

THE WESTERN CRIMINOLOGIST

Spring 2009

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

Editor: Dr. Yvette Farmer, Criminal Justice Division, CSU- Sacramento, 6000 J St. Sacramento, CA 95819-6085

From the President

Christine Famega

California State University – San Bernardino

The Island Palms Marina Hotel in San Diego, CA was the host for the very successful WSC 36th Annual Conference February 5-7, 2009. Over 190 colleagues from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom joined us this year to attend 130 paper presentations over two days.

Thank YOU -- the long-time and new members of the WSC for the quality presentations and record attendance at the 2009 conference. Our program was enriched by the Friday Plenary Panel "From Prison to Your Neighborhood – The Reality of Returning Home" and Saturday's Keynote Address "In Pursuit of Transnational Gangs: The Special Case of Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)"—both presentations are described later in this newsletter. In the Meet the Author session, we enjoyed listening to Travis Pratt speak about his new book "Addicted to Incarceration" (Sage).

Special thanks are also due to: the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of St Louis-Missouri for sponsoring the President's Reception on Thursday night, the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Arizona State University for sponsoring the Continental Breakfast on Saturday morning, the San Diego Association of Governments for the Conference Program production, and the many publishers who donated books for the book exhibit and sale following the conference.

On behalf of the WSC Board, thank you Adrienne, you did an outstanding job as our past President, and will be a hard act to follow! I would also like to recognize the hard work of the outgoing board members: Christine Curtis, Bryan Kinney, Stacy Mallicoat, Michael Olivero, John Vivian, Brandi Vigil, and Brenda Vogel. Sadly, Sue Cote Escobar who has served in various board positions since 2001, will also be stepping down as Secretary/Treasurer in May 2009.

2009-2010 WSC Executive Board

The membership elected Laurie Kubicek (CSU Sacramento), as the new Vice President. In addition to her duties as VP, Laurie will serve as Chair of the Membership & Publicity Committee.

Mary Maguire, Charles Katz, and Christine Gardiner, were elected to serve three year terms as Executive Counselors. Mary Maguire (CSU Sacramento) returns to the Board to continue in her role as the book exhibit/ "Meet the Author" coordinator. A warm welcome to the new executive counselors: Charles Katz (Arizona State University) who will serve as Chair of the Constitution/Resolutions Committee; Christine Gardiner (CSU Fullerton) who will Co-Chair the 2010 program committee (with Past President Adrienne Freng) and John Hipp (UC Irvine) who was elected to serve a two year executive counselor term (to replace Laurie Kubicek).

Continuing as Executive Counselors for their remaining terms are: Finn-Aage Esbensen (University of St. Louis-Missouri) who will continue as Chair for the Awards Committee; Aili Malm (CSU Long Beach) who will chair the Local Arrangements/Site Selection Committee and serve as interim Treasurer; and Cassia Spohn (Arizona State University) who will chair the Nominations Committee. Leana & Jeffrey Bouffard (Washington State University) continue their terms as Editors of the journal *Western Criminology Review*. We are pleased to have Yvette Farmer (CSU Sacramento) continue in another three-year term as Editor of The

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Western Criminologist Newsletter.

The four board members appointed by the President to serve a one year term as Counselors-at-Large are: Dimitri Bogazianos (CSU Sacramento); Andrea Schoepfer (CSU San Bernardino); and Matthew Hickman (Seattle University) -- Matthew has graciously agreed to serve as interim secretary. Dena Carson (University of St. Louis-Missouri) has agreed to join the Board as the WSC student representative.

The WSC Board is already hard at work planning the 37th Annual Conference. We are returning to the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii, February 4-6, 2010 (this recently renovated hotel was also the host for the 2005 WSC conference)! Please note that the deadline to submit your abstracts to topic chairs is October 5, 2009.

Contact Your Board Members!

I am honored to serve as the President of the WSC for 2009-2010, and look forward to this year with much enthusiasm. We have a wonderful, friendly group of board members that would like to hear your comments and suggestions. Is there a Western city that you would like to suggest as a future conference location? Contact the Chair of the Local Arrangements/Site Selection committee. The committee will research the area accommodations and costs. Do you have a colleague whose research deserves special recognition? Please consider sending a letter of nomination to the Chair of the Awards committee. Would you like to become more involved in the WSC? Contact the Chair of the Nominations Committee about candidacy for an Executive Counselor position. Please consider our online peer-review journal *Western Criminology Review*, as an outlet for your research, and *The Western Criminologist Newsletter* to disseminate information to our members.



