

CCJ GRADUATE PROGRAM NEWS Fall 2005

WELCOME

Welcome to the beginning of the 2005-2006 academic year. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep graduate students, instructors, and faculty informed about departmental activities over the past year, including publications and research grants, accomplishments and awards, and news about Ph.D. alumni. Published each year, the newsletter also reminds graduate students of important Graduate School deadlines for completing the M.A. and Ph.D. in a timely manner.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

US News and World Report Ranks Doctoral Program Fourth in Nation

A 2005 article by *U.S. News and World Report* ranks the UMSL CCJ doctoral program among the top five in the nation. Rankings for the top 20 departments are as follows:

Institution	Average Assessment Score (5.0=highest)
1. University of Maryland, College Park	(4.9)
2. State University of New York-Albany	(4.7)
3. University of Cincinnati	(4.1)
4. University of Missouri-St. Louis	(4.0)
5. University of California-Irvine	(4.0)
6. Rutgers State University-Newark NJ	(4.0)
7. Michigan State University	(3.6)
8. Pennsylvania State University University Park	(3.6)
9. University of Nebraska-Omaha	(3.3)
10. University of Pennsylvania	(3.3)

11. CUNY-John Jay College	(3.2)
12. Florida State University	(3.2)
13. University of Florida	(3.2)
14. Northeastern University (MA)	(3.1)
15. University of Delaware	(3.1)
16. American University	(3.0)
17. Arizona State University	(3.0)
18. Temple University (PA)	(2.9)
19. Washington State University	(2.9)
20. Indiana University	(2.8)

Source: *U.S. News and World Report, 2005.*

Note: Lists of schools and individuals surveyed were provided by the American Association of Doctoral Programs in Criminology and Criminal Justice. Respondents were asked to rate the academic quality of doctoral programs on a scale of 1 (marginal) to 5 (outstanding). The response rate was 88%.

Faculty Awards

Several faculty members received professional awards this year:

Robert J. Bursik, Jr. has been named the 2005 recipient of the **Herbert Bloch Award** from the **American Society of Criminology (ASC)**. This award is given for “outstanding service contributions to the ASC and the professional interests of criminology. Bob will accept his award at the annual meetings in Toronto in November.

Finn Esbensen has received the **Paul Tappan Award** from the **Western Society of Criminology**. This award is given by the society for “outstanding contributions to the field of criminology.”

Richard Rosenfeld has been named **Fellow of the American Society of Criminology**. The honorary title of “Fellow” goes to those persons who “have made a scholarly contribution to the intellectual life of the discipline, and a significant contribution to the field through the career development of other criminologists.” Rick will accept his award at the ASC meetings in November.

Elected positions

Robert J. Bursik, Jr. was elected to be the 2006 **President of the Crime, Law and Deviance Section of the American Sociological Association**.

Janet Lauritsen was elected **Executive Counselor of the American Society of Criminology**. Her 3-year term on the ASC Board ends in 2007.

Richard Rosenfeld was elected 2005 **President of the Crime, Law and Deviance Section of the American Sociological Association**. He is also the Chair of the 2005-6 ASC Nominations Committee.

Book Awards

Finn Esbensen’s book, co-edited with Stephen Tibbetts and Larry Gaines, *American Youth Gangs at the Millenium* was named an **Outstanding Academic Title by Choice Magazine**.

Employment News

Adam Bossler, ABD, has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of

Criminal Justice, Social and Political Science at Armstrong Atlantic State University.

Tom Holt, a recent Ph.D. recipient, has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

Jeff Rojek, a recent Ph.D. recipient, has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of South Carolina.

Lynn Urban, a recent Ph.D. recipient, has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Central Missouri State University.

Pernell Witherspoon, Ph.D. candidate, has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Lindenwood University.

GREETINGS FROM THE GSA

Welcome to graduate students from the CCJ GSA President, Allison Deutsch.

Hey everyone! As the semester begins, I want to welcome the new and returning grad students to the department. We look forward to meeting and getting to know you, as well as working with you. I hope you feel at home here and enjoy your experience in St. Louis. Plans for this year include guest speakers, brown bag lunches and professional development seminars with CCJ faculty, as well as some social events for students. And of course who can forget the annual ASC meeting in Toronto! I am looking forward to a year with old and new friends, and I hope y’all feel the same. I want to wish everyone good luck this semester with classes, research, proposals, and defenses, and welcome back!!

