

Department of Criminal Justice

College of Arts and Sciences THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Fall 2010 Newsletter

Letter from the Chair



Mark Murfee Lanier, PhD

Allow me to introduce myself. I am the new Chairperson of the Department of Criminal Justice. I have family “roots” going back 150 years at the University of Alabama and could not be more thrilled to be at the Capstone. One popular slogan often seen on campus and in publications is “*This is how College is meant to be.*” I could not agree more.

As a new faculty member, I have had numerous opportunities to interact with all the other “new hires” for Fall of 2010. At every meeting or get-together I hear someone state (and often it is me!) “*this just feels like a REAL university.*” This is a hard feeling to quantify (though I am sure some of our methodologists could) but it is nonetheless pronounced. Walking across the quad, hearing Denny

Chimes toll, attending the many helpful sessions provided by Arts & Sciences, witnessing the long athletic tradition, experiencing genuine ‘southern hospitality,’ listening to band practice, and many more sensations reinforce the feeling that “*this is a REAL university.*” That sentiment extends to the Department of Criminal Justice as well. As one of the most diverse and eclectic departments on campus we have numerous opportunities to influence the university, surrounding communities and even international affairs in significant ways. Our award-winning faculty travel the globe conducting research and mentoring students. Our student organizations are active and well known (for example, our Mock Trial Team is among the best in the nation). Criminal Justice students, while increasing in numbers each year, are also increasing in academic stature. Half of the last year’s Master of Science (MS) graduating class were accepted into leading Ph.D. programs and are now earning

their doctorates. As a person reading this newsletter, you are part of the Alabama Crimson Tide tradition. As such, you have an obligation and opportunity to support and promote the feeling of being part of a REAL university. I would encourage you to become involved as a guest speaker, as an alumni supporter or just stop by to meet the department staff and faculty. Equally important, provide financial support. Even a small donation helps. For example, we recently sent coffee mugs to help an Ohio elementary school class. Every \$5.00 donation allowed us to send another mug so no gift is too small! If you are near campus, please come listen to one of our class lectures. You will quickly learn why Criminal Justice at Bama is such an interesting major and why we are enjoying unprecedented growth coupled with increasing quality and international reputation.

Alumni Spotlight

Anderson Fights Crime, Protects Tuscaloosa as Chief of Police



At age 20, Steve Anderson was an average student at The University of Alabama. Today, he’s the Tuscaloosa Chief of Police, in charge of 282 sworn officers, 60 support personnel and an annual budget of approximately \$25 million dollars.

Building Confidence

Like many college students, Anderson was not exactly sure what he wanted to do after he graduated. His university experience had been somewhat typical: a healthy combination of overcoming fears

and insecurities, building skills and confidence, and finding that happy medium between just getting by and always meeting your full potential. Anderson recalls that he loved his courses within the criminal justice major, but had much more difficulty staying motivated in his general education requirements—courses he now looks back on with more respect.

Working at the local movie theater had been Anderson’s college job, but that grew stale, so he applied for several law enforcement positions in order to jump-start his career. By the fall, he had been hired by the Tuscaloosa Police Department, but he wasn’t sure how long he would stay there.

Finding a Passion

Many criminal justice students think they would be happiest working for the FBI, and at first, Anderson had a similar perspective. But although television and movie producers often make federal law enforcement look like nonstop excitement and drama and local law enforcement seem comparatively tame, Anderson quickly discovered that they may have this backwards.

As he recounts, “Originally, I came in thinking that I would use this as a springboard to a fed-

eral job...but then I got here and started doing this job, and said ‘Hey, *this* is what I want to do, *this* is what I love.’” From his first day on the streets with a veteran field training officer, Anderson was hooked. “Every day it was exciting, getting up, coming to work. It was great because you knew it was going to be something different every day, and you weren’t sure what exactly was going to happen.”

By contrast, many of Anderson’s contacts at the FBI and other federal agencies were lamenting how much time they spent away from the real action. Anderson recalls his conversations with them, which may have saved him from making a career mistake. “They would always say ‘I had the most fun when I was a street cop at a local department, because now I feel like I sit behind a desk all the time and shuffle papers, and I don’t get to do a whole lot of police work’...From that point on, I knew I wanted to be a Tuscaloosa Police Officer.”

Planning For Success

Convinced that he had found the right career, Anderson began setting long term goals. In five years, he wanted to be a homicide investigator. By the ten year mark, he wanted to make the promo-

tion rank of sergeant. For every five years, he had a new objective, and becoming chief of police stood at the finish line: his twenty-five year goal.