From the Editor Yvette Farmer

Our Spring issue includes a message from the new WSC President, shares information from our annual meeting, and solicits your help in nominating individuals for WSC awards. Please take a moment to identify a potential recipient and know that your input is definitely appreciated.

In an effort to see that the newsletter remains informative and continues to challenge its readers to critically evaluate important issues in criminology and criminal justice, you will see an article on reviving the Academy of Fists and another article that reflects on the Double Shift—a piece inspired by a previous article published in *The Western Criminologist*. In *Miki's Reflections*, you will see her thoughts about finding 'a silver lining' in these difficult times. 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, 6000 J Street, Sacramento, California 95815-6015. The telephone number is (916) 278-5062 or 278-6487 (message).

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



From the Secretary/Treasurer Sue C. Escobar

Transitions often conjure up different images in people's minds: birth, death, job loss, a new job, a new relationship, a promotion, and new responsibilities. For me, transitions of any kind are exciting times, though they do sometimes leave behind that residual sadness of the loss of a former self. Recognizing the impermanence in all things has helped me accept that change is a part of life, and we can go with flow or spend our lives struggling upstream. I prefer flow and moving with it as an essential part of change and acknowledging the fluidity with which life manifests itself through us.

Transitions often come to us in many forms, whether it is expansion (gains) or contraction (losses). Regardless of their form, transitions are also a time for reflection. My transition, in relation to the WSC, will happen on May 1st, when I will be stepping down from the Board as Secretary/Treasurer. Though I have learned a lot through this position and have enjoyed eight years as a Board member, filling nearly every position possible from Counselor-at-Large to President, it is time for me to step down and make room for other folks to transition from member to Board member; to spread their wings and dedicate their energies in the form of service to the WSC. For those of you who have considered serving on the Board but have never taken the plunge, I encourage you to take it. It really was one of the best decisions I ever made. I have met some truly incredible people, researchers, scholars, and students alike. Each of you has something to give, a skill, knowledge, a desire to serve your broader professional community, a desire to work together with colleagues, and I encourage you to do it. I will certainly miss my time on the Board, but as I always say, "it's all good," and you never know, I may find myself back on the Board someday! Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to work with you. You have all been a wonderful group of people, and I greatly appreciate your support, kindness, commitment, energy, and professionalism to this organization. See you soon.... In Hawai'i! Look for the lady with scuba gear in one hand and my laptop in the other ☺ Namaste.



Criminologists Convene in San Diego Christine Curtis

Two criminology conferences were held in San Diego in February. The 36th annual Western Society of Criminology (WSC) conference brought together almost 200 academics, practitioners and students to discuss Crime and Justice on the Border. The plenary session

featured a discussion of issues related to prison overcrowding and re-entry programs for prisoners returning to the community by San Diego practitioners dedicated to improving the Criminal Justice system. Dr. Stuart Henry, Director of the SDSU School of Public Affairs, presented a paper on cumulative violence theory and school shootings. Dr. Jeffrey McIlwain, Professor in the SDSU Homeland Security Department chaired a panel on border crime issues and discussed drug wars in Tijuana in his presentation. Nine SDSU criminal justice students volunteered to work at the WSC conference in exchange for one-day conference attendance.

The second meeting was a pre-conference to the WSC event hosted by California State University San Marcos' Criminology and Justice Studies program and San Diego State's School of Public Affairs. The topic was Critical Criminology and Justice Studies. The keynote address was entitled "Immigration, Exception and Denial: A Critical Inquiry into the Post 9/11 War on Unlawful Immigration" by Dr. Raymond Michalowski from Northern Arizona University. Other panel topics included:

- Discourse, Race and the State
- Military and Prison Industrial Complexes and Intersections
- (E)racing the Border: Immigration and Global Citizenship
- Youth and Identity: Preventionism, Captivity and Victimization
- Academia, Policy and Public Criminology

Attendees included 12 San Diego State Criminal Justice Students. Dr. Alessandro De Giorgi (San Jose State University) had the following to say about the conference:

I would like to share my enthusiasm for our first meeting. As a newcomer to the US, with some experience of critical criminology in Europe, I was full of expectations and being able to meet you was indeed a great experience. I think we should try to make this a regular, annual meeting.

