As the Chair of the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, I welcome you to our Fall 2017 newsletter. To familiarize yourself with the Department, I encourage you to visit our website (umsl.edu/ccj) and to review prior newsletters available on the website. These informative newsletters highlight departmental activities and achievements each year.

This summer, we were saddened by the passing of our long-time colleague, Bob Bursik, who retired in 2016. A special session will convene at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology to honor Bob’s memory as well as his contributions to the discipline. Please see page 7 of this newsletter for his obituary. On a more positive note, we are pleased to welcome two new colleagues, Rachel Ellis (Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania) and Heidi Grun- detjern (Ph.D. University of Oslo), who join the faculty as assistant professors.

We are proud to report that the Criminology and Criminal Justice Undergraduate Student Association has established itself as a vibrant student organization and the UMSL chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma, the national criminal justice honor society inducted 11 new members this past spring semester. For information about this honor society, contact the faculty advisor, Professor TJ Taylor (taylortj@umsl.edu).

Best wishes for a productive and informative year.

Finn Esbensen, Ph.D., E. Desmond Lee Professor of Youth Crime and Violence and Chairperson

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Awards, Appointments, & Projects

Stephanie DiPietro was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.

Michael Campbell, Matt Vogel, and Josh Williams were awarded the 2017 Outstanding Article Award from the American Society of Criminology for their publication: “Historical contingencies and the evolving importance of race, violent crime, and region in explaining mass incarceration in the United States.” Criminology 53 (2) 180-203.

Jordan Pickering (PhD 2016) and David Klinger were awarded the 2017 Outstanding Author Contributions for their publication: “Enhancing police legitimacy by promoting safety culture” in Mathieu Deflem (ed.) The Politics of Policing: Between Force and Legitimacy (Sociology of Crime, Law and Deviance, Volume 21): 21-39.

UMSL in the Netherlands: In June 2017, Matt Vogel and Karlijn Kuipers led 20 undergraduate and graduate students on a three week study trip to Rotterdam and Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The group visited eight Dutch and Belgian cities during their time abroad, taking plenty of time to tour windmills, eat cheese, and enjoy the beautiful North Sea. In addition to the cultural experiences, students participated in daily lectures provided by senior faculty in the CCJ department and a number of Dutch criminologists. While the students loved the entire experience, most were especially enthusiastic about the opportunity to observe the trial of Dominic Ongwen at the International Criminal Court in The Hague. The Department is looking forward to offering such opportunities on a more regular basis.

Study abroad group at the Binnenhof (Dutch Parliament).
Finn Esbensen, Rick Rosenfeld, and John Nanney (Psychological Sciences) organized a two-day interdisciplinary conference on Gun Violence in April 2017. The conference featured criminological and psychological approaches to understanding gun violence and its negative consequences for individuals, neighborhoods, and society at large. Speakers addressed a number of myths and realities of gun violence and discussed potential responses to the current gun violence epidemic. Speakers and discussants included: Joseph Constans, Tulane University; Darnell Hawkins, University of Illinois, Chicago; Beth Huebner, UMSL; Dan Isom, UMSL; Charls Kubrin, University of California, Irvine; Janet Lauritsen, UMSL; Michael McCloskey, Temple University; John Nanney, UMSL; Andrew Papachristos, Yale University; Rick Rosenfeld, UMSL; and Rachel Wamser-Nanney, UMSL.

Rachel earned her B.A. in Sociology and French from Georgetown University and her M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Pennsylvania. Her research uses qualitative methods to study incarceration and inequality based on race, class, gender, sexuality, and religion. Rachel’s current project is based on a yearlong ethnography of religious life inside a U.S. state women’s prison. Her teaching focuses on corrections and qualitative methods.

Heidi received her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Oslo in 2017. She specializes in qualitative methods, and perspectives on gender and culture. Her research focuses on the role of gender in illegal drug markets, with a particular emphasis on women’s experiences. Her teaching focuses on gender and crime and qualitative methods.

A Note of Appreciation

Special thanks to our adjunct faculty members. Without their continued cooperation and support, it would not be possible for us to offer the variety and number of courses that we do.

Gabe Crocker, Michael Guzy, Dan Isom, Brenda Loftin, Niquita Loftis, Shannon McAllister, and Kim Rensing.

