



The Criminologist

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Bridging Research and Practice:

Why Researcher–Practitioner Partnerships Matter Now More Than Ever

Janice Iwama, PhD, American University

Across criminology and criminal justice, a familiar gap persists. On the one hand, researchers generate evidence about what works, for whom, and under what conditions. On the other hand, practitioners make daily decisions that shape public safety, guide criminal justice system operations, and influence community trust. Although both sides are influenced by major events and public concerns, they often remain separated by distinct institutional cultures, incentives, and timelines (Iwama et al., 2021). Researcher–practitioner partnerships (RPPs) offer a powerful alternative by creating intentional spaces where research and practice can meaningfully intersect.

RPPs represent a model of collaboration that brings researchers and practitioners into the same room through shared dialogue and problem-solving. This model shifts away from a one-way production of knowledge that starts with those who produce research (academics) to those who use and implement research (practitioners). Alternatively, RPPs focus on the co-production of knowledge with each side bringing their expertise into the room (Bradley & Nixon, 2009; Buerger, 2010; Taheri, 2020). While practitioners help to identify the research questions that are most relevant to existing policy and practice, researchers design studies that are both methodologically rigorous and operationally relevant. Together, they interpret data by ensuring that the findings are scientifically sound, supported by the most recent literature and contextually meaningful to existing policy and practice. Finally, recommendations are drafted, revised, and scaled through iterative learning to inform existing policies and practices or implement changes (Casey, 2024; Iwama et al., 2021; Rojek et al., 2012).

Over the past two decades, federal funding streams supporting RPPs have expanded alongside a growing body of evidence demonstrating their positive impact (Hodgkinson et al., 2024; Noorman et al., 2025). However, the current political and funding climate has introduced significant constraints—including reduced data accessibility, shifting research priorities, and declining funding opportunities—that may threaten the scope and long-term sustainability of RPPs. Thus, now, more than ever, we need to continue to advance RPPs to ensure that research remains relevant, sustainable, and capable of informing policies, practices, and programs despite these challenges.

The Emergence of Researcher–Practitioner Partnerships

Starting in the 1990s, RPP models emerged following local efforts to reduce violent crimes, improve reentry outcomes, and lower recidivism rates. These partnerships were largely driven by funding through programs under the Department of Justice such as the Locally Initiated Research Partnerships and Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program (Alpert et al., 2019; McEwen, 1999). Over the following two decades, the Department of Justice continued to expand their funding opportunities through other initiatives such as the Project Safe Neighborhoods, which encouraged and supported partnerships between criminal justice system practitioners and researchers to inform violent crime reduction strategies (Alpert et al., 2019; Bouffard & Bergeron, 2008; Hardin & Kushner 2008; Rojek et al., 2019). Not only did these partnerships play a critical role in informing policies, programs, and practices designed to address key public safety challenges, but they have also changed the types of research questions we now ask, the type of data we collect, and the impact we have on these important topics. More importantly, they have drawn greater attention to how policies

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and interventions may differentially affect certain individuals, groups, and communities.

Building and Sustaining Effective RPPs

While no two partnerships are structured the exact same way, the most important characteristic of a RPP is the two-way exchange of knowledge and information. This requires trust and transparency as well as a shared understanding of what to expect in terms of research outcomes and policy/practice changes. Successful partnerships typically share several features including:

- **Shared problem definition.** Research agendas emerge from real operational challenges rather than being retrofitted onto agency settings.
- **Mutual respect.** Practitioners bring experiential, contextual, and organizational knowledge; researchers bring methodological and theoretical expertise.
- **Embedded collaboration.** Researchers engage with agencies beyond data collection—attending meetings, observing operations, and understanding constraints.
- **Actionable outputs.** Findings are translated into tools, policies, training, and strategies that agencies can realistically implement.
- **Long-term commitment.** Partnerships endure beyond leadership changes, individual projects, and funding cycles.

When these elements align, RPPs can produce research that is more relevant, more credible to practitioners, and more likely to influence policy and practice (Hodgkinson et al., 2024; Pesta et al., 2017; Saunders et al., 2020). At the same time, RPPs face well-known challenges. These include cultural differences, resource constraints, leadership changes, and trust. First, academics and practitioners operate at different speeds, use different language and prioritize different outputs and often communicate through siloed professional outlets. These cultural differences require an ongoing conversation and an understanding that takes time and effort to bridge these institutional differences. Second, both law enforcement agencies and educational institutions are also confined by tightening budgets, which may influence the time and support dedicated towards collecting and analyzing data without external resources. This may require both sides to re-think their research design while still addressing the main question and achieving a desirable outcome. Third, leadership changes within practitioners' and/or researchers' institutions may disrupt a partnership but can be addressed through communication and intentional planning. Finally, concerns with data sensitivity, public scrutiny, and political fallout can inhibit collaboration (Iwama et al., 2021). Thus, clear agreements and ethical safeguards are critical before engaging in the partnership and need to be repeated and revised throughout the partnership.

In general, RPPs take time, effort, and resources that usually extends outside of the everyday responsibilities held by both practitioners and researchers. Federal funding has previously encouraged, supported, and sustained many of these partnerships by funding the activities and incentivizing these collaborations. Yet, following the termination of research grants and the decline in available grants, it is important to explore alternative strategies to incentivize researchers and practitioners to foster these partnerships. I would like to offer one example to address these barriers in building peer networks and reinforcing the value of collaboration.

A Model for Researcher–Practitioner Collaboration: NIJ LEADS

One of the most promising national efforts to institutionalize researcher–practitioner collaboration is the National Institute of Justice's (NIJ) Law Enforcement Advancing Data and Science (LEADS) program. Established in 2014, NIJ LEADS program brings together law enforcement leaders, civilians, and scholars from across the United States for peer learning, training, and sustained engagement with research. Participants are exposed to current criminological evidence, promising innovations, and evaluation strategies.

Since 2021, I have served as an NIJ LEADS Scholar following the decision to expand the program to scholars in 2019. The program has strengthened connections between practitioners and scholars with many formal and informal partnerships developed while I served as a scholar. It has also generated a network of more than 130 members largely comprised of academics, practitioners, and “pracademics,” who continue to engage in knowledge exchange with the purpose of cultivating evidence-informed policy and practice inside law enforcement agencies. Some examples of these partnerships are highlighted in the recent special issue, *Enhancing Police Research Partnerships: A Path to Actionable Findings and Community Trust*, co-edited by fellow NIJ LEADS Scholar Shawn Hill and me, and published by the National Policing Institute in collaboration with NIJ. Specifically, the special issue brings together innovative scholarship from NIJ LEADS Scholars and showcases how practitioner–researcher collaborations can generate actionable findings that strengthen policing practices, officer wellness, technology use, and community engagement (Iwama & Hill, 2026).

More importantly, the NIJ LEADS program has built a strong network of researchers and practitioners committed to advancing data-driven, community-responsive policing. Unlike earlier NIJ funding initiatives such as Project Safe Neighborhoods, which were often centered on specific crime reduction strategies, the NIJ LEADS program emphasizes sustained collaboration between law enforcement practitioners and researchers across a broad range of policing issues. As a result, peer networks like NIJ LEADS program create space for practitioners and researchers to organically form partnerships with like-minded professionals,

identify pressing local challenges, and develop research that is both relevant and effective in policy, program, and/or practice.

Why Partnerships Matter in Today's Environment

Contemporary criminal justice challenges are complex, contested, and consequential. Criminal justice agencies must respond to community concerns about public safety in addition to accountability, fairness, and transparency. They must continue to function effectively despite budgetary, legal, and political challenges. RPPs are uniquely suited to this environment for several reasons.

They support evidence-based reform. Partnerships help agencies identify strategies that are not only popular, but demonstrably effective. Evaluations conducted in real-world settings provide practical guidance for adaptation and implementation.

They improve data capacity. Many agencies seek to modernize and sustain data systems, improve performance metrics, and leverage analytics. Researchers can assist with measurement, data quality, and analytic strategies while helping agencies ask the right questions of their data and provide data visualizations.