Ultimately, Anderson met each one of these goals far ahead of schedule. He became the chief of police at age 37: a remarkable accomplishment. Over the course of his career, he has also served as a patrol officer, a crisis negotiator, a domestic violence investigator, a homicide investigator, a patrol sergeant, a public information officer, and an internal affairs investigator. In each role, he found new excitement, new challenges, and new ways to make a difference.

Catching a Killer

One of Anderson’s most memorable cases came as a homicide investigator in the late 1990s. The police got a call that a man had been shot twice at close range and killed at a Tuscaloosa apartment complex, and when Anderson and his fellow officers arrived at the scene, the suspect had already fled. However, the next day, the suspect, a man with the last name of Smith, phoned Anderson, admitting to being the shooter but claiming that it was in self-defense. Although Anderson tried to convince Smith to turn himself in, the suspect declined. And then he disappeared.

For two years, Anderson tracked down every possible lead, to no avail. Smith had told people that he was from New York, but no one had an address. Smith’s employer had a social security number for the suspect, but it actually belonged to a ten year old boy. And Smith’s fingerprints also failed to provide a match.

Then seemingly out of the blue, Anderson received a midnight phone call from Scranton, Pennsylvania, where police had arrested a man on

drug charges whom they thought might be the suspect. Smith was extradited back to Tuscaloosa to face a judge, but he was released on bail, pending the trial.

As Anderson explains, “I was so worried about him running off, and I just could not get the thought out of my head about those fingerprints.” So he went ahead and submitted the fingerprints to be checked and cross-referenced in another database. The information that came back was unmistakable. “Smith” was actually a man named Ladon Burns, who was wanted for a 1995 murder in Brooklyn, New York, where he had shot a man twice at close range, in an almost identical style to the Tuscaloosa case, and then disappeared.

With this new evidence, Anderson got the suspect’s bond revoked and quickly raced to his apartment. When Anderson and his fellow officers entered, Burns was sitting in his underwear, eating a bowl of cereal. The police were clearly the last people he expected to see.

“We knocked on the door and I had a picture of him that New York had mailed to us, and I said ‘Ladon Burns,’ and I showed him the picture, and I said, ‘You’re under arrest for the murder of [the victim] in Brooklyn from 1995.’ And he just deflated and dropped his head. We put the cuffs on him, and took him back to the police department.”

Looking back, Anderson feels best about the sense of peace he was able to provide for the victims’ families. He remembers the mother of one of the victims, who personally thanked him: “She was so grateful. She said, ‘Thanks for doing this. Thank you for finding this guy...I know he’s down there in Alabama and he’s going to be in prison for a long time. And now we have some closure.’”

Debate Program. The team debated against a Political Science constitutional law class in support of “The Constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act.” Members T. J. Gibson, Mike Gendreau, Zita Orji and Ebony Smith presided on the panel, and members of the Student Government Association acted as judges for the debate. Upcoming events for the team include competing in the 2010-2011 AMTA Regional Mock Trial Competition and the YMCA’s Collegiate Judicial Conference and Competition in Montgomery, Alabama. The team will also participate in several scrimmages.

The Mock Trial Team is hosted by The Department of Criminal Justice and the Pre-Law Student Association (PLSA). Each academic year, the faculty advisor and coaches receive a new court case from the American Mock Trial Association. Team members then get a copy of the case file, which includes the complaint, witness statements, photographs, legal precedent, exhibits, and more. The students review the case file, assign roles, and conduct trial simulations prior to competitions, where they can take the role of attorney or witness. Attorneys draft direct examinations, cross examinations, and opening or closing arguments. Attorneys must learn the rules of evidence, respond to objections, and present their arguments in a concise manner. Witnesses study the affidavit of their character, answer the questions from their attorney, and are cross examined by the opposing team.

Implementing His Vision

These days, Anderson has much broader responsibilities. From developing homeland security plans with the Tuscaloosa County Sheriff’s Office and other local police departments, to installing a “precinct model” of policing which can better serve the community, he is trying to incorporate the best law enforcement strategies from around the country into his overall vision.

