It’s spring time! At least it is everywhere but here in Seattle, where we’ve managed to break a rainfall record for the winter and are presently debating whether seasons actually exist. The current consensus is that seasons might exist, but either way we are looking forward to all four weeks of summer.

As this election year continues like a slow-speed train collision with November, I’m sure all of you – students, academics, and practitioners alike – have been fascinated by the wide variety of candidates vying for their party’s nominations. Of particular interest to our membership, of course, is that criminal justice reform is a significant presidential campaign issue. It seems like it’s been a while since criminal justice reform was part of the political bullet-points. Most of the current candidates have articulated their positions on various criminal justice issues, and some of them seem a little stronger than others, but of course I will leave you to be the judge of that:
## Criminal Justice Issues Mentioned on Official Campaign Websites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Issues</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>End mass incarceration; reform mandatory minimum sentences; end private prisons;</td>
<td>Cruz</td>
<td>Preserve 2nd Amendment rights; restore the Constitution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>encourage smart policing, end racial profiling, and rebuild trust between law enforcement and communities; help formerly incarcerated individuals successfully re-enter society.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanders</td>
<td>Demilitarize the police; invest in community policing; increase civilian oversight of police; reform police culture; seek police forces that reflect community diversity; establish a new model police training program that reorients the way we do policing; federally fund and require body cameras for law enforcement officers; require police departments and states to collect data on all police shootings and deaths that take place while in police custody and make that data public; new rules on the allowable use of force.</td>
<td>Kasich</td>
<td>Preserve 2nd Amendment rights.</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rubio</td>
<td>Preserve 2nd Amendment rights; nominate Supreme Court justices and lower-court judges who will apply the Constitution as originally written and understood; fight for term limits on federal judges; appoint well regarded lawyers to lead the DOJ; increase number of border patrol agents; deport criminal aliens; encourage local law enforcement to cooperate with federal immigration authorities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trump</td>
<td>Preserve 2nd Amendment rights; deport criminal aliens; increase number of ICE officers; encourage ICE participation in local police gang task forces; build a large wall on the U.S./Mexico border to be paid for by Mexico.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our 43rd annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia was a tremendous success, and fun was had by all. I enjoyed poking my head in and out of panel sessions (and seeing them very well attended), meeting both new and old friends, and of course some excellent food and drink. But more than anything I enjoyed the laid-back yet professional, and even somewhat family-like atmosphere for which the WSC is well known and that we all seek to preserve.

I would like to thank everyone who attended our conference in Vancouver. The hotel, the panels, and the various events were all terrific. I would also like to thank our plenary speakers: Michael White, Aili Malm, William Sousa, and John Vinson. Their discussion of both research and experience with body worn cameras was informative and lively. I really enjoyed the blending of both academic and practitioner perspectives, and hope to see more of this in future plenary sessions.

We had several amazing scholars recognized with awards this year. The Paul Tappan Award went to Phillipe Bourgois, the Joseph D. Lohman Award went to Kimberly Richman & Paul Kaplan, the June Morrison–Tom Gitchoff Founders Award went to Michael Romano, the Meda Chesney-Lind Award went to Jody Miller, the Richard Tewksbury Award went to Tod Burke, the Fellows Award went to Martin Andresen, the W.E.B. DuBois Award went to Beth Richie, and the President’s Award went to Connie Ireland. Additionally, Jason Gravel, Julie Gerlinger, and Breanna Boppre were all recipients of our student awards. These are all individuals who have either made significant contributions to their fields or are rising stars in criminology. We are very proud to recognize them.
The conference was supported by many generous institutional sponsors. Diamond-level sponsors included: Arizona State University, California State University – Long Beach, San Diego State University, Seattle University, and Simon Fraser University. Our Platinum sponsors included: San Jose State University, Texas State University, and University of Missouri – St. Louis. Our Gold sponsors were: Boise State University, and Royal Roads University. Our Silver Sponsors included: Humboldt State University, Sacramento State University, Sam Houston State University, and University of San Francisco. The conference, our journal, and our Society could not exist without the help of all these generous institutions. We deeply thank each of them.