The CCJ Graduate Student Association (GSA) is a university organization headed by the graduate students in the Department. Our primary objectives are to facilitate the professional development of students seeking a career in

criminology and criminal justice; to encourage an active graduate student culture in which students can grow, learn, and develop long-lasting relationships with fellow students and faculty; and to contribute to the discipline through service and scholarship. For more information on the CCJ GSA, including event announcements, please visit our website at www.umsl.edu/~ccj/gsa/gsa/home.htm, which we will continue to update over the semester.

M.A. PROGRAM NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who received their M.A. degrees during the last academic year: **Jeanette Bender, Ruth Levins, Shannon Whitley, Kelli Dyer, Olivia Johnson, Aaron Pontin, Sarah Reed, Paul Schmitz, Tonia Smith, and Kanisha Thomas.**

Students who plan on **graduating this semester (ceremony in December 2005)** should have already filed an M-1 Form (Program for Master's Degree) with the Graduate School. MA students should contact their faculty advisor if they have any questions about anticipated graduation dates. Students should contact M.A. Graduate Director Bob Bursik immediately to confirm their December 2005 graduation date.

Students who plan on **graduating in May 2006 or August 2006** should fill out an M-1 Form and submit it to their advisor by October 15th. The M-1 Form (and all other Graduate School Forms) are available on-line. Go to "Rules and Regulations" under the UMSL Graduate School web page to find the forms.

Ph.D. PROGRAM NEWS

New Ph.D. Graduate Students

Four new graduate students will join the Ph.D. program this fall. They include: **Mark Berg** (M.S. Iowa State University); **Michael Cherbonneau** (M.S. University of Alabama-

Birmingham); **Scott Jacques** (B.S. University of Georgia); and **Michele Stacey** (B.A. University of Tennessee-Knoxville). Good luck to the new Ph.D. students as they begin their studies.

New Ph.D. Recipients

Congratulations to **Tom Holt** for successfully defending his dissertation in August 2005. Dr. Holt's dissertation was entitled "Hacks, Cracks and Crime: An Examination of the Subculture and Social Organization of Computer Hackers." The chair of his committee was Jody Miller.

Congratulations to **Jeff Rojek** for successfully defending his dissertation in 2005. The title of his dissertation was "Organizing to Manage Risk: The Operations of a Police Tactical Unit." Dave Klinger was the chair of his committee.

Congratulations to **Steve Schnebly** for successfully defending his dissertation in August 2005. Dr. Schnebly's dissertation was entitled "Community Variation in the Nature of Crime Reporting." Eric Baumer was the chair of his committee.

Congratulations to **Lynn Urban** for successfully defending her dissertation in May 2005. Dr. Urban's dissertation was entitled "The Deterrent Effect of Curfew Enforcement: Operation Nightwatch In St. Louis." The chair of her committee was Scott Decker.

New ABDs

Congratulations to **Rob Fornango** for successfully defending his dissertation proposal. Mr. Fornango's project is entitled "An examination of the impact of neighborhood-level structural change on violent crime trends in St. Louis, Missouri: 1980 – 2000." The chair of his committee is Rick Rosenfeld.

Congratulations to **Adam Bossler** who successfully defended his dissertation proposal. The chair of his committee is Dave Klinger.

New Ph.D. Candidates

Congratulations to **Janice Hill, Toya Like, Chris Melde, Adam Watkins and Pernell Witherspoon** for successfully completing their comprehensive exams. Graduate students are designated “Ph.D. Candidates” after they have completed coursework and exams.

Dissertation Deadlines

In order to receive the Ph.D. by the end of this semester, ABDs must be ready to submit a copy of their dissertation in “essentially final form” to the Graduate School six weeks prior to the end of the semester (i.e., by **November 1st**). Students who plan on receiving the Ph.D. by May 2006 must have their dissertation completed by **April 1st**. Finally, students who plan on completing their degree by the end of this academic year must have completed the dissertation by **July 1st**. Remember, *you must be enrolled in the semester in which you defend your dissertation*. Also, be aware that summer graduations are much more difficult to coordinate because of faculty research obligations. **Be sure to plan ahead.**

Comprehensive Exams

The Fall 2005 comprehensive exams will take place **November 30th - December 2nd**. Students who plan on taking their exams should confirm their place with Eric Baumer. The committee consists of Professors Bursik, Wright, and Rennison.

