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Bridging the Quant-Qual Divide: Practical Guidelines for Evaluating Qualitative Research in the Peer Review Process

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Introduction

As an intellectual community, many of us are familiar with the structural (dis)incentives and systemic factors that shape criminological knowledge production. Here in the United States (U.S.), criminology and criminal justice (CCJ) remains functionally dichotomized. Quantitative methods are routinely positioned as more “scientific,” generalizable, and policy-relevant, while qualitative¹ forms of inquiry are often framed as exploratory, descriptive, or supplementary (Tewksbury, 2009). This hierarchy – or quant-qual divide – is reinforced through publication norms, peer-review expectations, and editorial preferences that privilege large sample designs, statistical modeling, and prediction-oriented research, despite widespread acknowledgment that qualitative inquiry is foundational to theory development and testing, as well as understanding social processes, institutional practices, and lived experiences (Aspers & Corte, 2009; Tewksbury, 2009). Recent survey evidence confirms that criminologists associate quantitative research as carrying greater prestige and career value, whereas qualitative scholarship, though recognized for its depth and contextual insights, is perceived to be “less rigorous” and less rewarded within institutions and our discipline (Zaatut et al., 2025). These perceptions are consequential. They shape career trajectories, including student training decisions, methodological self-selection, the peer-review publication process, funding priorities, and the types of projects scholars feel able to pursue, whether in academia or in other institutional and applied settings.

Given the policy relevance, implications, and diverse constituencies of what we collectively study, the political economy of extramural funding and research grants is particularly relevant. The quant-qual divide is structurally reproduced through research funding infrastructures that disproportionately favor quantitative designs, experimental frameworks, and projects promising scalable outcomes (Wright, et al., 2015). You know the words: Demonstrable impact, replication, predictive capacity, emergent best practices, policy solutions. As a discourse in its own right, these funding criteria pair well with quantitative methods, and certainly more so than, say, immersive fieldwork or interpretive analysis. If only all our inferences could be so causal!

In a vacuum, we encourage our students to let research questions inform their methods. But this funding discourse, and the political economy of social science funding, is itself a force that guides current and future CCJ scholars to train in methods that maximize compatibility with these priorities. This comes at the expense of qualitative approaches that center process, meaning, relational dynamics, and lived experience (Zaatut et al., 2025). Consequently, methodological choices become shaped not only by intellectual commitments but also by anticipatory compliance with funding and evaluation regimes. Following the money, in this way, structures methodological decisions at various scales.

The point here is not to throw rocks at the criminology bus or to write yet another polemic about the limits of the CCJ canon. Rather, it is to encourage all of us to better value the equally important contributions of qualitative scholarship, even as it has been historically situated as either niche, optional, or less-than. To value something, it helps to have some

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context and criteria. In addition to reviewing the structural issues that historically relegated qualitative research to the margins of our field, this essay focuses on how to bolster the quality and integrity of the peer review process, and how qualitative research can be better evaluated and understood by criminologists of varied methodological traditions.

We proceed in three stages. First, we provide a brief and partial historical anchor for understanding this quant-qual dichotomy. Then, we identify common critiques of qualitative research that incorrectly apply quantitative standards to qualitative research, showing how these criteria are ill-fitting in most cases. We suggest alternative benchmarks for assessing these studies, with a focus on how ASC-affiliated journals and editorial boards might tailor their peer review processes to better evaluate and publish rigorous qualitative research. Finally, we widen our scope beyond the peer review process to consider practices that can reduce the problems stemming from method-mismatched critiques, such as asking journal editors to draw from a bank of “qualitative-qualified” reviewers to improve the review quality.

Brief History and Current Status of Qualitative Research in CCJ

U.S. criminology has a rich and contested intellectual history (see Gabbidon, 2001; Jeffery, 1956; Koehler, 2015; Russell, 1992). Among our many inheritances, the Chicago School of Sociology is particularly influential. Proliferating in the 1920s, this tradition emphasized immersive qualitative research—famously captured in Robert Park’s call for students to “get the seats of their pants dirty doing *real* research” (Lofland, 1983, p. 498).

When Park and his colleagues were building rich qualitative accounts of urban life, they were also “gatekeeping” their quantitative counterparts (Luker, 2009). Enter Jane Addams, inaugural winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for Sociology. Addams also taught at the University of Chicago and was a charter member of what would become the American Sociological Association (ASA)—and published in the *American Journal of Sociology*. But her male colleagues thought that her work was too *quantitative* for the American version of the discipline that they were building. Addams used “social arithmetic” inspired by the Victorian settlement house movement in England, conducting what would be called today “needs assessments,” using surveys and other quantitative methods to identify the services needed at Hull House. Since quantitative work was tied to women’s community service, it wasn’t considered rigorous enough for “real” sociology.

While the relationship between empiricism, empire, and CCJ positivism (i.e., the Italian School of Criminology) as a legitimizing force for racialized coercion and control lie beyond the scope of this essay, some brief points are warranted. As the U.S. prepared itself for the Cold War, the federal government began funding the development of large, numerical datasets in the interest of national security (Luker, 2009). As software allowed for complex statistical analysis, disciplinary values changed again to prioritize the most sophisticated forms of analyses that allowed for advanced regression modeling. The limits, and even failures, of fetishized quantification did not go unnoticed in CCJ (see Quinney, 1974), and this history reminds us that the social value of any research methodology is not inherent to the method itself, but rather the sociopolitical context that defines the types of research deemed necessary.

Against this backdrop, qualitative research increasingly lost status and was framed as unrigorous, impressionistic, unsystematic, feminine, and carried out by those who “aren’t good at math.” These assumptions are reflected in the lack of representation of qualitative research in our field’s top journals, which was a mere 11.3% of articles published in top journals 2010–2019 (Copes, et al., 2020). We see it also in its limited emphasis in CCJ doctoral training methods, and the multi-decade, multi-generational obsession with econometric models that privilege detached, dispassionate, distilled representations of reality, while positioning statistics and causal inference as the primary arbiters of what “counts” as legitimate knowledge. The trickle-down effects are many and include the intellectually vapid fixations on things like journal impact factors, how many articles a book manuscript is “worth”; and the existential question of whether a qualitative scholar has a fair chance of securing tenure in a CCJ department.

Common Critiques and Incorrect Assumptions and/or Application of Positivist Standards

While a more systematic and empirically grounded study of reviewers’ critiques of qualitative research is currently underway, below are some themes that have emerged from ongoing conversations among members of the ASC Division of Qualitative Research. Authors from varied career stages report an iteration of the following experiences when receiving peer review reports:

- Sample is too small to be representative or generalizable (external validity critique).
 - The researcher is either too close or too removed from the phenomena in question. In this ‘no win’ calculus, excessive closeness implies bias and insufficient closeness limits depth or contextual understanding (internal validity critique).
 - Pearl clutching over non-probability sampling and demographic variation: When patterns generated by a small sample are used as part of a broader systemic critique, concerns are raised about the demographic composition of the sample.
 - An over-emphasis on quantitative metrics of questionable value, including the use of software to conduct analysis and the inclusion of tables to report numerical frequencies for how often themes or codes appear.
 - The requirement of inter-coder reliability checks to strengthen the credibility and trustworthiness of the findings
-

Many, if not all, of these critiques are grounded in the assumption that good social science employs the quality control rituals common in quantitative paradigms. One paradigmatic distinction that characterizes this quant-qual divide involves the notion of objectivity and neutrality. Consider how much quantitative work involves deductive inquiry (i.e., theory testing), where data are analyzed based on how they fit or map onto an existing theoretical explanation. As a genre of academic writing, the researcher is typically framed as a neutral observer without any personal values or experiences shaping the study's questions or findings. The data show the results, and the author is merely a facilitator, or interpreter, of what unequivocally and "actually" (empirically) exists out in the world. By contrast, qualitative researchers draw on a variety of epistemologies, where *subjectivity* is something to lean into instead of stripping away. These include, but are not limited to interpretivism (Blumer, 1969), which argues that perceptions are more important than any objective ontological reality; grounded theory (Charmaz, 2024), an inductive approach used to generate new theory or challenge existing theories; or critical or liberatory epistemologies (e.g., Smith, 1987; Williams, 2023), used by researchers with the goal of identifying and removing oppressive structures, such as: racism, colonialism, misogyny, or heteronormativity, where the purpose of academic and intellectual labor is progress towards liberation.

If you are earning a PhD in criminology and criminal justice in the U.S., it is likely that your quantitative methods training will be a *required* and integral part of your curriculum and preparation for a research-based career. Perhaps a qualifying paper or two will ensure that you take this medicine. This partially explains why many ethnographic works related to CCJ are typically conducted by scholars whose terminal degrees are in, say, anthropology or sociology, which reduces the likelihood that such works will appear in the most visible CCJ journals. Most scholarly training in CCJ does not present positivism as one of many epistemologies or even introduce the term "epistemology," a contrast that is especially apparent in scholarship outside of the U.S. For example, British, Australian and Canadian researchers are more likely to have embraced the post-modern "turn," which problematizes objectivity and emphasizes a co-production of knowledge with research participants. Their journals are more likely to publish qualitative research (Copes et al., 2020) and their version of science often attends to phenomenological aspects of knowledge, including narratives or sensory experiences. This underscores the importance of providing graduate students with more expansive training, which we turn to in the conclusion.

How Should Qualitative Research be Assessed by Peer Reviewers?

The following guidelines are a synthesis of prescriptive best practices drawn from CCJ and the social sciences. To move beyond these "quant versus qual" dichotomies, evaluations of qualitative research might inquire about how the research design and analysis fits the following criteria (drawn from Aspers and Corte, 2009; Lincoln & Guba, 1986; Morse, 2002; Ranaweera, 2024; Rolfe, 2006; Tracy, 2010). These are for both authors and reviewers alike and are neither exhaustive nor appropriate for every paper or proposal that employs qualitative methods.

Big Picture - Why Qualitative?

- **Worthy Topic:** Authors should identify how their chosen method is appropriate for the research question(s), demonstrating why it matters theoretically, empirically and/or practically.
- **Richness and Rigor:** Provide a detailed account of the research process, e.g., who was studied; what was examined; when and where the research took place; and why methodological decisions were made. This includes time in the field; sampling strategies – many of which are unique to qualitative research (see Small, 2009); and overall research integrity.
- **Meaningful Coherence:** Alignment with project's stated claims and its research design, and a manuscript that presents analyses which logically flow from the study's premise and methodological decisions.