They enhance transparency. Independent research partnerships signal a commitment to accountability. Jointly produced findings can foster public trust and support constructive dialogue with communities.

They accelerate innovation. Pilot programs, randomized trials, and implementation studies conducted through partnerships allow agencies to test ideas before large-scale adoption, reducing risk of failure and improving outcomes.

For criminology to realize its public value, RPPs must become standard practice rather than exceptional initiatives. The future of evidence-informed justice depends on our willingness to bridge institutional divides and work collaboratively toward shared goals.

Conclusion

RPPs transform how knowledge is produced, shared, and used. Initiatives like the NIJ LEADS program provide space for RPPs to grow. As criminal justice practitioners and researchers alike confront the current challenges of our time, collaboration is not optional. And while the pathway to meaningful, measurable, and sustainable impact is difficult following budgetary and resource constraints, it is important to remember that the demand for effective and equitable solutions is no longer optional but necessary for evidence-informed justice.

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Building Infrastructure for Impact: Research Institutes, Harm Reduction, and the Possibility of Imaginable Reform

Tara Opsal – Colorado State University

Across the social sciences, many of us who study crime, justice, and victimization share a quiet frustration: we produce careful, rigorous research documenting harm, inequality, and system failure. Yet, too often, that work does not translate into meaningful change for the people and communities most affected. Many of us have published work that clearly documents harm or inequity, only to see little change in the systems we study. We are often asked, by funders, partners, or students, what comes next after the research, and we do not always have answers. We are very good at documenting harm. We are much less good at changing it. From my vantage point, the problem is not a lack of knowledge or skill. It is a lack of infrastructure that allows research to move into action.

Building the Conditions for a Different Kind of Work

The recently formed Criminal Justice and Victimization Institute (CJVI) at Colorado State University (CSU) grew directly out of this concern. As a land-grant institution, CSU carries an explicit mission: to produce knowledge that serves the public and to engage directly with the communities and systems that shape people's lives. CJVI takes that mission seriously in the context of crime, justice, and victimization, not only by studying these systems, but by working alongside those within them to support meaningful change.

To build toward that, in 2024 with the help of university funding to support the effort, I brought together a group of faculty from across disciplines, sociology, criminal justice, political science, social work, public health, and others, who shared a clear commitment to impact. We set out to create something that would allow us to partner with justice-connected organizations not only to study problems, but to co-create research, develop projects, and remain engaged through implementation. I did not predetermine the specifics. Instead, six faculty, research staff, and graduate students built them together.

We developed a shared mission and clarified what meaningful engagement would require in practice. We talked explicitly about what it means to do work "on the inside" and what we mean by reform. Meaning, what it could look like, what it should avoid, and how our work might contribute to it responsibly. We also made a deliberate decision not to build in isolation. Before formalizing the institute, we brought in community partners from across Colorado to understand needs, priorities, and constraints. Those conversations fundamentally shaped the institute. They forced us to rethink initial assumptions and build something responsive rather than prescriptive. We did not simply design CJVI, we built it through an iterative process of collaboration, listening, and adjustment and formally became recognized as a research center by CSU a year after this work began.

Several commitments emerged from that process and continue to guide the work. We pursue reforms that improve practice and outcomes while staying attentive to whether those changes expand system reach. We work alongside those most directly connected to the issues we study, recognizing that their perspectives shape both how we define problems and how we develop solutions. We rely on interdisciplinary collaboration to expand what we can see and do. And, we commit to dissemination that matters. We ensure that our research is accessible and usable, and staying engaged to support the doing of the work itself, not just the sharing of findings.

This is, fundamentally, land-grant work. It requires us to build relationships before launching projects, co-develop research agendas rather than impose them, and remain engaged beyond data collection. It also requires reflexivity. CJVI is still in its early stages, and we continue to learn as we go. Building this kind of infrastructure takes time, and it rarely aligns neatly with academic timelines. But, we believe that these are the conditions that can make a different kind of academic work possible.

Imaginable Reforms and the Orientation of the Work

My vision for CJVI is shaped by a broader tension that I grapple with in this space: how to engage in reform without simply reinforcing or expanding the systems we critique. Work "on the inside" carries real risks. Reforms can make systems more efficient, more legitimate, or more expansive in ways that deepen harm (Coppola 2023; Davis 2011; Dressel and Farid 2018; Hannah-Moffat 2010; Hébert 2020; Lilley, Leon, and Bowler 2019). At the same time, these systems continue to structure people's lives in the present, raising difficult questions about the consequences of what it means to disengage from efforts to change them.

Rather than resolving this tension, I stay in the messiness of it with awareness and reflexivity. The work of several scholars inform how I think about these issues (e.g. Akbar 2022; Davis 2011; Gilmore 2022); Victoria Morris's (2023) work has been especially helpful. Morris distinguishes among different types of reform. In her formulation, imaginable reforms operate within existing systems but aim to reduce harm, redistribute power, and avoid expansion. They differ from reforms that extend system reach, even when framed as improvements, and from more transformative changes that may not yet be politically or institutionally viable.

This framing helps clarify what it means to engage in reform responsibly. It shifts the question from whether reform is inherently good or bad to a more precise set of considerations: What could this change do in practice? Does it reduce harm in the present?

Does it expand surveillance, punishment, or system reach? Does it open space for further change or foreclose it? Does it invite different stakeholders to the table or shut them out? Even with these questions, we cannot fully anticipate what reforms will do. That uncertainty makes it essential to remain engaged through implementation, where those effects actually unfold.

I orient CJVI around these questions. This means being intentional not only about whether we engage in change efforts, but about the direction those efforts take. In practice, it often requires asking different questions at the outset: not only “What works?” but “What reduces harm right now without increasing surveillance, punishment, or system reach?”

This approach does not resolve the tensions of inside work. It cannot. The changes that emerge are often partial and bounded, shaped by the systems in which they occur. But they still matter. They can reduce harm in meaningful ways and, by engaging practitioners without alienating them while insisting on the credibility of lived experience, create the conditions for conversations to move: pushing, even incrementally, toward more transformative change.

How Change Actually Happens

The work of the newly formed CJVI advances system change by drawing on diverse research designs and methodological approaches that reflect the interdisciplinary nature of our collaborators. What unites this work, however, is a shared commitment to being attentive to how research design shapes impact and to engaging in participatory approaches. For example, in our collaborative work with a community corrections agency, we employed many of the same principles that now guide CJVI: co-producing knowledge with practitioners and system-impacted individuals, prioritizing relational engagement, and remaining present through implementation rather than exiting after data collection.

This meant, for example, that staff, community partners, and individuals with lived experience were not simply participants, but were involved in research design, interpreting findings, and identifying priorities for change. We were also intentional about how ideas were introduced and discussed. Rather than leading with language that might trigger defensiveness or shut down conversation, we worked collaboratively to develop shared terms for describing harm, accountability, and support. We are intentional about creating space for difficult conversations about change to unfold over time.

Within those conditions, a series of changes became possible that reflect what Morris (2023) describes as *imaginable reforms*. A gender-responsive advisory council was created to bring staff, community members, and formerly system-involved individuals into ongoing decision-making processes, redistributing deliberative authority in ways that were meaningful, even within institutional constraints. Staff training was redesigned to incorporate trauma-informed and structural perspectives, shifting how behavior and risk were understood and practiced by staff in day-to-day practice. Hiring practices were adjusted to prioritize relational capacity and alignment with the program’s evidence-based approaches with the goal of strengthening how existing programs were delivered.

These were not sweeping transformations, and they did not dismantle the broader system. But they were intentional, harm-reducing changes that did not expand the reach or capacity of the system itself. In that sense, they illustrate what it looks like to pursue reform in a way that is both pragmatic and constrained by a commitment to non-expansion. What matters here is not only the content of these changes, but how they emerged. They became possible through the relational and epistemic conditions created by the research process itself. Conditions built through trust, shared interpretation, and sustained engagement over time are paramount. The work did not simply generate findings about the organization; it reorganized how knowledge, authority, and decision-making operated within it.

