



The Criminologist

The Official Newsletter of
The American Society of Criminology

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Editor's Note:

The ASC Vice President's primary role is to serve as editor of *The Criminologist*, and more specifically to work with our dedicated associated editor, Susan Sharp, to produce the issues that find their way into your mailbox. Outgoing Vice President Karen Heimer and Susan did a terrific job this past year. We all owe them a special thanks for their service to the ASC. As I assume the role in 2015, readers can expect to see the content to which they have become accustomed, including essays on selected topics of general interest and the various "corner," "forum," and "tips" columns introduced by several of my predecessors. Additionally, I will be adding two brief new sections starting with the March/April issue, both of which are geared toward giving you—our readers—a chance to sound-off. My experiences within ASC have made me aware of the outstanding intellect, creativity, and diversity of our membership, and the two new sections I am adding aim to tap into the variety of perspectives and great ideas represented.

The first section will be called Member Perspectives, and will contain selected reactions to specific emergent issues and debates around the ASC. Since many of us are still recovering from an adventure-filled week at the annual conference, I would like to kick off this section by posing a question that has been on the collective minds of the ASC leadership for at least a few years: What are some ways that the ASC conference might be enriched? Give some thought to what you really like about the conference, what you wish would be reconsidered, and most important what you see as tangible changes that could yield an improved experience. I'm eager to publish a variety of brief reactions and good ideas in the next issue.

The second new addition is a Letters to the Editor section, which will highlight your reactions to the content published in the newsletter. There is plenty in the current issue that should provide food for thought, including two lead essays that draw attention to the intersection of criminological research and media coverage. Ted Gest provides an overview of the evolution and current status of media coverage of crime research, while also commenting on the problems and prospects associated with criminologists' engaging with the media on a meaningful and consistent basis. Fox and Levin illuminate some of the same themes in their essay on mass shootings, demonstrating how media reactions and portrayals can and need to be balanced by careful empirical analysis. They make a case that doing so has important implications for conclusions drawn about recent trends in mass shootings.

If you have something to add to the lead articles or others pieces you see in the newsletter, or if you have some good ideas about how to enhance ASC, please share your thoughts with me (ebaumer@fsu.edu). Selected reactions received by February 1 will be published in the March/April issue. I look forward to hearing from you.

Eric Baumer, ASC Vice President

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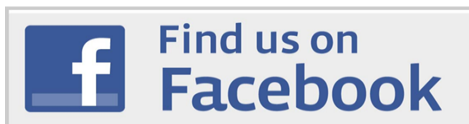
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GETTING CRIMINOLOGY TO THE PUBLIC IN TODAY'S NEW MEDIA AGE

by

Ted Gest¹

When hundreds of journalists swarmed into Ferguson, Mo., last summer to cover the aftermath of the Michael Brown shooting, it showed the U.S. news media at its best and worst in covering criminal justice. Reporters gave readers and viewers worldwide every available detail of Brown's death and its repercussions, which lasted for many months. Beyond the incident itself, there were reports on shootings by police officers around the nation, racial issues in the criminal justice system, and the operation of grand juries, among many other subjects. At the same time, news reports contained many inaccuracies and misleading statements, and in the view of some, the mere presence of a large media corps inflamed an already volatile situation and encouraged widespread destruction of property. While the verdict of history on the media's treatment of Ferguson won't be known for some time, this essay will review the state of news coverage of crime and criminal justice generally, how criminologists can do better at getting their expertise known, and the role of the American Society of Criminology.

Anecdotally, many criminologists believe that news coverage of our field has declined and that the media are negligent about responsible coverage of the vast accumulated knowledge about our subject. Critics also contend that the media make Americans more afraid of crime than they need to be and in the process promote poor criminal justice policymaking by politicians and justice professionals alike. There are some elements of truth to such criticisms, but they are much too simplistic and in some cases, flat wrong.

CRIME AND ITS COVERAGE PEAKED IN THE 1990S

Crime, and particularly individual sensational crimes, always has been a staple of U.S. news coverage, and it may have reached its peak during the lifetimes of most ASC members in the early 1990s, when the rates of reported crime in the nation were at their highest ever. A seminal account of this period can be found in the 1998 book "Scoopled!" by journalist David J. Krajicek, now vice president of a national group that I head called Criminal Justice Journalists. He wrote that, "For news consumers, the United States must seem to be a hopelessly savage place that stands teetering on the lip of the Apocalypse."

Not only were crime rates sky-high during this period but there was a series of horrible cases in the fall of 1993 alone, including the kidnapping and killing of 12-year-old Polly Klaas from her California bedroom, the murders of tourists along Florida highways, and a gunman's killing of six commuters and the wounding of 19 others on a Long Island train.

At the time, the media picture was much different from what it is today. The Internet was in its infancy, and coverage was dominated by a few nationally circulated newspapers, three television networks, and three news magazines.

The combination of the high crime numbers and the sensational cases made crime and justice Topic A for the nation. As Krajicek recounts it, Newsweek, U.S. News & World Report, and Time each published cover stories between January 10 and February 7, 1994, with headlines reading, "Growing Up Scared: How Our Kids Are Robbed of Their Childhood," "The Truth About Violent Crime: What You Really Have to Fear," and "Lock 'em Up And Throw Away the Key: Outrage Over Crime Has America Talking Tough.

Amid the public furor, President Bill Clinton, who had run for office in 1992 with a pledge to fund 100,000 additional community police officers, endorsed the "three strikes and you're out" sentencing concept, and Congress enacted a crime law in 1994 that included both of those ideas and a lot more, such as offering money for prison building to states that increased incarceration terms and a ban on assault-style weapons.

The media didn't cause the passage of the era's tough anti-crime laws on a federal and state level, but they didn't question their premise much, either. A good example is the many state laws enacted during this period to require the trying in adult courts of many juveniles accused of serious crimes. There was hardly any news reporting of research showing that sending juvenile cases to adult tribunals often resulted in the youths' getting less treatment and less time in custody than they would have if their cases had remained in juvenile courts.

We didn't know it in 1994, but crime rates would fall sharply in the years ahead. Much of the level of concern among policymakers

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and attention by the media is linked to the overall level of crime. It didn't change immediately, but as the years went on and the problem seemed to be stabilizing or receding, it started to fade out of the headlines.

The media began to change rapidly, too. As the Internet expanded and became more widely used as a news source, the mainstream news media were slow to determine how they could survive economically in the new communications landscape.

Over the years, the number of reporters at many national and local news outlets declined. (Newspaper newsroom jobs totaled nearly 57,000 in 1990 but plummeted to 36,700 this year, says the American Society of News Editors.) As crime was fading as an issue, replaced by subjects like health care, the economy and terrorism, there were fewer people covering it on a continuing basis. In practice, this meant fewer reporters at local police stations and courthouses, the place where much crime news originates. A counterbalancing factor was the birth of specialized websites, which made up for some of the declining mainstream coverage.

In criminal justice, a site called APB News.com was launched in 1998 (at the ASC conference that year in Washington, D.C.) to cover crime issues. It mounted some major projects, including a close look at crime on college and university campuses, but the site folded less than two years after it started, lacking a sustainable financial model.

The group that I head, Criminal Justice Journalists (CJJ), began a website in 2009 called TheCrimeReport.org with the Center on Media, Crime and Justice at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. This site incorporated a daily news digest that had been started by CJJ in 2003 with support of the University of Pennsylvania and the Butler Family Fund. It specializes in covering criminal justice policy as well as criminology research and other issues.

In late 2014, another site called The Marshall Project was started to cover criminal justice issues, funded by private funders and foundations. The site said it hoped that, "by bringing transparency to the systemic problems that plague our courts and prisons, we can help stimulate a national conversation about how best to reform our system of crime and punishment."

On a local level, a site called Homicide Watch DC was begun to provide coverage of every homicide in the nation's capital, loosely patterned after a similar site that the Los Angeles Times operates covering murders in the Los Angeles region. The D.C. site was threatened by financial problems in late 2014, but in general, the public has many online resources to check for information on crime and justice trends. This includes not only specialized sites but general news operations that didn't exist during the crime wave of the early 1990, such as the Huffington Post, Salon.com, and Slate.com, all of which have included crime and justice as a coverage issue.

It is clear that the quantity of crime and justice coverage in local U.S. newspapers remains high.

Criminal Justice Journalists published a report¹ in the fall of 2014 on the volume of crime coverage in March 2014 by six newspapers at the high and low end of reported crime rates by city population categories. The study included the Detroit Free Press, the El Paso Times, the Indianapolis Star, the Camden (NJ) Courier-Post, the Naperville (Ill.) Sun, and the Flint (Mi.) Journal. It found that the six newspapers averaged about 78 crime-related stories for the month, with the most appearing in the Camden newspaper and the fewest in the Naperville paper.

Continuing a long-time trend, the study found that the crime and justice news items "were overwhelmingly reported as discrete incidents, without significant context added," and that they tended to focus on violent crime, not property crime. Nearly two-thirds of the stories were based on only one source of information. Enterprise and investigative reporting did play a role. Several of the newspapers during the period studied "produced pieces that involved significant original reporting and multiple sources."

The John Jay Center each year gives an award for criminal justice print news coverage, and it is clear from the entries (I have served as a judge since its inception) that many national and local media are continuing to do serious, detailed coverage of criminal justice issues.

It is difficult to measure a negative, however. For nearly 12 years, I have surveyed the home pages of several dozen major local newspapers daily, and I have encouraged hundreds of journalists to send me crime and justice coverage they view as significant, so I have a good overview of coverage nationally.

For every newspaper like the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, which regularly publishes investigative stories on the city's police force, there are many newspapers where "enterprise" stories about criminal justice topics appear rarely, if at all. It would be difficult for average readers of these newspapers to develop much sense of how their local justice systems are operating, based on the stories displayed on home pages.

1 http://thecrimereport.s3.amazonaws.com/2/c0/e/2601/wenger_report_the_crime_beat.pdf

LESS ENTERPRISING NEWS COVERAGE OF CRIME AND JUSTICE

It is clear to me that there is less investigative reporting of criminal justice in 2014 than there was in many previous years, but there still is plenty of award-winning coverage around the nation, mostly by local newspapers but also by broadcast and online news outlets.

Within the criminal justice system, most of this involves police departments, and that is likely to continue given the widespread interest in deaths of citizens at police hands after the Ferguson case and the chokehold death of Eric Garner on New York City's Staten Island last summer.

There is less systemic coverage of prosecutors, courts and corrections, absent a crisis such as the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that led to a major "realignment" of the California prison system to relieve overcrowding. There are exceptions, such as the Denver Post's close look at Colorado's probation and parole system after the state's corrections director, Tom Clements, was murdered by a former inmate in 2013.

The hit-and-miss coverage of crime and justice in the U.S. news media reflects the historic fact that much reportage is driven by a reaction to specific incidents, which may not be rationally related to their underlying importance.

In 2012, teenager Trayvon Martin was killed by a neighborhood watch volunteer near Orlando, Fl., a case that generated a large volume of national news coverage after Martin's family enlisted help to seek publicity. One result was a close look by the media at the operation of "stand your ground" laws in Florida and other states.

It was not clear why the Ferguson case had such massive coverage, given that there are many other instances of white police officers killing black citizens. Media coverage did focus on the lack of detailed national data on police shootings despite Congress' call for such information in the omnibus 1994 crime law.

After the record-high crime totals of the early 1990s, the media settled into a routine of reporting on year-end crime data compiled by local law enforcement agencies and national figures in the FBI's Uniform Crime Report and the Bureau of Justice Statistics' National Crime Victimization Survey. As James Alan Fox of Northeastern University has observed, most of these news reports on year-to-year fluctuations ignore the broader picture by using 5- or 10-year comparisons.

This kind of reporting surely has an impact on public knowledge, which is evident in repeated surveys showing that a majority of Americans believe crime rates are rising, when they actually are stable or declining. In 2011, a year in which the Gallup organization found that 68 percent of Americans believed crime rates were rising, Gallup said, "This unwarranted pessimism may stem from the imperfect indications of crime that Americans receive from the news and other sources, as well as Americans' overall mood." It added that, "there is a positive story to be told about the nation's violent crime problem that Americans haven't yet fully heard or absorbed. (In the latest survey, issued on Nov. 21, 2014, 63 percent reported they believed crime was up in the previous year.)

While news reports may contribute to American's misperceptions, the media can't fairly be blamed for all of them. Major news organizations have reported accurately on declining crime totals. The overall effect of a steady diet of news stories about individual crimes is to drown out the articles on statistical trends.

THE ROLE OF CRIMINOLOGISTS IN NEWS COVERAGE

There are several related but distinct elements, including journalists' getting expert commentary on current issues, and the dissemination of new criminology research. Reporters regularly do stories that would benefit from criminologists' views, but only a small fraction of articles include them. Here is one example of how this can work in practice. In November 2014, a reporter at the Kitsap. (Wa.) Sun was exploring a story about a sharp drop in the crime rate in the city of Bremerton, Wa., and asked me if I had suggestions for expert commentary. I recommended that he find a criminologist in Washington state and referred him to the ASC website that lists members by state. The resulting [story](#)¹ did quote an ASC member from Seattle University.

This example illustrates the exception, not the rule. Many changes in the crime rate or other crime trends don't prompt more than minimal coverage, and many writers simply don't think to look for an expert or don't know where to start locating one.

Enterprising journalists can find criminologists, and the Internet can help them easily locate ASC members and others who have been quoted or published on a topic of interest. However, many criminologists aren't available at random moments, and some of those who are wisely decline comment on subjects on which they lack expertise.

¹ http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/bremerton-sees-plummeting-violent-crime-rate_77019516

The ASC Media Relations Committee that I chair held a session at the 2014 conference in San Francisco that discussed this subject, including a presentation by Northeastern's Fox, a frequent commentator in the news media who has written for USA Today, the Boston Globe, and others. Fox encouraged criminologists to be proactive in making their expertise known to the media, to strive to "say something meaningful" and not equivocate, and not be surprised if they are quoted in "sound bites."

This is good advice. Although there remains much "long form" journalism that thoroughly examines a subject, much of today's reporting is designed for consumers who may be seeing the result on their iPhones or briefly on computer screens. Journalism frequently consists of boiling down fairly complex explanations into understandable summaries, and criminologists can help with that.

Fox said, and I agree, that the results can both be satisfying for criminologists and useful to public policy as well. Criminologists' findings can be used by legislators and other policymakers and, in the university setting, may be seen by trustees, tuition-paying parents and other influential people.

Fox and other participants at the San Francisco session acknowledged the downsides of dealing with the media. It takes time, there is a risk of being misquoted, and some in the academic community may look down on the practice.

Still, it is worth the effort for criminologists to contribute their knowledge to media coverage.

Sarah Lageson of the University of Minnesota, who took part in our San Francisco session, recommends that "criminologists get online and track public discourse and not be afraid to directly contact journalists whose work they respect and note that their research may inform stories. Sending articles with a press release as they come out is also a good idea. Basically, be proactive and have a sense of the broader discourse around crime issues. Don't expect others to stumble across your work, especially if it's published behind a paywall."

