

## **FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK**

Hello and Welcome to Winter Quarter 2007. I hope that you had a respite during the break and a happy holiday season.

We had a great Fall quarter. First, on September 29th, we were visited by Patrick Carr (Assistant Professor of Sociology, Rutgers University), who presented his research entitled, *We Never Call the Cops and Here is Why: A Qualitative Examination of Legal Cynicism in Three Philadelphia Neighborhoods*. In this research, Pat illustrated how youths in three high crime neighborhoods express negative attitudes toward the police as a result of their (and their friends) experiences with law enforcement, but then, paradoxically, suggest that crime in their neighborhoods could be reduced through tougher law enforcement. Pat argued that these results indicate that residents of high crime neighborhoods do not adhere to a subculture that is anti-law enforcement, but rather show how disparate law enforcement can serve to attenuate norms supportive of the police.

In October, Richard Brooks (Associate Professor of Law, Yale Law School) presented his research entitled, *Contact, Comparison, and Conflict: Peers and Perceptions of Racial Justice*. Using data from the Chicago Public Schools, Richard takes into account the role of the school lottery system in structuring school contexts. His findings indicate that Black adolescents who win school lotteries to attend schools that are 25% or more White perceive more justice than those who do not win the lotteries. However, the effect is the opposite for Latino youth. Richards research illustrates the importance of specifically considering mechanisms of selection in analyses of contextual effects.

On November 17, we hosted the second symposium in the Excellence in Justice series, co-sponsored by the CJRC, the Ohio Institute on Correctional Best Practices, and the OSU School of Public Policy and Management. Our keynote speaker was Barbara Bloom (Associate Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Sonoma State University). Her talk was entitled, *Gender Responsive Strategies: Responding to Women Offenders*, and focused on the characteristics of women in the criminal justice system, theoretical frameworks as to why gender matters in criminal justice practice, and potential gender-responsive strategies for practitioners.

Three discussants addressed the implications of Barbaras presentation. First, Dana Hubbard (Assistant Professor of Sociology, Cleveland State University) emphasized the importance of interpersonal skills training for both offenders and corrections personnel. Second, Tracy Tyson-Parker (Warden, Franklin Pre-Release Center) provided real world examples from her own experiences with women offenders and how corrections policies often differentially (and unintentionally) impact women. Finally, Laurie Krivo (Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University) presented remarks on behalf of Wendy Smooth (Assistant Professor of Womens Studies, Ohio State University) that emphasized the intersection between race and gender and the ways in which multiple categories of individual identities inform how women offenders experience the criminal justice system.

Our upcoming Winter seminars promise to be just as engaging as our Fall lineup (see below). Please plan to join us.

--Ruth

## **UPCOMING CJRC EVENTS OF INTEREST**

Please join us for these upcoming events. As usual, coffee, tea, and pastries will be served.

Friday, January 12, 2007 Steven F. Messner (Distinguished Teaching Professor, Sociology, University at Albany--State University of New York): A Multilevel Analysis of the Risk of Household Burglary in the City of Jianjin, China. Journalism 243, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Friday, February 9, 2007 Institute for Excellence In Justice Symposium. Featured Speaker: Byron Johnson (Professor of Sociology, Baylor University): Faith-Based Programming: Re-entry and Recidivism. The featured discussants are: Townsend Price-Spratlen (Associate Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University) and Chris Money (Special Assistant to the Director, Ohio Department of Youth Services). Ohio Institute on Correctional Best Practices, London, Ohio, 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

Friday, March 2, 2007 Lori Burrington (PhD Candidate, Sociology, Ohio State University): Family Resources, Neighborhood Structure, and Problem Behavior: A Multilevel Re-Examination of the SES/Delinquency Relationship. Journalism 243, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

#### WHAT CENTER PARTICIPANTS ARE DOING

Walter DeKeseredy (University of Ontario Institute of Technology), with Carolyn Rebecca Block (Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority), recently had an article accepted for publication in Women's Health and Urban Life: An International and Interdisciplinary Journal. The title of this piece is, "Forced Sex and Leaving Intimate Relationships: Results of the Chicago Women's Health Risk Study."

Together with Joe Donnermeyer (Rural Sociology, Ohio State University), Kenneth Tunnell, Martin Schwartz and Mandy Hall, Walter presented a paper titled, "Thinking Critically about Rural Gender Relations: Toward a Rural Masculinity Crisis/Male Peer Support Model of Separation/Divorce Sexual Assault" at the American Society of Criminology Conference in Los Angeles in November.