The organizers of the critical criminology pre-conference are coordinating publication of the papers presented.

WSC was formed 36 years ago by retired San Diego State University professor Tom Gitchoff and his colleague Dr. June Morrison of the University of Arizona. Dr. Gitchoff recalls that "We wanted an association that would be closer to the west coast, ergo Western Society of Criminology. We sought and were granted assistance from American Society of Criminology (ASC), borrowed approximately \$200.00 and paid ASC back the following year after our first conference. Our vision was to merge both academics with practitioners and also to give students an early introduction to the various areas of criminology-criminal justice. And last, but not least, was to keep a sense of humor, not take ourselves too seriously and make our conferences both fun and educational." We are all grateful to Drs. Gitchoff and Morrison for their vision. Their legacy lives on.



Past Presidents at the San Diego Conference

We were delighted to welcome twelve WSC past presidents to the San Diego conference as follows:

Tom Gitchoff
Cindy Burke
Darlanne Hooctor Mulmat
Janice Lowenberg
Jill Rosenbaum
Barbara Bloom
Cheryl Maxson
Sue Escobar
John Vivian
John Dombrink
Paul Brantingham
Chris Curtis

We hope that they will continue to attend our conferences and would like to see other former presidents attend as well. There are a total of 36 past presidents, but a few are deceased: June Morrison, Janet Henkin, Libby Deschenes, and Inger Sagatun-Edwards. Thanks to all of the past presidents for contributing their time and effort to the WSC—it is a great organization!



Thoughts from the Plenary Session

From Prison to Your Neighborhood – The Reality of Returning Home

Our plenary session included three presenters: James Austin, President of the JFA Institute; Bessy Glaske, Chief Administrative Officer, Correctional Alternatives, Inc.; and Bonnie Dumanis, San Diego District Attorney.

James Austin described himself as a social scientist with training in Sociology and previous work experience in corrections. He reported that there are currently 27 million prisoners and stated that the trend to increase the prison population needs to be reversed. He informed the audience that the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) has the goal to reduce the correctional population by 50% within 8 years and he claims that we have evidence that society is over-punishing people.

During his presentation he identified five major points as follows:

1. Punishment is not proportionate to crimes committed;
2. Increases in incarceration have minimal impact on crime rates;
3. There is no relationship between length of stay (in prison) and recidivism;
4. Released prisoners constitute a small proportion of the crime problem; and
5. Reforms must focus on laws and policy and not programs.

Austin claims that there are many examples of punishments that do not fit the crimes that have been committed. He further claims that victim loss is much less than incarceration costs. Some criminal justice (CJ) professionals believe that too much money is spent on incarceration and that sentences are too long. Austin reported that a racial bias is operating in the system (i.e., an increase in the proportion of blacks in arrest, conviction, prison and jail populations).

Some data indicate that correctional populations are increasing while crimes reported and arrests are decreasing. According the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) data, sentence length is decreasing while time served is increasing. Austin identifies two reasons why prisoners are being kept longer as follows: 1) the number of persons sentenced by courts & revocations for parole violations has continued to escalate; and 2) two out of three prisoners are probation/parole violators. He further claims that the prison system is “feeding on itself” by recycling inmates.

Austin believes that reducing the prison population will not jeopardize public safety. One of his main points identified earlier states that released prisoners constitute a small portion of the crime problem. In an effort to reduce the prison population, Austin offers the following suggestions:

- 1) Reduce prisoner length of stay (LOS) to 1988 levels;
- 2) Divert technical parole/probation violators and reduce LOS; and
- 3) Divert persons convicted of victimless crimes from prison.

Bessy Glaske, Chief Administrative Officer for Correctional Alternatives, Inc., discussed Residential Re-entry Centers (RRCs) which were formerly known as Community Correctional Centers (CCCs) or Half-way Houses. According to Glaske, RRCs serve two types of offenders: 1) Federal Bureau of Prison (BOP) offenders; and 2) U.S. Probation (USPO) offenders. They provide a supervised environment, job placement, counseling, help in rebuilding ties to the community, and help in finding suitable housing.