How can this work in practice? Criminologists should have a sense of whether their research subjects are relevant to local or national discussions of policy. It may be difficult to anticipate when a journalist will write about a particular subject, but if there is some news event, for example a fatal police shooting of a citizen or an episode of school violence, and you have done research in a related area, offer it to local or national media (e.g., your local daily newspaper or the Associated Press.)

If you don't know editors and reporters by name and are on the faculty of a university or college, ask your institution's media relations department for suggestions. That unit should have appropriate media contacts and can help prepare a press release if it seems warranted. You should have an executive summary of the research that explains the results succinctly. Don't assume that a journalist will take the time to read through a long paper.

It is ideal to get in touch with the media quickly after a news story occurs, rather than a week or two later, but even if the contact take place later, you would be on file as a credible source when the subject recurs.

You are welcome to get in touch with me for advice on alerting the media to your research, and, as is mentioned below, ASC has plans to employ a social media expert to help members.

What about making policymakers and the public aware of basic criminology research as it is published? Criminologists long have pointed to coverage on the front page of newspapers and on television network newscasts of medical researchers' findings and asked, "Why can't we do that?"

The medical research that tends to get prominent coverage typically involves basic practices that could apply to huge populations of consumers, such as the finding that aspirin might help prevent heart attacks. Little news about a crime prevention technique, say, would rise to that level.

Beyond that, prominent medical journals have long-established publication routines and media contacts that enhance the chances for media pickup of new studies. Along those lines, ASC could do more with its *Criminology & Public Policy*. The journal has been offered to reporters through my own journalists' organization, and my committee is in touch with ASC's Public Policy Committee to discuss other means of dissemination.

We have also talked about other ways to get criminology knowledge spread more broadly. Among ideas are for ASC to prepare short fact sheets on important policy issues and to hire a social media expert to circulate news of members' peer-reviewed research via Facebook, Twitter, and other outlets.

One of those outlets is The Society Pages (thesocietypages.org), which describes itself as "a community of blogs aiming to apply

sociological knowledge and insights to the real world in an accessible way." It is co-edited by ASC member Chris Uggen of the University of Minnesota, and Sarah Lageson, who I quoted earlier, is a participant.

Media coverage of academic research, whether on crime and justice or any other subject, is a haphazard enterprise. Criminologists whose work can contribute to policymaking and public understanding should make more efforts to make it known to the news media, and the ASC is considering ways to improve that process.

Criminologists should understand that the media in the United States are more diverse than ever, which provides more opportunities for their work to be known but also poses the challenges of dealing with unfamiliar news organizations or blogs. I hope that more ASC members will make the effort to communicate their research that illuminates important issues of crime and justice.

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MASS CONFUSION CONCERNING MASS MURDER

by

James Alan Fox and Jack Levin, Northeastern University

When we first began investigating the patterns and characteristics of multiple homicide more than three decades ago (Levin & Fox, 1985), there was next to nothing in the literature of criminology, psychology, or psychiatry about the topic beyond a few isolated case studies. The lack of professional interest in mass murder at the time did not seem unreasonable. Under the mistaken belief that only the body counts differed from the typical homicide, it was widely accepted that if you understood single victim murder, you would also understand the situation in which multiple people are killed. Moreover, multiple homicide was perceived to be so rare that empirical research seemed undeserving of any expenditure of time and effort.

Of course, it wasn't long before serial murder, as a type of multiple homicide, emerged as a popular focus of inquiry among scholars and their students. The 1990s saw an acceleration in academic books and articles focusing on sexual sadists and repeat killers. With some notable exceptions (e.g., Holmes and Holmes, 2000; Duwe, 2007), however, criminologists continued to ignore killing sprees involving a single or short-term explosion of violence.

The Carnage of 2012

Devastating massacres at a Colorado theater and a Connecticut elementary school made mass shootings the top news story of 2012 (Associated Press, 2012), eclipsing a hotly-contested presidential race and a massive storm along the East Coast. After decades of relative disinterest, the topic suddenly had the full attention of politicians, pundits and professors alike.

As public anxiety mounted, many observers speculated about the possible reasons behind the surge in mass murder, and mass shootings in particular. Of course, perceptions are not always in line with reality, and are more strongly influenced by recent events than by those that occurred well in the past. Meanwhile, debate over the role of guns and of mental illness raged on, despite the relative dearth of hard data to serve as context.

It didn't take long for analysts from various professional sectors to attempt empirically to measure trends in mass murder and the contributing factors underlying them. Database projects were launched by news organizations (e.g., USA Today, The Washington Post, and Mother Jones), by advocacy groups (e.g., The Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence and Everytown, formerly Mayors Against Illegal Guns), by law enforcement and government agencies (e.g., the FBI in conjunction with Texas State University, the NYPD, and the Congressional Research Service), as well as by research collaboratives at some prominent universities (e.g., Stanford and Harvard). Unfortunately, rather than adding clarity, these initiatives, by virtue of their varying definitions, time frames and data sources, created even greater confusion.

Active Shooters

Until very recently, the term "active shooter"—crafted shortly after the 1999 Columbine massacre—was relatively obscure, used mostly in law enforcement circles for SWAT training exercises. But within the past few years, fueled by a few catastrophic mass murders, "active shooter" has become widely feared as the modern-day boogeyman armed with a gun.

In a speech at the October 2013 IACP conference, Attorney General Eric Holder was anything but circumspect in describing the emerging trend almost in epidemic proportions. Reflecting on an FBI-sponsored report (in collaboration with the ALERRT Center at Texas State University) on active shooters, Holder noted that over a span of just four years, America had "witnessed an increase of nearly 150% in the number of people shot and killed in connection with active shooter incidents."

Unfortunately, there is much misunderstanding about what an active shooter is exactly. A CNN report, under the headline "Mass shootings on the rise," lamented that active shooter events had "become so common, that other examples roll off the tongue: Newtown, Navy Yard, Fort Hood, Virginia Tech." However, the four examples noted in the story are the far extreme, not the norm.

As defined by the federal government, an active shooter "is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area, typically through the use of firearms" (see Blair, Martindale, & Nichols, 2014). Even though they may wish to kill large numbers of victims, these assailants typically fall short of their objective.

Probing the active shooter data highlighted by Holder reveals a pattern far different from the impression left by the deadliest shooting sprees often used as illustrations. Among the 110 active shooter cases identified between 2000 and 2012, nearly three-quarters resulted in fewer than four fatalities, which is the standard threshold for mass murder. Moreover, nearly one-quarter of the

active shooter events were resolved without any victims losing their lives. While all of these episodes were undoubtedly frightening to those impacted directly or indirectly, the majority cannot be equated with the few catastrophic slayings that have grabbed the headlines and alarmed the nation.

Even the numerical threshold is now subject to debate. In December 2012, Congress passed legislation redefining mass shooting as three or more victims killed, compelling the FBI to modify its long-standing definition. In September 2014, the Bureau then released a revised and updated report based on the new definition and some additional cases uncovered since the earlier report (see Blair & Schweit, 2014). Even with the lower threshold, the majority of the 160 active shooter events described in the FBI report were not mass shootings, whether or not the assailants had had designs to kill at least three.

The interchangeable use of the terms “active shooting” and “mass shooting” by news coverage has created a good deal of public anxiety and confusion. Numerous media outlets reported on the active shooter study with the headline, “Mass Shootings on the Rise, FBI says.”

Besides the confusion surrounding terminology, evidence suggesting an increase in active shooters is suspect, at best. Unlike mass killings, there is no routine data source for active shooters. Many cases were identified by searching news archives, which have expanded in recent years. It is not clear whether the increase in active shooter events is completely related to the actual case count or at least partially to the availability and accessibility of news reports to identify such events, particularly those in which few if any victims died. In fact, there is some evidence that several cases from the more remote years were overlooked, which would have dramatically altered the trend (see Lott & Riley, 2014).

Undeniably, the focus on active shooters is important for law enforcement and its preparedness training. However, these events are exceptionally rare and not necessarily on the increase. It is critical that we avoid carelessly scaring the American public with questionable statements about a surge in active shooter events.

A Public Menace

The moral panic and sense of urgency have been fueled by various claims that mass murders, and mass shootings in particular, are reaching epidemic levels. For example, the Mother Jones news organization, having assembled a database of public mass shootings since 1982, reported on a sharp increase in incidents and fatalities, including a spike in cases and a record number of casualties in the year 2012 (Follman, Pan, & Aronsen, 2013).

Analysts at Mother Jones and others (e.g., see Cohen, Azrael, & Miller, 2014) have focused selectively and narrowly on only certain types of mass killings—those considered to be indiscriminate and senseless rampages in public places, where, as it happens, middle-class Americans are perceived to be most vulnerable.

Gang-related killings and robberies were excluded, even though their victims are every bit as dead as those individuals whose lives are taken while shopping, sitting in a classroom, or going to a cinema. In effect, marginalized Americans who are victimized in large numbers do not seem to count as much as their more affluent counterparts. Yet some of the largest mass killings have been perpetrated by gang members for the purpose of committing robbery (e.g., a 1983 massacre at a Seattle gambling club in which 13 were executed by gunfire).

These studies have also excluded family annihilations, even those with double-digit death tolls, ostensibly because they occur in a private setting where non-family members can feel safe from violence. Another possible reason is more psychological: many people believe they can control what happens in their own homes and thus are more unnerved about crimes committed by strangers than by intimates.

Yet some massacres in private homes are actually perpetrated by intruders. Also, family annihilations don't always remain in the family. Mass murders can begin behind closed doors at home but then spread to outsiders in public places. In 1987, for example, an Arkansas man murdered his 14 family members, after which he drove to several other locations to kill a former co-worker and a young woman who had spurned his romantic advances. Sixteen victims were shot to death in total, but this case—the largest family annihilation in American history—would not be found among the mass shootings recorded by Mother Jones.

Broadly Defined

How do the findings of Mother Jones and the FBI group hold up when the full range of mass shootings and even mass murders more generally are considered? Simply put, not very well.

For years, we have tracked trends in mass shootings (incidents and victims) using the Supplementary Homicide Reports (Fox & Levin,

2015). Although these data are not without their limitations in terms of missing information, they at least are relatively consistent over a long time frame. When considering all mass shootings with four or more slain, there has been an average of about 20 per year since the mid-1970s with no real upward or downward trajectory. The only pattern is a slight rise recently in victim count, largely attributable to a few large-scale cases (e.g., 32 killed at Virginia Tech in 2007, and the 2012 massacres of 27 in Newtown, CT and 12 in Aurora, CO).

What is abundantly clear from the full array of mass shootings, besides the lack of any trend upward or downward, is the largely random variability in the annual counts. There have been several points in time when journalists and others have speculated about a possible epidemic in response to a flurry of high profile shootings. Yet these speculations have always proven to be incorrect when subsequent years reveal more moderate levels.

Not Just Guns

With the attention on mass shootings largely driven by the debate over gun control, it is important not to lose sight of the many incidents—nearly one-third of the mass murders reflected in the Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)—that involve weapons other than firearms. In fact, some of the largest incidents have been perpetrated by fire or explosives (e.g., the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing).

Although the SHR is the most consistent and long-term source of data on multiple victim homicide, it certainly has its issues in terms of accuracy. Some cases are missing (including the Sandy Hook school massacre and mass killings in Florida for several years), although these problems are not insurmountable. Also, some small jurisdictions have inappropriately included all their homicides for the year in one record, making it appear as if there had been one incident with multiple victims.

With great care, a team of analysts at USA Today verified each and every SHR mass murder incident from 2006 onward and filled in missing cases based on news reports. Unfortunately, extending the data verification and augmentation further back would have been especially challenging. At least over the past eight years, there has been absolutely no increase in the incidence of mass murder, those involving a gun and otherwise (see Overberg, Hoyer, Upton, et al., 2013).

Thinking in the Extreme

Contrary to the relatively flat trend line in mass murder, media reports leave a different—and much more terrifying—impression. Even the most extraordinary and unrepresentative episodes have been treated by cable television outlets and news websites as though they were reflective of massacres generally and therefore deserving of prolonged publicity.

Although highlighting certain headline cases may attract large audiences, it does not necessarily lead policy responses in the best direction. Extensive coverage of massive shooting sprees, for example, tends to center the debate on gun availability while ignoring critical factors such as social isolation and the eclipse of community. Emphasizing the need to protect schools and workplaces from armed intruders overlooks problems related to bullying, harassment and other forms of mistreatment of students and employees. Limiting the scope of research to indiscriminate attacks in public places focuses attention on mental illness, but fails to address issues involved in the larger pool of mass murders, such as financial despair, family discord, or hate and prejudice.

A Final Word

Although there has been no increase in mass murder over the past few decades, the incidence hasn't declined either, even as the U.S. homicide count has fallen by one-half since the early 1990s. Clearly there is more work to be done in examining this divergence.

In future research efforts, it is important to remain broad-based and inclusive in defining mass murder. It is certainly appropriate to maintain a typology of mass murder (e.g., family-related, school-associated, workplace-involved, felony-related, hate-inspired, and fully indiscriminate) and to compare characteristics across these classifications. However, research which purports to encompass mass murder in total should not arbitrarily include only those cases that fit some preconception. Ignoring certain incidents of multiple homicide, even fairly devastating ones in terms of scope, not only fails to tell the whole story of mass killings, but unreasonably trivializes their importance and adds insult to injury for those victims.

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AROUND THE ASC

2015 Election Slate for 2016 - 2017 ASC Officers

The following slate of officers, as proposed by the Nominations Committee, was approved by the ASC Executive Board for the 2015 election:

President-Elect

Doris MacKenzie, Penn State University
Jim Lynch, University of Maryland

Vice President-Elect

Janet Lauritsen, University of Missouri - St. Louis
Jody Miller, Rutgers University

Executive Counselor

Charis Kubrin, University of California, Irvine
Andres Rengifo, Rutgers University
Delores Jones-Brown, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Ineke Marshall, Northeastern University
Ryan King, Ohio State University
Brian Johnson, University of Maryland

Additional candidates for each office may be added to the ballot via petition. To be added to the ballot, a candidate needs 50 signed nominations from current, non-student ASC members. If a candidate receives the requisite number of verified, signed nominations, their name will be placed on the ballot.

Fax or mail a hard copy of the signed nominations by Friday, March 21, 2015 (postmark date) to the address noted below. Email nominations will NOT be accepted.

American Society of Criminology
1314 Kinnear Road, Suite 212
Columbus, Ohio 43212-1156
614-292-9207 (Ph)

Gorazd Meško Receives Zois Award

Gorazd Meško (University of Maribor, Ljubljana, Slovenia) recently received the Zois Award from the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Sports for academic achievements, and excellence in scientific research and development. The citation particularly noted his work on crimes against the environment, his research on policing, and his significant contributions to the development of criminology and criminological research in Slovenia and Southeastern Europe. In addition to his work in Slovenia, Dr. Meško has served as a visiting scholar at the Cambridge University Institute of Criminology, and was a visiting scholar at the Oxford University Centre for Criminology. He also has a long history of cooperative ventures with numerous international academic institutions.

DIVISION OF EXPERIMENTAL CRIMINOLOGY

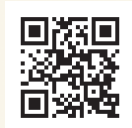
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

Membership Drive 2015 and Awards

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE DIVISION OF EXPERIMENTAL CRIMINOLOGY!