Finally, Walter is the Series Editor of the Lexington Books' Series titled Critical Perspectives on Crime and Inequality. Thus far, three books in this series have been published and Walter is looking for submissions. Please send all correspondence to him at [walter.dekeseredy@uoit.ca](mailto:walter.dekeseredy@uoit.ca).

Lauren Krivo and Ruth Peterson (Sociology) received the Julius Debro Award from the Division on People of Color and Crime of the American Society of Criminology at the Societys annual meetings in Los Angeles in November. The Debro Award recognizes professional members of the Division who make outstanding contributions in service to professional organizations, academic institutions, or the advancement of criminal justice.

Michael Maltz (CJRC and Sociology) was asked to be on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Experimental Criminology.

Danielle Payne (PhD candidate, Sociology) has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, Bowling Green State University, to begin in August, 2007.

Victor Streib (Pettit College of Law, Ohio Northern University) has recent work opposing sentences of life in prison without parole for juvenile offenders. The first is a research article entitled, "Life Without Parole for Children," \_\_\_\_ Criminal Justice \_\_\_\_ (Winter 2007) (American Bar Association) (with Bernadette Schrempf) (in press). The second is in the form of a Proposed Resolution now before the ABA: Resolutions with Report on Sentence Mitigation for Youthful Offenders (November 2006)

(Report to the American Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section).

James Sutton (PhD candidate, Sociology) has accepted a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, California State University - Chico beginning Fall, 2007. Jim has also been accepted to participate in the Inside-Out National Instructor Training Institute in January, 2007. Through this program, Jim will receive training to develop his own Inside-Out course. The Inside-Out model brings together students from college classrooms (outside students) with incarcerated (inside) students. Outside students learn about the criminal justice system, while inside students learn to place their experiences within a broader social context. Classes are held both on campus and at the prison facility.

Jim Taylor (PhD candidate, Sociology) has accepted a position as Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. He will also be presenting a paper on the topic of gun culture at the North Central Sociological Association Meeting in Chicago, Illinois. Finally, he was nominated this year by the Sphinx/Mortarboard Senior Honorarium as an Outstanding Faculty Member.

Deanna Wilkinson (Human Development and Family Science) has three recent publications. The first is entitled, Local social ties and willingness to intervene: Textured views among violent urban youth of neighborhood social control dynamics and situations, and will be published in Justice Quarterly in 2007. The second, with J. Fagan and G. Davies, is entitled, Social Contagion of Violence, and will be published in Flannery, D., Vazsonyi, A., & Waldman, I. (eds.), The Cambridge Handbook of Violent Behavior. (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. 2007.) Finally, with Kerryn Bell (PhD Candidate, Sociology), she has a forthcoming publication entitled, Urban Gun Homicide and Youth Violence: Perspectives from Trends in the United States and Violent NYC Youth. This publication was commissioned by The Small Arms Survey Yearbook 2007, Geneva, Switzerland.

Deanna also had an invited lecture entitled, Event Dynamics and the Role of Third Parties in Youth Violence, which she presented at the Harvard University Injury Control Center in May, 2006. She will be a featured presenter at Columbus Unites to Stop Violence (see details below in the CALLS FOR PAPERS, CONFERENCES, AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES section of the News). She also has been appointed the Area Chair for Violence on the Program Committee for the 2007 Meetings of the American Society of Criminology. Finally, she would like to draw students attention to an upcoming course (Winter 2007) she will be teaching on Adolescence and Risk in Context(HDFS 840.01). The course will be offered Fridays from 9:30-12:18.

Deanna also reports that the Journal of Community Psychology has an upcoming special issue on Youth Violence. The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2007.

#### CALLS FOR PAPERS, CONFERENCES, AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Midwest Regional Conference will be held on January 9-10, 2007 at The Columbus, A Renaissance Hotel, 50 North Third Street, Columbus, OH 43215. You may register for the meeting by clicking [here](#). For more information about the regional meeting, including a full agenda, please click [here](#). If you have questions about the regional conference series, please email NCJA Senior Staff Associate Marilyn Bassett-Lance.

