Greetings! On behalf of the WSC Executive Board, I hope that you enjoyed a great summer. For many of us, summer involves engaging in scholarly research and writing manuscripts. But hopefully everyone also found time for some well-deserved “rest and relaxation.”

As always, we expect this fall to be a particularly busy time for the WSC. The Board will be selecting award recipients, conducting elections for Executive Board positions, auditing WSC finances, evaluating papers submitted as part of the student paper competition, and, of course, preparing for our annual conference.

The next WSC conference will run from February 7, 2013 to February 9, 2013 at the Doubletree Berkeley-Marina in Berkeley, California. Under the capable leadership of co-conference chairs Kristy Matsuda and Ryan Fischer, the WSC will be celebrating its 40th anniversary with some special events.

- The conference will kick-off on Thursday evening with a hosted Presidential Reception. Not only will there be more food at this event than in the past few years, but also we will provide an open bar. That’s right; drinks are on us to celebrate the milestone of our 40th year.
- In addition to the usual panel presentations, the 2013 conference will feature two Presidential Panels—one on gender and crime led by Meda Chesney-Lind and one on sexuality and crime led by Richard Tewksbury.
- The Friday evening poster session will take place over a hosted reception featuring an array of food and another open bar.
- Saturday morning’s keynote brunch will feature mimosas.

As with our 2012 conference, abstract submission this year will be all electronic. The WSC website’s “Conference” page (http://www.westerncriminology.org/conference.htm) has user friendly directions for submitting a proposal for a paper, a full panel, or a poster. Look for the “Present” option; just below the listing of panel topics, click the link to the online abstract submission system. Alternatively, you can navigate directly to the abstract system by going to this link: http://www.westerncriminology.org/abstract_submission_gateway.htm. The deadline to submit abstracts is October 1, 2012. All presenters are required to pre-register for the conference no later than January 4, 2013. We are looking forward to learning from you and with you!

(cont’d on next page)
Earlier in the year, the WSC membership was asked to participate in a survey on a variety of dimensions concerning our annual conference. I want to thank 76 people who took the time to respond to our survey questions, resulting in a nearly 48% response rate. I thought I would share with you some of the more interesting results.

- 82.7% of respondents want to continue having our annual meeting in early- to mid-February each year
- 80.0% of respondents prefer that the conference to be held in warmer climate. In contrast, only 4.0% preferred a colder climate while 48.6% were opposed to cold weather locations
- Members prefer that conferences be held in major metropolitan areas, with the following locations being particularly desirable as determined by a majority of respondents indicating they would be “very likely” to attend a conference in the city indicated while, corresponding, less than 25% of respondents being “unlikely” or “very unlikely” to attend: Las Vegas, NV; Los Angeles, CA; Long Beach, CA; Orange County, CA; Phoenix, AZ; Portland, OR; Seattle, WA; San Francisco, CA; San Diego, CA; and Vancouver, BC.
- The three most important factors our members want the Board to consider when choosing a conference hotel are whether the hotel: is within walking distance of city/town amenities, lies within a 20- to 30-minute taxi ride from a major airport, and is accessible by public transportation. Members also think it important that the hotel belongs to a recognizable, quality, name-brand chain; has a large bar in which attendees may gather comfortably; and strives to be “green.”
- Members were sharply divided on the suitability of a cruise-based conference.

As I mentioned in the spring newsletter, the Board is exploring forming an institutional partnership with the University of California Press. In this time of shrinking academic budgets, few institutions have the funds necessary to support hosting our journal, *Western Criminology Review*. San Diego State University, under the first-rate leadership of Stuart Henry and Christine Curtis, has generously supported our journal with both financial and human resources. But when their three-year term as editors comes to an end, the Board is concerned about whether another institution would be able to provide the reassigned time necessary to fund the work of the editorial staff. By moving our journal to a professional press, we hope to mitigate the financial impact on journal editors’ home institutions while simultaneously making it easier for the editors to manage the journal. Toward that end, we have explored several commercial journal publishing options. But the only proposals that made economic sense to most journal publishing companies would have placed a large financial burden on authors through the imposition of fees in the $400 range to have an article published. The Board *unanimously rejected* such author-pays proposals and searched for other options. The U.C. Press proved to be the best potential partner. While the details of contact have yet to be finalized, we anticipate announcing them soon.