This is the kind of work that we have created CJVI to support and extend: research treated not just as data collection, but as a collaborative and relational process that brings people to the table, centers lived and professional expertise, and works collectively to define problems and prioritize solutions. Staying engaged through design and implementation to ensure those solutions reduce harm and attend to structural conditions.

Building for Impact in Constrained Systems

This work, though, operates within real constraints. Institutes like CJVI operate within political and institutional arrangements that do not simply limit what is possible, but actively shape which kinds of change are legible, fundable, and permissible. Funding structures often prioritize short-term, measurable outcomes over relational or structural change. Regulatory frameworks can restrict what can be implemented, even when alternative approaches are supported by evidence. Institutional review processes can constrain participatory work by limiting flexibility, responsiveness, and shared decision-making. Shifting political priorities can make certain populations, problem framings, or forms of critique more or less viable.

Participation also remains uneven, not simply as a practical limitation, but because power structures the criminal legal system (Yan et al. 2024). That power shapes whose knowledge is treated as credible, which priorities are centered, and what kinds of change are considered possible. Efforts to include system-impacted individuals, for example, are often constrained by the institutions themselves. Through limits on their actual decision-making power, expectations about how they should speak or behave to be

taken seriously, and assumptions that privilege professional over lived expertise (Haverkate et al. 2020; Lambelet, Ros, and Kloetzer 2023).

There is also an ongoing risk that reform efforts are absorbed into existing institutional logics (Wakefield 2022). Changes intended to reduce harm can be reframed in ways that align with efficiency, risk management, or system expansion. In this sense, the question is not only whether change occurs, but how it is interpreted, taken up, and potentially redirected once inside institutional structures.

These tensions are not peripheral, they are constitutive of the work. But they are not a reason to disengage. They are a reason to be more intentional about what we build to support this work.

If our research is going to contribute to reducing harm and inequality in meaningful ways, it requires infrastructure that can hold sustained, collaborative engagement. This includes creating structures that support long-term relationships with community partners; bringing practitioners and system-impacted individuals into decision-making processes in ways that meaningfully redistribute authority; co-developing research agendas rather than imposing them; and remaining engaged through the design and implementation of policy and practice. It also requires building in reflexivity. Recognizing that the consequences of reform cannot be fully anticipated and that ongoing involvement is necessary to understand and respond to how changes unfold in practice.

Institutes like CJVI are one way of building this infrastructure, but they are not the only way. The underlying components are transferable: investing in relationships before projects begin, structuring collaboration intentionally, treating lived and professional expertise as central to the work, and ensuring that engagement does not end with data collection. These are not add-ons to research, they are what make a different kind of research possible.

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From the ASC President, Natasha Frost

The work of the ASC Executive Board continues! It's a very busy year... While the ASC Board has traditionally held just two sets of meetings (at the conference in November and at a midyear meeting in April), the current board currently meets every month.

I am pleased to announce that, effective January 2027, the ASC has a new publisher for its journals (Taylor and Francis) and a new editorial team for *Criminology* (Co-Lead Editors Sandra Bucerius and Sonja Siennick). We would like to extend our deepest thanks to OJ Mitchell, former ASC Vice President, who led the committee that worked with the consulting firm, Clarke and Esposito, to identify our next publisher and then stuck with it through the signing of the final contract. ASC Vice President Anthony Peguero chairs the 2026 publications committee and led the search for the next editorial team for *Criminology*. We know that was more than you each bargained for when you ran for Vice President and we are very grateful for your service!

Speaking of service... the Executive Director search committee (Todd Clear (Chair), Claire Renzetti, Rod Brunson, Elsa Chen, and Laura Dugan) continues its work with Sterling Martin to identify our next Executive Director. The search is underway, going well – with lots of interest, and we are confident we will have a new Executive Director hired before the end of the summer.

We also continue to work with Nancy Kidd Consulting, LLC during the transition period between permanent executive directors. The ASC Executive Board has been thoroughly and thoughtfully reviewing the society's policies and governing documents. Through that governance review process, we identified items in the Constitution that should be updated for legal compliance, consistency, clarity, and/or alignment with best practices in nonprofit governance. The board has been working diligently and methodically to make necessary revisions, but it is the responsibility of the membership to vote on Constitutional amendments, so expect to see five votes on the May ballot. **More information about the constitutional amendments was emailed with the election ballot booklet/ instructions and posted as an announcement on the ASC website** (on Tuesday April 7th, 2026).

Last but certainly not least, in late February, we launched a membership survey to learn how the organization might better serve its members. To encourage participation, the 2026 survey included a raffle for a conference fee waiver. It worked! We received 944 responses and Julie Sriken, Marc Glidden, Maisha Cooper, Daniel Andrés Fredes García, and Kaja Urbančič were randomly selected for the 2026 Presidential conference fee waivers. The ASC board will use the survey results to guide our strategic planning in the immediate term and long term planning into the future. A survey report can be found on our website.

As always, more to come in the next issue!

ASC Announces New Publishing Contract with Taylor and Francis

The American Society of Criminology is pleased to announce that Taylor and Francis will be publisher for the ASC journals, *Criminology* and *Criminology & Public Policy*. Both journals will transition to Taylor and Francis in January 2027. We are grateful to Wiley for our ten years of partnership, and we look forward to working with Taylor and Francis in the coming years.

Many thanks to the ASC's Ad Hoc Publisher Selection Committee (OJ Mitchell, Carter Hay, Cynthia Lum, and Nicole Coldiron) for their work with Clarke & Esposito, a firm retained to guide ASC through the publisher RFP and selection processes. We are particularly grateful to OJ Mitchell for his tireless efforts as the Chair. OJ worked with the ad hoc committee, the ASC board, and the consulting firm well beyond his term as Vice President of the ASC – and saw the process through to the signing of the final contract with Taylor and Francis. Thank you for your commitment to the ASC and its future publishing success.

TEACHING TIPS

Teaching About Vicarious Trauma

Arelys Madero-Hernandez

Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania

1) Vicarious Trauma as A Professional Hazard

Helping professionals are routinely exposed to the traumatic experiences of the people they are seeking to help. Over time, this exposure can take an emotional toll, as documented in the extensive literature about vicarious trauma¹, secondary traumatic stress², and compassion fatigue.³ Professionals impacted by vicarious trauma (VT) and secondary traumatic stress (STS) experience changes in arousal reactions, cognitions, perceptions, and memory. Symptoms closely resemble those of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, but stem from indirect exposure to trauma.

Our criminal justice and criminology students are among the future professionals most impacted by VT and STS, particularly those pursuing careers in law enforcement, forensics, corrections, and victim advocacy. VT is so prevalent in these careers that it is considered an occupational hazard. And it is not limited to work after graduation; it can emerge during applied research, field experiences, or internships while in college. About half of criminal justice and criminology majors who completed internships reported VT—interns in courts, victim services, and children advocacy had the greatest exposure.⁴ VT is listed among the top challenges that criminal justice interns face.⁵

Not only are our students likely to be exposed to secondary trauma in their professional practice, but their backgrounds may make them more reactive to this exposure. Fifty-nine percent of criminal justice majors reported past victimization, and 83% reported vicarious victimization. These experiences motivate students to choose a criminal justice major⁶, but can place them at higher risk of VT. These findings underscore the need for VT education in college, particularly in courses where trauma-related materials may contribute to reactivity or be triggering to students.^{7,8}

2) Why VT & STS Education is Important

There is ample evidence of the positive impact of educating human service professionals about the hazards of trauma. Forensic science employees reported lower STS and burnout when they felt that their organization promoted wellness.⁹ Among trauma therapists, specialized trauma training was negatively correlated with compassion fatigue.¹⁰ Overall, activities that educate about VT and STS are associated with decreased STS symptoms and increased wellness.¹¹

College plays a key role in preparing criminal justice and criminology students to manage the secondary trauma inherent in the profession. Put simply, our students “need the right information and relationships to work effectively in environments where they are exposed to trauma.”¹² Although trauma-informed care (TIC) has been widely implemented in the curriculum of human service college courses, the focus has been on providing TIC to the populations we serve (e.g., victims, offenders), and on TIC pedagogies when teaching courses that expose students to sensitive material that may be traumatizing in nature.¹³ Much less attention has been given to VT and STS instruction. This gap is evident in a recent scoping review, which found only 15 publications focusing on the mental and psychological well-being of criminal justice students, with less than half of these publications addressing responses and prevention resources.¹⁴ The following section outlines some ideas for integrating VT and STS instruction within criminal justice and criminology courses.

