Guastaferro Receives 4.8 million dollar grant

Georgia State University has received a $4.8 million, five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for a project that will better the lives of children and families of substance-abusing individuals who receive treatment through the DeKalb County Drug Court.

Daniel Whitaker of the Institute of Public Health and the Center for Healthy Development (CHD) and Wendy Guastaferro of the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Georgia State will lead the project, funded by the HHS’ Administration for Children and Families grant.

The project is a multi-agency collaboration involving Georgia State, the DeKalb County Superior Court Drug Court, Lutheran Services of Georgia and the Georgia Center on Child Advocacy. Other collaborators include the Georgia Department of Family and Children’s Services, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and the DeKalb County Community Service Board.

Substance abuse is strongly related to child abuse and neglect, with up to 70 percent of parents involved in the child protective service system having a history of substance use or abuse.

“The project will provide a set of services to a very high-risk population that doesn’t necessarily receive those services, children of chronic substance abusers involved multiple times in drug offenses,” said Whitaker, the leader of the National SafeCare Training and Research Center within the CHD.

“Children of substance abusers experience a wide range of poor outcomes, ranging from psychological problems to academic issues. We will be implementing a set of evidence-based programs, focusing on children, and we think that is a good solution.”

Several evidence-based services will be implemented, including parenting programs and evidence-based trauma treatments. SafeCare, one of the models to be used, has been shown to improve parenting and reduce child maltreatment.

The evaluation team will examine how SafeCare and other services improve outcomes for children of drug court participants.

(continued on the next page)
“The drug court program was created to interrupt the cycle of crime driven by addiction. The DeKalb program is a leader in providing evidence-based, effective services and producing strong outcomes,” said Guastaferro, an assistant professor in criminal justice.

Treatment addresses drug addiction and factors known to lead to criminal behavior, such as the lack of problem-solving skills and pro-criminal attitudes.

“The drug court program addresses these needs as well as employment and housing,” she said. “Many participants, however, have been abused, homeless and victimized during the course of their lives. Given these experiences, we recognized the need for trauma care services for all participants, and most participants are parents.”

Guastaferro noted that court participants are eager to participate in improved services to help them become better parents.

“Seventy-two percent said they would participate in parenting classes, and many also believed their spouse or partner would participate,” she said.

New Faculty

Dr. Scott Jacques is the newest addition to our faculty. Before joining GSU, he received his PhD from the University of Missouri—St. Louis, was a Researcher at the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime & Law Enforcement, and an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati. His major area of interest is crimes against drug sellers. At present, he is working on a book about young middle-class drug dealers from suburban Atlanta.

Cynthia Johnson currently serves as a Clinical Instructor/Associate Undergraduate Instructor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology here at Georgia State University. She is an Atlanta native and one of our very own Georgia State Panthers who earned her B.S. cum laude and M.S. cum laude, both in Criminal Justice. Cynthia continued her studies at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, Florida where she earned her Juris Doctor. She is an active member of the Georgia and Florida State Bars and has practiced primarily in the areas of criminal law, family law, and estate planning. She worked at the Florida First District Court of Appeals, handling appeals in sexual assault cases and she served as a brief writer on the Jessup International Moot Court team, performing extensive research on international extradition and death penalty law. During the 2008 Summer Olympics, she traveled to China where she studied International Criminal Law, Chinese Law, and International Dispute Resolution. Most recently, she has developed a brand new criminal justice study abroad program to begin during Maymester 2013 in Trinidad and Tobago.

Jason Randall is a Limited-Term Faculty member in the Department of Criminal Justice. He holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice from Georgia State University and an M.S. in Public Policy from Georgia Institute of Technology. Currently, he is finalizing his doctorate degree in Political Science with a concentration in American Government, Urban & International Politics, and Public Administration.