Anderson recognizes the importance of trusting his police commanders and empowering them to be successful. As he explains, “I’m not reinventing the wheel...I tell my people: ‘Let’s start thinking outside the box. Let’s look at other places...As police commanders, we need to be aware of what’s going on in other cities and how they are dealing with those problems. We need to look at ways that we can take what they’ve learned and apply it.’ That’s what I push my people to do: ‘Hey, you’re in charge, so you need to be aware of what’s going on, and you need to be coming up with solutions.’”

A Commitment to Education

Although his professional responsibilities keep him busy around the clock, Anderson remains committed to the importance of education. His daughter is now a freshman at The University of Alabama, where she will get to follow in her father’s footsteps or discover her own path to success. At the same time, Anderson is considering entering the Department of Criminal Justice’s graduate program, where he could pursue a Master’s degree by taking evening classes. One thing is certain: he would be welcomed back with open arms.



Pictured above: Jared Alvis, Zita Orji, Emily Brait, Johana Bucci, Micheal Kelsey, Thomas Gibson, Jr., Ryan Stitt and Forrest William

Faculty adviser and coach Quanda Stevenson founded the team in 2009, and it has enjoyed success ever since. Barbara Agricola and Christian Fuller, who are currently students at The University of Alabama’s School of Law, have served as assistant coaches. As Stevenson explains, “The Mock Trial program is committed to teaching students the necessary legal skills to compete with other mock trial programs in the United States... In addition, this program allows students an opportunity to actually apply what they have learned inside the classroom in a mock court.”

For more information, please visit http://cj.ua.edu/student_organizations/mock_trial/

Hear about a few of our Graduate Program Alumni...



Tim Dees is the **Editor-in-Chief** of **LawOfficer.com**. From 1979 to 1994, he was a law enforcement officer in Nevada for the Reno Police Department, the Reno Municipal Court, and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Police Department. His work has been published in nearly every major law enforcement magazine, and he is the author of a book published by Prentice-Hall.

- **Tim Dees, M.S. in Criminal Justice, 1986**



John A. Greaves is currently serving as **Lead Agent & Corporate Security Supervisor** at the **Georgia Power Company**. Since finishing his graduate degree, he has received recognition from the FBI for Service in the Interest of the Public Good, graduated with honors from the Northeast, Alabama Police Academy (6th Reserve session), and earned credentials from the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and the American Society for Industrial Security.

- **John A. Greaves, M.S. in Criminal Justice, 1992**

Meet a few of our current Graduate Students...

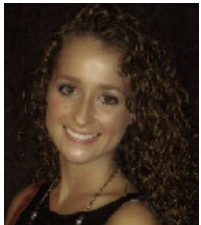


“The graduate program offers me an opportunity to enhance my skills as a researcher. The professors provide expertise in theories and methodologies which students will need as future managers in the criminal justice field. Moreover, the program is designed to meet the needs of the student, either in preparation for a Ph.D. program or a career.”

-**Andrew L. Walker, current graduate student**

“I fell in love with the criminal justice program at the University of Alabama after my first few classes as an undergraduate. Although I graduated as a dance major with a criminal justice minor, I quickly realized my passion for the latter and decided to change career paths. The criminal justice faculty are amazing...After completing my master’s degree, I plan to go to law school in Chicago and become an attorney. The criminal justice master’s program will, without a doubt, better prepare me for my future endeavors!”

-**Kelly Beckham, current graduate student**



A.C. Roper is **Chief of Police** in **Birmingham, Alabama**. He is a member of the FBI National Academy Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and also has over 25 years experience in the Army Reserves, where he serves as a Colonel and is the recipient of numerous military awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star and the General Douglas McArthur Leadership Award.

- **A.C. Roper, M.S. in Criminal Justice, 1998**

Nancy Wall currently serves as **press secretary** for **U.S. Rep. Jo Bonner** (R-AL). She is the congressman’s primary spokesperson, coordinating all of his media and public appearances. Prior to working in the House, Nancy spent three years as deputy press secretary for U.S. Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL). She also served as project director for the Winston Group, a national polling firm in Washington, D.C.

- **Nancy Wall, M.S. in Criminal Justice, 2001**



“The criminal justice faculty are very knowledgeable in the field and it seems as though each member is an expert in a specific field, which really helps us to get a grasp on all facets of the criminal justice system. During my years here, with the help of the faculty, I have been able to do some very successful networking with various law enforcement agencies at all levels, ranging from city and university all the way up to the state and federal level. After completing my Master’s degree, I look to get into law enforcement at the state level.