3) Teaching about VT and STS: Where, When, and How

Embed VT and STS in Coursework: VT and STS education should be embedded in courses with a field work component, such as internships or practicums. Additionally, programs may choose to integrate a module or unit dedicated to these topics into a capstone course, or within the student learning outcomes of core courses that focus on trauma or sensitive contents, for example, Criminal Investigation, Victimology, or Forensics courses. The specific placement of these topics within the curriculum can be adjusted based on program structure, but it is important to ensure universal exposure among all majors, not only those pursuing certain concentrations or opting in for field experiences.

While it is vital to provide VT and STS instruction before graduation, it is best to wait until students have a solid foundation of knowledge and have discerned what career they will pursue after graduation. This allows tailoring application exercises, such as case studies and role-playing exercises, to specific career pathways (e.g., police officer, caseworker, victim advocate). Students can get more out of these exercises when they are matched to their own vocation.

If the program does not include lessons on trauma anywhere else in the curriculum, the instructor should start with that before

TEACHING TIPS

delving into a discussion of VT and STS. Introductory topics include a definition of trauma, the neurobiology of trauma, and TIC principles. Two seminal reports by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), referenced below, are excellent readings to guide this discussion.

Define VT and STS: The next step is to define the concepts of VT and STS, and their signs and symptoms in everyday life. When teaching this lesson in my criminal justice capstone course, I present the Window of Tolerance model¹⁵ to describe the optimal zone of arousal, as contrasted with extreme states of hyperarousal and hyperarousal. Using the relatable scenario of having multiple deadlines coming up, I ask students to share the emotions and feelings they expect to emerge at the extreme states. This simple exercise helps students to practice recognizing when they are outside their zone of tolerance and how this impacts their body. To reinforce this lesson, students may take the online training by the STS Innovation and Solutions Center (STS ISC) at the University of Kentucky Center on Trauma and Children, linked below. Trainees are prompted to create their self-care plan and receive a copy via email, for future reference.

Instructors may consider using one of the existing STS assessments to demonstrate what VT and STS look like in practice. I have used Figley's² Compassion Satisfaction/Fatigue Self-Test in my capstone course, but Stamm's³ Professional Quality of Life (ProQOL) is another option. Both are free and available online. They can be adapted as a class activity or homework assignment, but it is ideal to review the items, answer choices, and scoring procedures in class, before students do the self-assessment. Anecdotal evidence suggests that students find this exercise eye opening. Because the scores change over time, I suggest students take the test again when they start a new job, have a change of job circumstances, or every couple of years. An important disclaimer is that these tests are for illustration purposes only, and not a replacement for clinical diagnosis or treatment.

Reinforce the Importance of Self-Care: The most important lesson is about self-care. Most students are familiar with the concept but can list only a few self-care strategies. I recommend checking the resources available in the Self-Care Starter Kit by the University at Buffalo School of Social Work, linked below, to prepare this lesson. Students should develop (and revise) their own self-care plan. In my course, students bring the draft plan they created after taking the STS ISC training noted above, and they revise it in class after we go over the Self-Care Starter Kit materials.

I teach that self-care is a kind of primary prevention that can reduce the likelihood of VT and STS, but clinician support may be needed if one is presenting significant impairment because of STS. For this reason, faculty should keep a list of referral resources, both on campus and in the larger community, to share with students as needed. I have found it helpful to create an infographic with these resources, which I can easily update at the start of each semester, to include within the course syllabus.

There are other materials regarding VT and STS that instructors may wish to cover, but the ones above are the most critical. Advanced topics include the causes of VT and STS, risk factors, protective factors, and contrasting the synonym terms of compassion fatigue, compassion satisfaction, and burnout. Instructors may also discuss the role that organizations play on VT and STS prevention, realizing that students will be future supervisors who can do their part in making workplaces more trauma informed. Two resources I recommend for this systemic approach are the Secondary Traumatic Stress Informed-Organizational Assessment by the STS ISC at the University of Kentucky, and the Vicarious Trauma Toolkit by the Office for Victims of Crime.

Overall, the goal of these lessons is simply to empower students with the skills to identify red flags of VT and STS on their own, and to develop and revise their self-care plans as needed. Throughout instruction, faculty should allocate ample time for classroom discussion and personal reflection, facilitate student engagement with videos, exercises, and case studies. Teaching about VT and STS should be done in consistency with other well-known trauma-informed teaching practices.¹⁶

TEACHING TIPS

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REMEMBERING

Dr. Shamir Ratansi

1967 - 2026



On February 14th, the University of Central Florida's Department of Criminal Justice lost a beloved faculty member and friend, Shamir Ratansi. Shamir joined the University of Central Florida in 2020 after serving as an associate professor at Central Connecticut State University, following the completion of his doctoral degree at the University of Cincinnati.

Throughout his career, Shamir was committed to advancing knowledge in the field of criminal justice and supporting the academic and professional growth of his students.

He brought a genuine dedication to teaching into the classroom and created an environment where students felt both supported and challenged to succeed.

Shamir had a passion for travel and found great enjoyment in biking, often spending his free time riding trails. He was known not only for his dedication in the classroom, but also for his bright personality and infectious sense of humor. Shamir had a unique ability to make those around him smile, whether through a quick joke, a lighthearted comment, or simply his positive presence. His warmth and approachability made him someone students felt comfortable turning to, and someone colleagues genuinely enjoyed being around.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, it was Shamir's kindness, energy, and ability to bring joy to everyday moments that left a lasting impression. His presence will be greatly missed by colleagues, students, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

(Tribute by Nicholas Paul, Ph.D., Lecturer, Department of Criminal Justice
University of Central Florida)



ASC STUDENT AND EARLY CAREER SPOTLIGHT



Gabriel Alvarez – Criminology, Law and Society – University of California, Irvine

My research program examines how legal institutions, developmental processes, and family contexts interact across the life span, with particular attention to populations whose experiences fall outside normative assumptions embedded in law and criminology. Drawing on criminology, psychology, family demography, and public policy, I study how systems of social control respond to vulnerability, difference, and dependency—from childhood victimization to neurodivergent adulthood—and how these responses shape life trajectories for individuals and families.

In “Life-Course Theory on the Spectrum: Autism, Neurodiversity and the Boundaries of Developmental Criminology” (*Journal of Developmental and Life-Course Criminology*, 2025), I interrogate a foundational framework by asking what occurs when its core assumptions are applied to autistic individuals. Traditional life-course models rely on neurotypical timelines, emphasizing turning points such as marriage, employment, and parenthood as mechanisms of desistance and integration. Autistic adults, however, often follow alternative pathways shaped by exclusion, surveillance, and adaptive strategies such as masking or system avoidance rather than criminal offending. I argue not for abandoning life-course theory but for expanding it to incorporate diverse temporalities, nontraditional bonds, and structural barriers that produce cumulative disadvantage outside delinquency pathways.

Complementing this perspective, my forthcoming collaborative article, “Questioning Child and Adolescent Sex Abuse Victims at Trial: A Gender-Based Investigation” (*Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 2026), examines how courtroom practices shape vulnerable youths’ experiences. Using trial transcripts, we analyze how attorneys’ questioning varies by victim age and gender and how these approaches influence responses. Attorneys adapt primarily to age, yet boys and girls differ in responsiveness, differences that may affect credibility and outcomes.