Graduate Program Success, By Dr. Brent Teasdale

Since our doctoral program is so young, it is early to start taking its temperature with regard to success. In spite of the reasonableness of that caution, I can’t help but report on the tremendous success we have already had, in just a couple of short years. Our first group of students has taken comprehensive examinations (the first such administration in our department’s history). One of our ABD (all but dissertation) students has already published three lead-authored peer-reviewed journal articles and is our first doctoral student to begin searching for academic positions. In fact, as I am writing this column, she is participating in her first phone-interview. Surely, she is the first of a long line of students who will be successful alumni of our doctoral program. Moreover, students in our programs have published over a dozen peer-reviewed articles in the past two years. Their work is appearing in some of the very best journals in our field: Justice Quarterly, Crime & Delinquency, Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Deviant Behavior, and Homicide Studies, to name a few. Our M.S. graduates have gone on to do important work in agencies like the Atlanta Police Department, Fulton County Probation, Department of Health and Human Services, and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

We continue to admit only the most highly qualified students to our masters and doctoral programs. As members of the graduate programs in Criminal Justice & Criminology, you are members of a select group. According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s report Educational Attainment in the U.S.: 2009, only 7.2% of Americans hold a master’s degree and only 1.2% of the U.S. population holds a doctorate (excluding professional degrees like the M.D. and the J.D.). We are so proud of all that you have accomplished and all that you will continue to accomplish. I hope that you will keep GSU in mind, as you transition to your lives after completing your degrees and drop us a note from time to time to let us know of your continued success!

To our undergraduate students, I hope that you will consider joining this elite group by continuing your studies with us. As you are likely aware, assistantships (available to our most highly qualified applicants) will not only pay your tuition, but also include a modest stipend. The M.S. or Ph.D. in Criminal Justice & Criminology are assets for career advancement and will provide you with skills in leadership, policy, and research. If you are currently considering graduate education, please do not hesitate to email me, or stop by my office. I look forward to discussing the options with you. Best wishes to all!
**Criminal Justice and Criminology: A Goal Driven Department**

The table below shows how the department is working towards helping the university meet its goals from the strategic plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Accomplishment and Activities</th>
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</table>
| Become national model for undergraduate education                    | Associate undergraduate program coordinator hired  
Honors courses instructed  
Hybrid courses developed  
New perspectives courses developed  
Credit hours highest ever in fall  
669 majors, up from 457 in Fall 2007  
Developing curriculum map and course sequencing  
Alpharetta program to serve broader community  
Structured and formal evaluations for PTIs and GTAs |
| Strengthen base of distinctive graduate and professional programs    | PhD program demonstrating early signs of success  
Discussions about professional master’s track in CJC  
Targeted recruiting, participation in national recruiting programs  
Hybrid courses  
Expanded teaching seminar and reduced GTAs instruction |
| Become a leading public research university addressing the most challenging issues of the 21st century | 2CI hire in evidence based policy  
Set department funding targets  
Developing formal evaluation and workload policy  
Using mini-mester in Spring  
Doubled number of grant proposals (+9 million)  
Department faculty working with colleagues at Harvard, Cambridge, University of Pennsylvania, University of Maryland, George Mason.  
Two AYSPS Fellows and Visiting scholar  
Provost's distinguished fellow in Spring  
First Fulbright Scholar  
Faculty applied for Provost's faculty fellow award  
Women and Criminal Justice Lecture Series  
Criminal Justice colloquia |
| Lead in understanding the complex challenges of cities and developing solutions to urban problems | Child trafficking grant  
Research areas cover many urban issues  
Department identity*  
Exploring Center for Crime and Violence Prevention Policy  
Atlanta Police Leadership Institute/Center for Police Innovation  
Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange  
Forming partnerships with external agencies |
| Achieve distinction in globalizing the university                     | Developing first CJC student study abroad program (West Indies)  
Developed two new perspectives classes on international issues  
Exploring other new internationally focused courses  
Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange |

*While focusing on all areas related to criminal justice and criminology, the department specifically strives to understand crime and violence within community contexts to inform theory and policy, particularly in urban areas.*
All abroad! GSU students have the opportunity to trade in their seat in General Classroom Building for a classroom setting on exotic tropical islands that offer white sandy beaches and clear turquoise waters.

The Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology is launching its first study abroad program in Trinidad and Tobago during Maymester 2013. The program, titled “The West Indies Study Abroad Program: International Perspectives on Criminal Justice and Criminology,” is a 25-day study tour of the twin island nation. It is scheduled to begin May 10, 2013 and is open to undergraduate, graduate, and transient students of all majors.