OUR INFLUENCE

Publications

Department members published the following articles, chapters, and books since August 2004 (“*” indicates graduate student, ** indicates alumni graduate student):

Research Articles

Eric Baumer, Steven F. Messner, and **Richard Rosenfeld**. 2004. “Dimensions of Social Capital and Rates of Criminal Homicide.” *American Sociological Review* 69:882-903.

Scott Decker, and **Richard Rosenfeld**. 2004. “Reducing Gun Violence: The St. Louis Consent –to–Search Program.” *NIJ Research Report*. Washington, DC: US Department of Justice.

Finn-Aage Esbensen and Frank Weerman. (2005). “Youth Gangs and Troublesome Youth Groups in the United States and the Netherlands. A Cross-National Comparison.” *European Journal of Criminology* 2:5-3.7.

Janice Hill* (2005). “Teaching About Family Violence: A Proposed Model Curriculum.” *Teaching & Learning in Medicine* 17(2): 169-178.

Beth M. Huebner(2005). “The Effect of Incarceration on Marriage and Work over the Life Course.” *Justice Quarterly* 22(3).

Chuck Katz, Vince Webb and **Scott Decker**. “Using the Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM) Program to Further Understand the Relationship between Drug Use and Gang Membership.” *Justice Quarterly* 22, 1, 58-88.

Janet L. Lauritsen and **Shannan Catalano**** (2004). “The National Crime Victimization Surveys,” pp. 803-808 in The Encyclopedia of Social Measurement, Vol. 2, Elsevier Press.

Janet L. Lauritsen and **Robin Schaum*** (2005). “Crime and Victimization in the Three Largest Metropolitan Areas, 1980-1998.” Washington, DC: US. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. NCJ 208075.

McCluskey, John D., Sean P. Varano, **Beth Huebner**, and Timothy S. Bynum, 2004. “Who Do You Refer: The Effects of Policy Change on Juvenile Referrals.” *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, 15(4) 437-461.

Nielson, Amie, Ramiro Martinez, and **Richard Rosenfeld**. 2005. "Firearm Use, Injury, and Lethality in Assaultive Violence: An Examination of Ethnic Differences." *Homicide Studies* 9:83-108.

Dana Peterson, Terrance J. Taylor, and **Finn-Aage Esbensen**. 2004. "Gang Membership and Violent Victimization." *Justice Quarterly* 21:793-815.

Rosenfeld, Richard. 2004. Review of Private Guns, Public Health: A Commonsense Plan for Ending America's Epidemic of Gun Violence (by David Hemenway). *Journal of the American Medical Association* 292: 632-33.

Rick Ruddell** and **Scott Decker**. 2005. "Kids and Assault Weapons: Social Problem or Social Construction?" *Criminal Justice Review*, Volume, pp. 1-16.

Watkins, Adam*. 2005. "Examining the Disparity Between Juvenile and Adult Victims in Notifying the Police: A Study of Mediating Variables." *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 42 (August):333-353.

Webb, V., Katz, C., and **Scott Decker**. 2006. Assessing the Validity of Self-Reports by Gang Members: Results from the Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring Program. *Crime and Delinquency*, Vol. 52, No. 1.

Book Chapters

Decker, Scott H., Richard Rosenfeld, and George W. Burruss, Jr.** 2005. "Evaluating Elusive Policing Programs: The Case of the St. Louis St. Louis Consent-to-Search Program." Pp. 42-58 in Kent R. Kerley, ed. *Policing and Program Evaluation*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice.

Dugan, Laura, Daniel S. Nagin, and **Richard Rosenfeld**. 2004. "The Effects of State and Local Domestic Violence Policy on Intimate Partner Homicide." Pp. II-6-1 to II-6-10 in Bonnie S. Fisher, ed. *Violence Against Women*

and Family Violence: Developments in Research, Practice, and Policy. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice.

Finn-Aage Esbensen. 2004. "Youth Violence: An Overview." In Margaret Zahn, Henry Brownstein, and Shelley Jackson (eds). *Violence: From Research to Practice*. Newark, NJ: Lexis Nexis/Anderson Publishing.