DIVISION OF EXPERIMENTAL CRIMINOLOGY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2015

The Division of Experimental Criminology (DEC) seeks to promote and improve the use of experimental evidence and methods in the advancement of criminological theory and evidence-based crime policy. The Division is also home to the Academy of Experimental Criminology, which honors outstanding scholars who have advanced experimental research.



Now is an excellent time to renew or begin your 2015 membership to the ASC and the Division of Experimental Criminology! DEC has reduced its membership fee this year for both student and non-student members—you still receive access to the *Journal of Experimental Criminology* and more! Scan the QR code (left) or visit <http://expcrim.org>.



TO DOWNLOAD THE FORM FOR YOUR ASC AND DEC MEMBERSHIPS: Scan the QR code (left) or visit <http://www.asc41.com/appform1.html>.

DEC AND AEC AWARDS

The DEC and the Academy of Experimental Criminology (AEC) are now accepting nominations for AEC Fellows and Honorary Fellows, the Joan McCord Award, the Outstanding Young Experimental Scholar Award, the Jerry Lee Lifetime Achievement Award, the Award for Outstanding Experimental Field Trial, and the Student Paper Award.

Please send all nomination letters to Charlotte Gill, DEC Secretary-Treasurer at expcrim@gmail.com.

<http://expcrim.org/aec-dec-awards/>



David Weisburd receives the 2014 Jerry Lee Lifetime Achievement Award from DEC Chair Lorraine Mazerolle in San Francisco.



2014 DEC Student Paper Award winner Evan Sorg with co-authors and mentors Elizabeth Groff and Jerry Ratcliffe in San Francisco.

DEC & AEC

The DEC is proudly sponsored by the Institute of Criminology at the University of Cambridge, the Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy at George Mason University, the Institute for Social Science Research, University of Queensland, and the Department of Criminal Justice at Temple University.

Lorraine Mazerolle (Chair), Cynthia Lum (Vice Chair), Charlotte Gill (Secretary-Treasurer)
Executive Counselors: Christopher Koper, Akiva Liberman, and Susan Turner
<http://expcrim.org>



The Division of Policing

Thanks to all who attended our very successful inaugural event for the Division in San Francisco! Visit our redesigned website at ascpolicing.org to see pictures from the event and to read the speeches made by prominent policing scholars and practitioners on their vision for the future of policing research.

We invite ASC members to join the Division of Policing in 2015 for just \$15. The mission of the Division is to advance theory, knowledge and practice in policing through rigorous research and evaluation. The Division is committed to advancing the science of policing, testing innovation in the field, and promoting excellence in practice through translational activities.

We are now in the process of forming committees and welcome your involvement in this important work. The Executive Board looks forward to an exciting and productive 2015!

<http://ascpolicing.org>

The first Executive Board members of the Division of Policing began their two-year term at the ASC Meeting in November:

Chair:

Dennis Rosenbaum

Vice Chair:

Anthony Braga

Secretary-Treasurer:

Cody Telep

Executive Counselors:

Matthew Hickman

Cynthia Lum

William Terrill

OBITUARIES

ALBERT K. COHEN



Albert K. Cohen, the noted criminologist whose work and life enlightened and inspired scholars and law enforcement practitioners around the world, passed away on November 25 in Chelsea, MA. Al was born in Boston on June 15, 1918. He graduated from the Boston Public Latin School in 1935 and from Harvard University in 1939 with high honors. At Harvard Al took courses from Pitirim Sorokin, Talcott Parsons, and Robert Merton.

Despite his outstanding academic record, Al was denied admission to most graduate programs he applied to. One department explained they were not allowed to admit Jews. However, just as Al was preparing for a career in journalism, he was accepted by Indiana University. The Sociology Chairperson there was Edwin H. Sutherland, whom Al described as another powerful influence on his intellectual development. Al received his M.A. in 1942 and worked for nine months at the Indiana Boys School, a state institution for juvenile delinquents. He then served as a lieutenant in the Army until June 1946, including one year in the Philippines where he met and “instantly” fell in love with his future wife Natividad Barrameda Manguerra (Nati), who worked at the Army’s Office of Information and Education. Al returned to Harvard spending one year in residence before leaving A.B.D. to teach at Indiana University in 1947. Nati joined Al in 1948 and they were married in December. Al completed his thesis, *Juvenile Delinquency and the Social Structure*, and received his Ph.D. in 1951. His most famous work, *Delinquent Boys: the Culture of the Gang*, considered an instant classic explanation of delinquency and gangs and a major breakthrough in criminological theory, was published in 1955. Al later wrote *Deviance and Control*, a textbook on the Sociology of Deviance, and many scholarly papers published in journals or as book chapters.

In 1965, Al moved from Indiana to become University Professor of Sociology at the University of Connecticut where he taught until retiring in 1988. Al and Nati’s home in Storrs was always a warm and welcoming gathering place for faculty members, graduate students and visiting scholars.

Al was also a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Palo Alto and a Visiting Professor or Visiting Scholar at the University of California at Berkeley, the University of California at Santa Cruz, the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Arizona State University, the Institute of Criminology (Cambridge, England), Trinity College (Dublin, Ireland), the University of Haifa, the University of the Philippines, and Kansai University. Al served as President of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Vice-President of the American Society of Criminology, and was active in the American Sociological Association. In 1993, Al received the ASC’s Sutherland Award.

Al and Nati moved for the sake of her health first to Arizona and then to San Diego. Nati passed away there in 2003. Al moved back to Storrs where his friends greatly enjoyed having dinners with him. Al was always in great physical shape. As a teenager in Boston he was adept at the art of running alongside a truck, hopping on to catch a ride, and jumping off as the truck slowed down anywhere near his destination. In Storrs he enjoyed walking many miles, and, despite the distress of friends and family, kept hitchhiking into his 90s.

Amazingly, Al assisted in an FBI investigation. The FBI informed Al that a financial planner he was working with was suspected of stealing from him and others. Al consented to having his Storrs condominium bugged and the FBI gathered important evidence that, with Al’s testimony, led to the perpetrator’s conviction. Ever the criminologist, Al wanted to interview the incarcerated con man.

Anyone who met Al soon realized he had a tremendous love of life, enormous compassion and an incredible wit and sense of humor. He kept everybody laughing at his jokes even while lying in a hospital bed. He loved to take pictures of flowers on his walks and enjoyed crafting all sorts of household items into pendants and other works of art. And he wrote many amusing poems. Al was enormously kind and helpful to everyone he knew. He was a strong supporter of the ACLU and contributed to many charities and to the universities where he studied and taught.

Al is survived by his loving niece Gerianne who took great care of her beloved Uncle Al after he could no longer live independently and by his nephews Richard Segal, Philip Segal and Marc Cohen, his niece Cindy Peterson, and Al and Nati’s niece Therese Eckel. We all love you and miss you Al.

Authored by Al Cohen (University of Connecticut), Gerianne Cohen, Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut), Jim DeFronzo (University of Connecticut) and Jungyun Gill (Stonehill College)

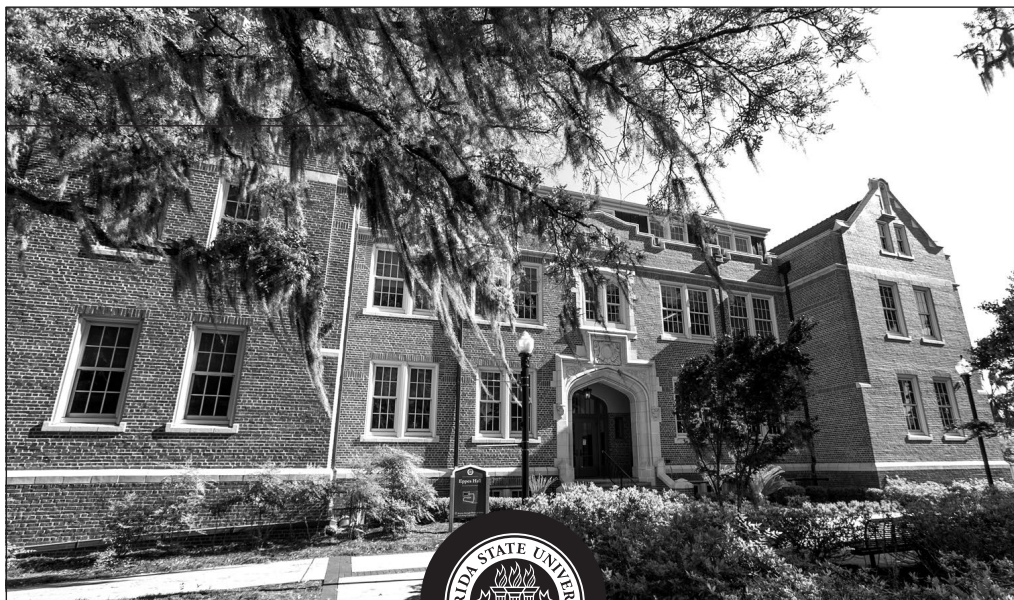
OBITUARIES

SLOAN T. LETMAN

Sloan T. Letman died on September 28, 2014 at age 67. Sloan was a unique criminologist in that he was educated in the Jesuit tradition at St. Ignatius College and Loyola University earning his undergraduate degree in sociology and his MA in urban studies. He earned his Juris Doctorate from DePaul University in 1975, and, later, his Masters of Divinity from the Chicago Theological Seminary in 1986. Sloan was affiliated with Loyola University of Chicago (1977-1984) where he rose to the rank of Associate Professor of Sociology and Dean of Social Sciences before going crosstown to the Chicago State University (1984-2006) where he retired as Professor Emeritus of Criminal Justice. He also served as Deacon, Elder, and Pastor at a number of churches in Illinois and Wisconsin. In "retirement" he served as the Lead Faculty, School of Criminal Justice/Department of Business, InterContinental University-on-line Campus from 2006 until his death.

While his academic and professional credentials are impressive, Sloan's most outstanding contribution to criminal justice, criminology, and psychology, in my estimation, is his tenacious behind-the-scenes efforts to reduce the race, ethnic, and gender barriers that long existed in both the ACJS and the ASC; beginning this endeavor in the mid-1970s when the U.S. was still reeling from the race/war riots and the Attica, Kent State, and Jackson State debacles. Sloan's clerical demeanor and quiet diplomacy did much to open up both the ACJS and the ASC to minorities reducing the once seemingly impregnable all-white male barriers as well as challenging the prevailing racist theories and practices of the day that led to the disproportionate convictions and incarcerations of minorities – an injustice only now being redressed by U.S. Attorney General Holder and the U.S. Congress. Toward these ends, Sloan served as vice-chair of the ACJS Affirmative Action Committee in 1979; recruitment coordinator, for the ASC Membership Committee (1980-81); coordinator, for the ASC, Section on Minorities in Criminal Justice (1987); and chair of the ACJS Affirmative Action Committee in 1994. He was also active in the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, and the Society of Police and Criminal Psychology – serving as president in 1980. Clearly Sloan made inroads and opened doors, albeit quietly and without self-promotion, in these professional organizations aiding in their transition from closed cop-shop operations to world recognized disciplines.

Authored by Laurence Armand French, Ph.D.s frogwnmu@yahoo.com
Justiceworks/Justice Studies, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

AREAS of Expertise

CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY • LIFE COURSE CRIMINOLOGY
NEIGHBORHOOD EFFECTS ON CRIME • PEER ASSOCIATION • SENTENCING
CORRECTIONS • BIOSOCIAL CRIMINOLOGY • GUN CONTROL
JUVENILE JUSTICE • SOCIAL CONTROL • RACIAL DISPARITIES

RESEARCH *Brought to Life*

- The Center for Criminology and Public Policy Research expands the influence of scholarship in the public policy arena and promotes evidence-based policy-making and practice at the local, state, and national levels.
- The Institute for the Prevention of Financial Fraud, a subsidiary of the Center, promotes research about

financial fraud in the banking, insurance, and financial industries.

- An indicator of the College's national reputation and major achievement has been the selection of the College and College faculty to edit four respected and widely read professional journals: Criminology and Public Policy, Criminology, Justice Quarterly, and Social Problems.

BUILDING *An Intellectual Community*

- The College's new home, historic Eppes Hall, features redesigned research environments which increase collaboration by integrating student and faculty office suites, offering state-of-the-art technology, and promoting interdisciplinary learning across areas of study like computer

science, accounting, public administration, social work, and law.

- The College of Criminology and Criminal Justice is expanding its faculty to accommodate the needs of one of the most in-demand programs on campus.

MEET *Our Faculty*

- **BILL BALES**
Professor and Director, Center for Criminology and Public Policy Research
- **ERIC BAUMER**
Allen E. Liska Professor of Criminology
- **KEVIN BEAVER**
Professor and Director, Distance Learning Program
- **THOMAS BLOMBERG**
Dean and Sheldon L. Messinger Professor of Criminology
- **TED CHIRICOS**
William Julius Wilson Professor of Criminology
- **BILLY CLOSE**
Assistant Professor
- **JENNIFER COPP**
Assistant Professor
- **BILL DOERNER**
Professor
- **MARC GERTZ**
Professor
- **CARTER HAY**
Professor and Director, Graduate Program
- **KECIA JOHNSON**
Assistant Professor
- **GARY KLECK**
David J. Bordua Professor of Criminology
- **DAN MAIER-KATKIN**
Professor
- **DAN MEARS**
Mark C. Stafford Professor of Criminology
- **ASHLEY RUBIN**
Assistant Professor
- **SONJA SIENNICK**
Assistant Professor
- **ERIC STEWART**
Professor
- **BRIAN STULTS**
Associate Professor
- **JILLIAN TURANOVIC**
Assistant Professor
- **GORDON WALDO**
Professor Emeritus
- **PATRICIA WARREN**
Associate Professor and Director, Undergraduate Program

RECENT PhD GRADUATES

Gorislavsky, Ekaterina, "Racial-Ethnic Differences in Rape and Sexual Assault Victimization: A Pooled Analysis of NCVS Data, 1994-2010." Chaired by Janet Lauritsen, 2014, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Kras, Kimberly, "Redemption or Condemnation? A Long-Term Follow-up of the Desistance Patterns of Sex Offenders." Chaired by Beth Huebner, 2014, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Vecchio, Michael J., "The Role of Violence within and across Self-identified Gang Youth." Chaired by Finn Esbensen, 2014, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Wiley, Stephanie, "The Amplification of Deviance Following Police Contact: An Examination of Individual and Neighborhood Factors among a Sample of Youth." Chaired by Finn Esbensen, 2014, University of Missouri-St. Louis.



APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE FEMINIST CRIMINOLOGY GRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

The Division on Women and Crime is now accepting applications for the Feminist Criminology Graduate Research Scholarship, which is designed to recognize an exceptional graduate student in the field of gender and crime. The scholarship is funded by the royalties from *Feminist Criminology*, an innovative journal that is dedicated to research related to women, girls, and crime within the context of a feminist critique of criminology. Published quarterly by SAGE Publications as the official journal of the Division on Women and Crime (DWC) of the American Society of Criminology, this international publication focuses on research and theory that highlights the gendered nature of crime.

