenure-track assistant professorship. Policy-practitioner jobs are excellent opportunities for a scholar to apply her research skills in a venue that is more likely to have a direct impact on law and public policy. However, for those of us who ultimately wish to settle in academia, it seems to me that taking a policy-practitioner job could have a significant cost. Rarely do scholars in such positions have the freedom to pursue their own research agendas; rather, they must pursue projects that are mandated by their agencies or are competitive for external funding. I wonder if time spent in a policy-practitioner job might hurt a scholar who then attempts to transition into a faculty position because she had little opportunity to pursue the kind of self-directed, peer-reviewed research that is the coin of the realm in academia.

Thus, the prudent choice appears to be a direct transition into a tenure-track job. We all know how difficult it can be to secure tenure, and many young scholars “lose” a year or more of research on their tenure clock because they need time to adjust to a full teaching load and establish their research momentum. Knowing this danger, I thought that spending a year or two in a postdoctoral fellowship prior to entering a tenure track position would be an excellent way to generate sufficient momentum in my research that I would not be dangerously slowed in my first year as a professor. However, I have found precious few postdocs that are available to social scientists, let alone narrowly-tailored to scholars of criminology and criminal justice. As of March 2011, only one such postdoc was posted on the ASC job board – a very specific opening at George Mason University. The ASC website makes no other mention of postdoc opportunities, not even in its section on awards. That leads me to conclude that such opportunities for criminologists are either incredibly rare, or our discipline has done a poor job of cataloging them. Either conclusion leaves much to be desired.

I know it is very difficult to secure resources, but if we wish to ensure that the banner of criminology in academia is carried onward by a talented and prolific generation of scholars, we need to contemplate how much support we provide young scholars during the formative years at the beginning of their careers.

Submissions for future "Doctoral Student Forum" columns are encouraged.
Please contact Joanne Savage: jsavage@amerian.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: ncoldiron@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.

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**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**  
**Director, Latin American and Caribbean Center** - Florida International University is seeking an exemplary leader for its flagship Latin American and Caribbean Center, a Title VI National Resource Center for foreign languages and area studies. For more information, visit [http://lacc.fiu.edu](http://lacc.fiu.edu). **Qualifications:** Relevant doctorate, a distinguished research and teaching record, proven administrative and fundraising skills, and a vision for how a 21st century multi-disciplinary center can and should evolve its relationships with its own university, other academic institutions, and the local, national, and international communities. Must be eligible for tenure at the associate or full professor level in appropriate academic department. Relevant language proficiency expected. **Review, Applications and Nominations:** The search committee will begin to review nominations and applications on March 15, 2011, and will continue to review applications until the position is filled. Nominations and inquiries should be made to the Chair of the Search Committee. Questions or nominations may be directed to Dr. Elizabeth Bejar by email, bejare@fiu.edu, or 305-348-1796. To apply, visit [www.fiujobs.org](http://www.fiujobs.org), reference position number 34044. Each applicant must provide as attachments to the online application: (1) cover letter; (2) detailed curriculum vitae or resume; (3) names, addresses and phone numbers of at least three references. If unable to attach supplemental materials, mail documents to: Dr. Elizabeth Bejar, Chair, LACC Search Committee, Vice Provost, Florida International University, 11200 SW 8th Street, PC 112, Miami, Florida 33199. **FIU is a member of the State University System of Florida and is an Equal Opportunity, Equal Access Affirmative Action Employer.**

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**ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE**  
**Patchogue, Long Island, New York.** The Criminal Justice Department of St. Joseph’s College invites applications for a tenure-track position in Criminal Justice to begin in Fall 2011. Ph.D. in Criminal Justice or Criminology preferred. ABD considered. J.D. not applicable. The successful candidate must be able to teach Research Methods. Knowledge of Community Corrections or Crime Mapping, and web-based instruction a plus. The preferred candidate will demonstrate excellence in teaching undergraduate criminal justice courses, a commitment to academic advising and committee work, community service, and active research/scholarship. 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.sjenv.edu](http://www.sjenv.edu)

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**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE**  
**Assistant or Associate Professor: Criminal Justice Department of Criminal Justice** - The School of the Arts and Professions invites resumes for a nine month, tenure track appointment beginning August, 2011. Salary is commensurate with qualification and experience. **Responsibilities:** Teach undergraduate and graduate courses in criminal justice; develop new courses; review/modify existing courses; pursue external sources of funding; and advising. Perform other related duties as assigned by the Department Chair. **Qualifications:** Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from an accredited institution or Ph.D. in a related field. Excellent oral and written communication and time management skills required. Must have the ability to work with a culturally diverse student population. Ability to work as a team and to get along with others is required. Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled. Qualified applicants should send letter of application, resume, unofficial transcripts and have three letters of current, professional recommendation sent directly by reference to: Department of Human Resources, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, Maryland 21853. Email: mvames@umes.edu UMES is an EEO/AA employer. The successful candidate must be able to show acceptable documentation establishing the right to accept employment in the United States of America. Minorities, women and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.
SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY

DATE POSTED: February 16, 2011

POSITION TITLE: Assistant Professor Criminal Justice

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences invites applicants for a tenure track position in Criminal Justice at the Assistant Professor level. The candidate will teach Police-related courses and will be expected to be engaged in program/curriculum development. The normal teaching load is 12 hours per semester with advising and community service responsibilities.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Ph.D in Criminal Justice or related field is preferred but ABD’s and Master’s Degree holders will be considered. A minimum of three years teaching experience at the college level is required. The JD alone does not meet the minimum qualifications for the position. Special preference will be given to candidates with a strong background in community policing, social/community justice, and organizational leadership. Background and/or credit check may be required.

SALARY: Commensurate with qualifications and experience

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Review of applications will begin upon receipt and continue until filled.

HOW TO APPLY: Complete application online; submit letter of interest outlining qualifications, current vitae, official transcripts, and name, address, telephone number and email address of three references to Dr. Jane Gates, Dean of CLASS; Savannah State University, Box 20059, Savannah, GA 31404

The Faculty of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Division
Mark O. Hatfield School of Government, Portland State University

Congratulates

David M. Kennedy

Recipient of the 2010/2011 Hatfield Scholar Award

The Hatfield Scholar Award, named after the distinguished former Governor and Senator from Oregon, Mark. O. Hatfield, is offered to exceptional scholars whose careers best exemplify the Hatfield ideals of public interest, scholarship, public service, civil and human rights, social justice, and peace. The award is given annually by the combined faculties of the three Divisions within the Hatfield School of Government: Criminology and Criminal Justice, Political Science, and Public Administration at Portland State University.
British Society of Criminology 2011 Conference

The first call for papers has been announced for the 2011 British Society of Criminology Annual Conference to be hosted by Northumbria University in Newcastle-upon-Tyne between 3-6th July 2011.

The conference theme is ‘Economies and Insecurities of Crime and Justice’.

A range of key issues and controversies connect to the main theme of the conference with specific emphasis on:

- Economic crisis, public spending and the criminal justice sector
- Recessional climates and the landscapes of criminal enterprise
- The political economies of crime, crime control and criminal justice
- Social exclusion, consumer culture and criminal enterprise
- The academic and practitioner interface – global to North East
- Fear, insecurity and victimisation
- Global economies and local insecurities

Keynote Speakers:

Loïc Wacquant is Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley and researcher at the Centre de sociologie européenne, Paris.

Ian Loader is Professor of Criminology and the Director of the Centre for Criminology at the University of Oxford.

Jill Peay is Professor of Law at the London School of Economics.

Mike Levi is Professor at Cardiff University.

Liz Kelly is Professor of Sexualised Violence and Director of the Child and Woman Abuse Studies Unit, London Metropolitan University.

Conference Coordinator Tel: +44 (0) 191 227 3451

Web: www.northumbria.ac.uk/bscconference
Dear fellow criminologists throughout the world,

I am a twenty seven year resident of the city of Kobe. Like many of you, I continue to sympathize with the victims of the earthquakes and tsunami which ravaged northeastern Japan in March. The devastation and destruction were truly shocking.

In Kobe, we know firsthand of the travesty of natural disasters. In January of 1995, our city was the scene of a horrendous earthquake. Many died, and many others sought shelter after losing their homes. The Japanese, extraordinarily resilient and expedient, restored this beautiful thriving port city with alacrity and grace.

Kobe, some 700 kilometers (450 miles) from the epicenter of the tsunami, was completely unfazed by the recent disaster. Unlike Tokyo to the east, our supply of electricity has continued unabated. Fears of irradiation in Tokyo, and even farther away here in Kobe, are absolutely non-existent.

Unfortunately, we are hearing that many of you intend to abandon attendance at the upcoming 16th World Congress of the International Society for Criminology this summer. We are not only saddened, but very worried that the conference may be cancelled. The best way to aid Japan and help restore normalcy is to support the healthy and safe sectors of society. We do hope you follow through with your visit this summer, for the sake of the conference, for the sake of the field, and the well being of Japan!

Michael H. Fox
Japan Innocence and Death Penalty Research Center
www.jiadep.org
Kobe, Japan

August 5th-9th 2011 Kobe, JAPAN

Global Socio-Economic Crisis and Crime Control Policies:
Regional and National Comparison

The Japan Federation of Criminological Associations (JFCA) cordially welcomes you to participate in the forthcoming 16th World Congress of the International Society for Criminology to be held Aug 5th-9th, 2011 in Kobe, Japan.

The congress will be held in the Kobe Int’l Conference Center on Port Island, a man-made island off the coast of Kobe, a port city located near Osaka in western Japan.