RRCs have specific employment requirements for offenders—residents have 15 days to secure a full-time job and when that job is secured, they must pay 25% of their gross wages back for their confinement. While in residence, offenders participate in a variety of programs such as drug testing, substance abuse treatment, and cultural diversity training. RRC staff may help with access to medical or mental health treatment, but such treatment is the responsibility of the offender. In the last 10% of an offender’s sentence, he or she may be transitioned to home confinement that is supervised by RRC staff. The RRC monitors an offender’s location and movement 24 hours per day.

Offenders must proceed through several steps that take place from the time he or she enters a RRC to home confinement. According to Glaske, one of the lessons learned with the implementation of RRCs is that they should be geared toward offenders with six months left in their sentences. The passage of the 2nd Chance Act revitalized the utilization of RRCs to promote public safety and reduce recidivism.

Residents are now allowed to stay up to 12 months (rather than 6 months). The average stay went from 77 days to 127 days—with no additional money to keep offenders longer.

Bonnie Dumanis introduced herself as being on “right side of the criminal justice system” for 35 years and discussed her previous judicial experience and her current position as a District Attorney in San Diego. From her experience in the CJ system and her familiarity with the evidence-based programs in San Diego, she also believes that the CJ system needs to change. Dumanis believes that there are too many people in prison, but “it takes a lot to go to prison”—as an example, not many offenders are sentenced to prison for first-time drug possession.

Dumanis feels that change needs to start at the entrance into the CJ system (e.g., with probation). She also believes that inmates spend too much time in reception centers (with access to more serious offenders) and advocates classifying offenders in the community before going to prisons. She would like to see a better classification system to identify types of offenders, i.e., a triage system, and she also feels it’s important to get treatment for offenders that need it.

Dumanis also advocates examining sentences –increased sentences come from initiatives (w/o looking at policy implications, etc.). She supports more local programs at entry & re-entry points. She also believes that there is a need to work at the elementary school level in attempting to change the system. From her experience with the juvenile court, she believes that juveniles are missing the three Fs: 1) Faith; 2) Family; and 3) Friends.

The panelists addressed questions at the end of the plenary session which revealed both areas of agreement and disagreement in their perspectives. James Austin and Bonnie Dumanis agree that: the CJ system needs to change; there are too many people in prison; risk assessment is needed; and some prisoners need longer sentences. Unlike Austin, Dumanis supports second and third strikes legislation. Although Austin advocates reducing the LOS to 1988 levels and using diversion programs for technical parole/probation violators and persons convicted of victimless crimes, Dumanis would like to focus on changes at the beginning stage or entry into the CJ system (e.g., probation). Austin argues that punishments may be disproportionate given the crimes committed and Dumanis reminds us that it takes a lot before an offender is sentenced to prison. Finally, Austin claims that there may be a racial bias operating in the system and Dumanis indicates that there are problems with disproportionate sentencing research—raising questions and identifying the need to examine many variables.



Thoughts from the Keynote Address

In Pursuit of Transitional Gangs: The Special Case of Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)

Cheryl Maxon, our keynote speaker at the San Diego conference, is a faculty member in the Department of Criminology, Law & Society at UC Irvine and past president of the Western Society of Criminology. Her research interests include the study of gangs and she describes herself as a person who engages in ‘contrarian’ research. She outlined some of the issues identified and questions asked by such researchers including, “How do they know that?” This type of inquiry was a guiding influence as she examined the case of Mara Salvatrucha or MS-13.

According to Maxon, MS-13 was brought to media attention after the murder of a teenage police informant. This resulted in a flurry of media response as well as the development of a number of federal programs and task forces to combat the threat imposed by MS-13. The LAPD describes MS-13 as the most active and violent gang...but is it?

Maxon conducted a study to address the following questions: 1) What is known about MS-13? ; and 2) What are the current programs/policies? After making multiple site visits and conducting numerous interviews, she discovered that MS-13 began as a typical street gang that is now active in 44 states. In the early 1980s, she describes the cliques as loose knit, without leadership, territorial, and with violence levels that are undocumented.