For the next four years the DWC will award one graduate student annually a one-time scholarship in the amount of US\$5,000 to support a project involving original research. The student must be the leader or principal investigator on the project.

Applications are due to the division by March 1, 2015. Winners will be notified by May 2015.

To read more about the Feminist Criminology Graduate Research Scholarship, visit <http://ascdwc.com/student-awards>.

LARRY J. SIEGEL GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

**APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED
FOR THE LARRY J. SIEGEL GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS
FOR THE STUDY OF GENDER AND CRIME AND THE STUDY OF VICTIMOLOGY**

The Division on Women and Crime and the Division on Victimology are now accepting applications for the Larry J. Siegel Graduate Fellowships (given by the Darald and Julie Libby Foundation), recognizing exceptional graduate students in the fields of gender and crime and victimology.

Each division will annually give one graduate student a one-time award in the amount of \$5,000 to support a project involving original research, program or service development, implementation, and/or evaluation, or advocacy. The award will be given based on the originality of the proposed project, potential of the project to inform research, theory, or practice, and feasibility of the proposed project, including the budget and timeline for completion.

Applications are due to the divisions by March 1, 2015. Winners will be notified by May 2015.

To read more about the Larry J. Siegel Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Gender and Crime, visit <http://ascdwc.com/student-awards>.

To read more about the Larry J. Siegel Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Victimology, visit <http://www.ascdov.com/news-events>.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

West Virginia University - The Department of Sociology and Anthropology at West Virginia University invites applications for a Visiting Assistant Professor for Fall 2015. Visit: soca.wvu.edu/jobs for more information.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - 2015 ASC AWARDS



The American Society of Criminology

Announces its call for nominations

for the 2015 Awards

ASC Fellows

Herbert Bloch Award

Ruth Shonle Cavan Young Scholar Award

Michael J. Hindelang Award

Mentor Award

Outstanding Article Award

Sellin-Glueck Award

Edwin H. Sutherland Award

Teaching Award

August Vollmer Award

Gene Carte Student Paper Competition

Graduate Fellowship for Ethnic Minorities

****These Awards will be presented during the Annual Meeting of the Society.**

The Society reserves the right to not grant any of these awards during any given year.

Award decisions will be based on the strength of the nominees' qualifications and not on the number of nomination endorsements received for any particular candidate (or manuscripts in the context of the Hindelang and Outstanding Paper awards). Current members of the ASC Board are ineligible to receive any ASC award.**

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - 2015 ASC AWARDS

NOMINATIONS FOR 2015 ASC AWARDS

(Nomination submission dates and rules are the same for awards on this page)

The ASC Awards Committee invites nominations for the following awards. In submitting your nominations, provide the following supporting materials: a letter evaluating a nominee's contribution and its relevance to an award, and the nominee's curriculum vitae (short version preferred) by **March 1** to the appropriate committee chair. All materials should be submitted in electronic format. The awards are:

EDWIN H. SUTHERLAND AWARD, which recognizes outstanding scholarly contributions to theory or research in criminology on the etiology of criminal and deviant behavior, the criminal justice system, corrections, law or justice. The distinguished contribution may be based on a single outstanding book or work, on a series of theoretical or research contributions, or on the accumulated contributions by a senior scholar.

Committee Chair: **CATHY S. WIDOM** (212) 237-8978 (P)
John Jay College of Criminal Justice cwidom@jjay.cuny.edu

AUGUST VOLLMER AWARD, which recognizes an individual whose scholarship or professional activities have made outstanding contributions to justice or to the treatment or prevention of criminal or delinquent behavior.

Committee Chair: **CAROLYN REBECCA BLOCK** (773) 743-7295 (P)
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority crblock@rcn.com

HERBERT BLOCH AWARD, which recognizes outstanding service contributions to the American Society of Criminology and to the professional interests of criminology.

Committee Chair: **MARJORIE ZATZ** (209) 228-4723 (P)
University of California, Merced mzatz@ucmerced.edu

THORSTEN SELLIN & SHELDON AND ELEANOR GLUECK AWARD, which is given in order to call attention to criminological scholarship that considers problems of crime and justice as they are manifested outside the United States, internationally or comparatively. Preference is given for scholarship that analyzes non-U.S. data, is predominantly outside of U.S. criminological journals, and, in receiving the award, brings new perspectives or approaches to the attention of the members of the Society. The recipient need not speak English. However, his/her work must be available in part, at least, in the English language (either by original publication or through translation).

Committee Chair: **MICHAEL TONRY** (612) 625-1314 (P)
University of Minnesota tonry001@umn.edu

RUTH SHONLE CAVAN YOUNG SCHOLAR AWARD (Sponsored by Pearson Education) - This Award is given to recognize outstanding scholarly contributions to the discipline of criminology by someone who has received the Ph.D., MD, LL.D., or a similar graduate degree no more than five years before the selection for the award (for this year the degree must have been awarded no earlier than May 2010), unless exceptional circumstances (ie., illness) necessitates a hiatus in their scholarly activities. If the candidate has a multiple of these degrees, the last five-year period is from the date when the last degree was received. The award may be for a single work or a series of contributions, and may include coauthored work. Those interested in being considered or in nominating someone for the Cavan Award should send: (a) a letter evaluating a nominee's contribution and its relevance to the award; (b) applicant's/nominee's curriculum vitae; and (c) no more than 3 published works, which may include a combination of articles and one book. All nominating materials should be submitted in electronic format, except for book submissions. A hard copy of any book submission should be mailed to the Committee Chair. The deadline for nominations is **March 1**.

Committee Chair: **CHRISTOPHER UGGEN** (612) 624-4016 (P)
Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota uggen001@umn.edu
909 Social Sciences, 267 19th Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55455

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - 2015 ASC AWARDS

OUTSTANDING ARTICLE AWARD - This award honors exceptional contributions made by scholars in article form. The award is given annually for the peer-reviewed article that makes the most outstanding contribution to research in criminology. The current Committee will consider articles published during the 2013 calendar year. The Committee automatically considers all articles published in *Criminology* and in *Criminology & Public Policy*, and will consider articles of interest published in other journals. We are also soliciting nominations for this award. To nominate articles, please send full citation information for the article and a brief discussion of your reasons for the recommendation. The deadline for nominations is **February 15**.

Committee Chair: **JUKKA SAVOLAINEN** (402) 554-2610 (P)
University of Nebraska Omaha jsavolainen@unomaha.edu

MICHAEL J. HINDELANG AWARD - This award is given annually for a book, published within three (3) calendar years preceding the year in which the award is made, that makes the most outstanding contribution to research in criminology. For this year, the book must have been published in 2012, 2013, or 2014. To be considered, books must be nominated by individuals who are members of the American Society of Criminology. The Committee will not consider anthologies and/or edited volumes. To nominate a book, please submit the title of the book, its authors, the publisher, the year of the publication, and a brief discussion of your reasons for the recommendation. The deadline for nominations is **February 15**.

Committee Chair: **PEGGY GIORDANO** (419) 372-2320 (P)
Bowling Green State University pgiorda@bgsu.edu

ASC FELLOWS - The title of "Fellow" is given to those members of the Society in good standing who have achieved distinction in the field of criminology. The honorary title of "Fellow" recognizes persons who have made a scholarly contribution to the intellectual life of the discipline, whether in the form of a singular, major piece of scholarship or cumulative scholarly contributions. Longevity alone is not sufficient. In addition, a Fellow must have made a significant contribution to the field through the career development of other criminologists and/or through organizational activities within the ASC. In your nominating letter, please describe the reasons for your nomination and include a copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae (or make arrangements to have it sent to the Committee Chair). Please limit nominations to a single cover letter and the nominee's curriculum vitae. All materials should be submitted in electronic format. The Board may elect up to four (4) persons as Fellows annually. Large letter-writing campaigns do not benefit nominees and unnecessarily burden the Committee. Award decisions will be based on the strength of the nominees' qualifications and not on the number of nomination endorsements received for any particular candidate. The deadline for nominations is **March 1**. A list of ASC Fellows can be found at www.asc41.com/felsnom.html.

Committee Chair: **PATTY McCALL** (919) 515-9010 (P)
North Carolina State University patty_mccall@ncsu.edu

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP FOR ETHNIC MINORITIES

The Graduate Fellowship for Ethnic Minorities is designed to encourage students of color to enter the field of criminology and criminal justice

Eligibility: Applicants are to be from ethnic minority groups underrepresented in the field, including but not limited to, Asians, Blacks, Indigenous peoples, and Hispanics. Applicants need not be members of the American Society of Criminology. Individuals studying criminology or criminal justice issues are encouraged to apply. The recipients of the fellowships must be accepted into a program of doctoral studies.

Application Procedures: A complete application must contain (1) proof of admission to a criminal justice, criminology, or related program of doctoral studies; (2) up-to-date curriculum vita; (3) indication of race or ethnicity; (4) copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts; (5) statement of need and prospects for financial assistance for graduate study; (6) a letter describing career plans, salient experiences, and nature of interest in criminology and criminal justice; and (7) three letters of reference. All application materials should be submitted in electronic format.

Awards: Generally three (3), \$6,000 fellowships are awarded each year.

Submission Deadline: All items should be submitted in electronic format by **March 1**.

Committee Chair: **ALEX PIQUERO** (972) 883-2482 (P)
University of Texas at Dallas apiquero@utdallas.edu

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - 2015 ASC AWARDS

GENE CARTE STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

The Gene Carte Student Paper Award is given to recognize outstanding scholarly work of students.

Eligibility: Any student currently enrolled on a full-time basis in an academic program at either the undergraduate or graduate level is invited to participate in the American Society of Criminology Gene Carte Student Paper Competition. Prior Carte Award first place prize winners are ineligible. Students may submit only one paper a year for consideration in this competition. Dual submissions for the Carte Award and any other ASC award in the same year (including division awards) are disallowed. Previous prize-winning papers (any prize from any organization and or institution) are ineligible.

Application Specifications: Papers may be conceptual and/or empirical but must be directly related to criminology. Papers may be no longer than 7,500 words. The *Criminology* format for the organization of text, citations and references should be used. Authors' names and departments should appear only on the title page. The next page of the manuscript should include the title and a 100-word abstract. The authors also need to submit a copy of the manuscript, as well as a letter verifying their enrollment status as full-time students, co-signed by the dean, department chair or program director, all in electronic format.

Judging Procedures: The Student Awards Committee will rate entries according to criteria such as the quality of the conceptualization, significance of the topic, clarity and aptness of methods, quality of the writing, command of relevant work in the field, and contribution to criminology.

Awards: The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place papers will be awarded prizes of \$500, \$300, and \$200, respectively and will be eligible for presentation at the upcoming Annual Meeting. The 1st prize winner will also receive a travel award of up to \$500 to help defray costs for attending the Annual Meeting. The Committee may decide that no entry is of sufficient quality to declare a winner. Fewer than three awards may be given.

Submission Deadline: All items should be submitted in electronic format by April 15.

Committee Chair:

JODI LANE
University of Florida

(352) 294-7179 (P)
jlane@ulf.edu

MENTOR AWARD

The Mentor Award (established in 2014) is designed to recognize excellence in mentorship in the discipline of Criminology and Criminal Justice over the span of an academic career.

Any nonstudent member of the ASC is an eligible candidate for the ASC Mentor Award, including persons who hold a full or part time position in criminology, practitioners and researchers in nonacademic settings. The award is not limited to those members listed in the ASC Mentoring Program.

Nonstudent members may be nominated by colleagues, peers, or students but self-nominations are not allowed. A detailed letter of nomination should contain concrete examples and evidence of how the nominee has sustained a record of enriching the professional lives of others, and be submitted to the Chair of the ASC Mentor Award Committee. The letter should specify the ways the nominee has gone beyond his/her role as a professor, researcher or collaborator to ensure successful enculturation into the discipline of Criminology and Criminal Justice, providing intellectual professional development outside of the classroom and otherwise exemplary support for Criminology/Criminal Justice undergraduates, graduates and post-graduates.

The mentorship portfolio should include:

1. Table of contents,
2. Curriculum Vita, and
3. Detailed evidence of mentorship accomplishments, which may include: academic publications, professional development, teaching, career guidance, research and professional networks, and other evidence of mentoring achievements.

Letters of nomination (including statements in support of the nomination) should be submitted in electronic form and must be received by **April 1**. The nominee's portfolio and all other supporting materials should also be submitted in electronic form and must be received by **June 30**.

Committee Chair:

RUTH PETERSON
Ohio State University

(614) 292-6681 (P)
Peterson.5@sociology.osu.edu

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - 2015 ASC AWARDS

TEACHING AWARD

The Teaching Award is a lifetime-achievement award designed to recognize excellence in undergraduate and/or graduate teaching over the span of an academic career. This award is meant to identify and reward teaching excellence that has been demonstrated by individuals either (a) at one educational institution where the nominee is recognized and celebrated as a master teacher of criminology and criminal justice; or, (b) at a regional or national level as a result of that individual's sustained efforts to advance criminological/criminal justice education.

Any faculty member who holds a full- or part-time position teaching criminology or criminal justice is eligible for the award, inclusive of graduate and undergraduate universities as well as two- and four-year colleges. In addition, faculty members who have retired are eligible within the first two years of retirement.

Faculty may be nominated by colleagues, peers, or students; or they may self-nominate, by writing a letter of nomination to the Chair of the Teaching Award Committee. Letters of nomination should include a statement in support of nomination of not more than three pages. The nominee and/or the nominator may write the statement.

Nominees will be contacted by the Chair of the Teaching Award Committee and asked to submit a teaching portfolio of supporting materials.

The teaching portfolios should include:

1. Table of contents,
2. Curriculum Vita, and
3. Detailed evidence of teaching accomplishments, which may include:
 - student evaluations, which may be qualitative or quantitative, from recent years or over the course of the nominee's career
 - peer reviews of teaching
 - nominee statements of teaching philosophy and practices
 - evidence of mentoring
 - evidence of research on teaching (papers presented on teaching, teaching journals edited, etc.)
 - selected syllabi
 - letters of nomination/reference, and
 - other evidence of teaching achievements.

The materials in the portfolio should include brief, descriptive narratives designed to provide the Teaching Award Committee with the proper context to evaluate the materials. Student evaluations, for example, should be introduced by a very brief description of the methods used to collect the evaluation data and, if appropriate, the scales used and available norms to assist with interpretation. Other materials in the portfolio should include similar brief descriptions to assist the Committee with evaluating the significance of the materials.

Letters of nomination (including statements in support of nomination) should be submitted in electronic format and must be received by **April 1**. The nominee's portfolio and all other supporting materials should also be submitted in electronic format and must be received by **June 1**.