Data Hygiene and Project Infrastructure

- **Credibility and Evidentiary Robustness**
 - **Triangulation:** Are reasonable efforts taken to cross-reference, verify, and corroborate fact-based qualitative data? Do substantive claims rest on single accounts?
 - **Plurality of Voices:** Polyvocal Perspectives: are there multiple voices and perspectives? If individual respondents feature prominently, is there respect for the multiple and sometimes conflicting or contradictory viewpoints that can exist simultaneously?
 - **Self-implicating Reflexivity:** Positionality statements and nods to reflexivity should not be pro forma, but should help readers understand one's own biographical, political, and intellectual relationship(s) to the topic at hand. Drawing from Dinzey-Flores et al. (2019; see also León et al., 2024), self-implicating reflexivity encourages writers to disclose these relationships more honestly, and in a way that is generative for readers and researchers conducting similar work.
- **Adaptability and Project-Specific Context:** How does a researcher vet, pilot, modify, or fine-tune their research design and/or research instruments? Did the researcher(s) develop a structured or regular system for fine-tuning their approach? Over the course of the project, did current events or project-related developments shape the nature of the study?

- **Negative Case Analysis:** Does the researcher show that they have tried to “break” or otherwise “falsify” their analytic frame(s), their theoretical explanation, or other ways of making sense of their data? In other words, does their explanation or analysis comport with cases, situations, or similar components of the data that do not otherwise neatly “fit”?
- **Referential Adequacy:** In a narrow sense, is there raw data that can be compared to the findings later? Does the researcher retain significant portions of their original data so that it might be re-examined by the same researcher and/or other researchers in the future? Would others who obtain these raw data find the analysis reasonable and justified? This, though logistically challenging, helps mitigate the “just take my word for it” norm.

Ethics, Access, and When They Read What We Write Reconsidered

- **Prolonged Engagement:** If the project involves field research, does it reflect a sustained engagement and substantial immersion into place and its people? Did the researcher(s) spend a defensible amount of time in the field?
- **Persistent Observation:** Qualitative research is rich and textured, to the point of exceeding any one researcher’s ability to “catch everything.” Does the researcher triage and lean into a specific sub-topic or focus area in a way that confers expertise and confidence in the claims?
- **Ethics:** Engagement with ethics beyond procedural compliance (e.g., Institutional Review Boards), which may include disclosure of:
 - o Situational ethics: How situation X prompted the research to adjust accordingly.
 - o Relational ethics: Positionality conducting the research and the influence of one’s presence on others), how findings will be shared, and how the research may impact participating individuals and communities).
 - o Exiting: How study closure is negotiated with participants and/or gatekeepers.
 - o Impact and life of the text: Will the research contributors or subjects ever see the final product? How will the published findings or analysis represent the people and places studied?
- **Peer Review / “Member Checks”:** Does the research undergo meaningful external scrutiny (e.g., anonymous peer review, independent fact checking, participant feedback) to assess claims?

Depending on the nature of the project, qualitative researchers might account for some of these criteria in their initial submission.

Conclusion: Promoting Equity and Reducing the Quant-Qual Divide

This essay is written in the spirit of partnership between researchers in CCJ who employ diverse forms of research methods and epistemologies. While we are each deeply engaged with varied constituencies, affinity groups, and divisional sub-fields within the American Society of Criminology (ASC) and beyond, the three of us are part of the ASC’s Division of Qualitative Research (DQR).

As a growing division within the ASC, the DQR advocates for a range of policies and practices that can reduce the equity gap in how qualitative research is handled within the field. These include:

- All Ph.D. and most M.A. programs should offer courses in qualitative research methods, making them required wherever possible. Training should include the unique standards of assessing qualitative research. We must ensure that students are equipped with diverse methodological tools to be supportive colleagues, reviewers, and future editors.
- Journal editors should draw on at least one qualitative-qualified reviewer for each qualitative manuscript that passes into the peer review stage. The DQR maintains a current directory of such reviewers that we are happy to share with editors. As reviews are returned, editors should confirm that inappropriate standards (e.g., generalizability) that may have been applied by reviewers are not used to disqualify manuscripts from publication and further, should indicate that these comments can be disregarded in the revise and resubmit stage. We highlight *Criminology’s* use of a diverse editorial team, including a qualitative expert who was responsible for desk decisions and assigning appropriate reviewers. This model has been responsible for an impressive increase in qualitative articles in the journal in the last several years.
- We are encouraged by *Justice Quarterly’s* acknowledgement of unique transparency measures for quantitative and qualitative manuscripts. As other journals may follow suit, editors should be aware that qualitative data is often so filled with identifiers that it cannot ethically be shared, making qualitative-qualified board members especially valuable.
- Online methodological appendices to journal manuscripts can be used to extend the word count, which is a barrier for much qualitative research in typical narrow journal criteria.

Moving beyond peer review, departmental tenure, promotion, and merit guidelines should be reviewed for invisible barriers to advancement for qualitative scholars. So-called objective metrics of counting publications, impact factors, or grant dollars contain hidden biases that privilege quantitative work. One example is the advice that qualitative researchers receive from departmental elders to “chop” their work into articles instead of writing books. In standard assessments, a scholarly monograph is typically “worth” only three articles, despite their considerable time investment and value. Coming up for tenure with “only” a monograph ignores the fact that most of the field-defining works are books.

The DQR aims to improve the visibility and legibility of qualitative criminological research, and to provide a supportive community for scholars and graduate students at all career stages. Importantly, we also advocate more widely for leaders in the field to view the “quant-qual divide” not as a zero-sum allocation or merely a matter of preference, but as a systemic inequity issue that limits what we are even capable of researching and understanding.

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¹ Qualitative researchers employ frameworks from a range of paradigms, including constructivist, interpretivist, feminist, postmodernist, and naturalistic traditions, which shape the specific approaches to qualitative inquiry, including narrative research, phenomenology, grounded theory, ethnography, focus groups, interviews, discourse analyses, case studies, meta-synthesis, and participatory research (see Creswell, 2007).

Rethinking States of Emergency: Navigating the Intersection of Security, Governance, and Human Rights

Troy Smith, Targeted Evidence-Based Research Solutions, TT

A State of emergency (SoE) is a legal framework through which governments temporarily assume extraordinary powers to address significant national security and public safety threats. International humanitarian law (IHL) in Article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) makes provisions for such 'states of emergency', which allow governments to derogate certain rights normally afforded under national and international laws. This is allowed with the caveat that the emergency must pose a direct and imminent threat to the life of the nation; any measures taken must adhere to strict conditions of necessity, proportionality and legality. Further, they must be non-discriminatory and they must be temporary (United Nations, 1966). provided the process. Traditionally invoked in times of war or natural disaster, SoEs are now being increasingly used to combat criminal violence, especially in countries grappling with gang-related violence, such as Trinidad and Tobago (T&T), El Salvador and South Africa. Further, the United States has invoked emergency powers to address migration and trafficking challenges at its southern border (Goitein, 2023; Kovar & Elsea, 2023).

These changes in application have led to numerous debates about scope and purpose of SoEs, and if these modern uses truly meet criteria of necessity and proportionality. Relatedly, the long-term implications SoEs when used outside of their original context has also become a discussion point. These forms of violence, though severe, often stem from chronic socio-economic and governance failures rather than constituting a threat to state survival. This shift lowers the threshold for emergency powers, increasing the risk of rights abuses, particularly where judicial oversight is weak. In some cases, SoEs have been exploited for political ends, enabling authoritarian consolidation and suppression of dissent (Peltz, 2023). Moreover, such measures often disproportionately affect marginalised populations, exacerbating inequality and producing indirect discriminatory outcomes (Buil-Gil et al., 2020). This article draws on criminological theory, international law and empirical evidence to critically assess the efficacy, legality and socio-political consequences of SoEs. Consequently, it contends that even if the use of SoE as an 'anti-crime tool' meet the required pre-requisite criteria for implementation and result in some immediate suppression of criminal activity, their utility in sustained crime reduction remains questionable.

Evaluating the Practical Utility of States of Emergency in Crime Control

This section evaluates the practical utility of SoE's under the lens of the criminological theories of Deterrence and Routine Activities Theory that implicitly underlie their implementation.

Deterrence theory posits that crime can be reduced when the perceived risk of detection and punishment is high, particularly when punishment is swift and severe (Paternoster, 2018). SoEs create a heightened risk environment through increased policing, military presence, curfews, and suspension of legal protections, all geared towards elevating the perceived cost of crime. Relatedly, the Routine Activities Theory (RAT) posits that crimes occur when there is spatiotemporal convergence of a motivated offender and a suitable target in the absence of a capable guardian (Cohen & Felson, 1979). SoEs disrupt this convergence by restricting movement (reducing target exposure), increasing surveillance (enhancing guardianship), and destabilising offender routines.

Empirical evidence from SoE in El Salvador, T & T, South Africa and the United States support the premise that in the short-term, the use of extraordinary powers can lead to a decrease in homicide and gang activity (Cano et al., 2023; Dziak, 2022). For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic in Trinidad and Tobago, Smith and Haines (2022) observed a general decrease in homicide rates attributed to restrictions that limited opportunities for crimes such as gang-related violence and robberies. In South Africa, the implementation of "Operation Lockdown" in 2019, temporarily reduced homicides by disrupting gang confrontations and retaliatory violence (South African Police Service, 2019). In El Salvador, the 2022 SoE led to a marked decline in violent crime, with official reports citing an 80% reduction by the end of the year (InfoSegura, 2022; Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, 2024).

Similarly, the declaration of a national emergency in under Title 42 during the COVID-19 pandemic allowed for the rapid expulsion of migrants on public health grounds, drastically reducing the window of opportunity for undocumented entry and limiting offender-target convergence. This was later, enhanced by Operation Lone Star in Texas, which launched in 2021 disrupting established smuggling routes and altering offender decision-making by increasing the risk of detection (Office of the Texas Governor, 2022). These interventions reflect key RAT mechanisms (manipulating time, place and access) and signal the use of force multipliers to elevate perceived risk and reduce opportunity.

Short-Term Fix, Long-Term Harm: Adaptation, Displacement and Alienation

Despite these successes, the sustainability of SoEs and associated measures are limited. In T&T, South Africa, and El Salvador, crime rates rebounded following the withdrawal of emergency measures, exposing their intrinsically temporary nature. The temporary crime suppression being due to tactical deterrence rather sustainable behavioral change supported by maintained institutional legitimacy (Weisburd et al., 2023).

SoEs often suppresses symptoms rather than address the systemic conditions that lead to or sustain violent criminal activities. Root causes such as socio-economic inequality, unemployment, and weak governance remain unaddressed, limiting long-term impact (Tan, 2024). General strain theory posits that individuals turn to crime when legitimate means of obtaining societal goals are blocked by chronic stressors such as poverty, unemployment and institutional distrust (Agnew, 2012). In T & T and South Africa, gang violence is indicative of structural strains such as inequality, disinvestment (retreat of the State) and weak access to legal opportunities among communities. Similarly, in southern Texas, communities along cartel trafficking corridors have long suffered from underinvestment and weak institutional presence, conditions that organised criminal groups exploit. Measures like curfews or targeted arrests in these spaces can appear arbitrary or discriminatory, deepening community mistrust and resentment.