I want to extend a warm welcome to our incoming Board members: Hadar Aviram, William Sousa, Edith Kinney, Stephen Rice, John Vinson, Erik Fritsvold, Bryan Sykes, Rosann Greenspan, Ashley Hewitt, Chantal Fahmy, and Breanna Boppre. We are very proud to see new faces on our Board, and we are even happier to see continued representation of graduate students and practitioners on the Board. I would also like to thank each of our continuing Board members for your hard work and dedication to the WSC (I do not have the space to mention each of them by name here, but I encourage readers to visit our newly updated website to see the members of this fantastic group). Additionally, I would like to thank Keramet Reiter, Samantha Smith-Pritchard, Lisa Dario, and Paul Kaplan as their terms come to an end.

Perhaps most important, I want to thank Ryan Fischer as his presidential term comes to an end. While the administration of the WSC and the annual conference is a major undertaking involving all of the Board members, Ryan led with a steady hand and did all the things nobody else wanted to do. Warm thanks to Ryan for his amazing service to the WSC.

It is my great pleasure to serve as president as we plan for our 44th annual conference next February in Las Vegas, Nevada. I have to admit that I am a little worried about attendance at panels and events given the strong draw of the Vegas scene, but I trust that I will see everyone pass by the registration desk at some point. Viva Las Vegas!

FROM THE EDITOR

Ashley Hewitt
Simon Fraser University

Before I introduce myself, I would first like to formally acknowledge Dr. Paul Kaplan for the fantastic job that he did as Editor of The Western Criminologist over the past couple of years. It is largely due to Dr. Kaplan’s dedication and guidance that the transition into my new role as Editor of the WSC newsletter has thus far been seamless. This year marks my second term as a student member to the WSC Board, and I am very proud to be a part of this organization. Echoing the sentiments of many members of the WSC, this is one of my favorite academic organizations and every year I look forward to seeing friendly and familiar faces at our annual meeting. As part of my editing duties moving forward, I would like to invite all of the readers of the newsletter to share their ideas with the WSC membership in upcoming issues. The deadline for receipt of materials has traditionally been March 1st for the Spring issue and August 1st for the Fall issue. Please direct your contributions to me, Ashley Hewitt, via email (ahewitt@sfu.ca), before the noted deadlines. I look forward to sharing your ideas and addressing any concerns that you may have regarding future issues of The Western Criminologist.

Our new President, Dr. Matthew Hickman, opens our Spring 2016 issue with a bit of humor and a recap of our conference in Vancouver, award winners, sponsorship, and our Board. The newsletter continues with an announcement about running for election to the WSC Executive Board, information about next year’s annual conference in Las Vegas, award recipients, and a solicitation for nominations for awards to be presented in 2017. Next, Krystal Glowatski, a PhD Student at Simon Fraser University, contributes a research note that argues that the recommendations made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada that relate to fetal alcohol spectrum disorder should be understood through a relational lens. Heather Noga and I then share thoughts that emerged from an open roundtable discussion held recently in the School of Criminology at Simon Fraser University that involved three prolific researchers who spoke about their experiences publishing in criminology journals, and the tips and strategies that they learned along the way. You will then find calls for both paper submissions as well as applications for the position of Editor(s) to the WSC journal, Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society. Lastly, we welcome our new social media director, Natalie Todak, to the WSC Executive Board, and thank outgoing director, Lisa Dario, for her hard work. Don’t forget to check us out on Facebook and Twitter (links below!).
RUN FOR ELECTION TO THE WSC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Each year, the Western Society of Criminology elects two or three Executive Counselors to serve three-year terms. And, each year, the WSC also elects one person to serve three consecutive years in the offices of Vice President, President, and Immediate Past President, respectively.