-**Martin Smith, current graduate student**

“This is a great program with wonderful professors! They constantly and consistently encourage you to reach your full academic potential. I am currently a second year student and upon graduation, I plan to be a Child and Family Advocate, helping children that have been physically and sexually abused. The Master’s Program has greatly prepared me for the work force and I am confident I made the right decision when I decided to come here.”

-**Shandra Witherspoon, current graduate student**

To meet a few more of our other current graduate students, please visit http://cj.ua.edu/programs/graduate_program_1992



Rickey Fernandez has worked as an **FBI agent** in **New York City, Tampa and New Orleans**. After nearly 35 years in law enforcement, he now specializes in interviewing and interrogation techniques and has given lectures to the U.S. State Department, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA), and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

-**Rickey Fernandez, M.S. in Criminal Justice, 2002**

Congratulations to our Award-Winning CJ Student Scholars!

2010 Graduate Program

- Chairperson’s Award of Merit: Alisha Powell
- Outstanding Graduate Student Award: Jessica Ammon & Kim Tenorio

2010 Undergraduate Program

- James “Bo” Robertson Distinguished Undergraduate Award for Highest Academic Performance: Travis Tarbox
- Scott Deaton Endowed Scholarship in Criminal Justice: CadeAnn Smith



Pictured: Travis Tarbox & family

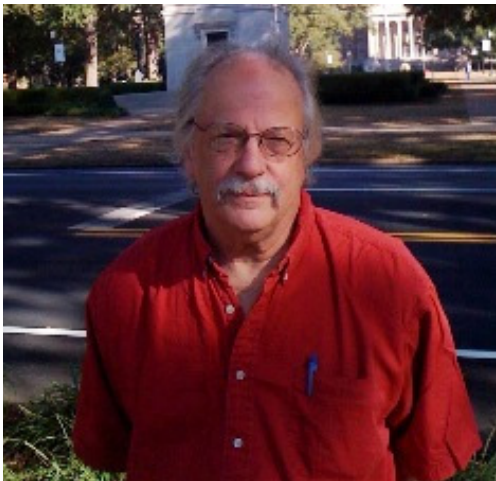
2010 Undergraduate Research Competition

- 1st Place: Samuel Mantel: “HIV / AIDS Knowledge of Teens in Alabama”; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Bronwen Lichtenstein
- 2nd Place: Christopher Kendall: “Game Day Setup: Environmental Factors and UA Game Day Security”; Faculty Mentor: Dr. David Forde
- 3rd Place: Jessica Alvey: “Usage of the Big Five Personality Facets in the Treatment of Psychopathy taking IQ into consideration for Better Rehabilitation Fund Allocation”; Faculty Mentor: Ms. Christine Edge



Pictured: Dr. Bronwen Lichtenstein & CadeAnn Smith

Esteemed Sociologist Shares Research On Northern Ireland Police



On October 21, 2010, esteemed sociologist Dr. Peter K. Manning met with Criminal Justice students, faculty, and guests to share results from his fieldwork with the Northern Ireland Police Services.

Manning holds the Elmer V. H. and Eileen M. Brooks chair in the College of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Northeastern University in Boston. He has taught at a range of universities,

including Michigan State, MIT, Oxford, the University at Albany and the University of Michigan, been a fellow of the National Institute of Justice, and has written 19 books, including 2010's *Democratic Policing in a Changing World*.

Manning's talk, entitled "Dramaturgical Contradictions," highlighted some of the recent changes in the Northern Ireland police force after the 1998 Good Friday peace accords, along with the complexities of balancing anti-terrorism priorities with the inherent ideals of community policing. To some degree, these challenges reflect those experienced in the United States, where law enforcement officials have been struggling to both ensure citizens' security and avoid violating their constitutionally-protected liberties.

In addition, Manning shared lessons on the difficulties of collecting qualitative data on an active police force in such a chaotic and dangerous context. At one point, when Manning was on a ride-along with police officers, he realized that he was the only one not wearing a flak jacket—which is designed to protect the wearer from bullets and shrapnel. Fortunately, their armored vehicle deflected the projectiles that came his way.

Thought-provoking 'Animal Liberation Front' Speaker Visits Criminal Justice Classes

During the week of September 13-17, Gary Yourofsky visited and lectured to six different Criminal Justice classes. Yourofsky has been branded an "international terrorist" and banned from 5 countries. He has been arrested 13 times, has spent time in a maximum-security prison, and proudly wears an Animal Liberation Front (ALF) tattoo. However, he is not what comes to mind when you hear the word "terrorist." His cause is the defense of animals and the promotion of veganism for ethical, environmental and biological reasons. Yourofsky always gives an impassioned, empirically grounded speech. It was a great opportunity for students to consider alternative ways of creating and maintaining social movements, as well as improving the health and well-being of themselves and the planet.