Committee Chair:

VICTOR RIOS
University of California, Santa Barbara

(805) 893-6036 (P)
vrios@soc.ucsb.edu

2015 ASC CALL FOR PAPERS



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

CALL FOR PAPERS

**Annual Meeting 2015
Washington DC
November 18 – 21 2015
Washington Hilton**

The Politics of Crime & Justice

Program Co-Chairs:

Jean McGloin, University of Maryland
and
Chris Sullivan, University of Cincinnati
asc2015dc@gmail.com

ASC President:

CANDACE KRUTTSCHNITT
University of Toronto

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Thematic panels, individual paper abstracts, and author meets critics panels due:
Friday, March 13th, 2015

Posters and roundtable abstracts due:
Friday, May 15th, 2015

2015 ASC CALL FOR PAPERS

SUBMISSION DETAILS

All abstracts must be submitted on-line through the ASC website at www.asc41.com/annualmeeting.htm. On the site you will be asked to indicate the type of submission you wish to make. The submission choices available for the 2015 meetings include: (1) Complete Thematic Panel, (2) Individual Paper Presentation, (3) Author Meets Critics Session, (4) Poster Presentation, or (5) Roundtable Submission.

Please note that late submissions will NOT be accepted. Also, submissions that do not follow the guidelines will be rejected. We encourage you to submit in sufficient advance of the deadline so that you can contact the ASC staff (for responses during normal business hours) if you are having problems submitting.

Complete Thematic Panel: For a thematic panel, you must submit titles, abstracts (no more than 200 words) and author information for all papers together. Each panel should contain between three and four papers and possibly one discussant. We encourage panel submissions organized by individuals, ASC Divisions, and other working groups.

- PANEL SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Friday, March 13th, 2015

Individual Paper Presentations: Submissions for a regular session presentation must include a title and abstract of no more than 200 words, along with author information. Please note that these presentations are intended for individuals to discuss work that has been completed or where substantial progress has been made. Presentations about work that has yet to begin or is only in the formative stage are not appropriate here and may be more suitable for roundtable discussion (see below).

- INDIVIDUAL PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Friday, March 13th, 2015

Author Meets Critics: These sessions, organized by an author or critic, consist of one author and three to four critics discussing and critiquing a recently published book relevant to the ASC (note: the book must appear in print before the submission deadline (March 13, 2015) so that reviewers can complete a proper evaluation and to ensure that ASC members have an opportunity to become familiar with the work). Submit the author's name and title of the book and the names of the three to four persons who have agreed to comment on the book.

- AUTHOR MEETS CRITICS SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Friday, March 13th, 2015

Poster Presentations: Submissions for poster presentations require only a title and abstract of no more than 200 words, along with author information. Posters should display theoretical work or methods, data, policy analyses, or findings in a visually appealing poster format that will encourage questions and discussion about the material.

- POSTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Friday, May 15th, 2015

Roundtable Sessions: These sessions consist of three to six presenters discussing related topics. For roundtable submissions, you may submit either a single paper to be placed in a roundtable session or a complete roundtable session. Submissions for a roundtable must include a title and abstract of no more than 200 words, along with participant information. A full session requires a session title and brief description of the session. Roundtable sessions are generally less formal than thematic paper panels. Thus, ASC provides no audio/visual equipment for these sessions.

- ROUNDTABLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Friday, May 15th, 2015
-

2015 ASC CALL FOR PAPERS

APPEARANCES ON PROGRAM

Individuals may submit **ONLY ONE FIRST AUTHOR PRESENTATION**. Ordinarily individuals may make one other appearance as either a chair or discussant on a panel. Appearances on the Program as a co-author, a poster presenter, or a roundtable participant are unlimited.

Only original papers that have not been published or presented elsewhere may be submitted to the Program Committee for presentation consideration.

The meetings are Wednesday, November 18th, through Saturday, November 21st. Sessions may be scheduled at any time during the meetings. ASC cannot honor personal preferences for day and time of presentations. All program participants are expected to register for the meeting. We encourage everyone to pre-register before September 28th to avoid paying a higher registration fee and the possibility of long lines at the onsite registration desk at the meeting. You can go to the ASC website at www.asc41.com under Annual Meeting Info to register online or access a printer friendly form to fax or return by mail. Pre-registration materials should be sent to you by August 31st, 2015.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

- **Friday, March 13th, 2015** is the **absolute** deadline for thematic panels, regular panel presentations, and author meets critics sessions.
- **Friday, May 15th, 2015** is the **absolute** deadline for the submission of posters and roundtable sessions.

ABSTRACTS

All submissions, including roundtables, must include an abstract of no more than 200 words. They should describe the general theme of the presentation and, where relevant, the methods and results.

EQUIPMENT

Only LCD projectors will be available for all panel and paper presentations to enable computer-based presentations. However, presenters will need to bring their own personal computers or arrange for someone on the panel to bring a personal computer. *Overhead projectors will no longer be provided.*

GUIDELINES FOR ONLINE SUBMISSIONS

Before creating your account and submitting an abstract for a single paper or submitting a thematic panel, please make sure that you have the following information on all authors and co-authors (discussants and chairs, if a panel): name, phone number, email address, and affiliation. **This information is necessary to complete the submission.**

When submitting an abstract or complete panel at the ASC submission website, you should select a single sub-area (1 through 44) in 1 of 11 broader areas listed below. Please select the area and sub-area most appropriate for your presentation and only submit your abstract once. If there is no relevant sub-area listed, then select only the broader area. If you are submitting an abstract for a roundtable, poster session or author meets critics panel, you only need to select the broader area (i.e., Areas XI, XII, XIII); no sub-area is offered. Your choice of area and sub-area (when appropriate) will be important in determining the panel for your presentation and will assist the program chairs in avoiding time conflicts for panels on similar topics.

- Tips for choosing appropriate areas and sub-areas:
 - o Review the entire list before making a selection.
 - o Choose the most appropriate area first and then identify the sub-area that is most relevant to your paper.

The area and sub-area you choose should be based on the aspect of your paper that you would describe as the primary focus of the paper. For example, if your paper deals with the sentencing of white collar offenders, you would likely choose Area IV, sub-area 13.

PLEASE NOTE: CLICK ACCEPT AND CONTINUE UNTIL THE SUBMISSION IS FINALIZED. *After you have finished entering all required information, you will receive a confirmation email immediately indicating that your submission has been recorded. If you do not receive this confirmation, please contact ASC immediately to resolve the issue.*

For participant instructions, see also http://asc41.com/Annual_Meeting/instruct.html

2015 ASC CALL FOR PAPERS

Area I	Presidential Plenaries	[President & Program Committee]	
Area II	Division "Highlighted" Sessions	[one submission from each division chair]	
Area III	Causes of Crime and Criminal Behavior	Christopher Browning	browning.90@osu.edu
1	Biological, Bio-social, and Psychological Perspectives	JC Barnes	barnejr@ucmail.uc.edu
2	Developmental and Life Course Perspectives	Stacey Bosick	stacey.bosick@ucdenver.edu
3	Social Process Theories	Olena Antonaccio	oantonaccio@miami.edu
4	Routine Activities and Situational Perspectives	Tamara Madensen	Tamara.Madensen@unlv.edu
5	Neighborhood & Place	Shaun Thomas	sathomas@ualr.edu
6	Structural Theories (Culture, Disorganization, Anomie)	Ben Feldmeyer	ben.feldmeyer@uc.edu
7	Critical, Conflict & Feminist Perspectives	LaDonna Long	llong@roosevelt.edu
Area IV	Types of Offending	Chris Schreck	cjsgcj@rit.edu
8	Violent Crime	Karen Parker	kparker@udel.edu
9	Property and Public Order Crime	Bill Sousa	William.sousa@unlv.edu
10	Drugs	Martin Bouchard	mbouchard@sfu.ca
11	Domestic Violence	Alesha Durfee	Alesha.Durfee@asu.edu
12	Sex Crimes	Chrysanthi Leon	santhi@udel.edu
13	White Collar, Cyber, Occupational & Organization Crime	Danielle McGurrin	dmcgurri@pdx.edu
14	Organized Crime	Aili Malm	Aili.Malm@csulb.edu
15	Terrorism & Hate Crimes	Pete Simi	psimi@unomaha.edu
16	Green Criminology	Andrew Lemieux	ALemieux@nscr.nl
Area V	Correlates of Crime	Derek Kreager	dak27@psu.edu
17	Gangs & Peers	Lorine Hughes	lahughes@unomaha.edu
18	Substance Abuse	Kristina Childs	Kristina.childs@ucf.edu
19	Weapons	Jennifer Carlson	Jennifer.carlson@utoronto.ca
20	Mental Health	Sarah Manchak	sarah.manchak@uc.edu
21	Gender, Race & Social Class	Toya Like-Haislip	liket@umkc.edu
22	Immigration/Migration	Jacob Stowell	J.stowell@neu.edu
Area VI	Victimology	Lynn Addington	adding@american.edu
23	Patterns and Trends in Victimization	Jennifer Schwartz	Jennifer.Schwartz@wsu.edu
24	Fear of Crime Victimization	Allison Payne	Allison.payne@villanova.edu
25	Policy & Prevention of Victimization	Kate Fox	Katefox@asu.edu

2015 ASC CALL FOR PAPERS

Area VII The Criminal Justice System

26	Policing & Law Enforcement	Shawn Bushway	sbushway@albany.edu
27	Prosecution, Courts & Sentencing	David Klinger	Klingerd@umsl.edu
28	Capital Punishment	Angela Reitler	areitler@gmu.edu
29	Jails & Prisons	Marla Sandys	msandys@indiana.edu
30	Community Corrections	Josh Page	page@umn.edu
31	Prisoner Reentry	Ben Steiner	bmsteiner@unomaha.edu
32	The Juvenile Justice System	Phil Goodman	p.goodman@utoronto.ca
33	Criminal Justice Policy	Aaron Kupchik	akupchik@udel.edu
		Greg Pogarsky	gpogarsky@albany.edu

Area VIII Perceptions of Crime & Justice

34	Media & Social Construction of Crime	Rod Brunson	rodbruns@newark.rutgers.edu
35	Attitudes about the Criminal Justice System & Punishment	Michelle Brown	brown7210@gmail.com
36	Convict Criminology	Justin Pickett	jpickett@albany.edu
		Michael Lenza	lenzam@uwosh.edu

Area IX Comparative & Historical Perspectives

37	Cross-National Comparison of Crime & Justice	Susanne Karstedt	s.karstedt@leeds.ac.uk
38	Historical Comparisons of Crime	Amy Nivette	amy.nivette@nuffield.ox.ac.uk
39	Transnational Crime & Justice	Randolph Roth	Roth.5@osu.edu
		Jay Albanese	jsalbane@vcu.edu

Area X Methodology

40	Advances in Quantitative Methods	Gary Sweeten	Gary.Sweeten@asu.edu
41	Advances in Qualitative Methods	Sonja Siennick	ssiennick@fsu.edu
42	Advances in Evaluation Research	Sandra Bucerius	bucerius@ualberta.edu
43	Advances in Experimental Methods	Thomas Loughran	tloughran@umd.edu
44	Advances in Teaching Methods	Sarah Bennett	sarah.bennett@uq.edu.au
		Jody Clay-Warner	jclayw@uga.edu

Area XI Roundtable Sessions

Megan Augustyn Megan.Augustyn@utsa.edu

Area XII Poster Sessions

Susan Case asc@asc41.com

Area XIII Author Meets Critics

Finn Esbensen esbensenf@msx.umsl.edu



GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

Master of Science Program
Distance Learning Master of Science Program
Ph.D. Program

Main Areas of Specialization:
Corrections, Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice, Criminology, Policing

For more information, please visit our website at:
www.uc.edu/criminaljustice

The Faculty

J.C. Barnes (Florida State University) Biosocial Criminology; Life-Course Criminology; Applied Statistics
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
Nicholas Corsaro (Michigan State University) Policing, Environmental Criminology, Research Methods
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
Ben Feldmeyer (Pennsylvania State University) Race/Ethnicity, Immigration, and Crime; Demography of Crime; Methods
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
Edward J. Latessa (The Ohio State University) Rehabilitation; Offender/Program Assessment; Community Corrections
Sarah M. Manchak (University of California, Irvine) Correctional interventions, Risk Assessment and Reduction,
 Offenders with Mental Illness
Joseph L. Nedelec (Florida State University) Biosocial Criminology; Evolutionary Psychology; Life-Course Criminology
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; Emeritus) 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 P. 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

2014 ASC ANNUAL MEETING



Our New Presidents - Candace Kruttschnitt and Ruth Peterson



Lateefah Simon -
Presidential Justice Award Recipient



Jody Miller, Finn Esbensen, Alan Lizotte, Kathleen Daly -
New ASC Fellows



Carolyn Becky Block -
Herbert Bloch Award Recipient



Callie H. Burt -
Ruth Shonle Cavan Award Recipient



Robert J. Sampson -
Michael J. Hindelang Award Recipient



Chong Min Na -
Outstanding Paper Award Recipient



Michael Levi -
Sheldon/Gluck Award Recipient



David Weisburd -
Edwin H. Sutherland Award Recipient



David P. Farrington -
August Vollmer Award Recipient



Janet Garcia and Brittany Friedman -
Minority Fellowship Recipients



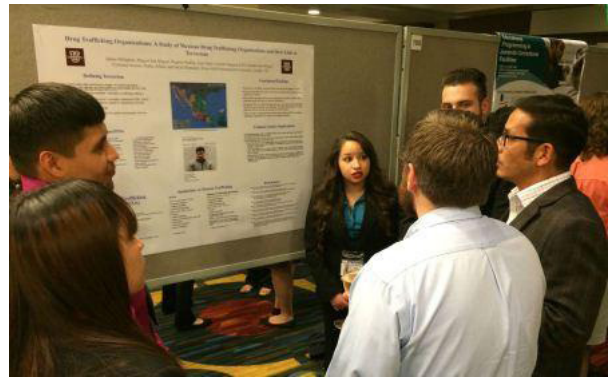
Erin Wolbeck, Marin Wenger, Adam Boessen - Gene Carte Student Paper Award Recipients



Exhibit Hall



Poster Session



Poster Session



DCC social



Natasha Frost and Beth Huebner at the Ice Cream Social



Freda Adler and assemblage

EDITOR'S CORNER

SOME ANSWERS TO CRIMINOLOGY FAQs

by

Eric Baumer, Wayne Osgood, and Rosemary Gartner
The Editors of *Criminology*

During our four years as editors of *Criminology*, we have received many good questions about the procedures we follow, our stance on certain types of paper submissions, and various other matters related to the mission and operation of the journal. Most often, these questions come in e-mails or phone calls from authors or reviewers, but we also have fielded some in professional forums, such as the "students meet editors" panel held during the recent ASC conference in San Francisco. A handful of these queries have risen to the status of "frequently asked questions" (i.e., FAQs), so we thought it would be useful to state them—and our answers—in this public forum.

Before commencing the "Q & A," we should acknowledge one caveat. While our approach to editing the journal generally has conformed to unwritten norms established by the many editors who have preceded us, most of the matters we highlight here are not governed by official ASC policies or by-laws. Instead, they are the prerogative of the person(s) chosen by the ASC Executive Board to edit the journal. Subsequent editors of *Criminology* might adopt different approaches, but the following describes our position on some frequently asked questions posed to us.

Questions about what we publish

As we have elaborated in a previous Editors' Corner (January/February, 2013), we welcome submissions on a diverse range of criminological topics that make important and original contributions to the field. From our vantage point, such contributions could come in many forms, including papers that blend theoretical insights and rigorous methods to advance understanding of crime and justice, integrative reviews of an area of the field that offer clear ideas for moving it forward, and the introduction of new theoretical ideas or methodologies that highlight novel implications for research. With this in mind, we often have been asked whether we publish research notes, special issues that focus on a selected theme or topic identified by one or more prospective authors, and commentaries or critiques of previously published scholarship.