GRADUATE PROGRAM NEWS

20th Anniversary of PhD Program

Last year, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Ph.D. program at UMSL with a reception at the Crescent City Brewhouse in New Orleans during the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Numerous graduates, current students, and current and former faculty members attended the gathering. It was rewarding to see so many familiar faces enjoying one another’s company. There were calls for another reception before another 20 years passes. The first students matriculated in Fall 1996 with the first two students (Lisa Sample and Elicka Peterson-Sparks) graduating with their degrees in 2001. In the ensuing years, more than 50 students have completed their doctoral education in CCJ at UMSL. The vast majority of graduates hold faculty appointments at a wide range of colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada. Another group of graduates is employed in local, state, and federal agencies.

New Students

Welcome to our new students!


PhD Program: Thomas Baker, Claire Greene, Amanda Miller, and Luis Torres.

Stephanie Wiley (PhD 2014), who has been a non-tenure faculty member in the department the past three years, joined the faculty at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia as a tenure track Assistant Professor.

New Faculty

We are pleased to welcome two new colleagues, Rachel Ellis and Heidi Grundetjern, who join the faculty as assistant professors.

New Students

Welcome to our new students!


PhD Program: Thomas Baker, Claire Greene, Amanda Miller, and Luis Torres.
New Master’s Graduates

The following students received their MA degree during the 2016-2017 academic year: Kelly Brauweiler, Casey Cowhey, Shelby Emerson, Melanie Fagerlin, Heidi Freye, Claire Greene, Kimberly Huhmann, Kai Jones, Stephen Koehne, Jennifer Lorentz, Anthony Michalka, Madeline Oberman, Abigail Orscheln, Paige Vaughn, Dominique Williams, and Kaylin Winchester.

New PhDs

Congratulations to Niquita Loftis and Maribeth Rezey for successfully defending their dissertations and receiving their PhDs during the 2016-2017 academic year:


Maribeth Rezey, “Understanding the Decline in Child Victimization: A National- and State-Level Analysis of Child Abuse and Neglect Trends.” Committee Chair: Janet Lauritsen. Dr. Rezey is now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Loyola University in Chicago.

New ABDs

Congratulations to Aaron Levin, Tim McCuddy, and Josh Williams for successfully defending their dissertation proposals during the 2016-2017 academic year:

Aaron Levin, “Understanding Micro-Spatial Crime Patterns: A Comprehensive Trajectory Analysis of Crime at Street Segments in St. Louis, MO.” Committee Chair: Janet Lauritsen.

Tim McCuddy, “Online Socialization and Delinquency: Expanding the Study of Peer Influence in Criminology.” Committee Chair: Matt Vogel.

Josh Williams, “Assessing the Impact of County-level Factors on Pretrial Detention Decisions.” Committee Chair: Michael Campbell.

Scholarships

Hannah Read received the Longinette Scholarship, which is awarded each year to an outstanding MA student.

Tim McCuddy received the Huber Dissertation Fellowship, which is awarded each year to an outstanding PhD student.

BACHELOR’S PROGRAM NEWS

Congratulations

Congratulations to the 112 undergraduate students who received their Bachelor of Science degree during the 2016-2017 academic year. We also had 17 students graduate with a Minor in Criminology & Criminal Justice.


Scholarships

Jennings Do-Dads Juvenile Justice Scholarship
Lauren Becker
Edie Hammert
Matthew Spaeth

Doris Fishman Administration of Justice Scholarship
Trevor Dobbs
Madisyn Weiss

Charles G. Huber Jr. Endowed Scholarship in Criminology and Criminal Justice
Kaylie Cunningham

CCJ Chair’s List

The Chair’s List is compiled once a year and recognizes students nominated by one or more members of the UMSL CCJ faculty for outstanding academic performance during the past academic year. In addition to being nominated, students must also meet a minimum grade point average of 3.00. This year we congratulate the following students for their selection to the Chair’s List: Paul Glenn, Devin Greenwood, Madeline Growe, Kerry Kennon, Loressa Krolak, Rachel Mattheis, Eric Navarro, and Gloria Silpoch.

Accolades

Rachel Mattheis provided excellent research assistance on the Missouri Human Trafficking Study as a part of her work with CCJ, the UMSL honors college, the Roblee Foundation, and the Missouri Highway Patrol.

In 2017, undergraduate student Fatema Medhat was chosen through a competitive process to participate in the Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network’s Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) with faculty mentors Lee Slocum and Stephanie DiPietro. The REU is a partnership between Network faculty at Rutgers University, University of New Mexico, University of Missouri-St. Louis, University of

GOT NEWS?

We would like to hear from you! Please let us know about your professional accomplishments and personal updates. Send your information to Amanda Porterfield, porterfielda@umsl.edu
California-Irvine, and The Ohio State University designed to promote scholarly success and resources for graduate school preparation among students from underrepresented groups working in the areas of crime and criminal justice.