Together, these projects advance my agenda of studying families and law across the life span and informing policies that better accommodate developmental diversity and promote equitable justice outcomes while recognizing the central role of caregivers, institutions, and structural inequality in shaping opportunities, protections, and long-term well-being.



Kevin P. Lopez – Justice, Law and Criminology - School of Public Affairs, American University

<https://www.american.edu/profiles/students/kl0539a.cfm>

Kevin P. Lopez is a second-year PhD student in the School of Public Affairs’ Justice, Law, Criminology program at American University. He received his B.A. and M.S. in Criminal Justice at Florida Atlantic University while working professionally in pretrial mental health court for Palm Beach County. His research interests include policing, procedural justice, and the intersection of police action with the public.

His dissertation sets out to examine due process in policing. The following is examined using data sourced from the National Crime Victimization Survey and their collection of Police-Public contact surveys during the late 2010s and early 2020s. Due process guarantees fundamental protects during interactions where one’s interests are threatened. Echoed in the words of the United States Constitution – life, liberty, and property, we hold these interests of utmost importance. Yet, this study seeks to challenge the notion of absolute discretion in policing and recognizes that while no one is above the law, no one is below the law either.

His research aims to use the framework of procedural justice and examine the presence or absence of elements of due process in police interactions with the public. Elements such as the right to notice, the right to be heard and face one’s accusers, and legal equality. He asks: (1) *Are these elements present during police-public interactions* and (2) *Does that impact the outcomes of these interactions?* Further, (3) *Are there instances or justifications in police action where due process must, legally, be sidelined when pursuing crime control and safety?* The impacts of this study contribute to the literature surrounding procedural justice in policing by looking further at the decision-making processes in day-to-day responsibilities.

ASC STUDENT AND EARLY CAREER SPOTLIGHT



Rhiannon Roberts, Doctoral Student, School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, Arizona State University

Rhiannon Roberts is a third-year doctoral student in Arizona State University's (ASU) Criminology & Criminal Justice Program. She received her B.S. in Psychology and Criminal Justice from Old Dominion University and her M.A. in Criminology from George Washington University. Throughout her educational journey, she has developed general research interests related to victimization, immigration, legal frameworks, and perceptions of safety.

Her dissertation project combines these interests and broadly explores the victimization and subsequent support-seeking behaviors of foreign nationals within the United States. Existing research has been unable to include factors that may shape reporting decisions for foreign nationals, including nationality and access to social network resources. Foreign nationals and law enforcement can have a strained relationship, due to the increasing overlap of local law enforcement and federal immigration duties, potentially dissuading reporting due to a fear of deportation or other consequences. This dynamic can have negative consequences for both parties: (1) foreign nationals may be less likely to report victimization and may not receive support otherwise, and (2) law enforcement may receive less information on victimization, contributing to the dark figure of crime. Through her project, Rhiannon hopes to create a more nuanced perspective on factors that may impact foreign nationals when reporting victimization. Rhiannon ultimately hopes to make tangible policy recommendations by highlighting structural factors that may be significant within her current study, as well as offering support and resources to foreign nationals who experience victimization.

AROUND THE ASC

Welcome to the New *Criminology* Editorial Team

On behalf of the Executive Board and Publications Committee, we are delighted to announce and warmly welcome the new editorial team of *Criminology*:

- Sandra Bucerius, Co-Editor-in-Chief
- Sonja Siennick, Co-Editor-in-Chief
- Martin Bouchard, Associate Editor
- Kevin Haggerty, Associate Editor
- David Kirk, Associate Editor
- Christopher Sullivan, Associate Editor

This distinguished group of scholars brings a wealth of expertise, leadership, and vision to the journal. We are confident that under their guidance, *Criminology* will continue to advance cutting-edge research and uphold its position as a leading publication in the field. We also extend our sincere appreciation to all the prior editorial teams for their dedication and contributions to the journal's continued success.

Please join us in welcoming the new editors and wishing them every success as they begin their tenure. We look forward to the important work ahead and to the continued growth and impact of *Criminology*.

— The ASC Executive Board and Publications Committee



Co-Editor in Chief

Sandra Bucerius

Centre for Criminological Research,
Department of Sociology,
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Co-Editor in Chief

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Associate Editor

Christopher Sullivan

Department of Criminology &
Criminal Justice,
University of Missouri-St.Louis

AROUND THE ASC



2026 AWARD NOMINATIONS

WE ARE ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING AWARDS

Graduate Student Poster Award

Mentor Award

Teaching 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.*

AROUND THE ASC

2026 AWARDS NOMINATIONS

NOMINATIONS CRITERIA & INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

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**.

AROUND THE ASC

FROM THE ASC OFFICE

**2026 Annual Meeting
Registration is OPEN!**

2026 Annual Meeting Details

2026 Annual Meeting
Registration Details

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ASC CAREER CENTER

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)
<https://ascdhdc.org/>

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

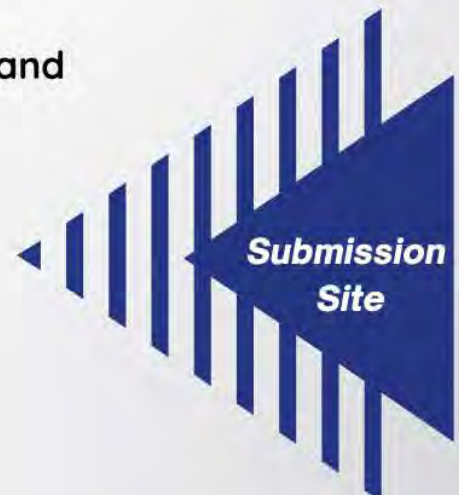
SUBMISSION DEADLINES

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

DEADLINE HAS PASSED

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.

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 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**

AROUND THE ASC

2026 CALL FOR PAPERS

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

- **Deadline has passed** 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	walterforrest@gmail.com
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	Karen Terry	kterry@jjay.cuny.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	turnernd@iu.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@sc.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 Victimization	Cooper Maher	maherco2@msu.edu
33	Policy and Prevention of Victimization	Lisa Monchalin	lisa.monchalin@kpu.ca
34	Consequences of Victimization	Megan Augustyn	Megan.Augustyn@utdallas.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	Ayanna.Miller@umb.edu

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ASC 2026 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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	ekirk@fitchburgstate.edu
47	Community Corrections	Amber Wilson	awils442@kennesaw.edu
48	The Juvenile Justice System	Peter Lehamn	Ps1003@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, & 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	Laguana Askew	laquana.askew@suffolk.edu
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 Jaynes	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
64	Globalization, Crime, & Justice	Myunghoon Roh	myunghoon.roh@salve.edu
65	Human Rights	Sesha Kethineni	seshakethineni@gmail.com
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	Convict Criminology	Nickie Phillips	nickie.phillips@unsw.edu.au
69	Cultural Criminology	Sara Salman	sara.salman@vuw.ac.nz
70	Critical Perspectives in Criminology	Sebastian Sclofsky	jsclofsky@csustan.edu
Area XI	Methodology	Daniel Butler	hdbutler@iastate.edu
71	Advances in Quantitative Methods	Robert Apel	ra437@scj.rutgers.edu
72	Advances in Qualitative Methods	Danielle Rudes	dsr035@shsu.edu
73	Advances in Evaluation Research	Katherine Hazen	k.hazen@northeastern.edu

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ASC 2026 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

74	Advances in Experimental Methods	Rylan Simpson	rylan_simpson@sfu.ca
75	Advances in Teaching Methods	Angela Bryant	bryant.74@osu.edu
Area XII	Diversity & Inclusion	Carole Gibbs	gibbsca1@msu.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	Methods Workshop	Carlos Monteiro and 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	peterson.5@osu.edu
Area XXII	Graduate Student Poster Competition	Heath Grant	hgrant@jjay.cuny.edu

AROUND THE ASC

A graphic with a blue background and a gold, wavy, textured border on the left side. The text is centered and reads: "Voting is Now Open for the 2026 ASC election of 2027-2028 Officers". Below this, it says "Eligible (non-student, current) ASC Members can Login to Cast Their Ballot" and "Voting Closes June 15, 2026". The word "election" is in a stylized, textured font within a small rectangular frame.