"World's Number One Hacker" Briefs Students on Cybersecurity



On October 12, 2010, the controversial yet charismatic Gregory Evans spoke to a group of Criminal Justice students, faculty and guests on the topic of cyber crime. This was particularly fitting because October 2010 was recently deemed to be "National Cybersecurity Awareness Month" by the President of the United States.

Evans, the self proclaimed "World's Number One Hacker," had previously served a 24 month prison sentence and been fined \$10 million for his role in a hacking crime targeting AT&T.

Following his release, he has focused on preventing hacking and consulted on computer security issues. He created a computer protection company (LIGATT Security) and provides presentations on the causes and means of preventing computer hacking. The lecture was well attended and after two-and-a-half hours, students were still engaged and asking questions. The Criminal Justice Student Organization (CJSA) co-sponsored the event with the Department of Criminal Justice.

Get to Know: Dr. Ariane Prohaska and Zelda



Dr. Ariane Prohaska was born and raised in Parma, OH (just outside of Cleveland). During her first year at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, OH, she discovered sociology and was hooked. She took her first Sociological Theory class freshman year. The idea that the social environment shapes people's everyday lives resonated with her, so she decided to declare her major in Sociology and received her BA in 1999. From there, she attended University of Akron, where she received her MA in Sociology in 2001 and her PhD in Sociology in 2006.

While attending Akron, Dr. Prohaska became very interested in the gendered patterns of

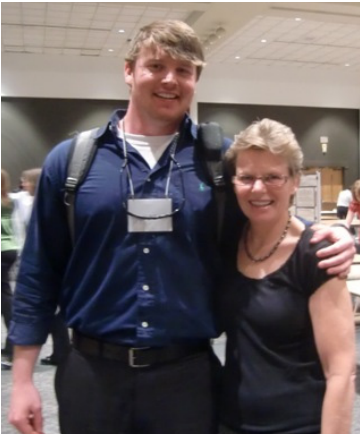
work inside and outside of the home, especially how women put in more housework and childcare time, even when they work the same number of hours outside the home. She also became interested in how social policy can help alleviate some of these inequities. Her dissertation looked at how gender inequality played a role in the formation of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, a policy that allows both men and women to take time off of work upon the arrival of a new child or to care for sick family members. Also, in 2003, Dr. Prohaska's friend came across an article in a local newspaper about a phenomenon called "hogging", a practice involving men intentionally seeking out women they deem fat or unattractive for sexual purposes. A fellow graduate student (and very good friend), Jeannine Gailey (now a PhD and Assistant Professor at Texas Christian University), and Dr. Prohaska began researching the phenomenon. Now seven years later, the two friends have published two journal articles and two book chapters from this research.

In 2006, Dr. Prohaska was hired to teach the Introduction to Sociology hybrid course at the University of Alabama, which combined online learning with in-class discussion. In Spring 2008, she began working as an Assistant Professor of Sociology in the Department of Criminal Justice, teaching courses such as Criminal Justice Research Methods, Social Inequality, Gender and Society, Gender and Crime, Social Inequality and Crime, and Criminal Justice Statistics, while also serving on thesis and dissertation committees and working with students on Independent Studies. Her research agenda continues to look at gender and

social policy, as she received a 2010 RAC Grant from the University to look at how recent changes in personal bankruptcy laws have differentially affected men and women. She also continues to do research in the area of sexual deviance. While researching hogging, Dr. Prohaska came across another subculture- that of "feederism", a behavior involving one sexual partner either encouraging another to eat or actually feeding the sexual partner (usually a woman in heterosexual relationships). There are many reasons individuals engage in this behavior, including because they are attracted to fat bodies or want to have control over another person's (the "feedee's") weight. There is even a fictional movie about the behavior, called "Feed", that loosely tells the story of feederism at its extreme- feeding a partner to immobility.