Board Members:

- form the policies of the WSC;
- determine the date, location, and general program of the Annual Meeting;
- ratify the budget for the WSC;
- review the accounts and disbursements of the WSC;
- act on resolutions submitted by the Resolution Committee;
- coordinate a book exhibit to raise scholarship funds for students each year;
- select editors for our journal, Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society; and,
- select award recipients from the slate of people nominated by the general membership of the Society.

We hope that you will choose to get more involved with the WSC by running for election to the Board! Nominations, including self-nominations, are welcome. Please contact David MacAlister, Chairperson of the Nominations Committee, for more information:

David MacAlister, LL.M.
School of Criminology
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, BC, Canada V5A 1S6
(778) 782-3019
dmacalis@sfu.ca

COME JOIN US!

We encourage you to mark your calendar for the 44th Annual Conference of the WSC!

Hotel: The LINQ
3535 South Las Vegas Boulevard
Las Vegas, Nevada, United States 89109
(702) 391-9536

Rate: $169 USD per night at The LINQ
$209 USD per night at Caesar’s Forum Tower (upgraded accommodations for those who wish)

Book: A link to book within the WSC’s room block will be added to the website during the summer of 2016. Please visit http://westerncriminology.org/conference-3/ for more details.

The Program Chairs are:

- Dr. Christine Scott-Hayward, California State University – Long Beach, 1250 Bellflower Boulevard, MS 5601, Long Beach, CA 90814, christine.scott-hayward@csulb.edu;
- Dr. Jennifer Sumner, California State University – Dominguez Hills, 1000 E. Victoria Street, SBS D-308, Carson, CA 90747-0005, jsumner@csudh.edu;
- Dr. Edith Kinney, University of California – Berkeley, 525B MacQuarrie Hall, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0050, edith.kinney@sjus.edu.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WSC AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR 2016!

June Morrison – Tom Gitchoff Founders Award:
  Michael Romano

Paul Tappan Award:
  Philippe Bourgois

Joseph D. Lohman Award:
  Paul Kaplan and Kimberly Richman

Western Society of Criminology Fellows Award:
  Martin Andresen

President’s Award:
  Connie Ireland

W.E.B Dubois Award:
  Beth E. Richie

Richard Tewksbury Award:
  Tod W. Burke

Meda Chesney-Lind Award:
  Jody Miller

Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition:
  Jason Gravel

June Morrison Travel Award:
  Julie Gerlinger and Breanna Boppre

WSC AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Nominations for each of the following WSC Awards are currently being accepted:

- June Morrison – Tom Gitchoff Founders Award for significant improvement of the quality of justice.
- Paul Tappan Award for outstanding contribution to the field of criminology.
- Joseph D. Lohman Award for outstanding service contributions to the Western Society of 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.
- W.E.B. DuBois Award for significant contributions to the field of racial and ethnic issues in criminology.
- Richard Tewksbury Award for significant contributions to the intersection of sexuality, crime, and justice.
- Meda Chesney-Lind Award for significant contributions to the intersection of gender, crime, and justice.

Nominees do not need to be WSC members.

The deadline for submissions for each of these awards is Friday, June 3, 2016, by 5:00 p.m. PST.

Please submit your nomination letters summarizing why the person is deserving of the award to the Chairperson of the Awards Committee, Dr. Hadar Aviram, by e-mail to: aviramh@uchastings.edu
WSC STUDENT AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition:
Students are invited to compete in the Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition sponsored by WSC each year. Appropriate types of papers include, but are not limited to, policy analyses, original research, literature reviews, position papers, theoretical papers, and scholarly commentaries. Please note that papers co-authored by faculty will not be considered.

- **Eligibility:** Any student currently enrolled full-time or part-time in an academic degree program at either the undergraduate or graduate level is eligible to submit a paper. Students from all majors are eligible, however, all entries must be related to criminology, criminal justice, or criminal law and society. Papers must not exceed 30 pages, including abstract, text, references, tables and figures, notes, et cetera. Papers exceeding this limit will not be considered. Papers must be double-spaced, typed in 12-point font on pages using one-inch margins, and conform to a standard format for the organization of papers and citation (e.g. APA, ASA, Bluebook). The WSC Awards Committee is responsible for evaluating papers meeting the guidelines described above.