Research Grants

Eric Baumer was awarded a grant from **National Science Foundation** for research entitled: "Community Variation in the Disposition of Criminal Cases: The Role of Social, Cultural, and Political Context."

Robert J. Bursik Jr., was awarded a grant from **The National Institute of Justice**, 2005-2006, for research entitled: "Violent Crime Trends in Appalachian Counties, 1977-1996."

Beth Huebner was awarded a **University of Missouri Research Award** for research entitled: "Contextual Effects of Incarceration on Marriage & Work."

Janet Lauritsen was awarded a 2005-06 Research Fellowship from the **Bureau of Justice Statistics** to study cost-saving methodologies for the NCVS.

Callie Rennison was awarded a **University of Missouri Research Board Grant** for research entitled: "Differences in Correlates of Male and Female Violent Victimization" and a grant by the **Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority** for research entitled: "Violent Crime and Victim's Gender, 2002."

Callie Rennison was awarded a 2005-2006 Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the **National Consortium on Violence Research**, an NSF consortium.

Eric Stewart received the **2005 W.E.B. DuBois Fellowship** from the *National Institute of Justice*. This fellowship emphasizes the study of “crime, violence, and the administration of justice in diverse cultural contexts.” Fellows study policy-relevant questions and have the opportunity to consult with others in the Department of Justice.

Regan Gustafson* was awarded a \$500 research fund for first prize at The Graduate Research Competition, UMSL Graduate School & Information Fair, for her research entitled: “Rurality and approval of violence: A multi-level examination of attitudes regarding the use of violence.”

ALUMNI NEWS

Awards and Publications

Noelle E. Fern received The Outstanding Criminal Justice Faculty Teaching Award-2003/2004 at Washington State University.

Noelle E. Fearn and Kelly Parker. 2004. “Washington State’s Residential Parenting Program: An Integrated Public Health, Education, and Social Service Resource for Pregnant Inmates and Prison Mothers.” *California Journal of Health Promotion*, 2(4): 34-48; and 2005. “Healthcare for Women Inmates: Issues, Perceptions, and Policy Considerations.” *California Journal of Health Promotion*, 3(2): 1-28.

Franklin, Cortney A., **Noelle E. Fearn**, and Travis W. Franklin. 2005. “HIV/AIDS Among Female Prison Inmates: A Public Health Concern.” *California Journal of Health Promotion*, 3(2): 99-112.

Ruddell, Rick and **Noelle E. Fearn**. 2005. “The Stability of Punishment Hypothesis Revisited: A Comparative Analysis.” *International Journal of Comparative Criminology*, 5(1): 1-28.

Dyan M. McGuire. 2005. The Impact of Prison Rape on Public Health. *California Journal of Health Promotion*, 3(2): 72-83.

Miller, Susan L., and **Peterson, Elicka S.L.** “The Impact of Law Enforcement Policies on Victims of Intimate Partner Violence.” In R. Muraskin (Ed.), *It’s A Crime: Women and Justice (4th ed.)*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Rick Ruddell and G. Larry Mays. 2005. State Background Checks and Firearms Homicides. *Journal of Criminal Justice* 33: 127-136.

Rick Ruddell. 2005. Social Disruption, State Formation and Minority Threat: A Cross-National Study of Imprisonment. *Punishment & Society* 7: 7-28.

Rick Ruddell and Martin G. Urbina. 2004. Minority Threat and Punishment: A Cross-National Analysis. *Justice Quarterly* 15: 101-121.

Other

Tim Bray has accepted an appointment as Associate Director of the Institute for Outcomes Research and Public Policy Evaluation in Dallas. He has also received a grant to assist the Illinois State Police with their racial profiling analysis of traffic stop data.

Mason Keller was promoted to the rank of Sergeant for the St. Louis County Police Department. Mason received his M.A. degree from the CCJ department in 2004 and also works an adjunct lecturer teaching policing courses for the department.

GOT NEWS?

We would like to hear from you. The newsletter welcomes news from alumni of our graduate program. Keep us posted on your professional activities! Send your information to Janet Lauritsen (Department Chairperson) or Cathy McNeal (Department Administrative Associate).