During her free time, Dr. Prohaska likes to spend time at home with her boyfriend, Austin, and her cats, Charlie and Javi, as well as her brand new boxer mix, Zelda. Dr. Prohaska is a huge sports fan, and supports the Cleveland sports teams (Browns, Cavs, and Indians), as well as the Ohio State Buckeyes. She also has become an Alabama sports fan and likes to attend games. She is a fan of many of the local bands in Tuscaloosa as well. Whenever she can, she visits her family and friends who are still in Ohio, as well as travelling to visit her friends all over the country. Dr. Prohaska loves to exercise, and, as her students know, she is addicted to pop culture, especially VH-1 reality shows, obviously for these programs' social significance. She is also addicted to the internet, especially news websites and political blogs (and TMZ).

Undergraduate Research on HIV/AIDS Makes A Difference



active Activities Committee. Nearly 300 students competed in this spring's competition.

Mantel, who also won 1st place in the Department of Criminal Justice's Undergraduate Research Competition, was mentored by Dr. Bronwen Lichtenstein.

Pictured (left): Sam Mantel and faculty mentor Dr. Bronwen Lichtenstein.

On April 15, 2010, Criminal Justice student Sam Mantel won 2nd place for his presentation "HIV/AIDS Knowledge of Teens in Alabama" at the university-wide Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference.

"The thrill of discovery students experience by working with a faculty mentor to produce their own new research findings, an exciting work of art, or other intellectual accomplishment is an ideal stepping stone to a productive career, regardless of major," explained Dr. David Franko, head of the new UA Undergraduate Research and Cre-

On April 23, 2010, Criminal Justice major and Sociology minor Cornelius (Neil) Jones presented his research on the topic "What Can Service Learning Offer HIV Prevention?" to an audience at the Capstone Hotel. Jones, who was mentored by Dr. Bronwen Lichtenstein after completing her Sociology of HIV/AIDS course in the fall semester of 2009, was selected to present by UA's Center for Community Based Partnerships.

His presentation outlined the significance of the AIDS epidemic, strategies for HIV prevention, and three specific service learning projects carried out by Jones and his fellow students in coordination with West Alabama AIDS Outreach (WAAO).



Pictured (right): Neil Jones presents his research on the topic "What Can Service Learning Offer HIV Prevention?"

Faculty Update

Rebecca Howell - Dr. Howell continues to research and publish in the areas of criminological theory and delinquency. She currently is finishing a grant-funded longitudinal test of stage theory. Given the increased accountability push in academia, Dr. Howell recently expanded her research interests to include learning outcome evaluation. So far, she has conducted two sponsored studies on the impact of grading rubric use on academic performance. Earlier this year, Dr. Howell completed two competitive, UA-sponsored faculty fellowships: an 18-month Grantsmanship Training Fellowship and a year-long Faculty Fellowship in Service-Learning. In 2009, she was awarded a competitive Sage Junior Faculty Professional Development Teaching Award by ACJS and Sage Publishing.

Ida Johnson - Dr. Ida Johnson earned her B.S. in Criminal Justice from Alabama State University, her M.S from The University of Alabama and her Doctorate in Criminology from Florida State University. She has provided considerable administrative service to the Capstone serving as Chairperson in both Women’s Studies and Criminal Justice. She is author of over 30 scholarly articles primary dealing with various forms of partner and inmate violence both within and outside of correctional settings. Her book, *Forced Sexual Intercourse in Intimate Relationships* (Dartmouth Publishing, with R. Sigler) was named Choice’s Outstanding Academy book in 1997.

Mark M. Lanier - In 2010, Dr. Lanier continued his study of human trafficking in Florida and South Africa. For an overview, go to YouTube and search for “Mark Lanier human trafficking.” He also published the 3rd edition of his popular book *Essential Criminology* with his friend and mentor Stuart Henry. In 2009 and 2010, Dr. Lanier also published four articles on a new field he and Timothy Akers developed called Epidemiological Criminology or “EpiCrim.” During this period, Dr. Lanier also published six book

chapters and two inserts on topics ranging from female police to inmates at risk for HIV/AIDS. His goal is to continue research and education on these and other topics.

Adam Lankford - Dr. Lankford has become committed to reversing widespread misconceptions about suicide terrorism. A year ago, nearly every expert in the U.S. and around the world rejected the possibility that suicide terrorists have anything in common with those who commit suicide for more typical reasons. Since then, Dr. Lankford has had several articles accepted for publication which establish links between suicide terrorism and conventional suicide—the only articles of their kind since 9/11. In addition, he continues to publish in other areas, and his book *Human Killing Machines* was re-released in paperback this past August 2010.