Question #1: Do we publish research notes?

Answer: Not as a separate category.

In our experience, the question of whether we publish research notes often is clouded by semantics. We are not predisposed to publish only papers that present elaborate theoretical arguments or empirical tests of such arguments. Although many of the papers we publish fit this description, we are also open to contributions directed more specifically at describing compelling new phenomena or highlighting an interesting empirical relationship, which can be thought of as consistent with the objectives of a good research note. However, whatever the focus of a given submission, we (and, we believe, our readers) expect that papers published in *Criminology* will provide a convincing rationale for the importance of the topic under investigation, make appropriate connections to related work, and identify the broader implications of the findings. Doing all of that effectively tends to require more length than the typical research note, but we do appreciate when authors submit well-reasoned articles that are highly succinct. The essence of our approach to this matter is that we consider strong contributions that take up less space as articles that happen to be briefer, rather than as a fundamentally different type of product (i.e., a research note). This is part of our overall commitment to approaching all papers submitted to us with the same set of standards and expectations for publication, and so we have chosen to not consider self-identified "research notes" as a distinct category of article.

Question #2: Do we consider for publication pre-ordained collections of papers submitted as a "special issue?"

Answer: No, but hear us out.

Criminology has not had a tradition of special issues, and we have chosen not to have them as well. Our stance on the publication of special issues in the journal is governed by general considerations of fairness to prospective authors. While special issues can be valuable in organizing a coherent set of papers for purposes of documenting the current state of affairs in an area and identifying fruitful avenues of future inquiry, we feel that agreeing in principle to publish (or even

EDITOR'S CORNER

probably publish) a collection of papers pre-review goes against the grain of allowing the content of *Criminology* to be dictated by the submissions received and the reviewer and editor evaluations of them.

Question #3: Do we consider for publication commentaries or critiques of previously published scholarship?

Answer: Yes.

We welcome commentaries or critiques that hold promise for significantly advancing understanding of and/or promoting a productive dialogue about an area. A good case in point is unfolding right now in *Criminology*. In our May 2014 issue, Burt and Simons provide a probing critique of the conceptual and methodological foundations of heritability studies. Subsequently, we received and have now published a thoughtful commentary on this paper by Barnes and colleagues (November 2014), as well as short rejoinders to the arguments and points laid out in these original papers. Readers can find the rejoinders, along with commentaries and reflections on the exchange by Professors Terrie Moffitt and Douglass Massey, in the February 2015 issue. We see significant value in collegial intellectual exchanges and consider the journal a good outlet for them.

Questions about the review process

We also receive fairly routine questions about the review process, ranging from how it starts, how long it takes, and what authors can do to maximize the chances that it ends successfully. We addressed some of these questions in our September/October 2013 column, where we described how the review process typically unfolds at *Criminology*. Here are our answers to a few additional queries not covered in that essay.

Question #1: When will I receive a decision on my manuscript?

Answer: On average, authors receive an initial decision from *Criminology* in about 45-50 days from the date of submission. The process rarely takes longer than two months, and never has surpassed the three month mark during our tenure.

Question #2: Although I respect the editor's decision to decline the opportunity to publish my paper, may I resubmit a new version after bolstering the theoretical arguments, upgrading the data and methods, or making other significant modifications highlighted during the review process?

Answer: No, unless the new paper has a fundamentally different focus.

We have adopted out of necessity and in the spirit of fairness a strict policy against reconsidering papers as new submissions if they were rejected after an earlier submission and review at the journal. Absent such a stance, we would be in the position of re-reviewing a large number of papers given the relatively high rejection rate at *Criminology*, which would be unfair to other authors and also an inefficient use of our external reviewers' time. If you have revamped a paper so thoroughly that you think it might qualify as fundamentally different to a degree that would qualify, please ask one of us to evaluate the case before submitting.

Question #3: Does Criminology desk reject papers?

Answer: Yes, but not very many.

We use the desk reject decision to bypass the review process when we think it would not provide reviewers useful feedback and we are certain that the ultimate decision would be to reject. This is not common, but it happens for a surprisingly varied set of reasons. For a large share, it is clear that the authors are not familiar with the journal, such as a submission of a short undergraduate term paper explaining concepts covered in introductory textbooks or a paper requiring readers to have detailed knowledge of brain chemistry. Unlike reviewed papers, we are open to resubmissions of desk rejects if authors can resolve key concerns. Indeed, we occasionally use this decision to give authors a chance to put a paper in a form that has a meaningful chance of success, such as reducing the length of a paper we know is far too long to be well received by reviewers. Occasionally reviewers express annoyance that we do not screen out papers they see as weak. We certainly understand, but our view is that ASC's primary research journal should provide valuable feedback to all authors willing to send us their work if we feasibly can, rather than limiting that service to a smaller set of "better" papers.

EDITOR'S CORNER

Question # 4: Do I have to respond to every reviewer comment when revising a paper for *Criminology*?

Answer: No, in most instances there is no need for a line-by-line response to reviewer comments.

In our decision letters, we highlight the most critical matters that emerged during the review process and that should be given the most serious consideration by authors as they revise their work. In combination, the three or four reviews for an article may provide an overabundance of suggestions. Following each and every one can be infeasible within the limits of a single paper and it might move the paper's focus away from the authors' aims. Authors must use their own judgment about how best to strengthen their papers as they address the central themes of the reviews, and we are interested in the general strategy of their changes rather than the details. We would also like reviewers to focus on the overall success of the revision rather than a checklist of whether specific changes were made. Therefore, we ask authors to describe in a brief memo the notable modifications they have made, pointing us (and reviewers) to where we can find them in the revised manuscript. But we do not require a point-by-point response to every reviewer critique or comment.

Question #5: How much time do I have to make the revisions?

Answer: It is usually best if you can submit a revised manuscript within a few months of receiving the decision.

In our experience, long delays in resubmitting a paper can lead to a more challenging review process (e.g., additional concerns arise due to newer publications; original reviewers become less inclined to re-read the paper). Thus, it is in your best interest to resubmit revisions in a timely fashion. Beyond this general advice, revision opportunities granted by us will need to be returned with sufficient time to complete the review process for filling our last issue, which will be published in November, 2017. In practice, this means we would likely need to see revisions no later than October 2016 (revised papers received after this point would likely need to be considered as new submissions by the next editors of *Criminology*).

Concluding Thoughts

This essay has unveiled some of the more common questions posed to us, along with our answers to them. If there are others that you have, please get in touch. Many of the questions we have received from prospective and published authors have helped to clarify and improve our editorship of the journal, and so we welcome you to join the conversation.



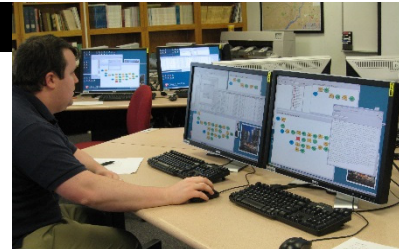
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- Jerry Ratcliffe** (Nottingham) policing, criminal intelligence, crime science, spatial criminology
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- Ralph Taylor** (Johns Hopkins) community criminology; police/community interface; evaluation
- LaTosha Traylor** (Illinois) prisoner reintegration, social justice, family & incarceration
- Nicole Van Cleve** (Northwestern) courts, the racialization of criminal justice, ethnography
- E. Rely Vilcicã** (Temple) courts, corrections, comparative criminal justice
- Wayne Welsh** (UC Irvine) violence, corrections, substance abuse, organizational theory
- Jennifer Wood** (Toronto) policing & security, regulation, public health law



www.temple.edu/cj

POLICY CORNER

ORGANIZE YOUR OWN POLICY PANEL IN WASHINGTON DC NEXT YEAR

by

Laura Dugan, ASC National Policy Committee Chair

Hello all. I am happy to report that the Policy Panels for the 2014 Annual Meeting in San Francisco were especially successful given that this was the first year that we organized them. We are making sure that next year's panels get highlighted in both the written program and the app so that more people can find them easily.

As a reminder, the Policy Panels are panels that bring together researchers and policy experts or practitioners to discuss key policy issues. The goal is to facilitate discussion that will help guide research initiatives and possibly build collaborations. The 2014 panels covered the topics of gun markets, felon disenfranchisement, prison downsizing, restorative justice for domestic violence, offender re-entry, youth justice, and legal services for the indigent. Each panel had at least one policy expert or practitioner to help bring the practical and political reality of the problem to the researchers. Discussions were lively and most sessions were well-attended. The following quotes are from some of the organizers of the 2014 panels. These provide some nice feedback to help you organize your 2015 Policy Panels.

Feedback from the 2014 Policy Panels:

"We had some good discussions and I think having the 2 academics and 2 practitioners (one at the national and one at the state/local) to respond to some discussion questions worked really well."

"Our discussant was retired from federal law enforcement. He had extensive experience with our topic (underground gun markets), and did a fine job. ...The general discussion at the end was quite lively and worth preserving."

"We had a terrific session on felon disenfranchisement. We had an audience of about 50-75, I think. The strength of the panel was having the perspectives of folks situated in very different institutional settings with regard to policy analysis and policy change. I gave an overview of new and recent academic work on the subject, then Marc Mauer of the Sentencing Project spoke about national and state-level policy change. We had a state-level organizer Mark Haase speak next, then Rob Stewart (a MN grad student) situated felon disenfranchisement in the broader crim work on collateral sanctions. The key was Eric Martin of NIJ. We brought him on as a 'discussant,' but we decided before the session that he should also speak on the Justice Dept.'s work with the ABA on the new collateral sanctions database. So the whole thing felt really timely, since policy around felon voting is an area in which there's been a good bit of change in the last few years. The only weaknesses were that we had to put the session together right before the deadline (and I was in Rwanda at the time, so I didn't do a very good job of announcing or advertising the session). We also could have used a bit more time for discussion, but I noticed lots of good conversation in the hallways after our time was up."

"The presentations of the four panelists were excellent, as were the comments made by our practitioner policymaker. Like Chris mentioned, we only had about 10 minutes for questions, and I think if I did it again I would have three rather than four presentations. The topic was timely and the panel really did consist of the major people who are studying the impacts of prison downsizing in California."

Given that next year's Annual Meeting is in the policy home of the nation, we have a big opportunity to plan a wide range of policy panels, bringing in experts who are based in Washington, DC. Start organizing your panels now so that they can be included among the other Policy Panels, keeping in mind that it may take some time to find a policy expert who can attend the meeting. If you want to submit a Policy Panel Proposal, please send the following by **March 1st** to ldugan@umd.edu with the subject line: ASC POLICY PANEL; 1) Panel Title, 2) Panel Abstract, 3) Chair's Name & affiliation, & 4) Titles, Abstracts, & presenters for all components with presenter affiliations. This last requirement might seem odd, given that the policy panels are meant to generate discussion without all participants necessarily giving presentations. For instances when experts are participating as discussants, please include as an abstract a short bio that describes their expertise in the topic area covered by the panel.

POLICY CORNER

IN OTHER NEWS:

Compiling Policy Relevant Research Findings

The ASC National Policy Committee is compiling a list of policy relevant research findings by ASC members. In order to be included in this list, the research should have been printed in a peer-review publication and it must be policy relevant. If you have such research, send in an email 1) the policy topics for which the findings are relevant; 2) a simplified summary of the research and the key findings; and 3) a link to the publisher's page showing the abstract and citation to ldugan@umd.edu with the subject line: POLICY RELEVANT RESEARCH FINDINGS.

New Name for ASC/ACJS Oversight Committee

Two issues ago, I announced that this committee changed its name to the Crime & Justice Policy Alliance. Well, it turns out that name made us sound like many other advocacy organizations that are trying to get their voice heard on the hill. To distinguish ourselves from the others we decided to highlight our strength by adding "research" to our name. We are now the Crime & Justice Research Alliance (CJRA). We plan to keep this one.

Stepping into the 21st Century

ASC plans to enter the new millennium by developing a bigger presence in social media and elsewhere. The board has approved the hiring of a media specialist to help get the membership's research out to the general public through social media, blogs and news outlets. Stay tuned for requests to get involved!

DOCTORAL STUDENT FORUM

LOOKING BACK TO LOOK FORWARD: REFLECTING ON THE DOCTORAL JOURNEY

by

Holli Vah Seliskar, Assistant Academic Chair, Kaplan University; Doctoral Student, Kent State University

As of this writing, I have completed all of my doctoral coursework, and am scheduled to take my comprehensive exams in the fall. As I reflect on my doctoral journey thus far, there are several things I wish I knew when I first began. Had I been armed with this knowledge, my experiences likely would have been different, maybe even better. However, in the end I do not believe I would want to change the way things happened.

When I first began my doctoral program, I was nervous, unsure, and feeling like everyone that I would meet would believe I was a fraud. I was constantly worrying whether I was smart enough, or if I would have anything valuable to contribute. While my lack of confidence and self-doubt were spilling over internally, externally I put on a good show. Unbeknownst to me, many of my peers were having similar feelings.

During my first term of coursework, I had not yet met my doctoral advisors, thus I did not have a good 'road map' as to what classes I should be taking. As a result, I enrolled in what I thought were two good courses. Little did I know that the course I was about to take would be extremely challenging for me both personally and professionally. I accidentally enrolled in an advanced doctoral course, in which everyone was getting ready to take their comprehensive exams within the next year. Looking back on this experience, I realize this is where the constant comparison of myself to others began, and for a period of time it took a strong hold of my perception of my own doctoral journey. It took another semester to overcome this sense of inadequacy, but I managed to do so quite successfully. Now, I believe I can do this and so can you!

Based on my experiences, hopefully you can learn from these practices and advice as you progress through your own doctoral coursework and journey.

- **Do not compare yourself to others.** Although it may be difficult, do not compare yourself to other people, especially not other doctoral students. We are all different people, although doctoral students tend to be overachievers, intelligent, driven, and extremely competitive. You are as smart, motivated, and capable of obtaining your doctorate degree as anyone you meet in your program. Start saying 'when I' rather than 'if I', and be your own cheerleader! Realize that your journey is like no one else's journey, because we all have different backgrounds, lives, jobs, and career aspirations. Your experiences will shape the way you perceive the work you do, therefore it is imperative that you believe in yourself no matter what. You can and will make it through this process. Enjoy the journey!
- **Reflect on past and present experiences.** It is important to know yourself, as well as your strengths, weaknesses, limitations, and quirks. Accept these things about yourself. Accept that your identity may shift in different contexts, such as being an instructor during the day, and a student in the evening. Reflect upon why you are in your program. Ask yourself, what led me to this program? What and who do I want to be when I am finished with my program? Keep a journal or diary that allows you to think about things privately. I began writing in a 'doctoral notebook' when I first started my program, and it has helped me think and rethink my ideas. I enjoy reflecting on how my lines of inquiry initially began, and to see how they evolved throughout my program. The doctoral journal/notebook/diary can be as formal or informal as you like. Personally, I put everything in my notebook including photographs, sticky notes, drawings from my daughter, and scribbles on a napkin, as all of these things helped me formulate a clearer path to writing what will be my eventual dissertation topic.
- **Learn to let go.** As a doctoral student, you are very motivated, organized, detailed, and likely, a bit of a 'control freak'. However, you need to learn to let things go a little. Let go of certain long held beliefs that are unsupported, unproductive, or negative. Let your advisors help you and provide you with recommendations and suggestions. Let your house get a little dusty; let the laundry pile up; let go of the control that may mean you let your husband or wife do the dishes, even if he or she does not do them 'just right' (or just like you). Your doctoral work is much more important than a load of laundry or a shiny table. You can catch up on these tasks next week after you finish writing a paper or reading an article that is due tomorrow.
- **Communicate often.** A key to success in your doctoral program is communication. Talk to your peers, advisors, colleagues, professors, family, and friends. Obtain a critical friend, or someone that you can talk to, share your work with, and receive feedback from. Listen, and be open to new or different ideas. If you wish to change advisors, do so, and communicate with

DOCTORAL STUDENT FORUM

peers or other advanced doctoral students regarding how to proceed in completing this change. Keep your family and friends close, communicate to them if you need help, or just need some time for yourself, or a night out with your significant other.