In the mid-1990s, Federal immigration law required the deportation of gang members after serving their prison terms. This resulted in an increase in: a) prison populations in countries like El Salvador; b) organization and hierarchical leadership within gangs; and c) levels of violence. Salvadorian gangs have frequent contact with MS-13 gang members residing in Los Angeles, but it’s primarily social in nature. There is no evidence of active MS-13 gang members in the Washington DC area—Maxon claims that their massive response to the MS-13 gang threat resulted from fear and anti-immigrant sentiment. She further claims that the evidence (e.g., social contacts and patterns of reduced gang activity) does not support the response to this gang.

She concludes by indicating that the MS-13 response led to the organization of law enforcement. The approach used by law enforcement agencies (i.e., arrest, incarcerate, and deport the gang problem) backfired—the MS-13 gang strategy has led to an increased prison population in El Salvador and increased levels of organization among gang members in El Salvador.



WSC Awards 2009

*Recipient of the Western Society of Criminology Fellows Award
2008-2009:* Hank Fradella

*Recipients of the Western Society of Criminology Awards
2008-2009:*

The Paul Tappan Award - For Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Criminology – Cheryl Maxon

The Joseph D. Lohman Award - For Outstanding Service to the Western Society of Criminology – John Vivian

The June Morrison-Tom Gitchoff Founders Award - For Significant Improvement in the Quality of Justice - Joel Goodman

President’s Award- For Contributions to the Field of Criminology and Positive Influence on the Current President’s Career - Finn-Aage Esbensen

W.E.B. DuBois Award - For Significant Contributions to the Field of Racial and Ethnic Issues in Criminology - Shaun L. Gabbidon

Miki Vohryzek-Bolden (MVB) Student Paper Competition

1st Place – Avi Brisman, Emory University
The Waiver and Withdrawal of Death Penalty Appeals as ‘Extreme Communicative Acts’

2nd Place – Lindsey M. Gorzalski, Arizona State University
*Does the Policy Fit the Crime?
The Adam Walsh Act and Juvenile Sex Offenders*



Thanks to Conference Sponsors!

We would like to thank the San Diego Association of Governments for their support in producing the 2009 Conference Program. We would also like to thank the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Arizona State University and the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Missouri, St. Louis for their financial support of the 2009 Annual Conference.



MIKI'S REFLECTIONS

Miki Vohryzek-Bolden

There are many reasons, both personal and professional, to be hopeful and optimistic in the midst of one of our country's most trying social, economic, and emotional times. Yet, no one can dismiss or ignore the implications of what we know, read, and see everyday on the news. These are hard times for everyone and it calls for calm heads and hearts to accept what cannot be changed and to have the courage to "be the change you wish to see in the world..." (Gandhi).

I do see a 'silver lining' to our present circumstances. There are many opportunities for us to make a difference in our field. As criminal justice professionals, we are witness to the convergence of three events: the call by many legislatures and the federal government for implementation of evidence-based practices; a large number of hiring freezes in all areas of the criminal justice system; and the need for consultants and academic researchers to fill the vacuum brought about by the requirements to evaluate our programs and the reluctance of most governmental entities to hire any new employees because of added benefit and retirement costs.

This past fiscal year, I had five different research contracts with three state agencies in California. The contracts involved evaluating several drug enforcement programs, treatment services for high risk sex offenders on parole, and assisting one agency with the development of its emergency operations plan. Even when the Governor required each agency to prioritize and identify non-essential contracts, none of mine were included on the suspension lists. Perhaps there was some element of luck and some related to the subject matter.

My experience suggests that there are more contracting opportunities out there because the need for research that documents promising and exemplary approaches in the criminal justice field continues to grow as agencies include set asides for research on their funded programs. Federal and state governments are all looking to trim their budgets. Yet, recognizing the political element inherent in the legislative process, their decision-making bodies are still asking for documentation of 'what works', providing continued funding for those programs, and eliminating programs that cannot document their effectiveness. We can assist these agencies during their deliberations by providing good, quality research.

In a prior column, I discussed the benefits of action research for everyone involved – the agency, principal investigator, other faculty involved in the research, and especially our students. I encourage all of you to think about where your knowledge, skills, and abilities can best be applied in the state contracting world. Then, get the resume together and make those calls!



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 drfarmer@csus.edu.



Come Join Us!