Implementing SoEs often erodes public trust, particularly when human rights violations occur. SoEs create environments conducive to both intentional and inadvertent rights infringements. Procedural justice theory suggests that public compliance with the law depends on not only fear of punishment but on authorities being perceived as legitimate, fair, and respectful (Tyler & Jackson, 2019). The suspension of freedoms, arbitrary detentions, and targeting of specific groups under the guise of public order can undermine the rule of law and democratic governance, particularly when emergency measures lack adequate oversight and appear discriminatory, opaque, or excessive (Buil-Gil et al., 2020). In the U.S., the use of Title 42 expulsions at the southern border during the COVID-19 pandemic drew criticism for denying asylum seekers procedural protections, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations (Mooney, 2022). In Trinidad and Tobago, the 2011 and 2024 SoEs similarly triggered legal challenges and media scrutiny over mass detentions and the militarisation of civilian policing (Loutoo, 2018; *The Guardian*, 2024). Such outcomes risk normalising repressive tactics and alienating communities already on the margins.

Even where crime drops during SoEs, displacement not elimination is a common result. Research shows that offenders often adapt by relocating or shifting to less visible forms of crime (Felson et al., 2020; Lersch & Hart, 2023). In El Salvador, gangs reportedly reduced overt killings but intensified covert extortion during the SoE (Amnesty International, 2023). On the U.S. border, cartels adapted to increased patrols by exploiting new smuggling routes and using more sophisticated tactics, including drones and encrypted communication (U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 2024). Disruption alone does not dismantle networks, it may simply drive criminal operations underground, making them harder to detect and more resilient over time.

In addition to the problem of sustainability, SoEs have the potential to trigger unintended socioeconomic issues the longer they persist. Prolonged restrictions strain economies and communities, leading to frustration, non-compliance, and eventual resurgence of criminal activities. In T&T, socio-economic fallout from prolonged curfews contributed to renewed gang activity. Without parallel investments in jobs, education, and public services, structural drivers of violence remain entrenched (UNODC, 2020). Similar issues are evident along the U.S. southern border, where intensified enforcement without complementary development efforts has failed to curb organised criminal influence. Legal backlash further compounds the issue: wrongful arrests during T&T's 2011 SoE resulted in successful lawsuits, exposing the financial and reputational costs of poorly managed emergency responses.

A Call to Action: Building Sustainable Frameworks Beyond States of Emergency

Sustainable crime reduction must address issues such as social strain, community disorganization and perceptions of injustice. Governments must prioritize community policing and intelligence-led law enforcement as foundational elements in combating gang-related crime. Effective strategies should comprehensively identify and analyze the root causes of gang formation and proliferation, including recruitment mechanisms, organizational structures, spread patterns, and the socio-economic conditions that facilitate gang growth. These analyses must also consider gang financing sources, such as human trafficking, narcotics trade, and illicit arms sales, as well as the rates of gang conversion and recruitment within prisons (Weisburd et al., 2023).

Beyond law enforcement, socio-economic interventions are critical to addressing the vulnerabilities that lead to gang involvement. Recognizing crime as a cross-sectoral issue is also critical. Ministries of National Security (MNS) should work collaboratively with other government departments, such as finance (financial intelligence units, port authorities, customs and excise), social development (rehabilitation and youth programs), and education (skills development initiatives). Programs providing vocational training, mentorship, and social support can offer at-risk youth viable alternatives to gang affiliation while reducing the social and economic disparities that fuel gang recruitment (Tolan et al., 2014). Building trust between law enforcement agencies and communities is essential for fostering collaboration and improving the flow of actionable intelligence. Community trust enables pre-emptive action against criminal networks by encouraging information sharing and reducing barriers to cooperation (Braga et al., 2018).

For crime strategies to be effective, they must include thoughtful and reflective implementation plans. To assess their effectiveness, these plans should feature SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) objectives, sub-elements, and metrics. SoEs, often fall short of these criteria as their goals are typically broad and reactive. For example, they have goals such as "restoring public order", rather than something specific or measurable such as a "reducing gang-related shootings by 15% in hotspot areas over a 30-day period", making it difficult to assess whether success has been achieved beyond temporary reductions in crime. Relatedly, they lack clear benchmarks, defined timeframes, or robust metrics, leading to vague or open-ended implementations that resist accountability. Further, SoEs are rarely designed with built-in mechanisms for Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and

Learning (MEAL), which are essential for adapting to changing criminal dynamics (UNODC, 2020). Without such structures, even the most well-intentioned interventions risk becoming static and disconnected from the realities on the ground, ultimately leading to their failure. Embedding MEAL frameworks not only enhances strategic clarity and performance tracking but also strengthens accountability and creates a feedback loop that enables continuous learning and improvement, something most SoEs, by design tend to neglect.

Legislative reforms must balance effective enforcement with the protection of civil liberties; ensuring measures align with human rights principles. Regional and international cooperation is also vital in combating transnational gangs. Sharing intelligence, resources, and best practices can strengthen collective capacities to effectively dismantle criminal networks and address cross-border crime (Shelley, 2020). These coordinated efforts must focus on immediate suppression and long-term prevention, fostering community resilience and ensuring sustainable crime reduction. Furthermore, they ensure that such actors progress securely through the judicial system and, if convicted, are securely detained to prevent the continuation of criminal activities while incarcerated (Goitein, 2023).

Conclusion

SoEs may offer a tool to contain surges in violence quickly but they are no replacement for the long, often difficult work of designing, implementing and continuously adapting evidenced-based crime suppression strategies. Without real investment in community trust, institutional capacity, and long-term support systems, an SoE, even if framed as a temporary reset, amounts to little more than a bandage on a gunshot wound. It may buy time, but without structural reform, the underlying trauma continues to fester. Breaking cycles of violence, requires strategies that are people-centric, focusing on legitimacy, collaboration and the creation of practical alternatives to crime. That means multisectoral approaches, listening to communities, non-discriminatory safeguarding of rights and learning from what works and what does not. Emergency powers should be the exception, not the plan.

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ASC PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

From the ASC President, Natasha Frost

In this issue, I have several important updates to share with the membership.

I am excited to announce that the search for the ASC's next Executive Director (ED) has commenced! At its December meeting, the ASC Executive Board voted to hire a full-time Executive Director and to charge a search committee with leading the search, in collaboration with a search firm.

The Executive Director search committee members include Todd Clear (Chair), Claire Renzetti, Rod Brunson, Elsa Chen, and Laura Dugan. The committee members, each of whom has a history of service to the organization and a deep commitment to ASC and its future, are looking forward to working with a search firm, the ASC staff, and the Executive Board to identify our next ED. We all recognize that this will be among the most consequential of decisions for the future of ASC, with short-term and long-term implications. Our goal is to have a new Executive Director hired not later than September 2026 and I will keep the membership apprised of search progress in these bi-monthly updates.

In August of 2025, on the recommendation of the Long-Range Planning Committee (LRPC), the ASC board retained the services of Nancy Kidd Consulting, LLC to assist ASC during the transition period between permanent executive directors. We have been moving ahead with the transition ever since and the launch of the search represents a major step forward.

In addition to assisting with the search process, Dr. Kidd was charged with undertaking a comprehensive review of the ASC governing documents to ensure that they align with current best practices in nonprofit governance and support the goals of the association.

At the February meeting of the ASC board, Dr. Kidd presented a comprehensive report of her findings. The findings made clear that revised documents are in order. There are many areas for which the Society would benefit from modernization, and there are also areas that require greater clarity or adjudication. There are issues, for example, about which the Constitution or Bylaws stipulate things that contradict what is stipulated in the policy manual. The ASC board has a lot of work to do to address these fundamental governance issues. That work has begun and will proceed in stages. In the immediate term, we will be working with the Dr. Kidd and an attorney to address some of the issues identified and to reconcile inconsistencies. Any proposed changes to the ASC Constitution require a vote of the membership, and I will keep members apprised of proposed timing of any changes through these essays in *The Criminologist* and direct emails.

In the spirit of bringing our governance into alignment with best practices, you will see the constitutional amendment to reinstate the position of Secretary on the ballot again this year. You may recall the Secretary position was on the ballot last year, but had to be withdrawn because sufficient notice to the members was not provided. The Secretary, who works collaboratively with the Executive Board, the Executive Director and the ASC staff, serves as a recording secretary of the ASC Executive Board and the Executive Committee, with primary responsibilities for maintaining the official record of deliberations and votes and supporting informed board decision-making. Continuity across boards can be difficult to maintain with terms of one to three years for board members. Over the past three years, we have developed a system for tracking board votes and actions that will help ensure decisions of the board are implemented and a system for secure electronic access for current board members to the documents and reports of current and previous boards and committees. These systems are crucial for effective governance. We have had an interim Secretary, Megan Denver, in the role for the past year and a half, and the position has proven invaluable to the board and the ASC office. Look out for that proposed amendment and please be sure to vote in our 2026 elections in May!

In late February, we launched a membership survey to learn how the organization might better serve its members. The membership committee, in collaboration with the Division on Public Opinion and Policy (DPOP), and the ASC Executive Board, developed what will become an annual survey of the membership. As we search for our next Executive Director, we would like to provide them with some data regarding the membership and its hopes and aspirations for the society, but we also hope that this will become a longitudinal data collection effort. To encourage participation, the 2026 survey included a raffle for a conference fee waiver. We hope that you completed the survey this year and will continue to do so in years that follow so that the ASC can evolve and adapt to the needs of its members.

At its December meeting, the Executive Board approved a fee increase to align our conference registration fees with those of other scholarly societies. I would like to explain the context and rationale for these decisions. Between 2012 and 2024, there was only one small increase in ASC conference registration fees (in 2017), even though costs increased substantially over that period. The cost of

ASC PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

the ASC conference in Chicago in 2012 (with 3,474 attendees) was \$341,000, by 2024 the cost of the ASC conference in San Francisco (with 3,550 attendees) was \$646,000. The cost of the conference has almost doubled over a period when there was just one \$20 registration fee increase. This is not sustainable.

The 2026 ASC budget that the board approved also includes several cuts to expenses, even though our expenses are already lean in a relatively small budget. We will continue to focus on reducing expenses in the short term, but because revenue has not been keeping up with increasing costs, we have a fundamental organizational sustainability problem.

