Letter from the Chair, Richard Wright

I joined the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology as Chair in August, after spending 30 years in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, which is bordered on one side by the small suburban town of Ferguson, MO. Events in that town over the summer continue to reverberate across the nation and remind us that the issues we study involve real people and have real-world consequences. That is what makes the discipline of criminal justice and criminology so important to an open and fair society.

I want to thank Dr. Dean Dabney, who has just stepped down as Interim Chair, for his selfless service to the department. Dean was much more than a caretaker; he made great strides in moving the department forward. My job is much easier for his efforts.

I also want to thank the faculty for making me feel so welcome. As this newsletter makes amply evident, they are an impressive lot. Every major textbook in criminal justice and criminology makes reference to their research, which is to say that they produce the knowledge that others across the nation teach. Just as one example of the faculty’s excellence, Dr. Bill Pridemore recently received the Gerhard Mueller Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, which recognizes excellence and innovation in international research. It is a privilege to work with such eminent scholars. I look forward to learning a lot from them.

Alas, when you are playing on such a fine team, you have to accept that other clubs will try to steal your players. Dr. Mary Finn, who has been with the department for 25 years, has been tapped to be the next Director of the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University. She will leave the department at the end of December. It is sad to see her go and she will be greatly missed. But we count ourselves as lucky to have held onto her for as long as we did and wish her the best as she takes on this challenging new role.

It is an honor to be a part of your department. I hope that you are as proud of its accomplishments as I am.

Farewell Dr. Mary Finn

Faculty Spotlight by Dr. Mary Finn

Drs. Mary Finn (Professor) and Loretta Stalans (Loyola University, Chicago) completed two projects that examined how technology shapes the sex industry, particularly illicit access to prostituted minors. The projects, funded through GSU’s Cities Grant Initiative, involved multi-method research designs utilizing content analysis of postings by johns, advertisements for escort/sexual services, and qualitative interviews with over 100 pimps or johns and 50 sex providers in Atlanta and Chicago.

One project focused exclusively on understanding the shared language between johns and pimps that communicates the desire for, or availability of, sex with minors, and provided information about how technology has changed the modus of operation in the exploitation of minors.

A second project, based on interviews with sex providers, focused on how technology generated clientele, aided in avoiding detection by law enforcement, and enhanced security and safety. Both projects assessed pimps, johns, and service providers’ knowledge and understanding of current changes in the law related to sex trafficking. Findings can inform public policy efforts to prevent high-risk youths from becoming involved in the sex industry.

The investigators have presented two papers at the American Society of Criminology (ASC) conference in November, 2013, and will present two additional papers at ASC this November. One co-authored paper, “Virtual Discussion on Legal Issues about On-line Solicited Prostitution: Learning Cultural Schemas to Manage Risk of Arrest and Conviction” has been submitted for publication. It examines discussions by buyers and sellers of sex in the legal forum of theerotiqueview.com to identify their shared subcultural knowledge about the criminal justice system and ways to evade detection by legal authorities.

Our analysis of posts indicates that role as a buyer or seller did not influence the affirmation or discrediting of viewpoints expressed. Further, there was agreement on the priorities of law enforcement and strategies that serve to reduce risk.

Many communities, concerned that the sale of sex with minors occurs in the same market as the sale of sex with adults, have adopted campaigns to eradicate the sale of sex by targeting the buyers not the sellers. Buyers are aware they are targeted and have developed strategies to reduce risks.
Faculty Accomplishments

- Cyntoria Johnson (pictured above w/ Study Abroad Interim Director, Ryan Rathmann) won Georgia State University’s Study Abroad Office’s “2014 Program Director of the Year Award.”
- Dean Dabney was Elected Regional Trustee, Southeast Region, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, 2014-2017.
- Bill Pridemore was named the recipient of the Gerhard O.W. Mueller Distinguished Scholar Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences’ International Section, which is given annually for outstanding contributions to the field of comparative and international criminal justice.
- Bill Pridemore secured a subcontract for $141,000 from Indiana University via our NIH grant.
- Leah Daigle secured a grant funded by the Office for Victims of Crime for $174,201.
- Michael Shapiro served on the Graduate Career Services Director Search Committee and was named the Faculty Advisor to the Undergraduate Criminal Justice Student Association.