- **Award Prize:** Students selected for this award will be recognized at the WSC's annual conference; will receive a reimbursement of student conference fees (less membership dues); and will receive a cash award of between $125 and $250 for first place, depending on whether the paper was sole-authored or co-authored. Additionally, if the award recipient desires, the best paper will be submitted for review to the journal of Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society. In rare circumstances, a cash award of up to $100 may be awarded to a second place paper.

- **Please Note:** The paper that students submit to compete in Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition need not be the same paper that they present at the conference. We recognize that conference presentations may be works in progress or may be a result of joint efforts with faculty mentors. In contrast, papers submitted for the Student Paper Competition must be completed papers that were written by a student (or co-authored by two or more students) without the assistance of faculty.

A completed, final paper should be emailed to the Chairperson of the Awards Committee, Dr. Hadar Aviram (aviramh@uchastings.edu), by 12:00 noon PST on Friday, October 14, 2016. Award winners will be notified in writing by December 9, 2016.

June Morrison Scholarship Fund: Using money raised from the Book Exhibit, the June Morrison Scholarship Fund provides supplemental funds to help defray the cost of student members' participation at the annual meeting, provided that they are presenting papers at the conference. Typically, one or two awards are made to students attending the annual meeting of the WSC. The amount of the awards varies by year (usually between $200 and $300), depending on the sales of books at the Book Exhibit the prior year. Please note that this scholarship is not related to the Student Paper Competition. All students attending the annual meeting are encouraged to apply.

- **Eligibility:** Any student currently enrolled full-time or part-time in an academic degree program at either the undergraduate or graduate level is eligible to apply for this award, provided that they are presenting a paper at the annual conference. Conference registration and student membership dues must be paid prior to the scholarship being awarded.

- **Submission Requirements:**
  - A résumé or curriculum vitae
  - A cover letter, indicating your intent to apply for the award, including the following information:
    1. your full contact information, including your name, address, phone number, and email address;
    2. the name of your school, department, and whether you are a graduate or undergraduate student;
    3. the title of your paper presentation;
    4. a summary of other funding sources available to you, if any;
    5. a brief explanation of how conference attendance will be valuable to your career development (including how it will relate to future career plans); and,
    6. a brief summary of how your presentation fits into your larger research trajectory (i.e., what, if any, are your plans for the project you plan to present at the conference, such as use in project, thesis, or dissertation; submission for publication to a specific journal; etc.).
  - An e-mail message from a faculty sponsor from your school to the chairperson of the Awards Committee indicating his/her support of your request for travel funds.

Email the information to the Chairperson of the Awards Committee, Dr. Hadar Aviram (aviramh@uchastings.edu), by 12:00 noon PST on Friday, October 14, 2016. Award winners will be notified in writing by December 9, 2016.
CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

WESTERN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

44TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 9-11, 2017 • LAS VEGAS, NV

❖ Please note that the deadline to submit abstracts is Friday, October 7, 2016 ❖

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
- FORENSIC SCIENCE AND FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY
- GENDER, SEXUALITY, & CRIME
- JUVENILE JUSTICE
- LEGAL ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CRIMINAL LAW & CRIMINAL PROCEDURE)
- ORGANIZED CRIME & GANGS
- PEACEMAKING CRIMINOLOGY
- POLICING
- RACE, ETHNICITY, AND CRIME
- SEX CRIMES
- TEACHING (PEDAGOGY & ASSESSMENT IN JUSTICE EDUCATION)
- TERRORISM
- WHITE COLLAR CRIME

The Abstract Submission System will open during the summer of 2016 and will remain open for submission until Friday, October 7, 2016, which is the deadline to submit abstracts. Once the system opens this summer, you may access it in one of two ways:

1. From our Home Page, move your cursor over the Conference tab page and press on text in the drop-down menu that says “Submit and Abstract.”
2. The Abstract Submission System can be accessed directly at the following URL:

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 7, 2016). 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 and pre-pay for the conference by Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

All proposals must be electronically submitted through the WSC's online Abstract Submission System
In June 2015, as a call to action, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) released 94 recommendations aimed at acknowledging the past trauma experienced by Aboriginal peoples. The report highlighted the injustice that resulted from the Indian Residential Schools (IRS) and reopened a dialogue many inaccurately believe to be in the distant past. The last IRS only closed its doors in Saskatchewan in 1996 and for those who lived the experiences of IRS, or who were born to IRS survivors, the memories of trauma and harm are likely anything but distant (Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, 2015). Focusing on two of the recommendations that relate to fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD), there is evidence to suggest that a relational perspective that spans cultural barriers embedded within systemic ignorance is absent from the current Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s recommendations.

FASD can occur when alcohol is consumed during pregnancy, potentially causing myriad lifelong developmental issues (Guralnick, 2000). First recognized as a disorder in the 1970s, FASD has come to be understood as an umbrella term, encompassing a spectrum of possible impacts on cognitive and executive functioning, motor skills, physical appearance, and sensory capacities (Brown, Herrick & Long-McGie, 2014; Jones & Smith, 1973). Historically, FASD has been examined primarily as a health issue, however, several secondary effects may arise, based on the primary deficits, such as increased likelihood of contact with the criminal justice system as victims, offenders, and witnesses (Fast & Conry, 2009). FASD is considered an invisible disability in that someone may be impacted by the disorder and appear to function normally both physically and mentally (McLachlan, Roesch, Viljoen & Douglas, 2014). Only recently have researchers begun to approach FASD in relation to other domains such as justice (Fast & Conry, 2009), economics (Popova, Stade, Bekmuradov, Lange & Rehm, 2011), and education (Johnson, Volino Robinson, Corey, Dewane, Brems & Casto, 2010). Recognizing that FASD is a complex and diverse domain the TRC recommendations state:

Recommendation 33:

We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to recognize as a high priority the need to address and prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), and to develop, in collaboration with Aboriginal people, FASD preventative programs that can be delivered in a culturally appropriate manner.

Recommendation 34:

We call upon the governments of Canada, the provinces, and territories to undertake reforms to the criminal justice system to better address the needs of offenders with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), including:

i. Providing increased community resources and powers for courts to ensure that FASD is properly diagnosed, and that appropriate community supports are in place for those with FASD.

ii. Enacting statutory exemptions from mandatory minimum sentences of imprisonment for offenders affected by FASD.

iii. Providing community, correctional, and parole resources to maximize the ability of people with FASD to live in the community.

iv. Adopting appropriate evaluation mechanisms to measure the effectiveness of such programs and ensure community safety.

At a glance, the recommendations fit neatly into their particular silos, framing FASD as either a health or justice issue. However, the recommendations and indeed the issue of FASD need to be understood relationally in order to fathom the injustice surrounding FASD. Injustice is best addressed through developing respect, taking responsibility, and fostering relationship (Zehr, 2002). While Zehr (2015) focuses his analysis of conflict and harm on events directly affecting individuals, Llewellyn and Howse (1999) suggest that intergroup harm can be characterized as “hatred and fear and an inability to learn about the kinds of conditions and circumstances that engender gross human rights violations” (p. 362). Moreover, most conflict and harm, interpersonal or intergroup, is characterized by the breakdown of relationship (Llewellyn, 2012a; Zehr, 2015).

As Llewellyn and Downie (2012) contend, relationships are essential not only to understand ourselves as individuals in relation to others, but to also allow for healthy, productive interactions. An atomistic understanding of relationships suggests people are individual entities that react to one
another, while a relational worldview suggests people are interconnected, reacting to one another but also with one another (Sharpe, 2013). When equal relationships are idealized, the importance of interdependence and reciprocity are highlighted as central to sustaining a healthy society. The TRC has the potential to act as a conduit in recognizing the importance of relationships but fails to integrate relational factors into the recommendations on FASD.