**WESTERN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
37TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ALA MOANA HOTEL
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I
FEBRUARY 4 – 6, 2010**

We encourage you to mark your calendar for the 37th Annual Conference of the WSC. The Program Chairs are: Dr. Adrienne Freng, Division of Criminal Justice, University of Wyoming, 1000 E. University, Dept. 3197 Laramie, WY 82071 and Dr. Christine Gardiner, Division of Politics, Administration, and Justice, California State University, Fullerton, 800 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92831. The Call for Papers appears in this issue, but you may also want to contact Dr. Freng, Dr. Gardiner, or check out our website - www.sonoma.edu/ccjs/wsc/ for additional information about the conference. We look forward to seeing you in tropical Honolulu, Hawai'i!





CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Western Society of Criminology
 36th Annual Conference
 Theme – Crime and Criminal Justice on the Border
 February 5-7, 2009 • San Diego, CA

❖ Please note that the deadline to send abstracts to topic chairs is October 5, 2009 ❖

<p>POLICING AND FORENSIC SCIENCES</p> <p>Matthew Hickman Seattle University Department of Criminal Justice 901 12th Ave. PO Box 222000 Seattle, WA 98122 hickmanm@seattleu.edu</p>	<p>LAW, COURTS, AND SENTENCING</p> <p>Cassia Spohn School of Criminology and Criminal Justice Arizona State University 411 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85004 cassia.spohn@asu.edu</p>	<p>CORRECTIONS</p> <p>Charles Katz School of Criminology and Criminal Justice Arizona State University 411 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85004 charles.katz@asu.edu</p>
<p>ECOLOGY OF CRIME</p> <p>John Hipp 2367 Social Ecology 2 University of California – Irvine Irvine, CA 92697 hippj@uci.edu</p>	<p>RACE, CLASS, GENDER & CRIME</p> <p>Dimitri Bogazianos Division of Criminal Justice California State University – Sacramento 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA 95819-6085 dbogazia@csus.edu</p>	<p>JUVENILE JUSTICE</p> <p>Dena Carson University of Missouri-St. Louis 324 Lucas Hall One University Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63121 Dcc6pd@umsl.edu</p>
<p>ORGANIZED AND WHITE-COLLAR CRIME</p> <p>Andrea Schoepfer 5500 University Parkway Criminal Justice Department, CSU-SB San Bernardino, CA 92407 aschoepf@csusb.edu</p>	<p>TEACHING IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE</p> <p>Laurie Kubicek Division of Criminal Justice California State University, Sacramento 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA 95819-6085 lkubicek@csus.edu</p>	<p>THEORY</p> <p>Mary Maguire Division of Criminal Justice California State University, Sacramento 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA 95819-6085 maguirem@csus.edu</p>

In deciding the most appropriate place to send your abstract, think about the main focus of your paper and how it might fit with the topic of the panel. 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 send to the most appropriate topic chair. Electronic submissions are preferred to hard copies being mailed or faxed. All presenters are asked to submit an abstract of **150 WORDS OR LESS** to only one of the panel topics listed above. 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.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION!

All conference participants need to make reservations by January 3, 2010. Information about the Ala Moana Hotel can be found on the hotel website (www.alamoanahotel.com) or by calling 800-367-6025. To receive the conference rate of \$169+tax/night, please indicate that you are with the Western Society of Criminology Annual Conference and provide discount rate code DWESTCRI. This code cannot be utilized to make on-line reservations. This rate will be available three nights prior and three nights after the conference, subject to availability.

STUDENTS

The Western Society of Criminology provides several opportunities for students in conjunction with the annual conference, including travel money and a paper competition. Please see the following for requirements and application information.

June Morrison Scholarship Fund: The June Morrison Scholarship provides supplemental funds (\$100) to support student member participation at the annual conference. A maximum of five awards will be made to students attending the annual meeting of the WSC. In the event that there are more than five eligible applications, the awards committee will randomly select five recipients. To be eligible for the June Morrison Award, students must present a paper at the annual conference. Conference registration and membership dues must be paid prior to the scholarship being awarded. Please submit your application by October 5, 2009, to Finn Esbensen at esbensen@umsl.edu. Application information can be obtained by consulting *Student Information*, which is in the *Conference* section of the WSC website (www.sonoma.edu/ccjs/wsc/conference.htm)