Finally, I want to thank all of the Board members for their work over the course of the year, especially Kim Richman (U. San Francisco), who chaired the Awards Committee; Marie Griffin (Arizona State), who chaired the Nominations Committee; Mary Maguire (CSU Sacramento), who is not only running the book exhibit, but also, in the capacity of immediate past president, provided much guidance to the Board this year; Yvette Farmer (CSU Sacramento), for her outstanding job as the editor of this newsletter; Vanessa Burrows (CSU Long Beach), who has managed our finances with aplomb; and Paul Kaplan (San Diego State), who has helped me manage so much of work of the WSC as vice-president.

On behalf of the entire Board, we thank you for your membership in the WSC and we look forward to seeing you in Berkeley in February!
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FROM THE EDITOR
Yvette Farmer

Our Fall issue provides information about our upcoming 40th anniversary annual meeting in Berkeley, CA as well an article describing a pre-law mentorship program in California and some thoughts related to the language of undergraduate students in Miki’s Reflections. It’s important for this newsletter to remain informative and continue to challenge its readers to critically evaluate key issues in criminology and criminal justice. I appreciate all of the contributions to the newsletter and if any of the articles motivate you to share your thoughts in an upcoming issue, please let me know.

This is our newsletter and I would like to encourage all of the readers to take an active role in sharing important ideas and information with our membership. The deadline for receipt of materials will be March 1st for the Spring issue and August 1st for the Fall issue. Ideas should be sent to:

Dr. Yvette Farmer
California State University, Sacramento
Division of Criminal Justice
6000 J Street
Sacramento, California 95819-6085
(916) 278-5062 (phone)
(916) 278-6487 (message)

Please send your submissions to:
drfarmer@csus.edu

I look forward to hearing your ideas, answering your questions, or addressing your concerns about the newsletter.

COME JOIN US!
WESTERN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
BERKELEY, CA – FEBRUARY 7-9, 2013

We encourage you to mark your calendar for the 40th Annual Conference of the WSC. The Program Chairs are: Dr. Kristy Matsuda, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Missouri-St. Louis, 333 Lucas Hall, St. Louis, MO 63121 and Dr. Ryan Fischer, Department of Criminal Justice, California State University, Long Beach, 1250 Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90840. The Call for Papers appears in this issue, but you may also want to contact Dr. Matsuda, Dr. Fischer, or check out our website - www.westerncriminology.org for additional information about the conference. We look forward to seeing you at the Berkeley Marina!

Hotel: DoubleTree Berkeley Marina
200 Marina Blvd.
Berkeley, CA 92660
1-800-441-1414

Rate: $159 +tax/night

Mention Western Society of Criminology Annual Conference to receive group rate*; rate is good for 3 days pre- and post-conference.

*Rates are subject to availability.

Submission Deadline for Abstracts is: October 1, 2012

We look forward to seeing you in Berkeley!

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CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

WESTERN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
FEBRUARY 7-9, 2013 • BERKELEY, CA

❖ Please note that the deadline to submit abstracts is October 1, 2012 ❖

PANEL TOPICS

- COURTS AND JUDICIAL PROCESSES (INCLUDING SENTENCING)
- CORRECTIONS
- CRIME ANALYSIS (INCLUDING GEOGRAPHY & CRIME AND SOCIAL NETWORKS & CRIME)
- CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY
- CYBERCRIME
- DRUGS/SUBSTANCE ABUSE & CRIME
- GENDER, SEXUALITY, & CRIME
- JUVENILE JUSTICE
- LEGAL ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CRIMINAL LAW & CRIMINAL PROCEDURE)
- ORGANIZED CRIME & GANGS
- SEX CRIMES
- TEACHING (PEDAGOGY & ASSESSMENT IN JUSTICE EDUCATION)
- TERRORISM
- WHITE COLLAR CRIME

The Abstract Submission System is now online. To access it:

1. From our Home Page, navigate to the Conference page and then click the link in the table which says Present: Press here to be taken to our online Abstract Submission System.
2. Alternatively, the Abstract Submission System can be accessed directly at the following URL: http://www.westerncriminology.org/abstract_submission_gateway.htm (note the underscores).