Challenges to understanding relationality are rooted in a unilateral understanding of humanity characterized by a lack of acknowledgement of the relationships that exist among us, and the devaluation of relationship in general. The issue of FASD, as framed by the TRC recommendations, may be viewed through too narrow of a lens; a lens at times focused on the individual, at times focused on health or justice, but rarely focused on FASD as a social issue situated in the social context of relationship.

One such challenge comes from the framing of FASD as an individualistic, and distinctly Aboriginal issue. Such a framing neglects to consider the context within which women are consuming alcohol. Many women drink because of experiences related to stress, trauma, abuse, violence, grief, and poverty (Badry & Wight Felske, 2013). As Covington (2008) found, women who have experienced trauma are more likely to struggle with addictions, highlighting how stagnating damaged relationships with the self and others can be.

Moreover, FASD has been culturally stigmatized and carries with it a certain blameworthiness. While it is fairly well understood that drinking during pregnancy can cause negative outcomes, the exact nature of those adverse outcomes is not widely understood due to minimal education and training on this disability (Stewart & Glowatski, 2013). The recommendations, as stated, allow FASD to be understood as a personal problem pertaining to either justice or health. Rather, the disorder needs to be framed as relational, a consequence of damaged social relationships. Through this framework, FASD can be understood as the result of addiction, rooted in trauma and abuse. Once FASD is considered a social issue, then prevention discourse can prevail.

As Llewellyn (2012b) suggests, the road to reconciliation will be best travelled in a restorative way – gathering the various truths about the past, and then acknowledging and continually repairing damaged relationships so as to represent respect and dignity. It is imperative to find a way to build and sustain healthy relationship between individuals, between communities and cultures, and to establish positive peace within the nation. This cannot be done without understanding the self in relation to the past and to each other.

While the TRC has made successful strides in helping the collective of Canada recognize the pain and suffering of Aboriginal peoples, there remains a gap between truth and reconciliation. As a key policy document, a further examination of the TRC recommendations from a relational lens and how they speak to our identity as Canadians on an individual and national level is crucial. As Llewellyn (2012b) explains, simply gathering truth, does not equate to reconciliation.

References
THE “ART” OF WRITING SCIENTIFIC PAPERS FOR CRIMINOLOGY JOURNALS: THOUGHTS FROM A BROWN BAG SEMINAR AT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Ashley Hewitt & Heather Noga, PhD Students
Simon Fraser University

A question that we, as graduate students, often have is: “how do we publish?” Publishing is important for those of us who wish to go on to a PhD, or for PhD students hoping to one day apply for an entry-level tenure-track position. In addition to supporting career progression, being able to communicate your research to others in a way that is both engaging and respected can be a significant challenge for the junior academic. Recently, a few prolific researchers in the School of Criminology at Simon Fraser University engaged in an open roundtable discussion about their journey through the world of academic publishing and how they found success along the way. We found this discourse to be helpful and inspiring and hope that the wider Western Society of Criminology community may find it to be beneficial as well.

How do articles start?

All three researchers emphasized how important it was to know the literature in your field of study. For example, your contribution should be filling a gap, but you will only know what gaps exist by becoming familiar with what has/has not been done in your area. Papers may also begin by examining a research question that has been tested before but by putting a different twist on it (e.g., is there another theoretical lens through which we can look at this phenomenon, or an equally plausible explanation that has not been tested?). It is important to ask yourself, “how big is the contribution you are going to make to your field of study?”, or in other words, “so what?”. It is not only the identification and formulation of a proper research question that the researcher is tasked with, but to be able to justify its contribution to the wider literature.

Lastly, never underestimate the importance of informal networking. Some of the most thought provoking and original ideas can come from that discussion you had at the pub.

How do you translate your data into your idea?

