

To: ASC Board  
From: Chris Eskridge  
Date: October 15, 2019  
Re: Executive Director's Report

This has again been a very busy six months since we last met. As you are all aware, we have faced a rather dynamic scientific integrity issue with respect to our journal, *Criminology*. That matter will be reported out in another venue. This report will focus on the operational aspects of the organization.

We continue to be financially sound, and remain a vibrant, active professional society. The San Francisco meetings appear as if they are going to attract some 4,500+ attendees. Hotel registration numbers suggest even higher, so, we shall see. Things have moved along tremendously well for us in the aforementioned operational context. We have engaged in the normal flow of business, and see nothing on the horizon that would adversely impact that. A few detailed thoughts:

#### 1. *Membership Figures*

As of today, we have 3,889 members. This number warrants a little explanation. We have 3,503 individuals with 2019 memberships, and 386 individuals to date who were not members in 2019, but have joined for 2020. We ended last year with 3,513 members, so our membership figures for just 2019 (again 3,503 at present) are going to be virtually the same as last year.

#### 2. *Divisions*

As usual, I try to stay in touch with the divisions, especially at this time of the year as they make their annual meeting plans. As noted in the financial report, all of the divisions are doing well, with solid membership and positive account balances. There are two entities that are in the process of putting together materials to become a division. I suspect that they will both have things in place for us to review at the Board Meeting in San Francisco. The two new divisions would be the Division of Convict Criminology, and the Division of Cybercrime.

#### 3. *Committees*

Our 30 or so committees and liaison representatives have all been active and have fulfilled their assignments in a timely fashion. I have stayed in touch with the committee chairs and liaison reps when needed.

#### 4. *Policy and Procedures Manual*

We made all of the updates to the Policy and Procedures manual subsequent to the Spring Board Meeting, and posted it on the web.

#### 5. *Columbus Office Activities*

The Columbus staff continues to perform above and beyond, handling the elections, getting the annual meeting program together and handling the myriad of meeting logistics, dealing with the newsletter, keeping the membership list and databases up to

date, interacting with divisions and committee members, managing the webpage, and managing our funds in an orderly fashion. Our membership and meeting registration forms are particularly complicated (our members can join any of 15 divisions and can select from roughly 10 different publications and choose to receive each of those in different ways), and that has required a significant effort on their part. They work together to help ASC run smoothly and to particularly make our growing annual meeting a seamless event. The staff continues to evaluate old vs new ways of handling their tasks, with a constant eye toward cost effectiveness. In sum, we have an extremely professional, dedicated, and committed staff who are focused on the health and well-being of ASC, who regularly go the extra mile, and who are always looking for ways to be more effective. We are very fortunate.

#### 6. *Annual Meeting Preparations*

- A. San Francisco (2019) - We did our site visit to San Francisco last Spring in conjunction with the Mid-year Board Meeting and lined things up. We have worked with this hotel staff in the past, and have an excellent relationship with them. The hotel is full (beyond full actually), things are organized, the program book is printed, the Fire Marshal has approved things, bags and badges have been delivered, money has been collected, meeting room set-ups finalized and AV have been arranged, food has been ordered....we are ready to go!
- B. Washington, D.C. (2020) – Susan and I traveled to Washington, D.C. last Spring and got a good look at the Marriott. We have never held a meeting at this particular property, so we looked it over very carefully and will get another good look at it again this coming April. We anticipate a large meeting next year, and are much aware of the need to get a solid handle on meeting room configurations, and overall meeting space. We will also meet with our D.C. Marriott hotel meeting management team while there, and begin to lay out the groundwork for our cooperative ventures with them.

#### 7. *Travel*

As Director, I feel some sense of responsibility to serve as an ambassador of sorts for us (ASC), and for the field at large. In that context, I maintain a wide range of correspondence with individuals at “home and abroad.” I visited a number of institutions overseas and attended the Western Society of Criminology, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and the European Society of Criminology meetings this past year. I distributed ASC “propaganda” at these meetings (ie., our flyers), and shared information about ASC and our annual meetings while there. It is truly wonderful to hear primarily the young international scholars who have yet to attend an ASC meeting, speak of their great wish to do so one day. Next year, I plan to attend these same meetings, and the Baltic Criminology seminar as well. I will continue to move in this fashion.

#### 8. *Ice Cream Social*

The best is always last. Please note Thursday, 1:30 to 2:45 on your calendar for the Ice Cream Social. I have aprons for all Board members as usual. The Ice Cream Social will be held in the Exhibit Hall (Salon 7), and enjoy it because the ice cream this year, was purchased from the hotel at roughly the price of gold!!