In deciding the most appropriate topic area for your abstract, think about the main focus of your paper and how it might fit within a panel organized around a larger topical theme. For example, if your paper examines both race and juvenile issues, think about whether you would like to be placed on a panel with other papers discussing race issues or other papers dealing with juvenile issues and then submit it to the topic area in which you think it fits best.

All presenters are asked to submit an abstract of 1,100 characters or fewer to only one of the panel topics listed above (on or before October 1, 2012). In addition to the abstract, please include the name, mailing address, email address, and phone number for all authors on the submission for the participant directory. Note that all presenters must pre-register for the conference by January 4, 2013.

All proposals must be electronically submitted through the WSC’s online Abstract Submission System:

http://www.westerncriminology.org/abstract_submission_gateway.htm
**HONORING MEDA CHESNEY LIND**

At its February 18, 2012 meeting, the WSC Executive Board created a new award to recognize outstanding contributions to the intersection of gender and crime. The award will be named after its inaugural recipient, Meda Chesney Lind.

Dr. Chesney-Lind is a Professor of Women's Studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She has served as Vice President of the American Society of Criminology and president of the Western Society of Criminology. She has published eight books, including Feminist Theories of Crime; Fighting for Girls: Critical Perspectives on Gender and Violence; Beyond Bad Girls: Gender, Violence, and Hype; Girls, Women, and Crime; Female Gangs in America; The Female Offender: Girls, Women, and Crime; and Girls, Delinquency, and Juvenile Justice which was awarded the American Society of Criminology's Michael J. Hindelang Award for the “outstanding contribution to criminology, 1992.” She has also published nearly 100 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters, including dozens that have shaped our understanding of sexism in both criminological theory and the practice of the justice professions.

In 1996, Dr. Chesney-Lind was named a fellow of the American Society of Criminology. She received the Bruce Smith, Sr. Award for outstanding contributions to Criminal Justice from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in 2001. She has also received the Distinguished Scholar Award from the Women and Crime Division of the American Society of Criminology, the Major Achievement Award from the Division of Critical Criminology, the Herbert Block Award for service to the society and the profession from the American Society of Criminology, the Donald Cressey Award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency in 1997 for her outstanding academic contribution to the field of criminology, and the University of Hawaii Board of Regent's Medal for "Excellence in Research."

Dr. Chesney-Lind is an outspoken advocate for girls and women, particularly those who find their way into the criminal justice system. Her work on the problem of sexism in the treatment of girls in the juvenile justice system was partially responsible for the recent national attention devoted to services to girls in that system. More recently, she has worked hard to call attention to the soaring rate of women's imprisonment and the need to vigorously seek alternatives to women's incarceration.

Dr. Chesney-Lind will attend the 2013 conference in Berkeley, CA to receive her award and lead a Presidential Panel on the intersection of gender and crime.

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**HONORING RICHARD TEWKSBURY**

At its February 18, 2012 meeting, the WSC Executive Board created a new award to recognize outstanding contributions to the intersection of sexuality and crime. The award will be named after its inaugural recipient, Richard Tewksbury.

Dr. Tewksbury is Professor of Justice Administration at the University of Louisville. His research is primarily in three areas: institutional corrections, sex offender registration, and sexuality/alternative-lifestyles. He has published seven books, including Sexual Deviance and Dynamics of Inequality. He has also published more than 150 peer-reviewed journal articles, including dozens that have shaped our understanding of the ways in which sexuality impacts the justice system in the correctional sphere (e.g., “Fear of Sexual Assault in Prison Inmates” in the Prison Journal; “Examining the Relationship Between Female Inmate Homosexual Behavior and Attitudes Toward Homosexuality and Homosexuals” in the International Journal of Sexuality and Gender Studies; “Characteristics of Prison Sexual Assault Targets in Male Oklahoma Correctional Facilities” in the Journal of Interpersonal Violence; “Significant Others Visiting Others: Sex and Relational Differences” in the Journal of Crime and Justice), in the realm of law enforcement (e.g., “Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS): State Police Training Practices and Personnel Policies” in the American Journal of Police), and in sexuality-based victimization (e.g., “Adventures in the Erotic Oasis: Sex and Danger in Men’s Same-Sex, Public, Sexual Encounters” in the Journal of Men’s Studies; “Hate Crimes Against Gay Men and Lesbian Women: A Routine Activity Approach for Predicting Victimization Risk” in Humanity & Society; “Lifestyle Factors Associated with the Sexual Assault of Men: A Routine Activity Theory Analysis” in the Journal of Men’s Studies).

