As the Chair of the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, I welcome you to our Spring 2015 Newsletter that has been masterfully produced by Amanda Porterfield, Administrative Assistant in CCJ. To familiarize yourself with the Department, I encourage you to visit our website (http://www.umsl.edu/ccj/) and to review prior newsletters available on the website. These informative newsletters highlight departmental activities and achievements each year.

This past summer, we said goodbye to two colleagues, Richard Wright and Dena Carson. After 30 years of service to the department, Curators’ Professor Richard Wright retired at the end of the 2013-2014 academic year in order to tackle a new challenge: Chair of the Criminal Justice and Criminology Department at Georgia State University. Dena Carson earned her doctorate with us in 2011 and continued working with us as an Assistant Research Professor. She is now an Assistant Professor at Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis. We are sad to see Richard and Dena leave but we wish them well in their new endeavors. As we say goodbye to these colleagues, we are excited to welcome two new assistant professors to our faculty: Adam Boessen (University of California, Irvine) and Kyle Thomas (University of Maryland). We are extremely pleased to be joined by these two scholars.

The Department continues to increase its online course offerings for students enrolled in the undergraduate program. We now offer online all courses required to complete the BS degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice. Please see the list of online courses under Bachelor’s Program News on page 3.

Best wishes for a productive and informative year.

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

Faculty Awards and Appointments

Adam Boessen was awarded second place for the 2014 Gene Carte Student Paper Competition. The paper is entitled “The Spatial Footprint and Daily Crime Patterns: Situating Guardianship in 23 Cities.”

Michael Campbell and Heather Schoenfeld’s article, “The Transformation of America’s Penal Order: A Historicized Political Sociology of Punishment,” received the ASA Law Section Distinguished Article Award and honorable mention for the Law and Society Association Article Award. The article was published in the American Journal of Sociology in 2013.

Elaine Doherty and Lee Slocum were awarded the College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Development Grant to design and implement an interdisciplinary course using HBO’s “The Wire” as a lens to explore issues related to crime and the justice system in Baltimore, an urban environment that has many similarities to St. Louis. This course is being offered in Spring 2015.

Finn Esbensen was named a Fellow of the American Society of Criminology. The honorary title “Fellow” recognizes persons who have made a scholarly contribution to the intellectual life of the discipline.

David Klinger was promoted from Associate to full Professor.

Janet Lauritsen has been named a member of the National Academies of Sciences’ Panel on Modernizing the Nation’s Crime Statistics. The purpose of this multi-year project is to assess and make recommendations for developing a modern set of crime measures for the United States. More details about the panel and its project are available at: http://www8.nationalacademies.org/cp/projectview.aspx?key=49591.

Dan Isom was appointed by Governor Jay Nixon to serve as Missouri’s Director of Public Safety. Dr. Isom will be on leave from UMSL until January 2017.

Matt Vogel spent two weeks as a visiting fellow at the Chinese Academy of Social Science in Beijing.
New ABDs

Congratulations to Tim Dickinson, Mikh Gunderman, and Allen Shamow for successfully defending their dissertation proposals:


Mikh Gunderman. “Consequences of Methamphetamine use in a Sample of Incarcerated Women.” Committee Chair: Kristin Carbone-Lopez.


Doctoral Student Awards and Accolades

Jaclyn Cwick won the 2014 Graduate Student Paper Competition for the American Society of Criminology's Division on Women and Crime.

Michael Deckard was nominated to represent UMSL at the inaugural Graduate Student Leadership Development Program hosted jointly by the University of Missouri System and the UM Graduate School. Mike completed the program with 19 fellow graduate students from the four sister campuses in November 2014.

Kimberly Kras received a Chancellor’s Graduate Scholars Dissertation Fellowship.

Tim Dickinson received the Charles F. Huber dissertation fellowship.

Dissertation Deadlines

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. Students who plan to receive the PhD in May 2015 must have their dissertation completed by April 1st. Finally, students who plan to complete 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.
Welcome to the 2014 M.A. Cohort
Casey Cowhey, Melanie Fagerlin, Alysson Gatens, Kaylin Haff, Samantha Homes, Kimberly Huhmann, Karen Jones, Meryl Jooste, Katie Kratzer, Marc Laury, Anthony Michałka, Abigail Ross, Kristin Seering, Aimee Soukenik, Casey Whalen, and Abbey Wilson.

Congratulations

The following students received their Master of Arts degree during the 2013-2014 school year: Emily Armstrong, Albert Arocha, Chelsea Bailey, Vivien Clark, Samuel Gilman, Joan Hollensbe, Brett Kimmel, Laken Kuntz, Aaron Levin, Robert Mackenzie, Jennifer Parker, Sherri Schaefer, and Derek Strauser.