Bronwen Lichtenstein - Dr. Lichtenstein specializes in the social dimensions of health and illness, particularly for HIV/AIDS. In 2010, she received two awards for her work on HIV/AIDS: the Outstanding Faculty Initiated Engagement Effort from the Council on Community-Based Partnerships (CCPB) at The University of Alabama, and the 2010 Career Award from the Sociologists’ AIDS Network at the American Sociological Association. She published several articles on HIV/AIDS during the year, received a travel grant from ASA for a conference in Sweden, and was elected President of the Research Section on Mental Health at the International Sociological Association. In fall 2010, she began her sabbatical leave as a visiting scholar at the University of Southampton, where she is writing a book entitled *Colonizing Stigma: Race, Gender, and Social Power in the Sexual Epidemics*.

Celia Lo - Highlights of Dr. Lo’s accomplishments last academic year include exceptional research productivity, extensive student mentoring, and professional services rendered internationally. Eleven research articles that Dr. Lo authored or co-authored appeared or are forthcoming in refer-

eed journals; five were written with UA undergraduate and graduate students, some of whom achieved lead author status. While at work under an R03 NIAAA research award, Celia Lo also submitted grant proposals to NSF and NIDA. She was appointed by Italy’s ministry of health to serve as a grant reviewer, and she was named an honorary board member of the *Substance Abuse and Rehabilitation* international journal.

Ariane Prohaska - Dr. Prohaska continues to research and publish in the areas of sociology of gender, sociology of work and family, and sociology of masculinities. She is currently writing two papers in the area of sexual deviance, specifically on “feederism,” a behavior involving weight gain for erotic purposes. Dr. Prohaska is also currently working on a grant-funded study about how individuals experience the process of filing for bankruptcy, comparing experiences of filers before and after bankruptcy laws changed in 2005. She is also a 2010-2011 Faculty Fellow in Service Learning and is developing a Gender and Poverty service learning course for Fall 2011.

Jimmy Williams - Dr. Williams is currently Associate Dean for Multicultural Affairs in the College of Arts and Sciences. He has also provided considerable leadership in his capacity as Chair of both Communicative Disorders and Criminal Justice at The University of Alabama. He was awarded his B.S. (with honors), M.S., and Ph.D. in Criminology from Florida State University. His research has focused on the processing of criminal drug cases and the political aspects of the American judicial system. His research and service have been recognized by the American Council on Education (Fellow), the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), and by several academic honor societies.



Nayab Hakim is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Criminology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She has also co-authored an article entitled “From Columbine to Palestine: A Comparative Analysis of Rampage Shooters in the United States and Volunteer Suicide Bombers in the Middle East,” which will be published in a forthcoming issue of Aggression and Violent Behavior. “The faculty and staff of the Criminal Justice Department are beyond helpful and always willing to guide. I can say with confidence that my academic horizons have expanded tremendously since I first started in the program.”

-Nayab Hakim



Mike Hollingsworth is pursuing his Ph.D. Criminology and Criminal Justice at The University of Nebraska, Omaha. His current research interests include low intensity conflict, international criminology, maritime piracy, and international ethnic and religious

conflict. “The Criminal Justice Program here at the University has prepared me well to pursue a Ph.D.. The strong background in theory, methods, and statistics provided by the program and the University, as well as the substantive knowledge, are excellent and would serve anyone well no matter what their goal for the future might be.”

-Mike Hollingsworth



Melanie Holland is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Criminology at Old Dominion University. Her master’s thesis was entitled “Gender and Sentencing Outcomes: Does Region Matter?” “The classes offered at UA are unique and interesting, and the professors are very helpful and encouraging. The graduate program at UA has given me the confidence and the ability to continue my education as far as possible.”

- Melanie Holland

For more information about what some of our other Master’s Program alumni are doing, please visit http://cj.ua.edu/programs/graduate_program

Dr. Bronwen Lichtenstein to speak at the 2010 National Summit on HIV Diagnosis, Prevention and Access to Care

Dr. Bronwen Lichtenstein was recently invited to be a plenary speaker at the 2010 National Summit on HIV Diagnosis, Prevention and Access to Care. This is a huge honor and reflects Dr. Lichtenstein’s career long commitment to combating HIV/AIDS.

Attendees will include the U.S. Surgeon General, members of the U.S. Congress, members of the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention (CDC), the Press Club, and heads of agencies that comprise the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The Summit’s goal is to promote the CDC recommendations for earlier diagnosis, linkage to care and prevention, and to support the implementation of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States. The biennial Summit has become the premier venue for researchers, providers,

advocates and policy makers to discuss the current state and steps forward to eliminating the HIV epidemic in the U.S.