And this is not theoretical. While the presentation of ASC budgets has always been “balanced,” in recent years, the balance has been a function of bringing in revenue from our investment portfolio. When that money was removed from the draft 2026 budget, we saw that we were actually facing a projected operational deficit of over \$200,000. Absent time to adjust the budget at that scale before the start of the year, the board approved a deficit budget and wants to be transparent about that. We are acknowledging that we are approving a deficit budget and simultaneously pursuing ways of addressing this deficit.

How are we addressing the deficit? As indicated above, we are considering various ways of further cutting expenses. On the revenue side, we are focusing on our three primary revenue streams—conference, membership, and publications. Increasing conference fees and membership dues addresses two of those streams. The one-time increases for 2026 (conference) and 2027 (membership) will be followed by modest annual dues and registration increases to keep up with inflation going forward so that such steep one-time increase will not be necessary.¹ We are also in the process of negotiating a new publishing contract that we expect to meaningfully increase publications revenue. The board is currently considering other possible approaches for revenue diversification.

We are also committed to strategically investing reserve funds back into serving the membership. To be clear, that is how we are addressing the 2026 deficit. But while our reserves are currently strong, they will run out quickly if they are being used for routine operational expenses. Our plan over the next two years is to balance our operating budget and focus reserve spending on broader strategic initiatives.

We recognize that dues and fee increases are never welcomed, so I wanted to at least provide the membership with some context. We very much appreciate your understanding and support for collectively ensuring the health of our Society.

¹With the increase, the 2026 annual conference fee structure is as follows: early registration fees for the conference (registrations before October 1) will be: \$225 for regular members, \$375 for non-members, \$115 for student members, \$175 for student non-members. Conference registration fees (after October 1) will be: \$325 for regular members, \$450 for non-members, and \$155 for student members, \$215 for student non-members.



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Andrew Novak Comparative criminology, comparative law, death penalty, international criminal law, Africa

Daniela Oramas Mora Racial and ethnic disparities, courts and sentencing, prosecutorial discretion, policy evaluation, and quantitative methods

Cesar Rebellon Family and peer influences on crime, social emotions and crime, terrorism and extremism, and quantitative methods

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ASC STUDENT AND EARLY CAREER SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Aaron Murnan is a pre-tenure Associate Professor at the Martha S. Pitzer Center for Women, Children and Youth within the College of Nursing at The Ohio State University. A cornerstone of his work has been the establishment of a co-design team comprised of women with lived experience with sex trafficking and sex trafficking specialty court leaders. This team plays a critical role in shaping research questions, refining study designs, and adapting interventions to ensure they are maximally responsive, respectful, and effective. Specifically, this dynamic academic-community partnered team focuses on advancing evidence-based practices to address complex treatment needs among women involved in the sex trade including survivors of sex trafficking. Together this partnership has secured funding for multiple studies aimed at: a) understanding the unique treatment needs of these populations; b) investigating and addressing racial disparities in access to and success within sex trafficking specialty court programs; and c) designing research tools to promote rigor and relevance of research in this area. Currently, Dr. Murnan, in collaboration with court leaders and the co-design team, is leading a National Institute on Drug Abuse funded study to adapt and test a family-based intervention scaffolded onto standard specialty court programming. This intervention seeks to enhance substance use treatment outcomes and promote the long-term health and well-being of sex trafficking specialty court participants. This innovative research partnership network bridges long-standing gaps between practitioners, researchers, and women with lived experience to accelerate the translation of gold standard research into real-world practice.

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Jordan M. Parker is a Ph.D. Candidate in the School of Criminal Justice (MSU) at Michigan State University, where he focuses on community-based violence interventions (CVI), program evaluation, firearm violence, justice, and police misconduct. Jordan is guided by a strong commitment to community engagement and continues to collaborate closely with practitioners and systems-impacted individuals to drive meaningful, real-world outcomes. In addition to his research pursuits, Jordan has continued to be involved in service at MSU and within the discipline. While at MSU, he has served as Events Coordinator, Vice President, and President of the SCJ's Graduate Student Association, which seeks to enhance and support the professional development of SCJ graduate students. Also, at MSU, Jordan is actively involved in the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) program. In spring 2025,

Jordan was one of a few MSU AGEP Scholars who traveled to Washington, D.C., and the Michigan Capitol in Lansing to advocate for continued research funding and share the impact of the work he is conducting. This unique opportunity provided Jordan the chance to meet with elected state and federal officials to share the broader impacts of the research that he and others are doing at MSU. Outside of MSU, Jordan currently serves as the Communications Manager for the Association of Doctoral Programs in Criminology and Criminal Justice (ADPCCJ). This year, Jordan is excited to work towards his dissertation and will begin preparing to search for tenure-track Assistant Professor positions that start in Fall 2027.

[Jordan Michael Parker, M.S.](#) (He/Him)

PhD Candidate

Communication Manager, [ADPCCJ](#)

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ASC STUDENT AND EARLY CAREER SPOTLIGHT



Anthony Azari is a doctoral student in the School of Criminal Justice at Rutgers Newark, focusing primarily on courts, sentencing, and policy. His dissertation examines the application of procedural justice within a problem-solving court in New York City, established in 2019. The main aim of this court is to focus on felony-level defendants and to divert them away from traditional sentencing options utilizing diversion-based programming. Central to this court's approach is the concept of procedural justice, which emphasizes fair treatment under the law as vital for positive user experiences and outcomes. While research has underscored the importance of procedural justice within problem-solving settings, how procedural justice is implemented within these courts remains largely unclear. Azari's research fills this gap by examining how procedural justice takes place in this court through a systematic observational study of this court. The findings of his research reveal that the application of procedural justice is not evenly distributed within this setting. His research indicates that the judge who operates this court often relies upon different components of procedural justice depending upon the aims of the court and the circumstances surrounding each case. Azari notes that although the court promotes fairness and procedural justice, its implementation is inconsistent. Azari closes with a call for practitioners to pay closer attention to how procedural justice is employed in problem-solving settings and seeks to encourage future research within this field of study.

Anthony Azari's Website: [Rutgers Newark](#)



I'm a second-year master's student in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Arizona State University. My research focuses on intimate partner violence within LGBTQ+ communities, with an emphasis on survivors' experiences and barriers to support. As a research assistant, I work on projects examining intimate partner homicide and a longitudinal study of IPV survivors. My thesis builds on this work, exploring how identity and system responses shape survivor outcomes.

Outside of school, I initiated a neighborhood collective efficacy project centered on trap-neuter-return (TNR) efforts to address the growing stray cat population in my apartment complex and surrounding community. The project began as a small-scale attempt to manage outdoor cats humanely but evolved into a community-driven initiative that fostered collaboration, empathy, and shared responsibility among residents. Through coordinated efforts, neighbors became more engaged with one another and invested in maintaining the well-being of both animals and the broader neighborhood environment.

Even residents not directly involved in the TNR process have remarked on the project's positive effects, noting that it has increased communication among neighbors and created a greater sense of safety and pride in the community. These outcomes reflect the core principle of collective efficacy—the idea that when residents trust and support one another, they are more likely to work together toward shared goals and informal social control.

This experience has strengthened my belief that how we treat unhoused animals mirrors how we treat each other. Acts of compassion and care for community animals translate into broader forms of civic engagement and stewardship. In this way, humane interventions like TNR not only promote animal welfare but also contribute to neighborhood cohesion, investment, and crime prevention by reinforcing the social bonds that keep communities connected and accountable.

Laura Ritt

Arizona State University

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ASC STUDENT AND EARLY CAREER SPOTLIGHT



Breana Frazier is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida International University.

Breana's research interests align with domestic and international foster care. More specifically, she focuses on the school-to-prison pipeline, juvenile delinquency, mental health, human trafficking, and racial disparities as well as stakeholder training in trauma-informed practices when working with crossover youth. She strives to examine the gaps within the foster care and juvenile justice systems with the hope of co-creating strategies and implementing the same to fill the gaps.

Breana has presented her research at multiple conferences, including but not limited to the Western Society of Criminology, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and the California Adoption Conference, and is an active member of the Miami-Dade Human Trafficking coalition.

Breana holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (2019) and a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice (2021) as well as a Master of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice (2022) from Florida Atlantic University.

Breana is the founder of the Women's Basketball Sports Club at Florida International University as well as Hoop for Hope, an organization that provides free sports training to at-risk, foster care, and/or low-income youth. In her free time, she recently developed a running club to motivate participants to become the best version of themselves.

Breana Frazier- M.Sc., BA

Criminal Justice Doctoral Student
School of Criminology & Criminal Justice
Florida Atlantic University Alumni
[LinkedIn](#)



At the Rutgers School of Criminal Justice in Newark, Adriana Santos combines her PhD studies with hands-on community engagement as Program Manager of the Newark Public Safety Collaborative (NPSC), a Rutgers–Newark anchor initiative. In this role, she works directly with community-based organizations and local stakeholders to address public safety concerns in Newark, New Jersey. A central part of this work involves helping community partners make sense of crime data and translate it into action. Through NPSC, Adriana supports efforts that bring together residents' lived experiences with spatial and crime analysis to identify priorities and develop locally grounded prevention strategies. The goal is not to prescribe solutions, but to support community-led decision-making. Under a Bureau of Justice Assistance grant, Adriana manages several initiatives focused on testing community-driven responses to crime. These efforts include targeted prevention strategies such as lighting enhancements and flyer distribution, along with youth engagement activities and neighborhood clean-ups. All

initiatives are developed in close collaboration with community partners and are designed to complement existing public safety efforts. This work reflects a broader commitment to service and collaboration. By working at the intersection of research and practice, Adriana's efforts highlight the role that universities and community partnerships can play in supporting equitable, place-based approaches to crime prevention.