The WISA Program will be hosted by the University of the West Indies (UWI). The institution is globally recognized as an institute of higher education and research in the Caribbean region. Students will experience “dorm life” in UWI’s fully furnished Halls of Residence at the St. Augustine campus, sharing facilities and interacting with other international and exchange students housed there.

Students will spend three weeks immersing themselves in the study of crime and justice issues in the developing nation. Two courses will be offered – CRJU 4040 Comparative Criminal Justice Systems and CRJU 4910 Selected Legal Issues in Criminal Justice – for a total of six credit hours. Classes will be held in the mornings and afternoons, and weekends will be reserved for exploring the islands. Students will have the opportunity to visit a number of cultural and historical sites on both islands and tour local criminal justice agencies (police headquarters, courts, and/or correctional facilities). During their stay, students will be submerged into the Caribbean culture, rich history, breathtaking landscape, and tasty cuisine.

The WISA program is being led by Cyntoria Johnson, the department’s newest full-time faculty member. She developed the program in response to the university’s strategic plan to prepare students to compete in the global marketplace by establishing opportunities for “signature experiences” to learn and engage as world citizens. The goals of the WISA program are to increase students’ knowledge and exposure to global, comparative perspectives on criminal justice and criminology and to examine public policy issues related to crime in developing nations. Professor Johnson’s aim is to put the fun and excitement back in education and to foster students’ appreciation for diversity and cross-cultural learning.

Maymester 2013 will provide a meaningful international experience that students will never forget. Students who complete this program will return to the United States anew, having been enriched culturally, academically and socially. We are limited to a small number of participants for the first cohort, but the department hopes to offer the overseas academic adventure to even more students each year.

For more information, please visit http://aysps.gsu.edu/cj/study-abroad-program or contact Cyntoria Johnson - Program Director at cjohnson5@gsu.edu.
Criminal Justice Honors Students

The Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology is excited to announce that it is starting its very own chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma, the national criminal justice honor society that honors and promotes academic excellence, community service, and leadership. The organization is affiliated with the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, which is an international criminal justice association to which most of your CJ professors hold memberships.

In order to start the Alpha Phi Sigma chapter at Georgia State University, we need members and leadership officers. Leadership positions include President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

What’s in it for You: The organization has a lot of benefits for students including:

- Recognition for academic achievement
- Leadership and networking opportunities
- Access to members-only scholarships and awards
- Ability to attend conferences
- Career development and job opportunities

How to Join: Alpha Phi Sigma invites the following students to apply for membership: (1) undergraduate Criminal Justice Majors with a GPA of 3.2 in the major, and (2) Criminal Justice & Criminology graduate students with a GPA of 3.4 or higher. All students must have at least 12 semester credit hours of criminal justice coursework.

Membership Fees: There is a one-time $50 fee to join. Thereafter, annual dues are only $10.

More Information: To learn more about Alpha Phi Sigma you can visit the website www.alphaphisigma.org. To learn how you can get involved in the GSU chapter, please come to one of our two informational meetings on Oct. 30th at 7:15pm in Aderhold Learning Center, Room 302 or Nov. 2 at Noon in Classroom South, Room 409.

Contact Dr. Leah Daigle at lidaigle@gsu.edu or Cyntoria Johnson at cjohnson5@gsu.edu if you are interested, have questions, or cannot make the meeting.

We hope that you take advantage of this exciting opportunity for Criminal Justice students!

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Faculty and Student Publications


Staff Spotlight

Jamia Luckett, CJ’s Administrative Specialist, was awarded a Staff Scholarship in Fall Semester 2012. Jamia was one of eleven staff members to win the award this semester. The scholarship requires staff members to submit three essays on topics such as their career goals and how they will use the knowledge that they gain in college to serve their community. In response to the topics, Jamia stated, “my job in this department is a way to improve society because I assist students in achieving their career goals so that they can make a meaningful contribution to society.”
On October 19th, the Department of Criminal Justice conducted a Mock Supreme Court Activity on Tuesday, October 30th and Tuesday, November 6th from 4:30 to 7pm. Led by Sue Carter Collins, this was a cooperative learning activity and constituted the students' final critical thinking project for the term. On each day, two teams of student attorneys representing the defendant and the prosecution presented oral arguments to a mock US Supreme Court on a variety of 4th, 5th, & 6th Amendment issues involving searches and seizures, interviews and interrogations, and confessions.