Miki Vohryzek-Bolden (MVB) Student Paper Competition: Students are eligible to compete in a Student Paper Competition sponsored by WSC. Papers co-authored by faculty will not be considered. Appropriate types of papers include but are not limited to policy analyses, original research, literature reviews, position papers, theoretical papers, and commentaries. Students selected for this award will be recognized at the conference and will receive a cash award (\$125 for first place and \$75 for second place) and registration reimbursement. Additionally, if the award recipient desires, the best paper will be submitted for review to the *Western Criminological Review*. Abstracts should be submitted to the appropriate topical chair by October 5, 2009 and a final paper should be emailed to Finn Esbensen (esbensen@umsl.edu) by January 4, 2010. Award winners will be notified in writing by February 1, 2010. Submission information can be obtained by consulting *Student Information*, which is in the *Conference* section of the WSC website (www.sonoma.edu/ccjs/wsc/conference.htm).

Nominations are sought for the following awards bestowed by the Western Society of Criminology:

Paul Tappan Award for outstanding contribution to the field of Criminology.

Joseph D. Lohman Award for outstanding contribution to the Western Society of Criminology.

June Morrison – Tom Gitchoff Founders Award for significant improvement of the quality of justice.

W.E.B. DuBois Award for significant contributions to the field of racial and ethnic issues in Criminology.

Western Society of Criminology Fellows Award conferred upon individuals generally associated with the Western region who have made important contributions to the field of Criminology. Nominees need not be members of WSC.

President's Award for contributions to the field of Criminology and positive influence on the current president's career.

Nomination letters and supporting materials should be sent to Finn-Aage Esbensen, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, 330 Lucas Hall, University of Missouri-St. Louis, One University Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63121-4400 or via email to esbensen@umsl.edu. Nominations are due by May 15, 2009.

Student Awards: Consult the WSC website for submission guidelines for the two following awards.

The WSC encourages the active participation of students in the annual conference. To facilitate and encourage participation, the WSC offers travel support via **June Morrison Travel Awards**. To be eligible for the June Morrison Award, students must present a paper at the annual conference. To apply, send an email by October 5, 2009 to Finn Esbensen (esbensen@umsl.edu).

The student paper competition, the **Miki Vohryzek-Bolden (MVB) Student Paper Competition**, allows students to have their papers reviewed by the awards committee, with the best paper submitted for review to the *Western Criminology Review*. Abstracts should be submitted to the appropriate topical chair by October 5, 2009 and a final paper should be emailed to Finn Esbensen (esbensen@umsl.edu) by Monday January 4, 2010.



Reflections on the Double-Shift

Joel Goodman
Bureau of Prisons Retiree

Brandi Vigil's article, *Double Shift: Graduate Student and Employee*, in the Fall 2008 issue, harkens memories of my double-shift years as both an undergraduate and graduate student. But Brandi overlooked an important aspect of wearing two hats simultaneously.

Back in the day – for some of my undergraduate years from 1972 to 1976 at the University of Missouri, I worked inside St. Louis County Jail processing prisoners – the majority of which were obnoxiously drunk. For much of 1978 until 1979, when I was a youthful 25 year-old, I was burning the candle at both ends by taking graduate-level criminal justice administration courses at San Diego State University (SDSU) and working full-time as an officer for the Bureau of Prisons. I was best able to juggle my academic responsibilities by working evenings from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. or the morning watch from 12:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Since being a “Hack” was not intellectually stimulating – and usually not too demanding, I could balance it all. Or so I thought.

The downside for me to the “double-shift” is that recreation, relationships and social activities took a backseat to academic and professional responsibilities. Like an old convict, I became institutionalized. Prisoner and organizational dysfunction became a primary source of my entertainment. Why watch a feature film when I can obtain grand amusement from going to work in the joint?

From a time-management perspective, being a full-time student and full-time prison officer had utility. From a social perspective, I learned the hard way that normal citizens in the Free World cannot relate to conversations that I had on an ongoing basis with every variety of misfit and criminal. For many years I felt more comfortable working inside than associating with non-felons on the streets.

I have vivid recollection of the spring afternoon in 1979 when I learned that I had completed all of SDSU's graduate school requirements. I called the Lieutenant at the Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC) and requested a vacation day to celebrate. Since staffing was tight, it was denied. Sitting alone between counts during that quiet midnight shift on the fourth floor of the San Diego MCC, I realized that the academic chapter of my life had ended. It was a special revelation.