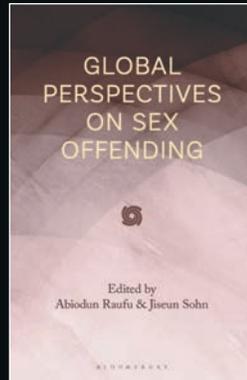
Adriana Santos, MA

<https://newarkcollaborative.org/santos>
Program Manager, Newark Public Safety Collaborative (NPSC)
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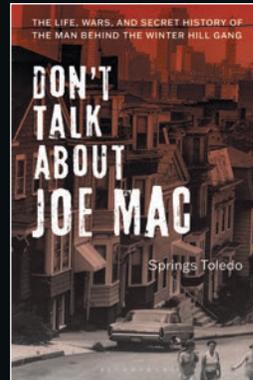
DISCOVER ESSENTIAL NEW PERSPECTIVES IN CRIMINOLOGY



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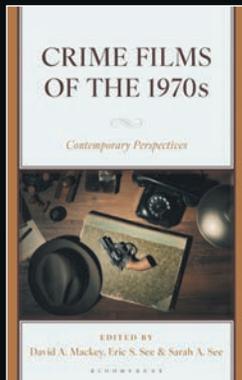
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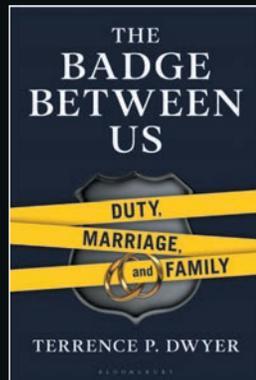
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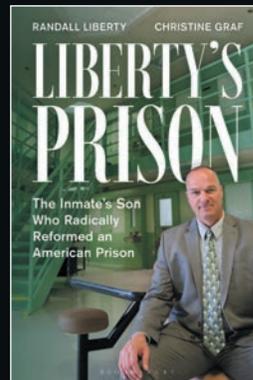
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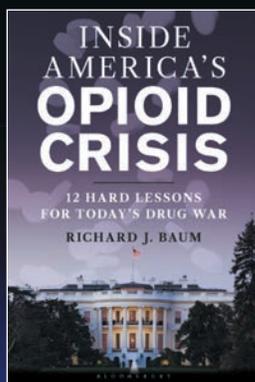
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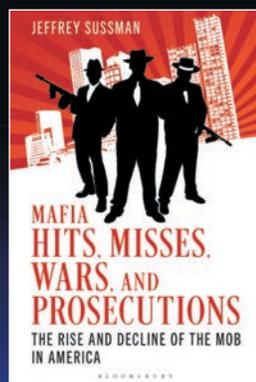
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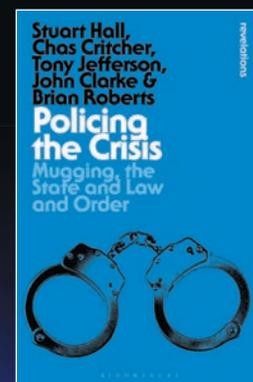
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AROUND THE ASC



2026 AWARD NOMINATIONS

WE ARE ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING AWARDS

ASC Fellows

Herbert Bloch Award

Gene Carte Student Paper Competition

Ruth Shonle Cavan Young Scholar Award

W.E.B. Du Bois

Graduate Student Poster Award

Michael J. Hindelang Outstanding Book Award

Mentor Award

Joan Petersilia Outstanding Article Award

Ruth D. Peterson Fellowship for Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Sellin-Glueck Award

Edwin H. Sutherland Award

Teaching Award

August Vollmer Award

A list of prior award recipients is linked to each of the individual award narratives detailed on <https://asc41.org/about-asc/awards/>

***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 nominees' qualifications/manuscript quality and not on the number of nomination endorsements received. ASC Board members are ineligible to receive any ASC award during their term in office. However, if a current Board member is nominated for either the Michael J. Hindelang Outstanding Book Award or Joan Petersilia Outstanding Article Award, their nomination shall be considered during the first year following their service on the Board.*

NOMINATIONS CRITERIA & INSTRUCTIONS

GENE CARTE STUDENT PAPER AWARD (Sponsored by Wiley Publishing Co.) – This award is given to recognize outstanding scholarly work of students. 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 Carte Student Paper competition. Those enrolled in Post-Doc programs are ineligible.

Prior Carte Award first place winners are ineligible for any future Carte student paper competitions. Previous prize-winning papers (any prize from any organization and or institution) are ineligible. Dual submissions of the same paper for the Carte Award and any other ASC award in the same year (including division awards) are disallowed. Papers can be submitted to only one ASC student competition in the same year. Students may submit only one paper a year for consideration. This includes co-authored works. Multiple authored papers are admissible for Carte Award consideration, as long as all authors are students in good standing at the time of the submission. Papers that have been accepted for publication at the time of submission for the Carte Award are ineligible. Papers may be conceptual and/or empirical but must be directly related to criminology. Papers may be no longer than 8,000 words (excluding tables and references). 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.

Those who submit papers for the Carte award must sign a statement that verifies that they are the authors of the said piece (ie., the piece is not plagiarized). The students' academic advisor will also submit a signed statement that to the best of their knowledge, the paper has been authored by the said student and is not plagiarized. If the Carte Committee feels the paper was plagiarized, the Committee Chair may contact the said student's advisor(s) and indicate that the Carte Committee feels that the paper may have been plagiarized.

The Carte Award 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. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place papers will be awarded prizes of \$1000, \$600, and \$400, 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 \$1000 to help defray costs for attending the Annual Meeting. Members of the ASC Board may not receive this award during their term in office. The Executive Board may decide not to give the awards, or to give fewer than three awards, in any given year. Award decisions will be based on the quality of the manuscripts and not on the number of nomination endorsements received for any particular manuscript. All nomination materials should be submitted to the Committee Chair in electronic format. **The deadline for submission is April 15.**

Committee Chair: DANIEL MARTINEZ, University of Arizona (520) 621-3506 daniel.martinez@arizona.edu

GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER AWARD – This award is given to recognize outstanding scholarly work of students. Any student currently enrolled on a full-time basis in an academic program at the graduate level is invited to participate in the Graduate Student Poster competition. Those enrolled in Post-Doc programs are ineligible. Multiple authored posters are admissible for consideration, as long as all authors are full-time graduate students.

The Graduate Student Poster Award Committee will judge submissions primarily on scientific merit and secondarily on visual appeal. Ideally submissions should be as complete as possible, with a question, method, data, and (preliminary) results and implications. Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be given. The first prize winner shall receive an award of \$1000. The second prize winner shall receive an award of \$600. The third prize winner shall receive an award of \$400. The award recipients may request an Annual Meeting fee waiver from the Society President.

The Executive Board may decide not to give the awards, or to give fewer than three awards, in any given year. Award decisions will be based on the quality of the posters and not on the number of endorsements received for any particular poster.

Graduate students who wish to enter this competition should adhere to the directions and deadline for presenting a poster at the Annual Meeting. In addition, such participants must self-declare their request for award consideration at the time of submission by marking the appropriate box on this poster submission form. **Participants must also send a brief (2-3 minute) YouTube video presentation of their poster to the Graduate Student Poster Award Committee Chair by June 24.**

Committee Chair: HEATH GRANT, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (212) 393-6377 hgrant@jjay.cuny.edu

NOMINATIONS FOR 2026 ASC AWARDS

MENTOR AWARD – This award is given to recognize excellence in mentorship in the discipline of criminology. Nominations of individuals at all stages of their academic careers are encouraged.

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 who participate 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 Mentor Award Committee Chair in electronic format.

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.

The letter should specify the ways the nominee has gone beyond their role as a professor, researcher or collaborator to ensure successful enculturation into the discipline of criminology, providing intellectual professional development outside of the classroom, and otherwise exemplary support for criminology/criminal justice undergraduates, graduates and post-graduates.

Letters of nomination (including statements in support of the nomination), the nominee's portfolio, and all other supporting materials should be submitted to the Mentor Award Committee Chair in electronic format.

Members of the ASC Board may not receive this award during their term in office. The Executive Board may decide not to give the award in 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.

All nomination materials should be submitted to the Committee Chair in electronic format. **Deadline for submission is June 1.**

Committee Chair:

BIANCA BERSANI, University of Maryland

(301) 405-4699

bbersani@umd.edu

AROUND THE ASC

2026 AWARDS NOMINATIONS

NOMINATIONS FOR 2026 ASC AWARDS

TEACHING AWARD – This award is given to recognize excellence in undergraduate and/or graduate teaching over the span of an academic career. This award identifies and rewards 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/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 Teaching Award Committee Chair in electronic format. Letters of nomination should include a statement in support of the 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, articles published 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.

Members of the ASC Board may not receive this award during their term in office. The Executive Board may decide not to give the award in 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.

Letters of nomination should be submitted to the Teaching Award Committee Chair in electronic format and must be received by **April 1**. The nominee's portfolio and all other supporting materials should also be submitted to the Teaching Award Committee Chair in electronic format and must be received by **June 1**.

FROM THE ASC OFFICE

**The Annual Meeting
submission site is OPEN!**
<https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/asc/asc26>

Reminder: Renew
your membership by
April 1st to receive
information and be
eligible to vote in the
2026 ASC Election

Need a mentor?
Want to be a
mentor?
<https://asc41.org/resources/mentor-mentee-connection/>

AROUND THE ASC

VISIT THE WEBSITES OF THE ASC DIVISIONS
FOR THE MOST CURRENT DIVISION INFORMATION

BioPsychoSocial Criminology (DBC)
<https://bpscrim.org/>

Communities and Place (DCP)
<https://communitiesandplace.org/>

Convict Criminology (DCC)
<https://concrim.org/>

Corrections & Sentencing (DCS)
<https://ascdcs.org/>

Critical Criminology & Social Justice (DCCSJ)
<https://divisiononcriticalcriminology.com/>

Cybercrime (DC)
<https://ascdivisionofcybercrime.org/>

Developmental and Life-Course Criminology (DLC)
<https://dlccrim.org/>

Experimental Criminology (DEC)
<https://expcrim.org/>

Feminist Criminology (DFC)
<https://ascdwc.com/>

Health and Disability Criminology (DHDC)
(website coming soon)

Historical Criminology (DHC)
<https://dhistorical.com/>

International Criminology (DIC)
<https://internationalcriminology.com/>

People of Color & Crime (DPCC)
<https://ascdpcc.org/>

Policing (DP)
<https://ascpolicing.org/>

Public Opinion & Policy (DPOP)
<https://ascdpop.org/>

Qualitative Research (DQR)
<https://ascdqr.org/>

Queer Criminology (DQC)
<https://queercrim.com/>

Rural Criminology (DRC)
<https://divisionofruralcriminology.org/>

Terrorism & Bias Crimes (DTBC)
<https://ascterrorism.org/>

Victimology (DOV)
<https://ascdov.org/>

White Collar and Corporate Crime (DWCC)
<https://ascdwcc.org/>

Visit the [ASC Divisions](#) page on the ASC Website for additional details

To donate to a division, visit the [ASC Donations](#) page on the ASC Website



Call for Papers

2026 Annual Meeting
Chicago, Illinois | November 18 – 21, 2026
Palmer House Hilton Chicago

Theme: *Criminology and Justice Policy*

Program Co-Chairs:

Carlos E. Monteiro, Suffolk University

and

Jennifer B. Robinson, Salem State University

ASC President:

Natasha Frost, Northeastern University

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

**Thematic panels, individual paper abstracts, and
author meets critics panels due:**

Friday, March 20, 2026

**Posters, roundtable abstracts, and
lightning talk abstracts due:**

Friday, May 15, 2026



AROUND THE ASC

2026 CALL FOR PAPERS

SUBMISSION DETAILS

All abstracts must be submitted on-line through the All-Academic submission website. Details can be found on the [ASC Annual Meeting](#) webpage. You will need to create a new profile for 2026. On the site, you will be asked to indicate the type of submission you wish to make. The submission choices available for the meetings include: (1) Complete Thematic Panel, (2) Individual Paper Presentation, (3) Author Meets Critics Session, (4) Poster Presentation, (5) Roundtable Submission, or (6) Lightning Talk Presentation. **Please continue to click Accept and Continue in the lower right-hand corner until you no longer see it.** You will receive a confirmation email after you submit. If you do not, email meeting@asc41.org.