Scholarship

The Edward G. Longinette Scholarship:
Ann Kneib and Eva Roeder

Reminder

Students who plan on graduating in May 2015 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 Graduate Director Beth Huebner to confirm their graduation date. The M-1 Form (and all other Graduate School Forms) is available online: on the UMSL Graduate School web page, go to “Current Students,” then “Forms.”

Online Degree Program

We continue to increase our online course offerings for undergraduate students. We now offer online all courses required to complete the BS degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

The following courses are available for online instruction:
1100 Introduction to Criminology & Criminal Justice; 1110 Theories of Crime; 1120 Criminal Law; 1150 Violence in America; 2130 Criminal Justice Policy; 2210 Research Methods; 2220 Statistics; 2240 Policing; 2251 Youth Gangs; 2260 Courts; 3230 Crime Prevention; 3270 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency; 3345 Rights of the Offender; 4320 Forms of Criminal Behavior; 4325 Gender, Crime and Justice; 4335 Probation and Parole; 4390 Seminar in Criminology & Criminal Justice

Congratulations

Congratulations to the 117 undergraduate students who received their Bachelor of Science degree during the 2013-2014 school year. We also had 20 students graduate with a Minor in Criminology & Criminal Justice.


Awards and Accolades

Kristina Linden received a $1000 research grant from the College of Arts & Sciences to study racial disparities in local drug arrests.
Josiah Perkins received the Student Leader of the Year award for his “tireless service to UMSL and the wider St. Louis community.”
Hannah Perryman, UMSL softball pitcher, received many accolades, including Second Team All-American by National Fastpitch Coaches Association.
Cameron Roark was elected President of UMSL’s Student Government Association.
Gwen Smith received a $1000 research grant from the College of Arts & Sciences to study Missouri’s incarceration rates.

Doris Fishman Scholarship:
DeAnn Porter

Jennings Do-Dads Scholarship:
DeAnn Porter and Cara Sampson

CCJ Chair’s List

Fifteen undergraduate students were nominated to the CCJ Chair’s List. Students on this list must be CCJ majors, meet a cumulative grade-point average threshold, and be nominated by a member of the CCJ faculty. Congratulations to Greg Burch, Kyle Hampton, Dustin Hotz, Karen Jones, Jonas Jones, Danyelle Kirkorian, Eric Messmer, Felicia Moorehead, Emily Nahn, Jerrell Norman, Sara Richter, Cameron Roark, Cara Sampson, Nicholas Santangelo, and Jacquelyn Winford.

Research Grants and Awards

Elaine Eggleston Doherty (Principal Investigator) and Lee Ann Slocum (Co-PI). “Crime, Justice, and Urban Life as Seen...
through HBO’s The Wire.” UMSL Curriculum Development Grant.

**Beth M. Huebner** (Principal Investigator). “Sex Offender Absconder Research Study – Phase I.” Missouri State Highway Patrol.


**Matt Vogel** (Principal Investigator). “Spatial Dimensions of Neighborhood Effects on Adolescent Offending.” UMSL College of Arts & Sciences research grant.

**Publications**

Department members published the following articles and book chapters from September 2013 to September 2014.

* indicates student, ** indicates alumni

**ARTICLES**


Matt Vogel. 2014. “Mental Illness and Criminal Behavior.” Sociology Compass 8:337-346

Matt Vogel, Katherine D. Stephens*, and Darby Siebels*. 2014. “Mental Illness and the Criminal Justice System.” Sociology Compass 8:627-638


BOOK CHAPTERS


Awards and Projects

Jennifer Cobbina (PhD 2009) received several accolades in 2014: Center for Service Learning and Civic Engagement Award and College of Social Science Alumni Association Outstanding Teaching Award, Michigan State University; Featured as one of the Top 25 Criminal Justice Professors on Forensic Education blog; New Scholar Award, American Society of Criminology Division on People of Color and Crime.

Andrea Nichols (PhD 2011) was also honored in 2014: Carnegie Missouri Professor of the Year Award, Carnegie Foundation; Best Article of the Year Award 2013, Feminist Criminology, American Society of Criminology Division on Women and Crime.

Research Grants

Merry Morash, Jennifer Cobbina, Sandi Smith, and Deborah Kashy (Co-Principal Investigators). “Narrative Identity Theory as a Complement to Needs/Risks, Community Context, and Supervision Experience Explanations of Women’s Desistance from Crime.” National Science Foundation.


Jennifer Cobbina (Principal Supervisor). “Provost Undergraduate Research Initiative.” Michigan State University’s College of Social Science.

Chris Melde (PhD 2007) and Edmund McGarrell (Co-Principal Investigators). “Criminal Victimization in Michigan’s Secure Cities.” Bureau of Justice Statistics

Career News

Lynn Urban (PhD 2005) was chosen Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Central Missouri.

Publications

Please see “Our Influence” for alumni publications with current department members.

ARTICLES


BOOK CHAPTERS


PROGRAM EVALUATION


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