Once an idea has taken shape, the next question might be, “how am I able to use the data I already have to answer this research question?” These researchers noted that it is always good practice to go back to theory. Look at the main concepts underlying your theoretical framework, pay attention to the language used, and see what variables you have that may...
measure these concepts. This can be somewhat of a subjective task; however, the general consensus was that if it seems like too much of a stretch, it may be best to put your idea on hold until you have access to the appropriate measures. Although, in some cases, it may lead to an interesting editorial or theoretical paper if the idea in and of itself provides an alternative world view. Writing a journal article was also equated to writing a story with a beginning, middle, and end, and most importantly, a twist! The twist can emerge from the “so what” aspect but may also provide areas for future research or alternative explanations for the phenomena you observed.

Ready for submission! What should you know about the review process?

First and foremost, hope for the best, but prepare for the worst. Rejection is commonplace and it is important not to take it personally. Publishing is a process and one should expect to receive either a 'revise and resubmit' or 'rejection' decision. First, if it is a ‘revise and resubmit’, many of the researchers discussed how it is good practice to address all of the comments made by the reviewers; even if you may not agree with them. If they do not substantially change the story you are trying to tell, it is a good idea to simply make the changes. Second, if your paper went out for review but the Editor’s decision was to reject your paper for publication, it may also still be a good idea to address the comments made by the reviewers prior to re-submitting it elsewhere. Why? Simply because there is a good chance that the same reviewer(s) will be invited to review your paper again, and you want to show that you made an attempt to address some of their concerns before it was re-submitted. It is a small world after all! On that note, one last thing to keep in mind before you resubmit a paper to another journal is whether the comments made by the reviewers would still apply given the type of journal that it is (e.g., specialty versus mainstream criminology journal). Knowing your audience is key. For instance, specialty journals may understand your contribution to the field or be familiar with the theoretical framework of your paper. A mainstream criminology journal may require stronger justification for your study or implications of relevance to a wider academic audience.

How do you choose an appropriate journal for your paper?

All agreed that the implications of your work should guide your choice of journal. Even if you are working on something very specific, but the implications are applicable to the whole field of criminology, it may be worth sending it to mainstream journals. Another helpful strategy may be to look at where the work you are citing has been published. Have they been in mainstream criminology journals or more specialized journals? Lastly, a question was posed to the discussants regarding journal impact factors and if those should play a role in journal choice. The consensus was that you should not pay too much attention to impact factors as the value changes drastically depending on the field (e.g., impact factors of 1 or greater are considered good in the field of criminology, but in other disciplines, such as health, this may not be the case). What IS important, however, is the H-Index and whether the journal is a part of the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI). This means that readers are more likely to find, read, and hopefully then cite, your work.

“DOs” and “DON'Ts” for grad students

- **DO** write with confidence! Even though you may have just started your graduate studies a short time ago, by the time you have reviewed the literature and written a paper that is worthy of publication, you are considered to be an expert in your very specific area of research.
- **DO** think of your paper as a story to tell or a puzzle that needs to be solved. What makes for a good story? Some twists, some turns. For instance, posing a counter argument to explain the phenomenon in question or providing alternative explanations.
- **DO** work with a co-author who has your opposite working tendencies. For instance, if you work very fast it may be a good idea to write with someone who may take a bit more time to pay more attention to detail. Alternatively, if you have the tendency to sit on a paper for months, it may be a good idea to work with someone more impulsive to ensure that the paper gets out the door.
- **DON’T** get stuck in analysis paralysis! Sometimes we have a tendency to re-run analyses, whether it be quantitative or qualitative, to see if we can find something new, but at times it is best to simply be happy with what you have and start writing!
- **DON’T** get too bogged down in reading either. It may be tempting to say to yourself, “I need to keep reading to find out everything that has already been done in this area!” However, if you have read the most influential pieces and the most recent work in the area, this should be plenty to get you started. Start writing!

I hope that at least some of these thoughts have been as helpful to you as they were for us. Thank you.
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CALL FOR PAPERS

Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society (CCJLS), formerly Western Criminology Review (WCR), is the official journal of the Western Society of Criminology. This peer-reviewed journal builds on the mission of its predecessor by promoting understanding of the causes of crime; the methods used to prevent and control crime; the institutions, principles, and actors involved in the apprehension, prosecution, punishment, and reintegration of offenders; and the legal and political framework under which the justice system and its primary actors operate. Historical and contemporary perspectives are encouraged, as are diverse theoretical and methodological approaches.