Please note that late submissions will NOT be accepted. In addition, submissions that do not conform to the guidelines will be rejected. New this year: We are requiring the use of structured abstracts. We encourage participants to submit well in advance of the deadline so that ASC staff may help with any submission problems while the call for papers remains open. Please note that ASC staff members respond to inquiries during normal business hours.

Complete Thematic Panels: Panel submissions must include a title and abstract for the entire panel as well as titles, abstracts, and author information for all papers. **Abstracts must be structured and should include an introduction, design/methods, results, and discussion sentences.** Each panel should contain between three and four papers and one discussant. The panel and individual paper abstracts should be less than 200 words. We encourage panel submissions to be organized by individuals, ASC Divisions, and other working groups.

- PANEL SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **Friday, March 20, 2026**

Individual Paper Submissions: Submissions for a regular panel session presentation must include a title, abstract, and author information. **Abstracts must be structured and should include an introduction, design/methods, results, and discussion sentences.** Please note that these presentations are intended for individuals to discuss work that is close to completion 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). Presentations of work that is published would be more suitable for an Author Meets Critic session.

- INDIVIDUAL PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **Friday, March 20, 2026**

Author Meets Critics: These sessions are organized by an author or critic, consist of one author and three or four critics discussing and critiquing a recently published book relevant to the ASC. Note that the book must appear in print before the submission deadline (March 20, 2026) 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 title of the book, the author's name and the names of the three to four people who have agreed to comment on the book.

- AUTHOR MEETS CRITICS SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **Friday, March 20, 2026**

Poster Presentations: Submissions for poster presentations require only a title and abstract along with author information. Poster area you can use will be 4' x 8'. You 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. One poster submission per presenter is allowed.

- POSTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **Friday, May 15, 2026**

Graduate Student Poster Competition: Graduate students who wish to enter this competition should adhere to the directions and deadline for presenting a poster at the Annual Meeting (see above). In addition, such participants must self-declare their request for award consideration at the time of their Poster submission by marking the appropriate box in the submission system. Participants must also send a brief (2-3 minute) YouTube video presentation of their poster to the Graduate Student Poster Award Committee Chair by **June 19, 2026**. For full eligibility details, please see the [ASC Awards](#) webpage.

The award committee will judge submissions primarily on scientific merit and secondarily on visual appeal. Ideally submissions should be as complete as possible, with a question, method, data, and (preliminary) results and implications. Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be given. The Executive Board may decide not to give the awards, or to give fewer than three awards, in any given year. Award decisions will be based on the quality of the posters and not on the number of endorsements received for any particular poster.

For more questions or more information, please contact the Graduate Poster Competition Chair, Heath Grant at hgrant@jjay.cuny.edu

- POSTER COMPETITION SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **Friday, June 19, 2026**

Roundtables: These sessions consist of three to five papers with 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 along with participant information. A full session submission requires a session title

AROUND THE ASC

2026 CALL FOR PAPERS

and brief description of the session. The full session can consist of discussants on one topic or a session submission with three to five papers with presenters discussing related topics. 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 15, 2026**

Lightning Talks: These sessions are a series of 5-minute talks/presentations by different speakers, each introducing a topic or idea very quickly. Lightning Talks are a way to share information about diverse topics from several presenters, while still captivating the audience. Each presentation should consist of a maximum of 3 to 5 PowerPoint slides or prompt cards, with a total of one or two key messages for the entire presentation. Each slide should consist of a few words and one primary image. Lightning talks are ideal for research and theory development in its early stages. See the [Lightning Talk Guide](#) for further information. Submissions for a lightning talk full panel session must include a title and abstract for the entire panel as well as titles, abstracts, and author information for all talks/presentations. Each panel should contain between 6-7 talks/presentations.

- LIGHTNING TALK SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **Friday, May 15, 2026**

Other Information: Only original papers that have not been published may be submitted to the Program Committee for presentation consideration. Presentations of the same paper presented elsewhere are discouraged.

The meeting is Wednesday, November 18 through Saturday, November 21, 2026. Sessions may be scheduled at any time during the meeting. ASC cannot honor personal preferences for day and time of presentations. If a session does not have a chair, a program committee member may choose a presenter from the last paper on the session.

All program participants are expected to register for the meeting. We encourage everyone to pre-register before October 1 to avoid paying a higher registration fee. You may also visit the ASC website at <https://asc41.org/> under News & Events to find [Annual Meeting](#) information to register online or access a printer friendly form to fax or return by mail.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

- **Friday, March 20, 2026**, is the **absolute** deadline for thematic panels, regular panel presentations, and author meets critics sessions.
- **Friday, May 15, 2026**, is the **absolute** deadline for the submission of posters, roundtable, and lightning talk sessions.

ABSTRACTS -- Abstracts must be structured and should include an introduction, design/methods, results, and discussion sentences. A typical abstract will summarize, in one paragraph of 200 words or less, the major aspects of your research, including: 1) an introduction describing the purpose of the study and the **research problem(s)** you investigate; 2) the **study design** or **methodology**; 3) major **findings** of your analysis; and 4) a brief summary of **conclusions and implications**. Abstracts will be made public to all meeting attendees through the ASC program app.

EQUIPMENT -- Only LCD projectors will be available for all panel and paper presentations, including lightning talks 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. ASC does not have virtual presentation options currently. No projectors will be available for roundtables or posters.

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 in the broader areas listed below. Please select the area and sub-area most appropriate for your presentation and only submit your abstract once. If you are submitting an abstract for a roundtable, lightning talk, poster session or author meets critics panel, you only need to select the broader area; 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 selecting.
- o Choose the most appropriate area first and then identify the sub-area that is most relevant to your paper.

****When utilizing the on-line submission system, BE SURE TO CLICK ACCEPT AND CONTINUE UNTIL THE SUBMISSION IS FINALIZED.** After you have finished entering all the required information, you will immediately receive a confirmation email indicating that your submission has been entered. If you do not receive this confirmation, please contact ASC immediately to resolve the issue. You may call the ASC offices at 614-826-2000 or email us at meeting@asc41.org

For participant information, please see [Guidelines for Annual Meeting Participants](#)

AROUND THE ASC

2026 CALL FOR PAPERS

ASC 2026 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Area I	Presidential Panels	Natasha Frost	n.frost@northeastern.edu
Area II	Perspectives on Crime	Walter Forrest	walter.forrest@ul.ie
1	Biological, Bio-social, and Psychological Perspectives	Joseph Schwartz	jaschwartz@fsu.edu
2	Developmental and Life Course Perspectives	Michael Rocque	mrocque@bates.edu
3	Strain, Learning, and Control Theories	Carter Hay	chay@fsu.edu
4	Labeling and Interactionist Theories	Breanna Boppre	bboppre@urban.org
5	Routine Activities and Situational Perspectives	Chris Guerra	cguerra7@utep.edu
6	Deterrence, Rational Choice and Offender Decision-Making	Kyle Thomas	thomaskj@umsl.edu
7	Social Disorganization and Community Dynamics	Andrea Boyles	aboyles@tulane.edu
8	Feminist Perspectives	Vivian C. Smith	vivian.smith@eastern.edu
9	Theories of Conflict, Oppression, and Inequality	Ash Stephens	asteph24@uic.edu
Area III	Types of Offending	Joshua Freilich	jfreilich@jjay.cuny.edu
10	Violence and Violent Crime	Emma Fridel	efridel@fsu.edu
11	Property and Public Order Crime	Sue-Ming Yang	syang10@gmu.edu
12	Drugs and Drug Crime	Wilson Palacios	Wilson_Palacios@uml.edu
13	Family and Intimate Partner Violence	Max Osborn	max.osborn@villanova.edu
14	Rape and Sexual Assault	Kylie Reale	kylie.reale@siu.edu
15	Human Trafficking	Meredith Dank	mdank@nyu.edu
16	White Collar and Corporate Crime	Adam Ghazi-Tehrani	aghazite@iu.edu
17	Organized Crime	Randol Contreras	randol.contreras@ucr.edu
18	Identity Theft and Cyber Crime	Binneh Minteh	bminteh@salemstate.edu
19	State Crime, Political Crime, and Terrorism	Noah Turner	noahturner@unomaha.edu
20	Hate Crime	Sarah Lockwood	sarahl@usf.edu
Area IV	Correlates of Crime	Gregory Zimmerman	g.zimmerman@northeastern.edu
21	Gangs and Co-offenders	Robert J. Durán	rjduran@tamu.edu
22	Substance Use and Abuse	Angela Taylor	ataylo14@uncfsu.edu
23	Trauma and Mental Health	Kayla Bates	bates.k@northeastern.edu
24	Race and Ethnicity	Kanika Samuels Wortley	kanika.samuels-wortley@ontariotechu.ca
25	Immigration/Migration	Jacob Stowell	j.stowell@northeastern.edu
26	Neighborhoods and Communities	Riley Tucker	rqt5439@psu.edu
27	Sex, Gender, and Sexuality	Beck Strah	bstrah@rwu.edu
28	Structural Correlates of Crime	Ben Feldmeyer	feldmebn@ucmail.uc.edu
29	Bullying, Harassment, and Abuse	Tara Sutton	tsutton@soc.msstate.edu
30	Social Ties & Social Networks	Cassie McMillan	c.mcmillan@northeastern.edu
31	Adolescence and School Experiences	Truth Akins	Truth.Akins@fresnocitycollege.edu
Area V	Victimization	Jillian Turanovic	jillian.turanovic@colorado.edu
32	Causes and Correlates of	Cooper Maher	maherca@mail.uc.edu