The Columbus Unites to Stop Violence luncheon will be held on February 1, 2007 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the The Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 555 North High Street, Columbus Ohio 43215. The

cost is \$55 per ticket. This luncheon will introduce participants to strategies to reduce and prevent violence and violent crimes among our youth. Keynote speakers include Deanna L. Wilkinson, Department of Human Development and Family Science, The Ohio State University; Veteran Police Officer Steve Billups; and emcee Angela Pace, Director of Community Affairs, WBNS-10TV. A silent auction will be held featuring Glory Foods Gift Baskets, SAVE Original Works Art, an Easton Gift Pack and many other items.

The Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice has announced three new special issues. All manuscripts will be peer-reviewed. Manuscripts should be no more than 25 typed, double-spaced pages including tables, figures and references. The first special issue is on the topic, The Theory and Practice of Racial Profiling. Particular focus will be upon factors relating to the censorship of research data on racial profiling. Assessment of the police handling of matters relating to Hurricane Katrina may also be of some interest. Particular focus will also be upon critical methodological issues on policing, explaining the disparity of racial profiling, political and legal responses to racial profiling, etc. Inquiries about the appropriateness of topics should be directed to Zina McGee, JCCJ Guest Editor, via email at (zina.mcgee@hamptonu.edu) or telephone (757-728-6913). Send four manuscript copies, along with the manuscript on disk, to Zina McGee, Department of Sociology, Hampton University, 246 MLK Hall, Hampton, Virginia, 23668.

The second special issue is titled, Empirical Studies of Gender Responsive Approaches to the Classification and Treatment of Women Offenders. The Journal is particularly interested in empirical studies of the efficacy of gender-responsive programming and assessments. This would include, but not be limited to, evaluation studies, validation studies of risk and needs assessments, and empirical tests of relevant theories. Patricia Van Voorhis, Emily Salisbury, and Emily Wright from the University of Cincinnati will serve as guest editors for this special issue. Inquiries about the appropriateness of topics should be directed to Patricia Van Voorhis via email at pat.vanvoorhis@uc.edu or telephone (513-575-2221). Please send four manuscript copies, along with the manuscript on disk, to Patricia Van Voorhis, Division of Criminal Justice, PO 210389, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221.

The third issue is on the topic, Evidence-Based Practices for Responding to Victimization. This volume will focus on assessments of programs developed for the purpose of assisting persons with some of the consequences of victimization. Such research may include programs designed to alleviate emotional distress, provide financial assistance, prevent re-victimization, or inhibit retaliatory offending. It may also include assessments of efforts to involve victims in the criminal justice system- for example, through victim impact statements, restorative justice panels, or statements at parole board hearings. Inquiries about the appropriateness of topics should be directed to Janet Lauritsen, JCCJ Guest Editor, via email (at Janet\_Lauritsen@umsl.edu) or telephone (314-516-5427). Please send four manuscript copies, along with the manuscript on disk, to Janet Lauritsen, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Missouri-St. Louis, One University Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63121.

Deadlines:

Racial Profiling Issue: January 15, 2007

Women Offenders Issue: March 15, 2007

Responding to Victimization Issue: September 1, 2007

## FEATURED STUDENT PARTICIPANT

Diana Karafin

Diana Karafin (PhD candidate, Sociology) was born in Texas, but spent most of her life in a small town outside Honolulu, Hawaii (aside from three years she spent in Stuttgart, Germany while her father was stationed in the Army). When exploring options for college, she applied to schools all over the United States, and ultimately decided to attend Baylor University in Waco, Texas (and became the first member of her family to attend college).

For the first two years of her time at Baylor, Diana remained uncertain about a major. In her junior year, however, she developed a small crush on her friend Scott, a fellow Baylor student. When Scott decided to sign up for a sociology course to obtain general social science credits, on a lark, she decided to enroll as well to get to know him better. The course they took was taught by urban sociologist Larry Lyon, author of *The Community in Urban Society*, and an excellent and inspiring educator. Though Diana had not previously entertained an interest in sociology, she left each class brimming with questions and thoughts about the material, especially that pertaining to race, class, and gender inequality in society. By the time the course ended, Diana had found her major, and had further developed her relationship with Scott (whom she later married).

Diana applied to the Masters program in Sociology at Baylor, and received her degree there in 2002. Her thesis was entitled, *Do I Tell Him Hes Fat? Physicians Perceptions of and Practices Toward Obese Patients*. Diana ultimately was drawn to pursue doctoral studies at Ohio State, citing the sociology programs strengths in social stratification and inequality studies, and research opportunities in her areas of interest (which, despite her Masters thesis topic, remained in stratification and urban sociology).

