FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK

Happy New Year!!! everyone and welcome to Winter Quarter 2009. I hope that you are off to a good start in 2009. Still, I want to take a moment to look back at the wonderful end that CJRC had to 2008. The visit of Professor Elijah Anderson to OSU was a wonderful way to culminate our year. Following on the heels of two great seminars earlier in the quarter (Laurie Krivo’s presentation of our on-going work on neighborhood crime, and Chris Uggen’s presentation on the Minnesota Exits and Entries Project”), Eli "brought the house down" in an array of fora over the two days of his visit. Whether he was discussing the plight of African American males in urban society, the sources of violence in urban communities, or the new Black middle class, audience members found both the content and style of his presentations engaging and informative. There is no doubt that there was much value added to OSU’s intellectual climate during his visit. Thus, I am grateful to: Eli for joining us and providing us with so much food for thought; the co-sponsors of the events for their financial support and participation (the Kirwan Institute, Office of Minority Affairs, Department of Sociology, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences); and, most important, all of you for your engagement with Dr. Anderson during his visit.

As always, we are working hard at CJRC to make 2009 as productive and intellectually stimulating a year as 2008 was. Thus, we are continuing to provide support for an array of projects, and to offer seminars to add value to our intellectual climate. The times and places of upcoming seminars are noted below (see “Upcoming CJRC Events” section). Here, I simply want to point out that we are very pleased that Aubrey Jackson (a doctoral student in sociology) and Doris Marie Provine (Professor of Justice and Social Inquiry at Arizona State University) will be presenting on their on-going research during winter. Aubrey will join us next week to discuss her research on rape law severity and its determinants. In February, Marie will visit to discuss her research related to local policing in the context of immigration. You will need to stay tuned for information regarding our third winter quarter presenter as the person that we had slated to speak on March 6 has had to postpone his visit. I promise you that we have excellent alternatives. Thus, I will provide you with information about our final winter quarter speaker as soon as I have a confirmation.

Although we are just getting winter quarter on the way, I want to bring your attention to the fact that the Annual Walter C. Reckless and Simon Dinitz Memorial Lecture has been scheduled for early spring quarter. It will be held on April 2, 2009. Professor Tom Tyler (Chair and University Professor of Psychology at New York University) will be the 20 Annual Reckless-Dinitz Lecturer. As you know, this talk is an evening event. So, please mark your calendars and be sure to join us. Also, stay tuned for additional information regarding the content of Dr. Tyler’s talk, and other events surrounding the Reckless Lecture.

I wish you well as you start the new year, and look forward to seeing you at all CJRC events. --Ruth
UPCOMING CJRC EVENTS OF INTEREST

Friday, January 16, 2009 - Aubrey Jackson (Doctoral Candidate, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University). "The Determinants of Rape Law Severity: Gender Politics or Racial Threat?" Journalism 243 (IPR Seminar Room), 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Coffee, juice and refreshments will be served.

Friday, February 6, 2009 - Doris Marie Provine (Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry, Arizona State University). "The Cops Want To Know My Legal Status: Local Policing in the Context of Immigration." Journalism 243 (IPR Seminar Room), 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Coffee, juice and refreshments will be served.

Late February or Early March, 2009 - Seminar to be announced.

Tuesday, April 2, 2009 - Tom Tyler (Chair and University Professor of Psychology at New York University). Title, Time, and Place, to be announced.

WHAT CENTER PARTICIPANTS ARE DOING

Walter DeKeseredy (University of Ontario Institute of Technology) presented a paper based on his study of separation/divorce sexual assault in rural Ohio to Boston College’s School of Social Work Graduate program.

Walter also has the following new publications:


Jim Taylor (Sociology; Ohio University) appeared as a guest speaker on Keith Haley’s Internet Radio Show “Jumbled Justice,” on November 13, 2008. He discussed the findings from his research on gun culture. The segment was titled “Gun Rituals and Stories of the Gun: Exploring the Symbolic Value of Guns in the U.S.”

Deanna Wilkinson (Human Development and Family Science) will be giving a talk to the AAAS community extension office on January 14, 2009. The talk will take place at 905 Mount Vernon Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43203 at 6:30pm and is open to the public. The title of the talk will be: “Understanding and Preventing Urban Youth Violence: How Every Violence Matters.”
CALLS FOR PAPERS, CONFERENCES, AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Ohio State’s Mershon Center for International Security Studies is holding a competition for OSU faculty and graduate students to apply for research support in international security. Grants may be used for a variety of research-related purposes including travel, seminars, conferences, interviews, experiments, surveys, library costs, and other expenses. Applications must be for projects that relate to one or more of the Mershon Center’s three areas of focus:
- The use of force and diplomacy
- The ideas, identities and decisional processes that affect security
- The institutions that manage violent conflict

For more information, go to: http://mershoncenter.osu.edu/grants/grants/grants.htm

The Criminal Justice Policy Review is currently soliciting manuscripts for a special issue on situational crime prevention. The Criminal Justice Policy Review is a multi-disciplinary peer-reviewed journal publishing articles written by scholars committed to the study of criminal justice policy through experimental, quasi-experimental, and non-experimental approaches. The journal is published quarterly and accepts appropriate articles, essays, research notes, and book reviews. It also provides a forum for occasional special issues on notable topics in crime and justice.