- **Support is needed.** Ask for support if you need it, from your advisors, from more experienced doctoral peers, your friends, or your family members. Do not hold in stress or tension. Exercise. Plant a garden. Go fishing, biking, hiking, or just sit in the sun. The support from others and for yourself will be crucial, particularly as you move into more difficult courses, comprehensive exams, and the dissertation phase.
- **Create a network and obtain feedback.** Go to professional conferences in your field. Talk to people. Obtain the names of people you connect with, follow up soon with an email or phone call, and provide them with a version of the paper presented, or a copy of your presentation slides. Have a business card. Conduct a poster session. Complete a roundtable session. Start collaborating with professionals in your field. Get your name out there. Write something and publish it. Get feedback on your work. Share your work with your network of colleagues, peers, and advisors.
- **Understand the process.** Being in a doctoral program is a process of change and indoctrination, which takes time, diligence, and perseverance to complete. However, the process will truly never end; rather it will simply progress (from being a student, to being a professor, or department chair, or administrator, etc.). You will always be doing, learning, planning, thinking, writing, scheduling, or teaching. Accept that this process is a part of academic life. Sometimes you might feel isolated or alienated, but remember that you are not alone. Reach out to peers, family, friends, advisors, colleagues, or talk to a professional at your university if needed.
- **Ask for guidance.** If you are in your first semester and have not met your advisor(s), ask a faculty member or administrative personnel for guidance on what courses you should take early on in the program. Someone in your department will help you find your answer. Ask for guidance in filing paperwork for your advisory committee phase, comprehensive exam scheduling, and ask if there is a 'checklist' or flow chart on when and how paperwork should be filed.
- **Planning and doing.** Not only do you need to plan for daily tasks, comprehensive exams, presentations, and publications, but you should also plan as many projects in your coursework phase around your dissertation topic. If you have not yet decided what your dissertation topic will be, start thinking about what interests you, and what you are passionate about. Your 'aha' moment will come, and when it does, plan around this. Write and read every day. Use a timer to write. I have found using a timer to be very motivating, and further helps focus my writing, even if I can only write for thirty minutes each day. Be a doer, not just a planner!

With these best practices in mind, you can build your confidence, even if you doubt yourself at times. Questioning things is okay, but remember this, as much as you doubt yourself or choices you have made, you need to cheer yourself on twice as much. When you finish your dissertation, reflect back on your doctoral journal, as it will be a reminder of how the process shaped your scholarship, helped you to evolve, and motivated you to become a successful scholar in your field.

Transit Crime Research Network –

TCR-Network is an email user list devoted to research on crime and safety in transportation environments.

TCR- Network is an open forum for discussions of research topics related to crime and safety in transportation environments but may also involve general queries and discussions about crime and place, crime prevention and space-centered methodologies (both qualitative and quantitative). Topics of relevance also involve 'the whole journey approach' in transit crime research as well as queries that account for the needs for safe transportation from a variety of perspectives and users.

More info here https://maillist.sys.kth.se/mailman/listinfo/abe.kth.se_tcr-network

To post a message, send email to abe.kth.se_tcr-network@maillist.sys.kth.se or contact: vania.ceccato@abe.kth.se

A VIEW FROM THE FIELD

What's Happening Outside of Academia
 We encourage submissions of future "A View from the Field" columns.
 Please contact Carolyn Rebecca Block: crblock@rcn.com.

PROJECT VISION BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH COLLABORATION

by

Commander Scott A. Tucker, Rutland City Police Department

Greetings from the practitioner side of the ASC house! This writing describes a continuing effort to deal with the plague of opiate addiction affecting the City of Rutland, as part of a larger effort to revitalize the community. Rutland covers 7.67 square miles, and is the third largest city in Vermont, with a population of 16,495. The City of Rutland is the commercial center of a county that has a population of 61,642. The city is nestled in the heart of the Green Mountains, close to the Killington Ski Resort. It is located 20 miles east of New York and 61 miles north of Massachusetts, and is on the receiving end of a major NYC drug pipeline, mainly for heroin.

Col. James Baker (ret. Director, Vermont State Police) was appointed Police Chief in January, 2012. The Police Department was experiencing trust issues with the community, politicians, union and media. As he and Mayor Chris Louras held community forums, it became evident that the police culture had to change and the community culture needed to be uplifted. The community expectation was that the police department would "fix the problem," by "policing the community hard," which means ticketing, arresting and interacting with a zero tolerance attitude. This had a negative effect on law enforcement legitimacy in the community, which the police perceived as disrespect in citizen contacts. The situation cycled from employee demoralization, to community distrust, to increased demoralization.

In the community forums, a value emerged around "A renewed focus on the positive - We believe in Rutland." (See the logo, below.) An often used phrase, "rut-vegas," is now banned inside the police department. Within his first year, Chief Baker began meeting with various decision makers (about 20-25), floating the idea of a community intervention team, with a focus on reducing opiate addiction, improving mental health responses, offender compliance and quality of life in our neighborhoods. It was widely acknowledged that there were sufficient services available to deal with the underlying social issues driving neighborhood chaos, but that we lacked meaningful coordination tied to the police department for the purposes of creating measurable outcomes.



As an answer to these community challenges, a grant proposal entitled "Project VISION" was submitted to BCJI (Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation; BJA). While the grant was not accepted, we moved forward to implement our blueprint. Mayor Chris Louras and Chief Baker named a retired utility executive, Joe Kraus as Chair, who enlisted a strategic planning consultant to help develop our vision and values. The established vision is "Rutland, one of the healthiest, safest and happiest communities in America." Our efforts focus on relationship building, information sharing and leveraging available resources.

Currently, there are over 275 volunteers representing virtually every agency or organization dedicated to the welfare of the region, including schools, hospitals, faith based groups and neighborhood volunteers. These partners may choose to participate in activities related to outcomes, identified by each committee and their respective chairs: Crime/Safety; Substance Abuse; and Community/Neighborhoods/Housing – each of which has a chairperson. In addition, the Vision Center was established at Police Headquarters, housing eight embedded partners (DV advocate, mental health crisis clinicians, assistant attorney general, social workers, Probation & Parole, State's Attorney's Rapid Intervention Program, who all work for other agencies, and college interns), working various schedules to enhance collaboration and problem-solving. Also, a Community Response Team¹ in the Vision Center works on compliance issues and messaging for DMI offenders placed on pre-trial court conditions of release and high risk offenders

¹ The Community Response Team is led by a Sergeant, with our Crime Analyst, SRO and Animal Control Officer; future positions may include a DV investigator and a police officer.

A VIEW FROM THE FIELD

under the supervision of Probation & Parole. Finally, Chief Baker did some restructuring at the command level of the Police Department, and appointed Commander Scott Tucker as the first Executive Director of Project VISION, “the conductor of the orchestra,” leading day-to-day operations.

Concurrently, Chief Baker introduced the concept of intelligence-led policing to the Rutland PD. Crime mapping and “data driven decision-making” helped change the police culture and helped to educate the public about how and why our resources are being deployed to specific places. Police supervisors and numerous community partners (fifteen or more) attend bi-weekly RUTSTAT meetings, modeled after New York City’s CompStat, where they interact and share information, while conforming to their agency policy regulating the release of information. This brought about a new managerial focus on the tactical allocation of disparate resources at particular locations with repeat calls for service.

A key Project VISION committee, Community/Neighborhoods/Housing (C/N/H), is chaired by Brennan Duffy, the executive director of the Rutland Redevelopment Authority (RRA), who worked with a consulting firm over several years to evaluate foreclosed and blighted property. Both the consultants and the Police Department identified a 12-block area for increased resources. In July 2014, the City was awarded a \$1.25 million Vermont Community Development Program grant to encourage homeownership and remove or rehabilitate vacant and blighted structures. It is critical to restore both pride and confidence within an affected neighborhood in order for crime control and substance abuse efforts to be effective. An additional \$5 million in state aid is being invested in this area for a major storm water improvement project, and the City will complement the required infrastructure work with an added streetscape improvement project of \$235,000. The C/N/H committee set an outcome to increase owner occupied home ownership in this area from 32% to 50% over the next 5-years.

During the BCJI grant process, the Project VISION Crime/Safety Committee, chaired by Cmdr. Tucker and working with Korrine Rodrigue of the University of Miami and Cynthia Lum of George Mason University, identified two evidence-based models for possible adoption at the Police Department - Drug Marketplace Intervention (DMI) and Hot Spot Policing. The Rutland version of DMI is unique because of its rural environment and low or no homicides; also, the overt nature of the drug market may resemble more of a social network. However, Rutland is known as a place to buy heroin, and neighbors know when drugs arrive for sale in nearby apartment houses, based on an increased frequency of short term visits at particular places. With BJA-supported training funds, Michigan State University agreed to conduct DMI training in March, 2014. Instructors were Natalie Hipple, Edmund McGarrell and Heather Perez of Michigan State University, and Chief Marty Sumner, High Point, NC, Police Department; 100 traditional and nontraditional partners attended.

In addition, David Kennedy of John Jay College met with a contingent from Rutland, including Chief Baker, Mayor Louras, Vermont-US Attorney Tris Coffin, Korrine Rodrigue, Project VISION Executive Director Cmdr. Scott Tucker, and others. Reciprocal visits followed, until October, 2014, in which Prof. Kennedy gave a lecture, and then met to exchange ideas with police and community partners.

The Project VISION Committee on Substance Abuse: Prevention and Treatment is chaired by Traci Moore. She is the Executive Director of Rutland United Way. This committee worked on the “Call-In” portion of our DMI initiative, instituted in September, 2014. This new approach to pulling levers was applied in making offers to a small number of offenders, who, after successful completion of Drug Treatment Court, would receive misdemeanor drug possession convictions in lieu of possible felony convictions for drug sales. This committee was successful in adopting a “Universal Consent Form” for clients in Rutland County, so that service providers can exchange patient information, thereby improving outcomes for treatment. This past year, Mayor Louras, Chief Baker, other city officials and Project VISION supported the opening of West Ridge Clinic, a methadone and Suboxone “hub-and-spoke” treatment model, now serving over 400 patients with opiate addiction and partnering with area doctors as Suboxone providers.

The question on your mind is how are we doing with respect to outcomes? Even though Project VISION is still in the creation stage, we have seen some early outcomes. So, here goes:

- *Reduce burglaries by 50%.* We anticipate close to a 30% reduction with more work to be done. College interns researched and identified the concept of locking doors and windows as a way to achieve our outcome. However, more marketing is needed.
- *Eliminate overt drug market places.* A DMI approach has been implemented in partnership with federal and state law enforcement, other agencies and community members. We are receiving positive feedback from neighbors on particular streets where there was considerable illicit drug traffic. Our DMI and compliance program, in partnership with Probation & Parole, have been up and running for over 90 days.
- *Reduce recidivism by 50%.* A selection and training process is underway for community volunteers to serve on the Rutland

A VIEW FROM THE FIELD

Re-Entry Board for high risk offenders.

- *The top 25 calls for service are expected to be reduced by about 10%. We are on track for this outcome.*
- *Increase communication between service providers.* This is happening as an outreach activity, called the Coffee Klatch.
- *Develop a DMI "Call-In" protocol.* This has been completed and implemented in partnership with Drug Treatment Court, mental health and a domestic violence advocate.
- *Reduce prescription drug diversion.* A secure drop-off box was established and is located at the Sheriff's Office. A second box is planned at the Rutland City Police Dept.
- *Implement a Universal Consent Form.* This form has been developed, passed legal review and is due to be implemented with service providers by January, 2015.
- *Significantly increase levels of community involvement and return NW Neighborhood to a neighborhood of choice:*
 - Increase the proportion of owner occupied homes from 32% to 50%. We are on track to meet this outcome.
 - Reduce the number of vacant homes from 21 to 15 homes in a 2-year period. This outcome is also in progress.
 - Keep existing housing from falling into vacancy and blight. This is in progress.
 - A NW Neighborhood group has emerged.
 - A SW Neighborhood group has emerged.
 - A Dream Center group has emerged.
- Numerous activities (i.e.: block parties, skating party, Table24 Golfing fund raiser, Vermonters for Vermonters fund raiser, MOM 5-K road race fund raiser, etc.) have occurred in the city throughout the year, either in support of Project VISION or PV supports.

Our approach has been based on transparency and education. Public safety, in our view, is a shared experience for lasting success and sustainability – it takes many hands or a village. It is about the quality of life on your street or in your neighborhood, and it is everyone's business. Police leadership is at the table to help support and inspire community efforts as we work on important outcomes for our community. We endeavor to tell our story!



Photo credit: William Jalbert Photography

For more information about Project VISION, please contact James W. Baker, IACP Director of Law Enforcement Operations and Support, at jwconsult@comcast.net; Commander Scott A. Tucker, Rutland City Police Department, at scott.tucker@state.vt.us; Rutland Mayor Chris Louras, at mayorlouras@gmail.com; Joe Kraus, Project VISION chair, at joekraus@mac.com; Traci Moore, chair of the Committee on Substance Abuse: Prevention and Treatment, at traci@uwrutlandcounty.org; Brennan Duffy, chair of the Committee on Community/ Neighborhoods/ Housing, at duffyrra@rutlandvtbusiness.com; or Korrine Rodrigue, Senior Researcher, University of Miami, (KRodrigue@med.miami.edu).

COLLABORATION CORNER

News and Notes about Research Collaborations

Please send your research collaboration news to Carolyn Rebecca Block crblock@rcn.com

Call for Collaborators

At the November meetings, interest in collaboration ran high. Officer-in-Charge James M. Grant, Los Angeles Police Department, Van Nuys Detective Division, said that he is interested in collaboration across organizations. For more information, contact him at V9490@lapd.lacity.org or 818-374-0010.

Collaborative Policing in Rutland, Vermont

Don't miss the View from the Field article in this issue of the Criminologist. Commander Scott Tucker gives us an overview of "Project VISION: Building Great Neighborhoods through Collaboration."

Did you know?