AROUND THE ASC

2026 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

ASC 2026 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

	Victimization		
33	Policy and Prevention of Victimization	Lisa Monchalin	lisa.monchalin@kpu.ca
34	Consequences of Victimization	Megan Augustyn	ma22br@fsu.edu
Area VI	Justice System Responses	Sean Varano	svarano@rwu.edu
35	Police Organization and Training	Samantha Simon	sjsimon@arizona.edu
36	Police Legitimacy and Community Relations	Ermus St. Louis	e.stlouis@northeastern.edu
37	Police Misconduct	Ayanna Miller-Smith	miller-smith.a@northeastern.edu
38	Policing: Strategies, Interventions, & Evaluations	Jessica Gillooly	jgillooly@suffolk.edu
39	Prosecutorial Discretion and Plea Bargaining	Christopher Thomas	c.p.thomas@rutgers.edu
40	Pretrial Justice	Stacie St. Louis	sst.louis@american.edu
41	Courts & Sentencing	Jeff Ulmer	jtu100@psu.edu
42	Capital Punishment	Alicia Girgenti	alicia.girgenti@wne.edu
43	Jails & Prisons	Kelsey Engstrom	Kelsey.Engstrom@ucsf.edu
44	The Prison Experience	Vivian Aranda-Hughes	hughe481@msu.edu
45	Prison Education & Jail/Prison Programs	Abigail Ballou	aballou@bu.edu
46	Prisoner Reentry	Eileen Kirk	e.kirk@fitchburgstate.edu
47	Community Corrections	Amber Wilson	wilsoam@uwec.edu
48	The Juvenile Justice System	Stuti Kokkalera	sxk078@shsu.edu
49	Collateral Consequences of Justice System Involvement	Jeb Booth	jbooth@salemstate.edu
Area VII	Alternative Responses & Policy Innovation	Kylie Reale	kylie.reale@siu.edu
50	Federal, State, and Local Justice Policy	Shenique S. Thomas-Davis	shdavis@bmcc.cuny.edu
51	Guns and Gun Policy	Madison Gerdes	madison.gerdes@mso.umt.edu
52	Institutional Responses	DeMarcus Jenkins	demarcus@upenn.edu
53	Community Responses	Valerie Anderson	valerie.anderson@umsl.edu
54	Public Health	Claire Strange	cs3846@drexel.edu
55	Law, Technology, & Legal Change	Sarah Lageson	s.lageson@northeastern.edu
56	Abolition	Korey Tillman	k.tillman@northeastern.edu
57	Activism & Social Movements	Justin Tetrault	jtetraul@ualberta.ca
58	Inequality and Justice	Chelsea Farrell	c_farrell@uri.edu
Area VIII	Perceptions of Crime & Justice	Kevin Wozniak	Kevin.wozniak@mu.ie
59	Media & Social Construction of Crime	Andrew Baranauskas	abaranauskas@brockport.edu
60	Public Opinion about Crime & Justice	Colleen Berryessa	colleen.berryessa@rutgers.edu
61	Fear of Crime and Perceived Risk	Leah Butler	butlerlh@ucmail.uc.edu
Area IX	Comparative & Historical Perspectives	Chae Janes	jaynes@usf.edu
62	Cross-National Comparison of Crime & Justice	Ekaterina Botchkovar	e.botchkovar@northeastern.edu
63	Historical Comparisons of Crime & Justice	Chad Posick	CPosick@georgiasouthern.edu

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2026 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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64	Globalization, Crime, and Justice	Myunghoon Roh	myunghoon.roh@salve.edu
65	Human Rights	Sesha Kethineni	srkethineni@pvamu.edu
Area X	Critical Criminology	Nickie Phillips	nickie.phillips@unsw.edu.au
66	Green Criminology	Kimberly Barrett	kbarret7@emich.edu
67	Queer Criminology	Vanessa Panfil	vpanfil@odu.edu
68	Cultural Criminology	Sara Salman	sara.salman@vuw.ac.nz
69	Critical Perspectives in Criminology	Sebastian Sclofsky	jsclofsky@csustan.edu
Area XI	Methodology	Daniel Butler	hdbutler@iastate.edu
70	Advances in Quantitative Methods	Robert Apel	ra437@scj.rutgers.edu
71	Advances in Qualitative Methods	Danielle Rudes	dsr035@shsu.edu
72	Advances in Evaluation Research	Katherine Hazen	k.hazen@northeastern.edu
73	Advances in Experimental Methods	Rylan Simpson	rylan_simpson@sfu.ca
74	Advances in Teaching Methods	Angela Bryant	bryant.74@osu.edu
Area XII	Diversity and Inclusion	Carole Gibbs	willinghamb@uncw.edu
Area XIII	Lightning Talk Sessions	Zina T. McGee	Zina.McGee@hamptonu.edu
Area XIV	Roundtable Sessions	Stacie St. Louis	sst.louis@american.edu
Area XV	Poster Sessions	Sheena Case	asc@asc41.org
Area XVI	Author Meets Critics	Kevin Wozniak	kevin.wozniak@mu.ie
Area XVII	Workshops	Carlos Monteiro & Jennifer Robinson	ascprogram2026@gmail.com
	Quantitative Methods		
	Qualitative Methods		
	Other Workshops		
Area XVIII	Professional Development/Students Meet Scholars	Sheldon Zhang	Sheldon_Zhang@uml.edu
Area XIX	Ethics Panels	Mike Reisig	mreisig1@asu.edu
Area XX	Policy Panels	Donna Selman	dlselma@ilstu.edu
Area XXI	Peterson Workshop	Ruth Peterson	peterston.5@osu.edu
Area XXII	Graduate Student Poster Competition	Heath Grant	hgrant@jjay.cuny.edu

AROUND THE ASC



2026
ELECTION
Slate for 2027 - 2028 ASC Officers

The following slate of officers, as proposed by the Nominations Committee,
was approved by the ASC Executive Board for the 2026 election.

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>
Anthony A. Peguero, Arizona State University	Jay Albanese, Virginia Commonwealth University
Nancy G. La Vigne, Rutgers University	Vera Lopez, Arizona State University

Executive Counselors

Jennifer C. Gibbs, Penn State University - Harrisburg
Deena Isom, University of South Carolina
Janice A. Iwama, American University
Andrea Leverentz, North Carolina State University
Marie Ouellet, Simon Fraser University
Sue-Ming Yang, George Mason University

**Additional candidates for each office may be added to the ballot via petition.
To be added to the ballot, a candidate needs 125 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 6, 2026 (postmark date) to the address noted below.
Email nominations will NOT be accepted.**

American Society of Criminology 921 Chatham Lane, Suite 108 Columbus, Ohio 43221
614-826-2000

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2027 ELECTION SLATE OF 2028 – 2029 OFFICERS

The ASC Nominations Committee is seeking nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President and Executive Counselor. Nominees must be current members of the ASC at the time of the nomination, and members in good standing for the year prior to the nomination. Send the names of nominees, position for which they are being nominated, and, if possible, a current C.V. to the Chair of the Nominations Committee at the address below (preferably via email). Nominations must be received by June 1, 2026 to be considered by the Committee.

Lorenzo Boyd
Lboyd@newhaven.edu



HOW TO JOIN:

New ASC Members should refer to the Divisions section of the membership form.

Existing ASC Members may add this Division to their current ASC membership as per the member's membership portal landing page.

DUES:

Active/retired ASC members (\$15)
Students (\$5)



Check us out at our [website!](http://ASCDQR.org)

ASCDQR.org

The purpose of the **Division of Qualitative Research** is to provide a supportive community for all researchers in criminology and criminal justice and to build a better understanding of qualitative research across the field.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Members can:

Access resources (e.g., webinars, resource guides) featuring new developments and how-tos in qualitative research;

Be part of a network of support, including opportunities for mentoring and platforms for sharing info on publishing qualitative work in specific journals; and

Participate in advocacy efforts to improve the status of qualitative research in criminology and criminal justice.



Join the Division of Cybercrime!

All are welcome! Our members include researchers, practitioners, and students specializing in a wide assortment of computer-related subjects concerning crime, victimization, criminalization, and criminal legal systems.

At the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, we are sponsoring featured panels and roundtables. Members may also attend our social event. Reserve your spot when you register for the conference!

In addition to offering opportunities for meaningful disciplinary service, our division also distributes awards to its outstanding members including:

- ❖ Lifetime Achievement Award
- ❖ Early Career Award
- ❖ Outstanding Contribution Award
- ❖ Outstanding Practitioner Award
- ❖ Best Peer-Reviewed Publication Award

For details about our awards and for any other information related to the division, please go to our website at <https://ascdivisionofcybercrime.org/>.



Join us!

Chair: Emily Homer

Vice Chair: Katelyn Golladay

Secretary/Treasurer: Yuliya Zabyelina

Executive Counselors: José Atilas, Heidi Chio, Miranda Galvin,
and Li Huang

Student Committee Chair: Megan Parker

What's our Division Doing?

- Hosting a Student Book Club
- Recognizing our membership with annual awards
- Preparing for roundtables, panel sessions, meetings, award ceremonies, and socials in Chicago
- Running a student mentoring program

What are our Members Doing?

- Publishing in the *Journal of White-Collar and Corporate Crime* and other outlets
- Presenting at the European Society of Criminology and American Society of Criminology meetings
- Conducting research into how to increase students' exposure to the fields of white-collar and corporate crime
- Leading anti-fraud initiatives all over the world

For more information about the DWCC, scan the QR code or visit <https://ascdwcc.org/>



UNIFIED OUTREACH

Subject: Thank You for Supporting the Unified Outreach Service Event in Washington, D.C.!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the **Unified Outreach** service event to provide mutual aid to Washington, D.C. communities. We had an incredible turnout with generous donations and volunteering at **Bread for the City**.

About Unified Outreach

Unified Outreach is a service organization founded by members of ASC that combines academic work with hands-on community service to support local communities during ASC conferences.

IN 2024, during our inaugural service project, we collected donations from ASC members and assembled 100 essential care bags containing items such as gloves, socks, hand warmers, and hygiene products. These bags were distributed to individuals experiencing homelessness around the conference hotel and the surrounding areas. We are especially grateful to the Division of Rural Criminology and San Francisco State University for their generous support during that effort.

THIS YEAR, we partnered with **Bread for the City**, a nonprofit organization in Washington, D.C., that provides food, clothing, and other essential resources to residents—especially during this challenging time marked by government shutdowns and instability in food assistance programs. Thanks to your collective support, we were able to donate:

- **60 Care Bags with Essential Items** (e.g., beanies, hand warmers, hygiene packs)
- **311 Pantry Items** (including 70 cartons of eggs)
- **187 Clothing Items** (e.g., underwear, pants, winter coats)
- **30+ Hours** of Collective Volunteer Time at Bread for the City

We extend our deepest appreciation to everyone who made this event a success—especially **Bread for the City, Old Dominion University, and Marymount University** for their collaboration and support.

This was a powerful effort in Washington, D.C., during a time when community care and solidarity were deeply needed. From the Unified Outreach team, we thank you with warm hearts for your donations, time, and energy.

Looking ahead, in **2026**, ASC will be held in **Chicago, Illinois**, where we will once again host a service project. Please stay tuned for more information about the Unified Outreach initiative and focus for ASC 2026.