Dr. Tewksbury is a former editor of both Justice Quarterly and the American Journal of Criminal Justice. He is a Past-President of the Southern Criminal Justice Association and previously served as both Research Director for the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission and as a Visiting Fellow with the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. Dr. Tewksbury holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from The Ohio State University.

Dr. Tewksbury will attend the 2013 conference in Berkeley, CA to receive his award and lead a Presidential Panel on the intersection of sexuality and crime.
CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY AND JUSTICE STUDIES CONFERENCE

The fifth annual Critical Criminology and Justice Studies Mini-Conference will be held in Berkeley, CA on February 7, 2013—the first day of the 40th Annual Conference of the Western Society of Criminology. The call for papers for the CCJS meeting will be announced in summer 2012. Please note that, as in previous years, this will be a separate submission process from that of Annual Conference of the Western Society of Criminology. Contact Dr. Karen S. Glover at kglover@csusm.edu to be added to the mailing list for the CCJS Call for Participation.

This summer, the Western Criminology Review will publish a special issue of the papers presented at the third annual CCJS Mini-Conference in Vancouver, BC. A call for papers for a third special edition of the Western Criminology Review will be issued in the coming weeks. Individuals who presented papers in Newport Beach are encouraged to submit their work to the co-editors—Professor Christine Curtis, Dr. Karen S. Glover, and Dr. Stuart Henry. (Submissions are accepted at EditorWCR@gmail.com)

PRE-LAW MENTORSHIP DONE RIGHT

Laurie Kubicek, J.D.
California State University, Sacramento

For fifteen years I have been advising pre-law students in my role as an undergraduate faculty member. In that time I have counseled literally hundreds of students, many of whom are the first in their families to achieve the dream of earning a college degree or dreaming beyond it to grad school. The road to law school is an extremely challenging one, and even the very best prepared students often stumble on the journey. Those with backgrounds that have not prepared them for the rigor of post-graduate study, and all that it entails, are often left without any hope of gaining law school admission, much less success when they get there. Through my role as Coordinator of the Sac State Pre-Law Advising Program, in 2003 I was connected with Sharon Pinkney, the Dean of Admissions at the School of Law at UC Davis – King Hall and I learned of her visionary King Hall Outreach Program (KHOP). The Program’s director at that time asked me to develop the curriculum for a 2nd year course in legal research, writing and advocacy. I did that and have been involved as an instructor in the program ever since. KHOP approaches the law school admissions problem for students from disadvantaged backgrounds much earlier in their academic careers. KHOP admits students as sophomores in college, who have an expressed interest in law study, and puts them through an extremely rigorous 4 week residential program at King Hall. The program requires a 2-year commitment from participants, and they return the summer after their junior year. According to Kristen Mercado, current KHOP director and Assistant Director of Admissions at King Hall, participants, who attend Northern California UC, CSU and private universities come from extremely challenging circumstances. Over 80% of these students are first generation college graduates, and 33% come from homes where neither parent graduated from high school.