General theme of the Congress is “Global Socio-Economic Crisis and Crime Control Policies: Regional and National Comparison”. Under this theme four sub-themes are set to be examined in the plenary sessions, in which internationally recognized experts are invited to make presentations:

1. Global Economic Crisis and Criminology
2. Models of State and Crime Prevention Strategies
3. Corporate and Business Crime
4. Frontiers of Clinical Criminology

Three kinds of sessions are provided: paper sessions, roundtable sessions and poster sessions. For paper sessions, we accept both individual papers and proposals for complete sessions. We are now calling for submissions. For details, please visit our site: http://wcon2011.com On-line submission, registration, hotel, and tour bookings will commence on August 1, 2010.

Please plan ahead to attend this important event for the world community of criminologists.

Inquiries:
Congress Secretariat (att: Ms.Osawa/Sakagami)
TTS Center 3F, 1-4-4 Mikuriya-sakaemachi, Higashi-osaka, OSAKA 577-0036 JAPAN
Tel: +81(0)6-6618-4323 Fax: +81(0)6-6781-8883 E-Mail: wcon2011@oucow.daishodai.ac.jp
Asian Criminological Society third annual conference
December 2011, Taipei, Taiwan

Asian Criminological Society (ACS) has been devoted to promote the empirical study of criminology and criminal justice across Asia. It seeks to enhance communication and foster education all over Asia. Conferences have been successfully organized in Macao, China; and Chennai, India.

ACS is holding its third annual conference in Taipei, Taiwan, December 16-19, 2011. National Taipei University is the primary organizer. We would like to ask more scholars and practitioners within and beyond Asia to participate for a better criminology in Asian context.

Presenters will communicate their ideas and findings on Asian criminology at the conference. A few selective key speakers include: Dr Kittipong Kittayarak, Professor Setsuo Miyazawa, and Professor Lawrence Sherman.

Paper submission and conference registration shall be completed online at our official website http://asia2011.ntpu.edu.tw/. Our conference website also provides additional information including conference schedule, accommodation, and VISA application. It is getting ready in just a few days.

For further enquiries and details, you are welcome to contact:
Professor Susyan Jou: sjou@mail.ntpu.edu.tw
Anthony Wang: iquanthon@gmail.com
Lennon Chang: lennoncyc@gmail.com

Asian Criminological Society
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Macau
Av. Padre Tomas Pereira, Taipa, Macao
Tel.: +(853) 8397 4540 Fax: +(853) 2883 8312
CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRALIA IS THE PLACE TO BE IN SEPTEMBER 2011!

Australia is hosting two international conferences in the same week in September of 2011. The conferences are:

Crime, Justice and Social Democracy
September 26 – 28, 2011
Queensland University of Technology
Gardens Point (City Campus), Brisbane

ANZSOC Conference 2011
Crime and the Regions:
From the Local to Regional, National and International
September 28 - 30, 2011
Deakin University,
Geelong Waterfront, Victoria

Key themes of the ANZSOC conference are:

- Understanding the relations between local, national and global issues
- The capacity of different criminological theories to account for the social transformations occurring today across and between these dimensions
- The growing use of new techniques of surveillance as central to governing
- The increasingly blurred lines between civil and criminal procedures and offences
- The growing interconnections between fields as diverse as financial regulation, road traffic regulation, ‘anti-social behaviour’, virtual worlds, environmental regulations, and liquor licensing and the consumption of alcohol.
- The reconfiguration of notions of human, civil and political rights and the concept of privacy.

We look forward to welcoming our international friends and hope to see you there!

STOCKHOLM CRIMINOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

The 2011 Stockholm Criminology Symposium, takes place in Stockholm, Sweden June 13-15. The main theme, Desisting from Crime. It's never too late!, will present a variety of approaches and methods developed and implemented by practitioners, researchers and governmental institutions all over the world. There will also be a large number of presentations under the theme Contemporary Criminology, which will provide an updated overview of the current state of knowledge. The organizers’ welcome abstracts and panel suggestion within the two themes until April 11.

The Stockholm Prize in Criminology is awarded in conjunction with the Symposium. The recipients of the 2011 award are John H. Laub, National Institute of Justice, USA, and Robert J. Sampson, Harvard University, USA. They will receive the Prize at Stockholm City Hall on the evening of June 14, 2011. All delegates at the symposium are invited to the ceremony, which is followed by a gala dinner. Laub and Sampson receive the prize for their research on why and how criminals stop offending.

Each year the Symposium attracts well over 500 participants from more than 30 countries. It is organized by the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention on behalf of the Swedish Ministry of Justice.

Further information can be found at www.criminologysymposium.com or by calling +46 8 401 87 82.
MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FUTURE ASC ANNUAL MEETING DATES

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2011 ANNUAL MEETING

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