Voting is Now Open

for the
2026 ASC

election

of
2027-2028 Officers

Eligible (non-student, current) ASC Members can Login to Cast Their Ballot
Voting Closes June 15, 2026

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/>



Call for Applications: Editor-in-Chief

International Criminology

The Division of International Criminology (DIC) of the American Society of Criminology (ASC) invites applications for the position of **Editor-in-Chief** of *International Criminology*, the official journal of the Division. The anticipated start date is **January 1, 2027**.

International Criminology publishes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship in international, comparative, and transnational criminology and criminal justice. The journal welcomes theoretical, empirical, conceptual, and methodological contributions from criminology and related disciplines, with a strong commitment to global perspectives and the inclusion of scholarship from underrepresented regions. Published by Springer, the journal was **recently indexed in Scopus**, reflecting its growing scholarly visibility and impact.

The Editor-in-Chief provides intellectual leadership for the journal, oversees all editorial operations, and guides its strategic development in collaboration with the publisher and the DIC Executive Council. Responsibilities include managing the peer-review process, appointing and coordinating editors and editorial board members, ensuring ethical and timely publication practices, and promoting the journal within the international scholarly community.

The appointment is for a **three-year term**, renewable once. Applications proposing co-editorship arrangements will be considered; however, the annual editorial stipend is awarded to one individual and will be divided in the case of co-editorship. Institutional or departmental support (e.g., a designated graduate assistant, course release, or administrative assistance) is strongly preferred.

Minimum qualifications include tenure at the rank of Associate Professor or higher (Full Professor preferred), demonstrated expertise in international or comparative criminology, prior editorial or academic leadership experience, and active membership in ASC and the Division of International Criminology *at the time of application*.

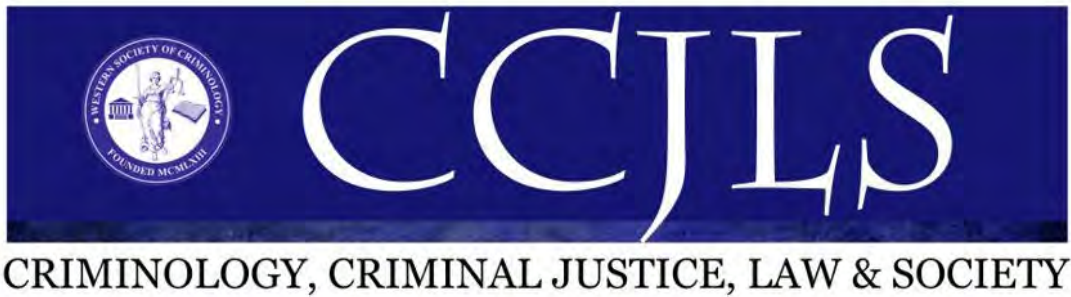
Application materials will include:

- A curriculum vitae
- A statement of editorial vision (up to 1,000 words)
- Confirmation of ASC and DIC membership
- A letter of institutional support (e.g., from a department chair or dean), outlining available support for the editorship

Applications and inquiries should be submitted electronically to:
[**asc.dic@gmail.com**](mailto:asc.dic@gmail.com)

Submission deadline: May 15, 2026

Serving as Editor-in-Chief of *International Criminology* is a distinguished opportunity to shape the future of international criminological scholarship and to lead a journal of increasing global significance.



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



Feminist Approaches to Justice at CSW 70

CSW 70 Committee



Dr. Dawn Beichner-Thomas

UN Representative, World Society of Victimology
Professor, Illinois State University



Dr. Rosemary Barberet

UN Representative, International Sociological Association
& Criminologists Without Borders
Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice



Dr. Pilar Larroulet

Member, Criminologists Without Borders
Assistant Professor, Rutgers University

Research Assistant*



Dominique Austin

Doctoral student, CUNY Graduate Center, John Jay
College of Criminal Justice
Member, World Society of Victimology

* Funding for research assistance was made possible by a PSC-CUNY Research Award (Award # 68542-00 56), jointly funded by the Professional Staff Congress and the City University of New York.

CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD



The seventieth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 70) occurred from the 9th to the 19th of March 2026 at United Nations Headquarters in New York City. The CSW is an annual convening of representatives of United Nations (UN) [Member States](#) and entities, as well as [ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations](#) (NGOs) from across the globe to discuss issues related to gender equity, under a particular priority theme.

The priority theme for CSW 70 was “access to justice.” Dedicated to bolstering opportunities for women and girls to receive economic, environmental, healthcare, criminal, and social justice, the focus of this year’s theme was to prioritize the need for gender inclusive, equitable legal systems at both the national and international level. For more information on the CSW70 priority theme, view our specially curated [resource list](#) of UN publications and research articles on access to justice for women and girls.

The seventieth session included high-level meetings, ministerial roundtables, interactive dialogues, and a series of expert panels. The CSW concludes with the adoption of an outcome document on the Agreed Conclusions from the event. The Official Documents for the CSW 70 can be found on the [UN Women website](#). NGOs with ECOSOC consultative status are given an opportunity to provide written statements on the thematic issues of the CSW. Rosemary Barberet (Criminologists Without Borders) and Dawn Beichner-Thomas (World Society of Victimology) co-authored a written statement ([E/CN.6/2026/NGO/52](#)) that was accepted and published in the CSW70 Official Documents. The statement offers insight into both the enduring and emerging barriers to justice for women and girls, and outlines pathways toward inclusive, transformative, and gender-responsive justice systems.

The CSW is a welcoming environment for individuals from all walks of life, and an excellent opportunity for junior scholars to attend. Individuals learn from and connect with scholars, activists, government officials, and practitioners to gain a nuanced and culturally diverse perspective on gender inequity. As first-time attendee, it was inspiring to see the coalition of Member States, transcending socio-political differences, to rally behind such an important social cause. Additionally, it was eye-opening to understand how research is used to facilitate critical conversations and serves as a backdrop for the establishment of global social policy.

This year’s forum was particularly relevant for criminologists, given the priority theme’s salience within our field. The [CSW 70 Agreed Conclusions](#) even mentions the rights of incarcerated women: an inclusion that was celebrated by feminist criminologists. Discussion at CSW 70 covered a diversity of topics, as discourse on how to address this year’s priority theme showcased nations’ unique methods and approaches. For instance, the high-level meeting on violence against women and girls revealed that while many European nations have turned their efforts towards tackling technology facilitated violence, several Caribbean nations have focused their energy on developing positive masculinity frameworks.

Despite its success, CSW 70 was not without controversy. There has been a growing sentiment of discontentment amongst feminist scholars and activists, with many wondering why the UN appears seemingly unable to stop the numerous human rights violations taking place around the world. The forum’s location, New York City, was also a point of contention. Many international constituencies were unable to enter the United States due to visa restrictions. Additionally, some were unwilling to attend this year’s event in protest of holding such critical meetings in a politically conservative, and increasingly far-right nation.

Alongside the CSW, the [NGO Committee on the Status of Women NY](#) (NGO CSW/NY) hosted its parallel forum: NGO CSW 70. This forum hosted over 750 in-person and virtual events. From 2019 onward, the [World Society of Victimology](#), the [International Sociological Association](#), [Criminologists Without Borders](#), and the [American Society of Criminology’s Division of Feminist Criminology](#) have collaborated on a series of NGO CSW panels titled, “Feminist Approaches to Justice.” There were five Feminist Approaches to Justice parallel events hosted during NGO CSW 70, two in-person and three online.

Gender and Access to Justice: This event took place on 11 March 2026 at the Church Center of the United Nations, across from UN headquarters. The main sponsor of the panel was the [International Sociological Association](#). The discussion covered disparities in gender justice and the influence of policy in the development and maintenance of gendered inequalities.