The students take courses in logic and reasoning, writing, public speaking (mock trial & appellate advocacy) and Law School Admission Test preparation. In many cases, students of color and those from disadvantaged backgrounds might be offered support at the point of application to law school – which is far too late in most cases. By mentoring them during their undergraduate experience, KHOP equips them with great study skills, writing and critical thinking skills, and exposes them to a wide variety of lawyers as guest speakers – and future mentors. It is truly an innovative approach to pre-law mentorship, and it’s having a very real impact on the problematic issue of diversity in the bar. I have seen this firsthand in my role as the instructor in the 2nd year course Introduction to the Legal System. In this intensive introduction to legal research and writing, the 2nd year students analyze a real legal problem that raises an issue for appeal. They prepare an appellate brief and then engage in mock appellate argument before a panel of judges. It has been remarkable every year to see the quality of their work! Their oral arguments demonstrate a keen understanding of the legal issues the problem set has raised, and their ability to effectively handle the “peppering” of questions by the justices always amazes me. What I have learned is that regardless of their backgrounds, when well-equipped, the students rise to the occasion and are able to demonstrate their potential for success in law school and beyond. Evidence of KHOP’s success: since 2003 eighteen students have graduated from law school, another 24 are currently enrolled, and 8 are enrolled in other graduate programs. Mentorship done right really does make a difference!
Our editor, Yvette Farmer, aptly named my by-line ‘Miki’s Reflections.’ With a reflective mind in place, I initially thought I would discuss our role as mentors for our students during their studies and beyond. Recently, I have had the honor and privilege to assist a young man and a young woman as they searched for meaningful work after completing their baccalaureate degrees. In preparation for this article, I read some articles about mentoring and the significant benefits that emerge from these relationships – students gain valuable academic and professional advice and perspective and have the opportunity to create a unique and lasting relationship with a faculty member; faculty have the opportunity to share their knowledge and expertise and become a collaborator with their students as they navigate the academic and professional world. A win-win situation.

Then, I got side-tracked! A friend sent me an article that resonated with me in a somewhat painful way. The article, by James E. Courter [July 9, 2012] entitled Teaching ‘Taco Bell’s Canon’ starts with this sub-heading: “Today’s students don’t read. As a result, they have sometimes hilarious notions of how the written language represents what they hear.” One of the reasons I left the university was to pursue research opportunities and frankly not teach anymore because of my frustration with our students’ lack of interest and skills in reading and writing.

Whether you grin or grimace at the story, what does it say about our future leaders?

Is it true that college students today are unprepared and unmotivated? That generalization does injustice to the numerous bright exceptions I saw in my 25 years of teaching composition to university freshmen. But in other cases the characterization is all too accurate.

One big problem is that so few students are readers. As an unfortunate result, they have erroneous, and sometimes hilarious, notions of how the written language represents what they hear. What emerged in their papers and emails was a sort of literary subgenre that I’ve come to think of as stream of unconsciousness.

Some of their most creative thinking was devoted to fashioning excuses for tardiness, skipping class entirely, and failure to complete assignments. One guy admitted that he had trouble getting into "the proper frame of mime" for an 8 a.m. class. Then there were the two young men who missed class for having gotten on the wrong side of the law. They both emailed me, one to say that he had been charged with a "mister meaner," the other with a "misdeminor."

Another student blamed "inclimate weather" for his failure to come to class, admitting that it was a "poultry excuse." A male student who habitually came late and couldn't punctuate correctly had a double-duty excuse: "I don't worry about my punctual errors." To their credit, students are often frank when it comes to admitting their shortcomings and attitude problems. For example, one guy owned up to doing "halfhazard work" and there was one who admitted that he wasn't smart enough to go to an "Ivory League school."

Another lamented not being astute enough to follow the lecture on "Taco Bell's Canon" in music-appreciation class.

Many students have difficulty adjusting to life in dormitories. One complained that his roommate was "from another dementian." Another was irritated by a roommate's habit of using his "toilet trees" without asking. A female student, in describing an argument over her roommate's smelling up their room with cheap perfume, referred to getting in her "two scents' worth."

Some find you can't go home again. After several weeks at school, one coed returned to her childhood house only to find life there "homedrum." To be fair, many of the young men and women I encountered over the years are capable of serious thinking on social issues and international affairs. The Iraq War, in what one student called "nomad's land," was very much on their minds. Some were for it, some against it. The most ardent supporter was the guy who described his attitude as "gun-ho." One student lamented that we're becoming a society that "creates its individuals in a lavatory."

Another worried that education reform might result in school being in "secession" year-round.