Select Faculty Publications

- Pridemore guest edited issues of two journals that were published this summer. The first (guest edited with Marieke Liem of Leiden University) was a special issue of European Journal of Criminology on homicide research in Europe. The second was a special issue of International Criminal Justice Review on international and cross-national research on homicide and violence.
- Shapiro has two short papers accepted for publication. Both have been co-authored by Professor Fenton: Evidence Technology Magazine has accepted "Recent Evidentiary Decisions of the United States Supreme Court" for publication in their Nov.-Dec. 2014 issue and the Natl Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers has accepted "Escobedo v. Illinois: Not Quite Forgotten" for publication in their Oct. 2014 issue of The Champion Magazine.

Faculty Presentations

Bill Pridemore:


Michael Shapiro:

Shapiro made two presentations with his colleague Peter Fenton at Kennesaw State University, at the annual Criminal Justice of Georgia conference. The presentations were: (1) 7 and 7: United States Supreme Court Criminal Law Decisions of the 2013-2014 Term and (2) Happy 100th Birthday Exclusionary Rule, I Thought You Were Dead. Shapiro also moderated a panel at the conference. The moderated panel was called “Current Issues in Criminal Justice.”
Student Spotlight

Donald Hunt is a Master's/Ph.D. student who will be graduating with a Master’s degree in Criminal Justice this fall. After graduation, Hunt will continue his coursework in the Ph.D. portion of the program.

This past summer, Hunt received a $1,400 competitive travel award from the Association of Doctoral Programs in Criminology & Criminal Justice to support his attendance at an Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) statistical training workshop this month.

Student Publications & Presentations

Glen Ishoy
- Ishoy, Glen. (Forthcoming). Exploring Morality as a Mediator of the Association between Parenting Practices and Violent and Property Offending Among a Sample of Juvenile Delinquents. Crime & Delinquency. *This article was accepted without revisions.*

Heather Jones

Staff Achievement

The Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology's Administrative Specialist, Jamia D. Luckett, will be graduating with a Master's of Arts Degree in Political Science from Georgia State University this Fall. Also, Jamia received a “2014 Life-Long Learner Award” from GSU’s Human Resources Dept. Jamia has been working for GSU for 5 ½ years and plans to continue to assist students in achieving their educational goals.

Congratulations to all CJ Graduates!!!

The Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology would like to honor all of our Fall 2014 graduates. You all worked hard and we are very proud of you.

The Andrew Young School will recognize Fall 2014 graduates on December 17th at the Georgia World Congress Center. This year, the Criminal Justice Department had the honor of choosing the guest speaker, Aparna Bhattacharyya.

Aparna graduated from Georgia State University in 1993 with a BS in Criminal Justice. She is a passionate advocate for immigrant survivors of family and sexual violence and for ensuring they have access to safety, justice, and healing. As the Executive Director of Raksha, Inc., she works tirelessly to ensure that attorneys, law enforcement officials, and service providers are culturally competent to serve immigrant survivors. In 2013, she was one of 15 Asian American and Pacific Islander women recognized by the White House Council on Women and Girls as to having earned the right to be called “Champions of Change.” Aparna (pictured below with Dr. Dean Dabney) also received the “Distinguished Alumni Service Award” at our department’s Spring 2014 Graduation Reception.