- Genesis Women's Shelter & Support and the Conference on Crimes against Women (CCAW) has partnered with Denise Paquette Boots and Timothy Bray on an 18-month planning grant for the creation of the Institute for Coordinated Community Response. The \$530,000 award from the W.W. Caruth Foundation Fund of Communities Foundation of Texas will support the development of a comprehensive training and educational institute to develop collaborative teams of criminal justice professionals in the most under-resourced areas of the state to better serve victims of domestic violence. For more information, contact Becky Park, CCAW National Conference Director, bpark@genesissshelter.org, Denise Paquette Boots, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Criminology and Senior Research Fellow for the Institute for Urban Policy Research, deniseboots@utdallas.edu or Timothy Bray, Ph.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of Criminology and Director of IUPR, timothy.bray@utdallas.edu at the University of Texas at Dallas.
- Since 2006, the Michigan State University Conservation Criminology department has conducted many research projects in collaboration with governmental and non-governmental environmental organizations. Recent research projects have included "Regulation and enforcement in carbon trading markets," "Electronic waste: environmental risks and criminal elements," "Disentangling the association between structural disadvantage, lead & crime," and "Improving decision-making in contentious Great Lakes fisheries management." For more information, contact core faculty Carole Gibbs, Meredith Gore, or Edmund McGarrell, at cjonline@msu.edu.
- A goal of the Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy in the Department of Criminology, Law and Society at George Mason University, is to conduct "rigorous studies in criminal justice and criminology through research-practice collaborations." For more information, contact Director Cynthia Lum, at cebcp@gmu.edu.

Have you seen?

- The latest issues of *From Research to Practice: Bridging the Gaps through Collaboration*, Volume 6, issues 1-3. The summer issue highlights the successes of our summer youth camp and the ongoing work of community outreach, mobilization, and support. For more information, contact Deanna L. Wilkinson, Ph.D. Associate Professor & Associate Chair for Outreach and Engagement, Department of Human Sciences, The Ohio State University College of Education and Human Ecology, Campbell Hall Suite 109E, 1787 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210. (614) 247-4004; email: wilkinson.110@osu.edu Earlier issues from this year are posted on the following web page: <http://u.osu.edu/wilkinson.110/2014/09/30/csi-newsletter-from-research-to-practice-volume-6/> Volumes 1-5 are available on: <http://csiknowledgecenter.osu.edu/publications/newsletters/>
- Managing dynamic security networks: Towards the strategic managing of cooperation, coordination and collaboration, by Chad Whelan, in *Security Journal*, (12 May 2014) | doi:10.1057/sj.2014.20. The article "provides important strategic insight into the management of dynamic security networks." It "builds on Whelan's previous research examining the use of security networks in security, intelligence and law-enforcement."
- The essay on "The Need for Collaboration" in *21st Century Criminology: A Reference Handbook*, Volume 1 by J. Mitchell Miller, Sage Publications, 2009, pp.852-860.
- The section on "Networks and Collaborative Practices," Chapter 12 in *Green Criminology: An Introduction to the Study of Environmental Harm*, by Rob White and Diane Heckenberg, Routledge, 2014.
- Reducing intimate partner violence: An evaluation of a comprehensive justice system-community collaboration, by Christy A. Visher, Adele Harrell, Lisa Newmark and Jennifer Yahner, *Criminology & Public Policy*, Volume 7, Issue 4, pages 495-523, November 2008.

CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

If you have news, views, reviews, or announcements relating to international or comparative criminology, please send it here! We appreciate brevity (always under 1,000 words), and welcome your input and feedback. – Jay Albanese jsalbane@vcu.edu

CURIOSITY AND COURAGE: A TALE OF TWO COUNTRIES

by

Michael H. Fox

Japan Innocence and Death Penalty Information Center www.jiadep.org

In December of 1994, Ms Etsuko Yamada, principle defendant in the well-known Kabutoyama murder case spoke at a human rights symposium in Osaka. Yamada was first arrested in 1974, and had already been in the courts for 20 years charged with the death of a mentally retarded child at a facility. The main evidence against her was testimony of two institutionalized children at the facility taken three and a half years after the incident.

For three hours, the audience sat riveted as Yamada described being arrested, strip searched, held in a basement police cell, interrogated morning to night, day after day for 16 days, threatened with the death penalty, forced to bathe under cameras surveilled by men, denied sufficient sanitary napkins, coerced to confess, and massacred in the media.

After 20 days she was released without being indicted. She then brought a suit against the state, went on a speaking tour throughout the country, was vengefully rearrested, tried for seven years, found not guilty, retried, remanded back to the original court, and now, 17 years later, was in triple jeopardy.



Defendant Etsuko Yamada speaking after her second finding of not guilty

After the symposium, the audience migrated to a local watering hole. Etsuko and I rode back home on the train. She gave me an important book about the case autographed for her by the author, *Keep It*. Somehow, I knew that from that day forward, my life would be forever changed.

The more I studied her case, the more fascinated I became. I was transfixed with one word: "Why?"

Shortly after the symposium, I attended the Kabutoyama trial, my first sojourn into a Japanese courtroom. I shuddered at the proceedings on the signboard: "Defendant: Yamada Etsuko. Charges: murder, perjury." Before entering the courtroom, two suited clerks handing out seating tickets carefully photographed my face with their eyes.

CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD



Director Oda speaks to the press. The Japanese signs say, "Three Times Not Guilty."

Freedom from Fear

After attending court, I was asked to speak in a public symposium sponsored by Etsuko's support association. Another foreigner who knew the case much better got cold feet and bailed out. I was invited as a replacement.

Thinking about the invitation, I sought advice of a senior colleague another university. He strongly advised against it. We were speaking in Japanese and I asked the reason. I had trouble understanding, and he said in loud, clear, English, "Because the police HATE Yamada."

His advice was to attend the symposium but sit in the audience. Keep out of sight.

I mulled over the choices. To sit in the crowd would be to live in fear. And those who live in fear, anywhere, do not really live. I picked up the phone and called Etsuko, "Put me down as a speaker."

Preparing for the talk, I decided to look at the literature written in English by foreign scholars. Most of it was empathetic glitz meant to beautify Japan. One gem: "the 23 day detention period before indictment (with sparse lawyer visits, no contact with family, no television or radio) is meant to build a human relationship between interrogator and the suspect."



Photo: Michael Fox with Debra Milke

Not knowing how to translate "human" into Japanese, I decided to use the word "warm." The crowd broke into laughter.

After the conference, two memorable events occurred. I received a letter from one of the symposiasts, a well-known non-fiction writer. "The Ministry of Justice maintains a detailed list of 'unfavorable' foreigners. Do exercise caution in your day to day affairs."

Nearly 20 years later, I still cognize the letter.

The second event has also long lasting. Etsuko, impressed with my support, introduced me to a single woman- a former staff writer at one of the large Japanese newspapers. Having worked the police beat, she knew the game very well. Things clicked, and we have been together for--16 years!

CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

U-Turn

As mentioned above, researching the Kabutoyama case always drove me to the question of "Why?" Why prosecute an innocent woman? Why is the media so one-sided? Why is the coerced confession so valued? Why can the prosecution appeal a judgment of not-guilty when it is prohibited by the constitution?

Though the answers were slow in coming, I was convinced of one thing: such a horrible miscarriage of justice could never happen in my own country. A coerced confession, testimony of mentally retarded children, vengeful rearrest to break a suit against the state, and the collusive media massacre of an innocent seemed incredulous, impossible to imagine.

Naïveté Nullified.

Little did I know. In December 1989, a young Phoenix mother was arrested for hiring two men to kill her four year old son. The boy, expecting to see Santa at a local mall, was shot three times in the head by one of two men: the mother's housemate or the housemate's friend.

The friend reported the incident and soon all three were charged with murder. The only evidence against the mother was a detective's testimony that she confessed. A confession based solely on hearsay- nothing was corroborated, signed, recorded, or filmed - not even a waiver of Miranda rights. Based on the word of a single detective, Debra Milke was sentenced to death in 1990.

Here was a carbon copy of the Kabutoyama case right in the USA. Child murder. coerced confession, massacre in the media, happening in my own country? Again the question: Why?

I sent Debra Milke some of my articles about wrongful convictions in Japan. We began to correspond and soon I was being processed for a visit. Chained at the ankle and wrist, even behind glass, her story - guilt by association - echoed those of so many other women in prison.

When I first began researching Japanese law, I focused on differences. I began the **Japan Innocence and Death Penalty Information Center** (www.jiadep.org) to publicize criminal justice matters in English. In terms of wrongful convictions, particularly for women, the similarities across borders greatly exceed the differences. To better elucidate and publicize this phenomenon, I began the **Women's Criminal Justice Network** (www.wcjin.org).

One day back in 1994 transformed my entire life. A symposium in Osaka triggered my curiosity and the question of why? This same curiosity drove me into the bowels of my own country, and revealed more injustice than its citizenry can imagine. As criminologists, our mission is to instill curiosity, and courage, upon future generations.

CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUP ON CYBER SECURITY AND THE LAW WASHINGTON D.C.

The French-American Foundation organized a closed-door forum on cyber security and the growing worldwide challenge of cyber crime. Under the patronage of INTERPOL and the French Minister of the Interior, and with the support of Prefect André Viau, President of FITS (International Forum on Security Technologies), this International Working Group on Cyber Security and the Law took place in Washington, D.C., on October 14-15, 2014.

A series of roundtable discussions brought together around 30 European and U.S. government officials, leaders of industry, and other internationally-recognized security professionals and experts for a frank and targeted discussion on the subject. ASC member Hedi Nasheri is a member of the Scientific Committee for this group, and she moderated the working group discussion involving representatives from the National Security Council and the French Cybersecurity Agency (ANSSI).



Photo: Admiral Michael Rogers, Commander, U.S. Cyber Command; Director, National Security Agency/ Chief, Central Security Service and Hedi Nasheri, Kent State University.

CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

DID YOU KNOW?

'Know your rights' campaign launches in Somaliland to help improve Criminal Justice system



The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), together with the Somaliland Ministry of Justice, has begun an advocacy campaign to address the challenges faced by the local justice system. Through simple and easy to remember images drawn by local artists, the campaign engages the general population and informs them of their individual rights.

Most criminal cases in Somaliland are settled by customary or Sharia'h dispute resolution mechanisms, but formal justice mechanisms are seen as better able to implement law, and protect victims' rights. The "know your rights" campaign - formally known as the Litigants' Charter Advocacy Campaign - is aimed to build awareness, trust and understanding about Somaliland's formal justice system, particularly on the roles of police, prosecutors, legal aid practitioners, and judges. The awareness campaign aims to reach 100,000 men, women and children through 24 trained community advocates, who will lead the judicial rights conversation in 1,000 schools, market places and displaced persons camps across all regions of Somaliland.

Key campaign messages were developed by local artists into 50 powerful and culturally appropriate cartoons. Those images, in turn, have been printed on thousands of posters to be displayed on police stations, court houses and community centres - and on T-shirts, children's school notebooks, and shopping bags used in markets throughout the regions. One of the cartoons, pointing out the exclusion of women in the traditional justice system (the Xeer) as a disadvantage, shows a group of elders deliberating over a case of criminal conduct. The caption translates as 'Women do not traditionally participate in the decision-making of the Xeer.' Other cartoons explain how to report a case of criminal misconduct; describe the role of the police, prosecutor and judge in a criminal case; and explain how juvenile cases are handled differently from adult cases.

The 10-week long campaign started in November 2014, and is one of the activities of the UNODC Criminal Justice Programme in Somaliland aiming to promote the Rule of Law and Human Security in the region in order to address the challenges facing its criminal justice institutions. For more information on this initiative, see <http://www.unodc.org/easternafrika/index.html>

NEW INTERNATIONAL BOOKS OF INTEREST

Russell Brewer. *Policing the Waterfront: Networks, Partnerships and the Governance of Port Security* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

Lucia Dammert. *Fear and Crime in Latin America: Redefining State-Society Relations* (Routledge, 2015).

Letizia Paoli, ed. *The Oxford Handbook of Organized Crime* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

Gabriella Sanchez. *Human Smuggling and Border Crossings* (Routledge, 2015).

Peter Bell. *The Role of Strategic Intelligence in Law Enforcement: Policing Transnational Organized Crime in Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia* (Palgrave, 2015).

UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

CRIMINOLOGY MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

DOMESTIC

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FORENSIC RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY" (FORENSIC RESEARCH-2015)
September 28-30, 2015
Atlanta, USA

ICCA CONFERENCE
November 8 - 11, 2015
Boston, MA

INTERNATIONAL

April 12-19, 2015
United Nations Crime Congress
Doha, Qatar

June 24-26, 2015
Asian Criminological Society Conference
Hong Kong
www.acs001.com/

June 25-26, 2015
International Conference on Sociology and Criminology
Paris, France

June 30 - July 3, 2015
British Society of Criminology
www5.plymouth.ac.uk/schools/plymouth-law-school/criminology-voyages-of-critical-discovery/

July 5-9, 2015
15th International Symposium of the World Society of Victimology
Perth, Western Australia

July 7 -10, 2015
Crime, Justice and Social Democracy International Conference
Brisbane, Australia
<http://crimejusticeconference.com/>

EUROCRIM 2015

The 15th Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology (ESC) will take place in Porto, Portugal, on September 2-5, 2015. This scientific event is being jointly organized by the ESC and the School of Criminology of the Faculty of Law of the University of Porto, under the general theme "**Criminology as *unitas multiplex*: theoretical, epistemological and methodological developments**".

In the last decades, the criminological field has revealed clear signs of increasing crosstalk between elements that had remained separated for a long time. Bridges have been established between previously separated terrains, which included different scientific areas; theoretical and empirical research; quantitative and qualitative research, experimental and clinical methods; and scientific knowledge and social action. Will this multiplicity be an insurmountable obstacle to the unity? Or might it otherwise be the condition for a complex unity, *unitas multiplex*, which makes Criminology a singular science? How do these theoretical, epistemological, and methodological developments converge towards the enlightenment of contemporary criminological problems?

Cândido da Agra, chairman of the conference, invites all of you to attend this conference and to share the outcome of your work in order to contribute to answer to those questions. Please visit our website www.eurocrim2015.com.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR***FUTURE ASC ANNUAL MEETING DATES***

2016	November 16 -- 19	New Orleans, LA	New Orleans Hilton
2017	November 15 -- 18	Philadelphia, PA	Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
2018	November 14 -- 17	Atlanta, GA	Atlanta Marriott Marquis
2019	November 20 -- 23	San Francisco, CA	San Francisco Marriott Marquis
2020	November 18 -- 21	Washington, D.C.	Washington Hilton
2021	November 17 -- 20	Chicago, IL	Palmer House Hilton
2022	November 16 -- 19	Atlanta, GA	Atlanta Marriott Marquis
2023	November 15 -- 18	Philadelphia, PA	Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
2024	November 20 -- 23	San Francisco, CA	San Francisco Marriott Marquis

2015 ANNUAL MEETING

THEME: The Politics of Crime & Justice

**Make your reservations early for Washington, DC
November 18-21, 2015**

Washington Hilton
1919 Connecticut Ave.
Washington, DC 20009 USA

\$225 single & \$250 double occupancy

YOU **MUST** MENTION YOU ARE WITH ASC TO OBTAIN THIS RATE