When it comes to relationships, it is, in the words of more than one undergraduate, "a doggydog world." But I'm sure most of us could sympathize with the girl who said she resented being "taken for granite" by her boyfriend. Some learn the price of intimacy the hard way, like the coed who referred to becoming pregnant on "that fetal night." She might have been better off with the young gentleman who spoke of his policy of keeping relationships "strictly plutonic."

(cont’d on next page)
One struggling freshman summed it up for all of us when he wrote, "Life has too much realism." Maybe so, but I don't recommend coping like the guy who referred to getting away from it all by spending the day "sitting on a peer."

Among students' biggest complaints is that they have to write so much in college. In his end-of-semester evaluation, one honest soul complained that "writhing gives me fits." Sad to say, it's not uncommon to hear students remark on how much they look forward to being done with English.

Who knows what language they'll use then?

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**AN INVITATION TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND WORDS**

The scholarly exchange of ideas and experiences that takes place between academics and professionals in Criminology and Criminal Justice enriches all of us. If you feel strongly about a certain topic, would be willing to write about it, and believe that others would enjoy reading it, please consider sending me an article that I can publish in the newsletter. Your thoughts and words may inspire another person and should be sent to Yvette Farmer at dfarmer@csus.edu.

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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

The *Western Criminology Review* is the official journal of the Western Society of Criminology, and we invite scholars to submit articles to the journal for publication. *WCR* provides a forum for publication and discussion of theory, research, policy, and practice in the rapidly changing and interdisciplinary fields of criminology and criminal justice. Historical and contemporary perspectives are encouraged, as are diverse methodological approaches.

Published three times a year, *WCR* is an on-line, peer-reviewed outlet for scholarly research. The journal, which currently has a 21% acceptance rate for submitted articles, is intended to reflect U.S. regional (Western), national, and international concerns. Indeed, 32% of submissions come from the West, 28% from the South, 14% from the Midwest, 5% from the Northeast and 21% of submissions to the journal are from International scholars. The following are titles from a recent issue of *WCR*, Volume 13, No. 2 August 2012:

**Keynote Presentation**

*The Supreme Court Needs to Enter the 21st Century*

Erwin Chemerinsky

**Feature Articles**

*Sex Offender Myths in Print Media: Separating Fact from Fiction in U.S. Newspapers*

Marcus A. Galeste, Henry F. Fradella, and Brenda Vogel

*Incarcerated Sex Offenders’ Perceptions of Family Relationships: Previous Experiences and Future Expectations*

Richard Tewksbury and David P. Connor

*Specifying the Dynamic Relationships of General Strain, Coping, and Young Adult Crime*

Jennifer L. Huck, Daniel R. Lee, Kendra N. Bowen, Jason D. Spraitz, and James H. Bowers, Jr.

**Commentary and Call for Papers on AB 109**

*Realignment in California: Policy and Research Implications*

Barbara Owen and Alan Mobley

The *Western Criminology Review* particularly invites your responses to AB 109 Realignment in calling for papers addressing this shift in criminal justice policy and practice in California.

Because *WCR* is an online journal, there are no page, color, or appendix restrictions; therefore, authors can include hypertext links and images at their discretion. Manuscripts are submitted electronically, and all correspondence is conducted online to speed up the review process. Our evaluation process for submitted papers involves a brief internal review by editorial staff, followed by a blind assessment by at least two external reviewers. The time from submission to acceptance for published articles averages 3.8 months and the time from acceptance to publication is approximately 4.9 months, making the total time from submission to publication of approximately 9 months.

 Replies and comments to previously published articles are encouraged. All submissions should be formatted according to the journal's guidelines for manuscripts, which can be found on the *WCR* website at [http://wcr.sonoma.edu](http://wcr.sonoma.edu). Authors interested in submitting their work to the *WCR* should send inquiries to co-editors Stuart Henry and Christine Curtis, San Diego State University and Karen Glover, California State University, San Marcos. Send all new submissions via e-mail as an attachment to Dr. Nicole L. Bracy, Managing Editor, *Western Criminology Review*: EditorWCR@gmail.com.
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