The Summit features three cross-cutting themes: Overcoming Stigma, Accountability and Sustainability, and Provider Engagement. Dr. Lichtenstein will address the theme of Overcoming Stigma.

Slumdog Millionaire: An Exercise in Analyzing Crime through Film

By Christine Ivie Edge

A student of criminal justice may question the merits of studying cinema in understanding crime and law. After all, criminal justice scholarship has a deeply-entrenched positivistic history, one in which measurement and prediction of crime, often through experimentation, are mainstays. However, as attested to by our government’s demonstrated difficulties in quantifying and, concomitantly, policing the vexing quandary of human trafficking, certain crime problems require thinking outside of the positivist box. In my dissertation work, I argue that lack of consensus as to how the human trafficking victim is “imagined,” I borrow this term from British criminologist Alison Young, arguably impedes suppression of modern day slavery. Utilizing the emergent interdisciplinary field of law and film, I juxtapose congressional testimony with movies to develop a mosaic of the human trafficking victim as constructed by artists, survivors, activists, and law enforcement. By examining these cultural texts, a more holistic portrait of the human trafficking victim, both imagined and real, manifests.

In selecting films to analyze, I defer to the recommendations made by Amanda Koer, an abolitionist who trains civil attorneys representing human trafficking victims. On the Change.org website, Koer identifies ten films, an amalgam of documentaries and fictional movies, she recommends for fostering awareness of trafficking in persons. Included is director Danny Boyle’s 2008 award-winning *Slumdog Millionaire*, which underscores the plight of child trafficking in India. The movie chronicles the life of Jamal Malik, the main character, whose win on the Indian adaptation of ‘Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?’ solidifies his transcendence from the slums of Mumbai. Jamal’s story unfolds through a succession of flashbacks in which he recounts how he, his brother, Salim, and his love interest, Latika, are recruited in their youth by a gangster named Maman, who blinds children to make them more lucrative beggars. Globally, human trafficking has come to most often connote sexual trafficking, namely that of compelled prostitution. Extensive scholarship, much of which appears in gender studies and law journals, surveys the reasons why other and more prolific forms of human trafficking have been eclipsed by sexual trafficking. Per-

haps the elucidation of forced begging as another and equally problematic facet of this human rights issue explain why, in part, Koer deems *Slumdog Millionaire* instructional on human trafficking. The movie does, in limited capacity, broach sexual trafficking in India. Having themselves escaped enslavement and maiming, Jamal and Salim later come to find that Maman has groomed their childhood friend Latika to become a prostitute. Soon after rescuing her from a brothel, the brothers part ways when the elder, Salim, vanquishes Jamal so that he can claim Latika for himself and pursue the life of crime the younger brother believed they should both relinquish. As Koer duly notes, *Slumdog Millionaire* does not qualify as a human trafficking activist film, though its “activist heart” goes uncontested. Human trafficking, labor and sexual, factors into the plot, but proves tertiary to the love story between Jamal and Latika. Nonetheless, the economic disparities characterizing contemporary Indian society and how these conditions give rise to India as a source country for human trafficking are richly depicted in the telling of this romance.

India, among other nations, is rated by the U.S. State Department in its annual, mandated Trafficking in Persons report to Congress on foreign governments’ efforts to prevent and prosecute human trafficking and to protect the victims of such crimes. India has been repeatedly assessed a Tier 2 Watch List country, meaning that its government does not wholly comply with the stipulated minimum standards to eradicate human trafficking. The nation has been criticized for its legislative focus on trafficking for sexual exploitation at the expense of recognizing the more expansive issue of bonded labor. Additionally, India lacks a centralized federal law enforcement response to human trafficking, and the resulting loosely coupled efforts of states translate to limited control of the extensive problem. Also relegating India to this watch list are the paltry prosecutions of and weak penalties for human trafficking offenses. Finally, India’s perceptibly inadequate services to trafficking victims mark it for monitoring. For example, government shelters, while located in all of the country’s major cities, are of variable quality and victims are not afforded long term alternatives to their stays in these shelters.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Criminal Justice
432-C Farrah Hall
Box 870320
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0320

Phone: (205) 348-7795
Fax: (205) 348-7178
E-mail: cjdept@cj.as.ua.edu
Web Address: www.cj.ua.edu

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