CCJLS invites all of the following:

- theoretical and empirical research on criminology, criminal justice, and criminal law and society;
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- replies and comments to articles previously published in CCJLS or WCR;
- book and film reviews; and
- scholarly article reviews.

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically through the journal’s portal on Scholastica (https://scholasticahq.com/criminology-criminal-justice-law-society). Submissions should be formatted according to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition (2009). All correspondence is conducted online to speed the review process. There are no page, color, or appendix restrictions, although a 30-page upper limit for the body of papers is recommended. Additionally, authors may, at their discretion, include images (in .jpg or .gif formats), as well as hyperlinks to web pages, source documents, YouTube videos, and similar multimedia materials on the Internet to take full advantage of the digital nature of the journal. Our evaluation process involves an internal review by editorial staff, followed by a blind assessment by two external reviewers. Inquiries about CCJLS should be directed to the editors—Henry F. Fradella, Aili Malm, and Christine S. Scott-Hayward—via email at CCJLS@WesternCriminology.org.

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New Editor(s) Sought for *Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society*

The Western Society of Criminology (WSC) invites applications for the position of Editor(s) of *Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society* (CCJLS), the official journal of the Society (formerly *Western Criminology Review*). It is anticipated that new manuscript submissions will transfer to the new Editor around January 2017 for a three-year term.

The Editor is responsible for the timely and substantive publication of the journal, including the solicitation of manuscripts, supervision of the peer-review process, selection of articles for publication, and the final publication process (including proofreading and typesetting). The WSC supports this process by paying for the following expenses: *CCJLS*’s manuscript submission and processing system (Scholastica) and copy-editing. The Editor’s supporting institution might propose to provide office space, file storage, equipment, and funds to cover graduate student assistance and release time for the Editor.

Interested applicants may contact the current Editors, Henry F. Fradella, (hank.fradella@asu.edu), Christine Scott-Hayward, (christine.scott-hayward@csulb.edu), and Aili Malm (aili.malm@csulb.edu) for additional information regarding the logistics or operational details of editing and producing the journal or to discuss their application before submission. Application materials should include (1) a statement of editorial philosophy, (2) *curriculum vitae* of all proposed personnel, and (3) assurances and details of institutional support. Application materials should be sent by email to:

Christine Scott-Hayward,  
Co-Editor, *Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society*  
c/o School of Criminology, Criminal Justice, & Emergency Management  
California State University, Long Beach  
1250 Bellflower Blvd., MS 5601  
Long Beach, CA 90814  
christine.scott-hayward@csulb.edu

Applications must be received by **July 1, 2016**.
Western Society of Criminology
2017 Annual Conference
Las Vegas, Nevada

Dates: February 9, 2017 through February 11, 2017

Hotel: The LINQ
3535 South Las Vegas Boulevard
Las Vegas, NV 89109
(702) 391-9536

Rate: $169 USD per night at The LINQ
      $209 USD per night at Caesar’s Forum Tower
      (upgraded accommodations for those who wish)

Reservations: A link to book within the WSC’s room block will be added to the WSC’s website
during the summer of 2016. Please visit http://westerncriminology.org/conference/-3/ for more
details.

For additional membership or conference information visit us online at:

http://westerncriminology.org/

Submission Deadline for Abstracts – October 7, 2016
WSC on Social Media

We are pleased to announce that the WSC Executive Board has appointed a new incoming social media director! Natalie Todak is a doctoral candidate in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Arizona State University. If you come across a story that you would like Natalie to post or tweet, please send her an email at natalie.todak@asu.edu. Furthermore, Natalie can be contacted regarding job opportunities to circulate, new research or books by WSC members, or any other announcements or questions that you may have for the WSC.

We also want to give a big thank you to outgoing social media director, Lisa Dario, for her service!

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