When I had fleeting thoughts of pursuing a Ph.D., I quickly dismissed it when I recalled the flippant but sage words of a colleague – “*Dr. Goodman, open the gate.*”

Now that I have recently retired, I look back on those highly-productive years fondly. Would I do anything differently – absolutely! If I could turn the clock back I would put more emphasis on fun activities and personal relationships. No one on their deathbed has expressed regret that they did not spend more time on the job.

As Frank Sinatra said, "Live each day like it is your last and one day you will be right." That has become my retirement mantra and my counsel to those of you on the double-shift.



Reviving the Academy of Fists

**Tim Hennessy, Graduate Student
California State University, Sacramento**

When Cesare Beccaria looked at the legal system around him, he saw a capricious and arbitrary system. Crimes, and the punishments each would entail, were erratic. Changing from day to day, on the whim and fancy of whomever it was enforcing the law, or whoever it was at the mercy of the law. Beccaria, who we look upon today as a classical criminologist and visionary, proclaimed that the unstable nature of the law was a causal factor of crime. The law must be rigid, transparent, and neither arbitrary nor capricious. While we look upon the system that Beccaria examined and smirk at their "un-enlightened" legal system, we must not be too quick to believe we have escaped its clutches and look to at our modern system.

The decision handed down in *Roe v. Wade*, while I know its mention sends emotion through the body of the reader, must be looked at as a law and only a law. It is a law that allows for a mother to terminate a pregnancy within the first two trimesters. The Supreme Court ruled that up to the second trimester, the fetus is not yet developed to the point of life and therefore it is a privacy issue concerning the mother's body and her choice of allowing the fetus to develop life or abort it before it has reached that point.

It would seem then, whether you agree or not, that the Supreme Court has ruled life does not begin until after the second trimester. If this is the law of land, why do California and other states have fetal homicide laws? These are laws which make an offender culpable for double homicide in cases where the victim was pregnant at the time of the attack; regardless of a woman's length of pregnancy. This then allows there to exist a window of time during a pregnancy where our laws allow for a fetus to simultaneously be alive, and not yet alive. This is a drastic contradiction which exists within our legal system.

I bring this contradiction forward not to take a moral stance on abortion, nor to mitigate the actions of those who engage in violence against a pregnant woman, but to bring attention to the faults, irregularities, and imperfections we still have in our legal system today. Since the enlightenment, we have come along way from the legal system that Beccaria observed and criticized, but that is not to say that he would be content with what we have today. It is safe to say that even today Beccaria would be urging us to join him and his Academy of Fists. Urging us to scrutinize and improve the legal system for which our world revolves. While we have accomplished much, we must only rest on the laurels of what we have accomplished long enough to prepare for what we must still do.



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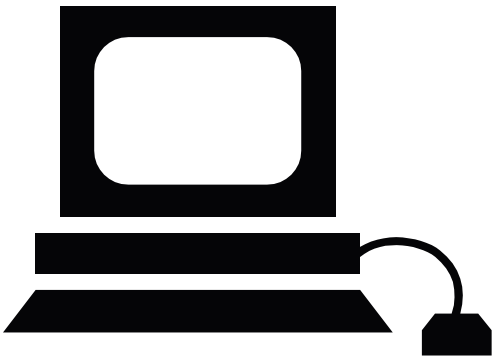
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Editor, Western Criminology Review
Criminal Justice Program
Washington State University
PO Box 644880
Pullman, WA 99164-4880
Phone: 509-335-6135
Fax: 509-335-7990



The Western Criminologist
Sue Escobar
Sacramento State University
6000 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95819-6085



Internet Access

President: Christine Famega - cfamega@csusb.edu

Secretary/Treasurer: Sue Escobar – scote@csus.edu

Newsletter Editor: Yvette Farmer - drfarmer@csus.edu

Journal Co-Editors: Leanna Bouffard - lbouffard@wsu.edu

Jeffrey Bouffard - jbouffard@wsu.edu

WSC Webpage: <http://www.sonoma.edu/ccjs/wsc/>

Membership Information: Laurie Kubicek – lkubicek@csus.edu