At Ohio State, Dianas enthusiasm for sociology made her a valuable and thoughtful contributor to classroom discussions. She signed up for Vinnie Roscignos research practicum, in which participants concentrated on social determinants of housing discrimination, using data from discrimination cases filed with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission between 1988-2003. Her work in the practicum resulted in two chapters in Dr. Roscignos forthcoming edited volume, *The Face of Discrimination*. She was later recruited to work with Ruth Peterson and Laurie Krivo on a chapter from their edited volume (with John Hagan), *The Many Colors of Crime: Inequalities of Race, Ethnicity, and Crime in America*. The chapter is entitled, *Perceptions of Crime and Safety in Racially and Economically Distinct Neighborhoods*.

In 2005, her husband Scott was accepted into dental school at New York University, and Diana decided it would be impossible for her to pass up the opportunity to experience life in New York City. While in New York, she has been dedicated to acquiring additional research experience while continuing her doctoral studies. One opportunity arose after Bruce Western (Princeton sociology) presented his research at a CJRC seminar in 2005. Dianas advisor, Laurie Krivo, knew that Bruce had an ongoing project in New York City, and recommended Diana to him. She was later hired to serve as a research consultant to Devah Pager (also of Princeton) and Bruce on that project, which is entitled, *Discrimination in Low-Wage Labor Markets*. For this project, she has designed and conducted interviews with over 50 employers in New York City on issues of race/ethnicity and discrimination. The purpose of the study is to compare employers stated perceptions of the presence (or lack of) discrimination in the labor market with actual audit outcomes at the employers workplaces. She is currently working on analyses of these data with Devah and Bruce, and looks forward to writing and presenting results in the coming year.

Diana has also recently accepted a position as a Senior Research Associate with The Center for Court Innovation on a project entitled, Going to Scale with Problem-Solving Justice: The Bronx Community Solutions Experiment. Diana is currently examining how an alternative-to-jail sentencing experiment in the Bronx Criminal Division impacts court patterns, the Bronx community, recidivism, and the lives of individual offenders. As part of a problem-solving justice initiative funded by the Department of Justice aimed at diminishing the popularity and use of short-term jail sentences by judges for low-level, non-violent offenders, judges at the Bronx Criminal Court House have been provided with alternative sentencing options for low level, nonviolent offenders, such as social and/or community service. These alternative sentences are tailored to address the individual offenders specific circumstances, with the intention of reorienting the offender toward a prosocial trajectory. While Dianas current role is to evaluate the programs outcomes, she is also working on thinking about and examining the theoretical implications of wide-scale adoption of problem-solving justice principles on structural patterns of racial and ethnic inequality in criminal justice. Though problem-solving justice principles focus primarily on individual-level causes and solutions of crime, can they also produce direct or indirect effects on structural patterns of racial and ethnic inequality in criminal justice?

Currently, Diana is finalizing her dissertation topic, which she hopes will unite her many research interests and experiences, and may offer potential solutions to rectify longstanding patterns of racial and ethnic injustice. Much of her free-time reading is devoted to further exploring the research literature on these topics. However, she also enjoys re-reading classic novels that employ themes of inequality, injustice, and the urban environment, such as the works of Charles Dickens. A particular favorite is Dickenss David Copperfield.

In November, Diana completed the New York Marathon after months of training. Consistent with her caring personality, Diana ran the marathon not for herself, but as a member of Freds Team, a group organized through Memorial Sloan-Kettering to raise money for cancer research. Dianas effort was dedicated to the memory of her father-in-law, Stan Karafin, who lost his life to colon cancer in 2001. She successfully completed the marathon, and raised over \$1,500 for Sloan-Ketterings Cancer Center in the process. Given her success at the marathon that is graduate school, her friends and colleagues were not surprised to learn she conquered yet another long haul.

Thanks to all of you who sent your suggestions and announcements. We encourage you to keep us informed about any events that might be of interest to CJRC participants as well as any suggestions that you have for activities or programs. To contact the newsletter editor, please e-mail Lori at [muccino.1@osu.edu](mailto:muccino.1@osu.edu). If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please send Lori your e-mail address.