In addition, one of our very own graduating seniors, Kara Flicek, will be the flagbearer for the Andrew Young School’s Graduation Recognition Ceremony.
**From the Desk of the Undergraduate Coordinator, Mark Reed**

As we head into the busiest time of the semester, our students are working hard to complete their final semester of the year. For many, they are finishing their final semester of school. Our 43 graduating seniors are firmly entrenched in the field placements of their internships. While placements are broad, some of our students this semester are working at a number of different agencies, including the Georgia Innocence Project, Fulton County Accountability Court, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Taken together, the capstone seminar and the fieldwork experience allow students to see how the material covered in the classroom intersects with the practical and policy experiences of the internships. Students fit together the pieces of the criminal justice system to see the different agencies work to move cases forward and address the needs of offenders and victims, as well as to address the concerns of the greater communities involved.

As always, I encourage students to think and plan ahead, make use of resources, and pay attention to dates and deadlines. Academic resources available through the AYS Office of Academic Assistance abound; make sure that you regularly check their website and your emails to stay on top of things.

I also want to remind students about course offerings available at the Alpharetta Center. In Spring 2015, we are offering several courses, including CRJU 2200 (Social Science & the American Crime Problem), CRJU 3700 (American Criminal Courts) and CRJU 4070 (Family Violence & CJ). If you haven’t taken a course at the Center already, you should consider doing so.

The Center is a state-of-the-art facility with ample parking right in front of the building. The facility provides a sizeable student computer lab and student lounges/study spaces throughout the building. On occasions, the Center staff even provides food and drink for students and faculty who have class before or after the lunch hour. It’s a nice perk!

Also, I encourage students to participate in the 2015 West Indies Study Abroad Program. This program allows students to spend their Maymester on the exotic tropical islands of Trinidad & Tobago all while learning about the criminal justice system of Trinidad & Tobago and taking part in excursions on the twin islands. This Maymester program offers 6.0 course credit hours to undergraduate and graduate students. If you are interested in participating in this program or know someone who is interested, please contact the program’s director, Prof. Cyntoria Johnson at cjohnson5@gsu.edu. You may apply to this program by visiting: [http://criminaljustice.gsu.edu/student-resources/study-abroad-program/](http://criminaljustice.gsu.edu/student-resources/study-abroad-program/)

Finally, our department will be hosting a Graduation/Internship Reception to honor all graduating seniors. The Reception is being held on Wednesday, December 3, 2014 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. in the Andrew Young Bldg., 749. Refreshments will be served.

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**Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association President, Charles Hogan**

First thing I would like to extend another welcome and congratulations to all our first semester students, new to the program. You have all made the adjustment to your new positions here at Georgia State and we all look forward to working together in and out of the classroom for the years to come. Our organization is also adjusting and moving forward with the new executive board. So far this semester we have organized a couple of social gatherings for the students, with more to come! Also our bake sale went off with only a few last minute hitches, but I think my spilling a cooler full of ice and bottled water into Courtland Street only added to the total ambience of the whole operation. As for the sale itself, it served to pad our coffers and hopefully in the meetings to come, we will work out an end of the semester celebration sponsored by the CJGSA, so everyone get your dancing shoes ready.

We also have big news from our interworking with the undergraduate student association. Next semester we will be sponsoring a few panel discussions about getting into and surviving graduate school. These will include discussions with past graduates of the master’s program, current Ph.D. and master’s students, and faculty. One of the prime directives of our association going forward has to be recruitment of new students. Many of the undergrads at GSU have questions about grad school that to them can seem daunting, but with all those newfound life skills you all have learned can be easily answered. We will be asking for participants in the coming weeks and I encourage everyone to participate or attend for support. Further, many of you work in classrooms or teach your own classes, I would encourage you to bring flyers about the graduate program to your classes and try to pull back the veiled curtain to reveal a life changing opportunity here at GSU, or other graduate program. The better shape we leave the program in when we graduate will translate into more value in all of our degrees going forward. We have all taken a lot from this program into ourselves, and the time is past due for us students to give something back. I say this not to minimize anyone’s individual contribution to the department, but as a whole we need to step up all of our efforts toward growing this department.