CCJUSA

The Criminology & Criminal Justice Undergraduate Student Association (CCJUSA) is open to all UMSL students. The CCJUSA was developed by undergraduate students: 1) to facilitate the professional development of students seeking a career in the field of criminology and criminal justice; 2) to foster a healthy undergraduate student culture in which students can grow, learn, and develop long-lasting relationships with fellow students and faculty; and 3) to contribute to the discipline through service and scholarly achievements. For more information about CCJUSA, visit the organization’s Facebook page at facebook.com/CCJUSA.

This year’s CCJUSA officers are: Brian Rainey, President; Amanda Atkinson, Vice President; Lauren Becker, Secretary; Sean Burkett, Treasurer; Joann Schweiter, SGA Representative; Scarlett Montilla, Event Coordinator; Heather Scherffius, Event Coordinator; and Kaylie Cunningham, Editor.

Alpha Phi Sigma

UMSL also has an active chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma (APS) – the National Criminal Justice Honor Society. APS strives to honor and promote academic excellence, community service, educational leadership, and unity. While the UMSL Pi Beta Delta chapter was established in 2016, APS was founded in 1942. It is the only criminal justice honor society certified by the Association of College Honor Societies and affiliated with the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.

Undergraduate students who have completed four CCJ courses and maintained a 3.2 GPA or higher (overall and in CCJ) and graduate students who have maintained a 3.4 GPA or higher are eligible to apply for lifetime membership in this prestigious organization. For more information about APS, please visit the official website at alphaphisigma.org.

This year’s APS officers are: Brian Rainey, President; Lauren Becker, Vice President; Alysa Kaiser, Secretary & SGA Representative; and Kaylin Winchester, Treasurer (and Past President).

If you are an UMSL student interested in getting involved, please contact Brian Rainey (ber8b4@mail.umsl.edu) or Dr. TJ Taylor (taylortj@umsl.edu).

Our Influence

Research Grants and Awards

Michael Campbell (Co-PI) and Heather Schoenfeld (Co-PI). “The Changing Tides of Mass Incarceration: State Variation in Decarceration Reforms.” National Science Foundation, Law & Society. $417,189; $175,000 direct costs to UMSL.


Beth Huebner (Co-Investigator). “3PI – St. Louis.” Bureau of Justice Assistance. Principal Investigator and Research Partner on Subcontract from the St. Louis Police Department, $124,986 direct costs to UMSL.

Karlijn Kuijpers (Principal Investigator). Research Award from the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Missouri – St. Louis for a research project on Intimate Partner Violence among Romantic Couples. $8,861.

Karlijn Kuijpers and Matt Vogel (Co-Principal Investigators). Curriculum Grant from the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Missouri – St. Louis for the development of the course “Crime, Law, and Urban Change in a Global Context” (incl. a 17-day study trip to the Netherlands in June 2017) $4,328.

Lee Ann Slocum (Principal Investigator) with Beth Huebner and Rick Rosenfeld. “Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice”. Sub-Contract from City University of New York, $134,297 direct costs to UMSL.

T.J. Taylor (Principal Investigator), Kyle Thomas, and Matt Vogel were awarded a $356,000 subcontract to evaluate the St. Louis County “Project Restore,” a four-year youth violence prevention initiative catered toward local middle school stu-
Publications

* indicates current or former student

BOOKS


ARTICLES


BOOK CHAPTERS


REPORTS


We begin this academic year with sad news: one of our most popular teachers and dear colleague, Professor Robert “Bob” J. Bursik, Jr., passed away on July 19, 2017 just one year after his retirement. In addition to being an excellent teacher, regaling students with his humor and wit, Bob was an accomplished scholar and is widely recognized as one of the key persons responsible for the resurgence of community studies of crime in the late 1980s. His book Neighborhoods and Crime: The Dimensions of Effective Community Control, co-authored with Harold G. Grasmick (1993), Lexington Books, identified many of the important elements necessary for a comprehensive understanding of how community organization, through its formal and informal networks, could work to control levels of crime and delinquency. His other areas of research included crime and immigration, contextual analysis, changes in urban areas and crime over time, and broader tests of core criminological hypotheses. Bob served as Editor of the discipline’s flagship journal Criminology from 1997 to 2003, and was named Fellow of the American Society of Criminology (ASC) in 1998. He also served as President of the ASC in 2008. An interview with Bob for the ASC Oral History project can be found at: asc41.com/videos/Oral_History/Robert_Bursik.html. Donations in memory of Bob can be made to Tenth Life Cat Rescue, P.O. Box 63187, St. Louis, MO, 63163.