Get Involved

As we continue to grow and aim to make each service event bigger, better, and more impactful for the communities that host the ASC Annual Meeting, if you would like to get involved in these efforts, please sign up using the provided [link](#).

Additionally, if you have suggestions on how we can improve, please share your thoughts through the feedback [link](#).

Once again, thank you for your support and generosity. We look forward to seeing you at **ASC 2026 in Chicago, Illinois!**

Stay Connected

Follow us on social media for updates, events, and more:

- **Instagram:** @ascunifiedoutreach
- **X (Twitter):** @ASCUniOutreach
- **Facebook:** ASC Unified Outreach

With Gratitude,
Kylil R. Martin, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, California State University, Long Beach
School of Criminology, Criminal Justice, and Emergency Management
Co-Founder, Unified Outreach



OBITUARIES



With the passing away of Donna Marie Bishop on September 29, 2025, the field of criminology has lost one of its most kindest and influential voices. Donna was extremely generous with her time—all too willing to review the drafts of colleagues and students alike, while pursuing a highly distinguished scholarly career, most notably as an advocate for youth justice.

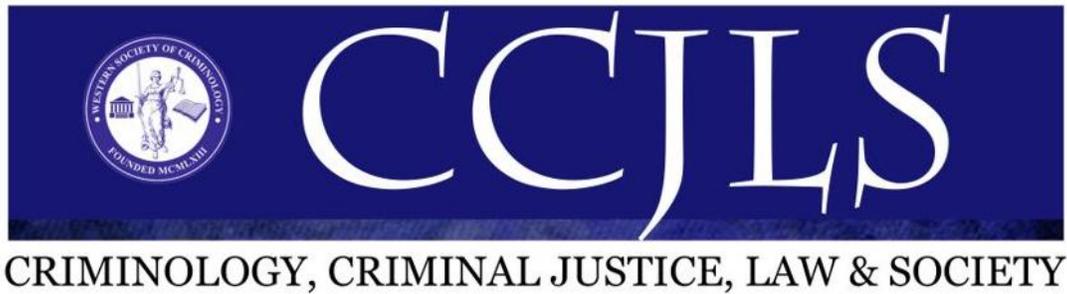
Before earning her Ph.D. in criminal justice from the State University of New York at Albany (1982), Donna worked as a counselor in a women's prison, a juvenile probation officer, and for the federal government in juvenile justice planning. Her first academic appointments were at the University of Florida (1982–1995) and then University of Central Florida (1995–1999). In 1999 Northeastern University recruited Donna where she continued to teach, advise, and publish widely.

Donna's publication record of scholarship includes two books and more than 75 articles. In addition she served on the board of the American Society of Criminology, and edited the American Academy of Criminal Justice journal *Justice Quarterly*. She was on the editorial boards of six criminology and criminal justice journals. Donna's scholarship covered a wide range of topics, most notably on juvenile law reform, race and gender inequities in justice processing, and juvenile transfer policy and practice. Her 1996 article "The Transfer of Juveniles to Criminal Court: Does it Make a Difference?" empirically demonstrated that youth transferred to adult court reoffended faster and more often than matched peers retained in the juvenile system. Her scholarship on disproportionate minority contact in the justice system provided empirical foundations for reform efforts. Her work influenced generations of scholars and policy debates about how states punish juveniles in the adult criminal justice system. In 2012 Donna co-edited *The Oxford Handbook of Juvenile Crime and Juvenile Justice* with Barry Feld. It soon became a definitive text on youth crime and justice.

While at Northeastern Donna took on a multitude of administrative tasks. She worked to create the university's doctoral program in Criminology and Public Policy. Later she worked long hours as the University's first ombuds person—a role that she enjoyed until her retirement in 2017.

The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice has established the Professor Donna M. Bishop Doctoral Excellence Award to honor her memory.

To contribute to the fund, please use the link for the SCCJ Director's Fund <https://give.northeastern.edu/research/DN0222-15.html>, and indicate that the gift is in memory of Donna Bishop."



New Editor Sought for *Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society*

The Western Society of Criminology (WSC) invites applications for the position of Editor(s) of *Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society*, (CCJLS), the official journal of the Society. It is anticipated that new manuscript submissions will transfer to the new Editor around January 2027 for a three-year term. CCJLS is a Diamond Open Access journal, meaning that it is free to read and publish in. WSC covers the cost of submissions for authors, and all articles are publicly available on the [journal's website](#).

The Editor is responsible for the timely and substantive publication of the journal, including the solicitation of manuscripts, supervision of the peer-review process, selection of articles for publication, and the final publication process (including proofreading and typesetting). The WSC supports this process by paying for the following expenses: CCJLS's manuscript submission and processing system (Scholastica) and copy-editing. The Editor's supporting institution might propose to provide funds to cover graduate student assistance and/or release time for the Editor.

We encourage interested applicants to contact the Interim Editor, Christine Scott-Hayward, with any questions or for additional information regarding the logistics or operational details of editing and producing the journal or to discuss their application before submission. Application materials should include (1) a statement of editorial philosophy, (2) *curriculum vitae* of all proposed personnel, and (3) assurances and details of any institutional support. Application materials should be sent **by email** to:

Christine Scott-Hayward, Interim Editor
Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society
c/o School of Criminology, Criminal Justice, & Emergency Management
California State University, Long Beach
1250 Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90814
christine.scott-hayward@csulb.edu

Applications must be received by **July 1, 2026**.

CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

Conferences, Webinars & Workshops

JUSTICE, RESILIENCE & THE RULE OF LAW: FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Event Type: Conference

Location: Lamar University, Beaumont, TX

Date: April 21, 2026

<https://www.lamar.edu/arts-sciences/research-centers/death-penalty-studies/>

CONFERENCE ON DISCRIMINATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY: FOSTERING CONVERSATIONS ACROSS FIELDS

Event Type: Conference

Location: Chicago, IL

Date: April 28 – 29, 2026

https://bfi.uchicago.edu/events/event/2026-conference-on-discrimination-in-the-21st-century-fostering-conversations-across-fields/?occurrence_id=667

24TH TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENCES (IAFS)

Event Type: Meeting

Location: Sofia, Bulgaria

Date: May 25 – 30, 2026

<https://iafs2026.com/>

THE STOCKHOLM CRIMINOLOGY SYMPOSIUM (SCS)

Event Type: Conference

Location: Münchenbryggeriet, Stockholm, Sweden

Date: June 8 – 10, 2026

<http://www.criminologysymposium.com/>

INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND DIALOGUE – 2ND INTERNATIONAL SUMMER ACADEMY

Event Type: Academy

Location: Baku, Azerbaijan

Date: July 7 – 15, 2026

<https://www.ipdinstitute.ch/Trainings-Events/>

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS (SSSP)

Event Type: Annual Meeting

Theme: Resisting Colonization of Lifeworlds

Location: New York City, NY

Date: August 6-9, 2026

https://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/1044/2026_Annual_Meeting/

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY MEETING

Event Type: Conference

Location: Warsaw, Poland

Date: September 9 – 12, 2026

<https://esc-eurocrim.org/v2/eurocrim-2026-the-26th-annual-conference-of-the-esc-will-take-place-in-warsaw-poland-from-9-to-12-september-2026/>

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY (ANZSOC) CONFERENCE

Event Type: Conference

Location: Adelaide, Australia

Date: December 1 - 3, 2026

<https://anzsoc.org/#>

CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

COSSA's Social Science Advocacy Day

COSSA's Social Science Advocacy Day is back! Join COSSA in Washington, DC on March 23-24, 2026! Advocacy Day brings together social and behavioral scientists and science advocates from across the country to engage with policymakers.

You will be teamed up with advocates and participate in a day of in-person meetings with House and Senate offices on Capitol Hill. Through these meetings, you will share reasons why federal government support for social and behavioral science research is so critical. Advocates will be given all the resources they need to have successful meetings, including a preparatory seminar, and all your meetings will be scheduled for you. The only thing you need to do is come to Washington prepared to talk about why you love social and behavioral science!

Join us and make your voice heard in support of social and behavioral science:

<https://cossa.org/event/2026-social-science-advocacy-day/>

Eurocrim 2026: Frontiers of Criminology | Warsaw, Poland | 9-12 September 2026

Eurocrim 2026, titled "Frontiers of Criminology," will take place in Warsaw, Poland, from 9 to 12 September 2026. Organized by the University of Warsaw and the European Society of Criminology, the conference will bring together scholars from around the world to reflect on how rapidly changing, fluid societies are reshaping crime, harm, and criminological inquiry.

As technological, environmental, and social transformations push the boundaries of contemporary life, criminology faces new questions about emerging forms of crime and harm, shifting crime patterns, and responsibilities in the face of uncertainty. Eurocrim 2026 will provide a forum to explore these evolving frontiers and their implications for theory, research, and policy.

We invite you to follow the conference website and social media channels, where updates and calls will be posted regularly:

<https://eurocrim2026.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/eurocrim2026>

The Western Society of Criminology held its annual conference from February 5-7, 2026, in Denver, Colorado. Conference attendees enjoyed high-quality panel sessions and poster presentations, above average Denver temperatures, and the meals and hospitality WSC conferences are famous for. Among the highlights of the conference were the Presidential Plenary Session, "Crimmigration in the Age of Detention: Power, Punishment, and the Politics of Belonging" and the keynote address, "Criminology's Marginalization of Law ... and What We Can Do to Advance the Transdisciplinary Study of Crime" by Tappan award winner Henry F. Fradella. We look forward to seeing everyone at our 2027 conference in San Diego, California.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FUTURE ASC ANNUAL MEETING DATES

2027	November 17 -- 20	Dallas, TX	Dallas Anatole Hilton
2028	November 15 -- 18	New Orleans, LA	New Orleans Riverside Hilton
2029	November 14 - 17	Philadelphia, PA	Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
2030	November 20 - 23	San Francisco, CA	San Francisco Marriott Marquis
2031	November 12 - 15	Washington, D.C.	Washington, D.C. Marriott Marquis
2032	November 17 - 20	Chicago, IL	Palmer House Hilton
2033	November 16 - 19	Washington, D.C.	Washington, D.C. Marriott Marquis
2034	November 11 - 19	New Orleans, LA	New Orleans Riverside Hilton
2035	November 10 - 18	Chicago, IL	Palmer House Hilton
2036	November 19 - 22	San Francisco, CA	San Francisco Marriott Marquis



2026 ASC ANNUAL MEETING

Venue: Palmer House Hilton

Location: Chicago, IL

Date: 11/18 - 11/21/2026

Chairs: Carlos E. Monteiro, Suffolk University & Jennifer B. Robinson, Salem State University

Theme: *Criminology and Justice Policy*

Visit the [ASC website](#) for additional details.