The final item that I would like to discuss in this wrap-up relates to the sharing of information. I encourage any graduate student at any level in the program to reach out to other students for help. Help in classes, help in research, help in life or help in figuring out what the professors really mean in some of those emails. We have often been told by those same professors, that in our work we should not seek to reinvent the wheel. I give this same advice to all our graduate students. Reach out and ask for help, even if you think you might not need it. The worst case is that you make a new connection that might serve you well down the
road. All of us old hats in the program, no pun intended John and Nancy, have a wealth of experience and knowledge about the road through grad school. Ask us and we shall answer. My email is chogan9@gmail.com. Ask me, and I will help you out the best I can or I will try and refer you to someone smarter than me that can.

As an example of the great people that we all have to lean on as fellow students, I want to close by congratulating one of our members, Glen, for having his solo authored article accepted in Crime and Delinquency. While publications are expected, having a solo authored piece, approved without revisions is truly an accomplishment! Please join me in congratulating Glen when you see him around campus. I sincerely hope all our members, new and old, are making the most out of their time here at GSU, getting ready to go out into the world and spread light and beauty through the fields in which they enter. I look forward to a full inbox of questions about the program, the courses or anything else that might come along.

I will see all of you in the periodicals ~Charles

**Criminal Justice Student Association**  
**President, Irving Bobadilla**

Throughout fall semester 2014 the Criminal Justice Student Association (CJSA) has been involved in many activities. We recently went on a tour to the Georgia Public Service Safety Training Center in Forsyth, Georgia. We had the opportunity to see all of the training facilities that many of the police officers, firefighters, and other agencies go through which was very interesting.

Our organization also participated in the GSU Homecoming Parade. I would like to thank all the CJSA students who decorated the golf cart. The cart looked amazing! (Check out our pictures from CJSA’s visit to the safety training facility and GSU’s homecoming parade in the next column).

In addition to going on field trips and participating in homecoming, CJSA recently had a distinguished guest speaker event. Our guest speaker, Overton Thierry, was a public defender from Fulton County who came and talked to us about his career and the different things he goes through in his exciting career.

Having guest speakers provides our students with opportunities to network with people who are already working in the criminal justice field. CJSA is also engaged in helping out in the community in any way we can.

We encourage students who are interested in the field of criminal justice and criminology to join the Criminal Justice Student Association. Our organization is opened to all GSU students and there is only a 1 time membership fee of $15 which also includes a free CJSA t-shirt.

If you have any other questions regarding our organization please feel free to contact us through our email, gsu.cjsa@gmail.com and we will be more than happy to further discuss our organization with you.
Lectures hosted by Department in Summer and Fall 2014

“Legitimacy, race, and urban policing: A study of black clergy-police partnerships to reduce youth violence.”
By Dr. Rod K. Brunson (Rutgers University)

“Reinterpreting the Social Distribution of Interpersonal Violence: A Research Note”
By Dr. Mark Berg (University of Iowa)

Summer 2014 Graduation/Internship Fair

Is GPS trafficking effective in reducing domestic violence?
(June Park)

Does principle-based ethical leadership promote the growth of security company?
(Daniel Clark)

Do TSA full body scanners invade travelers’ privacy rights?
(Amanda McMeen)
Shantoria Williams (pictured with Richard Wright) cutting the cake at our Fall 2014 Graduation/Internship Reception

Should police officers be required to have a 4-year degree? (Brittaney Harvey)

David Tuggle discusses his project on whether the Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI) is effective with Prof. Michael Shapiro.

Should medical marijuana be legalized? (Scottie Smith)
Prof. Michael Shapiro conversing with internship fair guests.

Does mental illness cause child molestation?
(Shantoria Williams)

Do accountability courts reduce recidivism in mental health patients?
(Devin McDaniel)

Is the current Georgia state budget effective in managing the prison population?
(Gregory Louis)

Should sexually abused child molesters undergo therapy?
(Catrina Parham)

Should children be able to visit their mothers in prison?
(Tiffany Sellers)