This panel was moderated by Jan Marie Fritz, professor at the University of Cincinnati; Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg; ISA Executive Committee member, ISA Senior Representative to the United Nations. Opening remarks were given by Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Founder of the Global Movement for the Culture of Peace. Presentations included: “Criminalization of Abortion and the Role of the Gender Data Gap in Shaping Access to Justice” by Izabela Korbiel, of University of Vienna, Austria; “UNESCO in Action for Equal Access to Justice: From Education to Digital Transformation” by Maria Begoña Lasagabaster, director of Division for Gender Equality UNESCO; “Justice as a Pillar of Peace: Italy’s Fifth NAP and the Rights of Women and Girls” by Luca Fratini, coordinator for Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and “Diverging and Converging Roads: Women’s and Girls’ Access to Justice” by Shazia Razzaque, senior advisor for CSW70, UN Women.

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Feminist Approaches to Access to Justice: This panel took place on 11 March 2026 at the Church Center of the United Nations. The primary sponsor was the World [Society of Victimology](#). This panel discussed this year's theme of access to justice for women and girls in conjunction with navigating the legal system and carceral settings.

This panel was moderated by Dawn Beichner-Thomas, professor at Illinois State University; World Society of Victimology executive committee member and UN Liaison Committee Chair. The first presentation was "Women's Perceptions of Access to Justice in Prison and Jail" delivered by Dawn Beichner-Thomas and her two colleagues Bothwell Piason, doctoral candidate at Arizona State University, and Pious D. Maedzenge, doctoral candidate at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. The second presentation was "Legal Recognition, Lived Exclusion: Gendered Institutional Barriers to Justice for Thirunangais in Tamil Nadu" given by Dhanya Babu, adjunct lecturer at John Jay College of Criminal Justice; doctoral candidate in Criminal Justice at the CUNY Graduate Center. The third presentation was "Gendered Trauma and the Barriers to Justice" presented by Myrna Diaz, justice reform scholar; master's student at Rutgers University. The final presentation was "Women in Prison in Chile: Life Trajectories and Barriers to Justice" given by Elisa Alcaíno and Fernanda Cueto of Red de Acción Carcelaria-Chile.

Sociological Approaches to Gender Justice: This panel was held virtually on 13 March 2026. The primary sponsor of the panel was the [International Sociological Association](#). In true sociological tradition, this panel examines this year's priority theme of access to justice for women and girls from a systemic lens, analyzing gender inequality within institutions of law, government, education, and social welfare. The video recording of this virtual session is [available here](#).

The moderator for this event was Rosemary Barberet, professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, UN Representative for the ISA and Criminologists without Borders. Presentations included: "Amazonian Women's Power: Eco-Solidarity in the Pursuit of Gender and Environmental Justice" given by Marian Orjuela, PhD researcher at Heidelberg University, Germany; "When Protection Becomes Predation: Legal Accountability Gaps for Sexual Harassment of Vulnerable Women in Clinical and Leisure Support Settings" presented by Huimei Liu, professor at Zhejiang University, China; "Global Perspectives on the Feminization of Poverty" by Sheila Katz, associate professor at the University of Houston; "Higher Education and Gender Inequality" by Natasha Quadlin, associate professor at the University of California, Los Angeles; "Plus c'est la même chose" by Máiréad Dunne, professor at the University College Cork and Barbara Crossouard, professor at the University of Sussex; "Bridging the Gender Gap in Legislative Representation: Lessons from Electoral Systems, Quota Laws, and Women Legislative Representation" by Daniel Amoah, doctoral candidate at Memorial University of Newfoundland; and "Gender Justice Issues in the Context of Mental Transition in Kazakhstan: Combating Violence, Distorted Normality, and Overcoming the Illusions of Masculine Consciousness" by Sergey Konovalov, director of the Institute of Contemporary Politics, Kazakhstan.

Access to Justice for All: This panel was held virtually on 17 March 2026. The main sponsor of the event was [Criminologists Without Borders](#). This panel's discussion analyzed this year's priority theme of access to justice for women and girls in a variety of contexts – jutting across continents, experts examine barriers and facilitators of access to justice in counties from all regions of the world. The video recording of this virtual session is [available here](#).

This panel was moderated by Rosemary Barberet, professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, UN Representative for the ISA and Criminologists without Borders. Introductory remarks were given by Mary Dodge, professor at the University of Colorado, Denver, editor of *Crime, Law and Social Change*. The first presentation was "Reimagining Justice for Incarcerated Mothers: Discursive Struggles over Motherhood as Right, Risk, or Privilege in the Brazilian Legal Field" co-presented by Natalia Otto, assistant professor at the University of Minnesota; Ed Cornelius, assistant professor at the University of Minnesota; and Roberta S. Pamplona, assistant professor at Mount Royal University, Canada. The second presentation was "Access to Justice for All: The Fate of Women in Conflict and Post Conflict Settings" delivered by Olukemi Ibikunle, Assistant Controller of Corrections; MONUSCO. The third presentation was "Access to Justice for Indigenous Women in Settler Colonial States" given by Hilde Tubex, professor at the Law School of the University of Western Australia. The fourth presentation was "Not Just Justice: System Barriers to Holistic Women's Access to Justice in Uganda and Africa" presented by Sandra Aceng, Executive Director of Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET). The final presentation was, "Access to Justice for Women and Girl Human Trafficking Victims in the European Union: Reasonable or burdensome?" by Karin Bruckmüller, full professor at Sigmund Freud University, Austria.

Enfoques Feministas de la Justicia: This panel was held virtually on 18 March 2026. The event was facilitated entirely in Spanish and was dedicated to Jacinta Rodríguez Pavani, co-founder of Red de Acción Carcelaria. This panel's discussion contextualizes this year's priority theme of access to justice for women and girls across Latin America and Spain, characterizing the ways in which each country's penal system and social culture act as barriers and facilitators for gender justice. The video recording of this virtual session is [available here](#).

The moderator was Pilar Larroulet, assistant professor at Rutgers University. Introductory remarks were given by Ambassador Leonor Zalabata, Permanent Representative of Colombia for the United Nations. The first presentation was "Las mujeres y la justicia penal en España: Entre la neutralidad formal y la desigualdad en la práctica" co-presented by Esther Fernández-Molina, associate professor and director of the Centre for Research in Criminology at the University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain; and Raquel Bartolomé-Gutiérrez, assistant professor at the University of Castilla-La Mancha; Spain. The second presentation was "Acceso a la Justicia para Mujeres, Niñas y

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Adolescentes en México. Una Mirada Interseccional” delivered by Sonia M. Frías; full professor at National Autonomous University of Mexico. The third presentation was “Acceso a la Justicia y Barreras en la respuesta del Sistema de Justicia a mujeres víctimas de trata en Chile” given by Romina Ramos, professor at University of Tarapacá, Chile. The fourth presentation was “Fiscales, Género y Acceso a la Justicia en el Sistema Acusatorio Argentino” presented by Miguel Quintana-Navarrete, assistant professor at the University of California, Irvine. The final presentation was “Promoviendo enfoques feministas de la justicia basado en las reglas y normas internacionales sobre la justicia penal” done by Sven Pfeiffer, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Past Collaborative Special Issues:

Barberet, R., Beichner-Thomas, D., & Ranjan, S. (2026). Special Issue: Feminist Approaches to Justice: Contributions to CSW69. *Current Sociology*

Beichner-Thomas, D., Barberet, R., & Ranjan, S. (2025). Special Issue: Feminist Approaches to Justice: Contributions to CSW68. *International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice*. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/special-issue/10GBFT8ZP29>

Ranjan, S., Beichner-Thomas, D., & Barberet, R. (2024). Special Issue: Feminist Approaches to Justice: Contributions to CSW67. *Feminist Criminology*, 19(4). <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/fcxa/19/4>

Barberet, R., Ranjan, S., & Beichner-Thomas, D. (2023). Special Issue. Feminist Approaches to Justice: Contributions to CSW66. *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*, 47(2). <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rcac20/47/2?nav=tocList>

Beichner, D., Barberet, R., & Ranjan, S. (2022). Special Issue. Prioritizing the Elimination of Violence Against Women Worldwide: Lessons From the 65th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. *Violence Against Women*, 28(8). <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/vawa/28/8>

Ranjan, S., Barberet, R., Beichner, D., & Arnall, E. (2020). Special Issue. The Social Protection of Women and Girls: Links to Crime and Justice at CSW63. *International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy*, 9(1). <https://doi.org/10.5204/ijcsd.v9i1>

Forthcoming Collaborative Special Issues:

A special issue of *Crime, Law and Social Change* is under development based on the presentations made at CSW70.