**Human Trafficking Panel Discussion**

Dr. Mary Finn, Criminal Justice professor, served as moderator for the panel discussion entitled, “A Look at the Economics, Policies, Enforcement, and Victims of the Industry,” which took place on Oct. 25th. Other panelists included: Maja Hasic, Anti-Human Trafficking Program Director of Tapestrì Inc., Senator Renee Unterman in Georgia State Senate District 45, Renea Anderson, Special Agent of the GBI Human Trafficking Unit, and Kaffie McCullough, Deputy Director of Youth Spark.

**Careers in Criminal Justice**

On October 19th, the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology held an alumni panel as part of AYSPS Homecoming events. Forty participants attended the panel titled, “Illegal Procedures, Penalties, and Careers in Criminal Justice.” The alumni who presented at the event included:

- **Ryan Coble** (moderator) is a Special Agent for the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General in the Atlanta Regional Office. As a Special Agent, Ryan conducts criminal and civil investigations identifying fraud, waste and abuse within the Department of Health and Human Services, including Medicare Fraud, Grant and Contract Fraud, Money Laundering and Federal Child Support Enforcement.

- **Major Jeff Glazier** has been the Director of the Herbert T. Jenkins Police Academy since being promoted by Chief George Turner in July of 2010. He is responsible for the training requirements for the 2,200 men and women of the Atlanta Police Department. The Academy Director is also responsible for providing the Basic Law Enforcement Training Course for every new police recruit who joins the department. Currently, there are over 125 police recruits in various stages of training.

- **Cyntoria Johnson** currently serves as a Clinical Instructor/Associate Undergraduate Instructor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology here at Georgia State University. During the 2008 Summer Olympics, she traveled to China where she studied International Criminal Law, Chinese Law, and International Economics, Policies, Enforcement, and Victims of the Industry.

**Presentations at Southern Criminal Justice Association**

Christina Policastro, a PhD candidate in criminal justice, and Brian K. Payne, presented “An Examination of Deviance and Deviants in the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Field: Characteristics, Consequences, and Responses to Fraud” at the Southern Criminal Justice Association in Atlantic Beach, Florida, on September 26, 2012.

Beverly Reece Crank, a PhD candidate in criminal justice, and Brian K. Payne, professor and chair of the department of criminal justice, presented “The Incarceration Experience: A Comparative Analysis” at the Southern Criminal Justice Association in Atlantic Beach, Florida, on September 26, 2012.

Shila Hawk-Toutelot, a PhD candidate in criminal justice, Dean Dabney, an associate professor of criminal justice and Josh Hinkle, an assistant professor of criminal justice, presented “Does Evidence Type Impact Criminal Justice System Throughput?: An Analysis of Case Processing in Five U.S. Jurisdictions,” at the Southern Criminal Justice Association in Atlantic Beach, Florida, on September 27, 2012.

Erin Marsh, a PhD candidate in criminal justice, and Wendy Guastaferro, an assistant professor of criminal justice, presented “The Need for Parenting and Trauma Care Services for Drug Court Participants and their Children,” at the Southern Criminal Justice Association in Atlantic Beach, Florida, on September 28, 2012.

Cynthia Padilla is employed with the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office since October of 2008 as a Victim-Witness Advocate. Currently she manages a caseload of approximately 1,600 felony cases ranging from assaults and burglaries to sexual offenses and homicides. Her primary role as an Advocate is to assist victims and witnesses with trial preparation, investigative interviews, and social services. In December of 2011, she earned a Master’s degree in Conflict Management (concentration: interpersonal psychology) from Kennesaw State University.

John Siler is an instructor of Criminal Justice and Political Science at Georgia Perimeter. He has past experience working as the Director of Government Relations for GPC, as a contract manager for FEMA/GEMA, as a city manager, as the director of legislative and media services for the Georgia Department of Corrections, as the director of management training for the Georgia Police Academy, and as an intelligence analyst for the DeKalb County Police Department. He served in the U.S. Army as a combat medic and a psychology specialist.
Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association  
Erin Marsh, President

The Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association has been working hard in the fall semester. A mentor/mentee program was started to welcome incoming Master's and Ph.D. students. This program was also started to help new students adjust into the graduate program at Georgia State University. We have also begun fundraising to hopefully be able to fund graduate students who are attending conferences. We will have a research and teaching conference fund which will be given to those graduate students who have displayed exceptional work in either their research interests or while teaching their own class for the semester.

The Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association has also partnered up with some of the professors to go on promotional tours as a means of increasing interest and knowledge of the graduate program in Criminal Justice at Georgia State. A graduate panel was also arranged so that current undergraduate students at Georgia State could also hear about the graduate program from graduate students themselves. This was done in connection with the undergraduate Criminal Justice Student Association. We hope to partner up more with this organization in the future through fundraising and volunteer work. The Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association will be doing several volunteer works in the spring semester as a means to give back to the community. So far, we have had two speakers for our fall speaker colloquium and we hope to invite several more speakers for the spring semester. Our students gain a lot from these sessions as they are able to listen to research that is being conducted by others in the Criminal Justice field. This is especially helpful for those topics that might not be the research specializations of any faculty members. Graduate students are also able to work and discuss research with those speakers after their research presentations. This allows our students to network with well-known researchers in the Criminal Justice field.

We are excited to see what the future holds for not only the graduate program within the Criminal Justice & Criminology Department at Georgia State but also for the Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association. Our program is growing and so is the Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association!

Criminal Justice Student Association  
Nichole Wysinger, President  
Eric McGhee, Vice President

Greetings from the Criminal Justice Student Association (CJSA)! We are proud to be a part of the Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. We would like to commend each of you for your pursuit of a Criminal Justice degree and your dedication to the CJSA organization. The primary purpose of CJSA is to enrich the lives of our members by providing an array of opportunities for professional development, networking, and volunteerism within the criminal justice community. To this end, we provide an extraordinary lineup of events and experiences for members and interested students within the GSU community.

So far this year, CJSA has participated in a number of Georgia State events and criminal justice activities. Most recently, to show our Panther Pride we decorated a golf cart and participated in the GSU homecoming golf cart parade. We also partnered with our sister organization, the Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association (CJGSA), to present a graduate panel discussion aimed at recruiting students to the Department’s Graduate Program.

Among the upcoming events that have been planned, CJSA will tour the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) Headquarters on November 2, 2012, from 9:30am to 12:30pm. We also will host a panel discussion featuring Supervisor Shon Jenkins from the Atlanta Field Operations’ Office of US Customs and Border Protection. In addition to providing information on CBE career opportunities, Mr. Jenkins will discuss general issues affecting the maintenance of US domestic security. This event will be held on Nov. 9, 2012 from 2:30pm to 5:00pm. Other events that are scheduled for this semester include participation in the cleanup of historic Oakland cemetery, and volunteering at the Special Olympics Torch Run and Polar Bear Plunge. Our biggest event, the CJSA Career Showcase, invites employers from a variety of criminal justice and non-criminal justice agencies on campus to meet our students and share information on career opportunities within their agencies. This event will take place in the spring on February 22nd.

CJSA welcomes students from all majors and disciplines to participate in the leadership of our organization. Remember, the CJSA is only as strong as you make it. Please get involved! For additional information on our events and activities, and on how you can get involved, check us out on GSU’s OrgSync, the CJSA website at: http://aysps.gsu.edu/cj/cjsa, twitter at http://twitter.com/#!/CJSAatGSU, and Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/gsucjsa/
Visiting Fellow Lecture

Dr. Mindy Bradley, AYSPS Faculty Fellow in Criminal Justice and Criminology, gave a lecture titled “Racial and Ethnic Disproportionalities in Correctional Release” on Nov. 1st. She noted that much of the focal concern research considers the sentences given to offenders, and little research has examined the actual sentences experienced by offenders. Findings from her research suggest that offenders from states with stiffer sentencing laws actually serve shorter sentences.

Summer 2012 Graduation/Internship Fair

Police interdiction and its impact on drug trafficking
(Cherie D. West)

Are electronic tracking devices a valid tool for law enforcement?
(Sonya Herbert)

Has the development of LGBT liaison units within the police department had an impact on police misconduct in relation to the LGBT community?
(Ashley M. Chen)

Dr. Collins evaluating Ms. West’s project.

Dr. Payne speaking with Professor Arcangeli at the fair.

Should TASERS be banned?