Photos from the Event

Feminist Approaches to Justice panel 2 – Beichner-Thomas (podium), (table left to right) Bothwell Piason, Pious Maedzeng, Dhanya Babu, Myrna Diaz, Elisa Alcaíno, and Fernanda Cueto



12 March 2026 – CSW 70 High-Level Meeting on violence against women and girls



11 March 2026 – left to right: María Jesus Fernández, Rosemary Barberet, Pilar Larroulet, Dawn Beichner-Thomas, Elisa Alcaíno, and Fernanda Cueto

ASC Members in Attendance



Dhanya Babu



Karen Bruckmüller



Miguel Quintana-Navarrete



Mary Dodge

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The Past and Last(?) Meeting of the International Green Criminology Working Group

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On Wednesday, November 12, 2025—the first day of the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology (ASC)—the International Green Criminology Working Group (“IGCWG”) convened for the fifteenth time. As in previous years, the IGCWG meeting brought together students, early-career scholars, and senior researchers from around the world—individuals with different theoretical orientations and disciplinary backgrounds, but united in a shared concern about environmentally-destructive activities that harm ecosystems, animals, and humans.

The origins of the IGCWG trace back to 2010, when the first (somewhat impromptu) gathering took place in San Francisco, which was the site of that year’s ASC conference. Rob White of the University of Tasmania, the group’s driving force and a gifted organizer, simply spread the word encouraging anyone interested in environmental crimes and harms to meet at a designated time and place (one of the hotel atria). Ignoring the bemused expressions of other conference attendees, those who responded to Rob’s invitation pulled together chairs to form a circle—one that continued to expand as more people arrived. There was no agenda; it was just an opportunity for people to meet each other, discuss different research interests/scholarly pursuits, announce opportunities, and offer support. The informality of the assembly and the organic nature of the conversations—set the tone for the cooperative and inclusive character that aimed to define the group.

Since 2010, the IGCWG has convened annually (usually on the Wednesday of the conference). The sole exception was 2020, when the Annual Meeting of ASC, scheduled to take place in Washington, D.C., was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic—making the 2025 gathering the fifteenth meeting rather than the sixteenth. Announcements of fourteen of these meetings have been published in the conference program—thanks to the ongoing support and coordination of Susan Case and now Sheena Case. Each year since 2011, the IGCWG has had “a room of its own” for its gatherings, but never an agenda.

The criminological study of environmental crimes and harms, however, precedes the emergence of the IGCWG. Michael J. Lynch introduced the term “green criminology” to English-speaking audiences in 1990 (Lynch, 1990), followed by a special issue on the topic in *Theoretical Criminology*, organized by Nigel South and Piers Beirne (Volume 2, Issue 2, 1998). Yet, criminological attention to environmental harm actually antedates even these publications, with earlier contributions from Janez Pečar in the early 1980s (Pečar, 1981), as well as a range of work developing from the Global South (see, e.g., Goyes and South, 2017). As Goyes and South (2017) remind us, the ideas behind “green criminology” did not suddenly appear in 1990; non-English speaking scholars had been examining environmental crimes and harms long before the coining of “green criminology.” Essentially, while the label may have (initially) helped criminologists signal a common interest to other like-minded scholars and researchers, it is important to remember that a green criminology existed before “green criminology.” Today, however, the term is proving more problematic than advantageous, causing rifts and frustrating efforts at collaboration. This is regrettable because a lot of green criminology is occurring outside “green criminology.”

The tensions are somewhat visible in the mushrooming number of “green” (or related) approaches that have materialized in recent years. While *astro-green criminology*, *blue criminology*, *conservation criminology*, *eco-global criminology*, *green cultural criminology*, *non-speciesist criminology*, and *southern green criminology*, among others, point to heightened criminological concern for a wide range of ecologically-devastating patterns and practices—the continued promulgation of new nomenclature increases fragmentation. To be clear, the aforementioned orientations highlight new directions and reflect creative thinking, but it sometimes seems as if we are talking over each other.

Indeed, much like the proliferation of divisions within ASC—and working groups in the European Society of Criminology—the kudzu-like growth of such perspectives might soon overwhelm or otherwise suffocate what is or *should* be a shared intellectual project. In this light, do the categories and names really matter anymore? Are they becoming barriers rather than bridges?

The name of the IGCWG has always been somewhat incidental. As one of us (Brisman) recalls when submitting the first room reservation request for the ASC conference in 2011, Susan Case simply asked how he wanted to advertise the meeting. Brisman chose “Green Criminology Working Group” and later added “International”—though, in many ways, that adjective (as seen in the first two editions of the *Routledge International Handbook of Green Criminology* (South and Brisman 2013; Brisman and South 2020)—is redundant, given that many environmental crimes and harms cross boundaries or have global impacts. This brief history of the IGCWG serves as a reminder that what matters is not the moniker, but the common commitment to understanding and addressing

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environmental issues. It is unfortunate that there has been a perception that some theoretical lenses or methodological approaches are not welcome in the IGCWG, when the group has always been intended as an open and inclusive space. By the same token, the IGCWG has, perhaps, not been as inviting as it once was—or that it has not engaged in sufficient introspection to consider how it might be more welcoming. While the IGCWG did begin adding the words “Open to All” in the program announcement in 2023, this is insufficient.

Whatever term one prefers, it is unmistakable that criminological engagement with environmental issues continues to grow—with numerous journal special issues (e.g., Marteache, 2023; McClanahan, 2020; Petrossian and van Uhm, 2023), including “Green Criminological Dialogues” in the *International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy* (e.g., Goyes et al., 2019), and a wide range of monographs and edited volumes (e.g., Arroyo Quiroz and Wyatt, 2018; Brisman and South, 2025; Moreto and Pires, 2018; Petrossian, 2019; Pires and Lynch, 2019; Sollund, 2025). New generations of scholars are contributing to this work, while collaborative initiatives are expanding across contexts—from the British Society of Criminology (BSC) Green Criminology Research Network and Canadian Environmental Crime Research Network (CECRN) to the Green Criminology European Working Group (GREEN) and the Green Criminology Community (a website run by the tireless Leo Genco) to the International Society for Studies of Crimes and Harms Against Nature (ISSCAN) and the Seminario Internacional de Criminología Verde de México.

In sum, we hope more criminologists will join these efforts and research environmental crimes and harms, regardless of the name. In November 2026, the IGCWG will again convene, where we look forward to seeing you and discussing the future of the group. We would like to think of it as an opportunity to plant new seeds, rather than throw mud.

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URLs

British Society of Criminology (BSC) Green Criminology Research Network

<https://www.britsocrim.org/networks/greencrime/>

Canadian Environmental Crime Research Network (CECRN)

<https://www.envirocrime.ca/>

The Green Criminology Community

<https://green-criminology.org/>

Green Criminology European Working Group (GREEN)

<https://www.uu.nl/en/research/green-criminology-and-environmental-crime/esc-working-group;>

<https://esc-eurocrim.org/v2/wg/>

Seminario Internacional de Criminología Verde

<https://www.crim.unam.mx/eventos/scverde5/>

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Conferences, Webinars & Workshops

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/#>

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>

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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.