Situational crime prevention is often characterized as comprising measures (1) directed at highly specific forms of crime (2) that involve the management, design, or manipulation of the immediate environment in as systematic a way as possible (3) so as to reduce the opportunities for crime and increase the risks as perceived by a wide range of offenders. Manuscripts considered for publication in this special issue could focus on a variety of topics, including (but not limited to): (a) situational crime prevention impact research studies; (b) situation crime prevention typologies; (c) theoretical perspective and situation crime prevention; and (d) innovations in situational crime prevention. Keeping with the focus of the journal, all submissions should include a discussion of policy implications.

Deadline for submissions: 1/31/09

For more information, please visit the following link: http://www.hhs.iup.edu/cr/CJPR
**Corrections Compendium**, the bimonthly journal of the American Correctional Association, is seeking submissions for upcoming issues. Its international readership includes individuals involved in various sectors of the corrections and criminal justice fields, including individuals employed in academia, state and local correction agencies, and community corrections, to those in probation and parole and juvenile services.

A leading peer-reviewed publication in the corrections field, **Corrections Compendium** welcomes you to submit your research-based papers for possible publication. We are open to submissions on all subjects—provided that they relate to corrections and adhere to standards of quality scholarship. A typical article is approximately 3,000 to 6,000 words, excluding references, endnotes, tables, charts, etc. All submissions are reviewed by members of our editorial advisory board. Articles must not have been published elsewhere or be under consideration by another publication. Do you think you have what we are looking for? If so, please email your article to Susan Clayton, Managing Editor, Periodicals, ACA, at susanc@aca.org in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect format, double spaced, with any tables or charts at the end of the text. Please remember to include your name, title, affiliation, address, daytime telephone number, fax number, and email address.

**Deadline for submissions: CONTINUOUS**

The **U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice** is seeking applications for funding proposals for a national study that will provide a comprehensive compilation of Federal and State collateral consequences for criminal convictions. This program furthers the Department’s mission by sponsoring research to provide objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to meet the challenges of crime and justice, particularly at the State and local levels.

For more information, go to: [http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000845.pdf](http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000845.pdf)

**Deadline for submissions: 2/4/09**
This Issue’s Feature:

The Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law

The Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law is not your run-of-the-mill law review, according to Joshua Dressler, Frank R. Strong Chair in Law of the Moritz College of Law at Ohio State. Joshua, along with fellow OSU law professor Doug Berman and Moritz Dean Alan Michaels, co-edit what may be one of the most unique publishing outlets for criminal justice scholars and practitioners.

Issued biannually since the fall of 2003, the OSJCL was intended to fill a gap in traditional law reviews. In doing so, the OSJCL has managed to carve out a niche for itself in an arena populated with journals which, for the most part, look a lot like one another.

The OSJCL stands apart for a number of reasons. One is that it is peer-reviewed. Most law reviews are edited entirely by students who decide which articles to publish. While this may be the prevailing model, it strikes Joshua as counterintuitive inasmuch as law students – even third-year rising stars – know relatively little about the law. Consequently, the OSJCL is reviewed by legal scholars, primarily OSU law faculty, with assistance from a distinguished board of advisers. Students are still involved, but in non-editorial aspects of production such as fact-checking and standardizing the Bluebook reference style.

Another way in which the OSJCL sets itself apart is the welcome it extends to interdisciplinary contributors. The scholarship of law professors typically fills the pages of most law reviews, but the OSJCL eagerly solicits contributions from those representing non-legal fields including the humanities, the biological and physical sciences, and the social and behavioral sciences.

Each issue of the OSJCL is arranged around a specific symposium. A guest editor, chosen for his or her expertise, then solicits other scholars to contribute to the issue. The concept has apparently been successful because the OSJCL has attracted a roster of first-rate scholars.

Yet another distinguishing feature of the OSJCL is its publication of non-traditional manuscripts in the Commentary section. These pieces, which run anywhere from 5,000 to 7,500 words, are much more informal than most law review articles. Contributors may use first person and fewer footnotes. Published articles have included a personal account of the jury selection process and an imaginary Supreme Court opinion from the future.

The OSJCL also has a book review section. Most often these are solicited, but the editors are open to ideas from potential contributors.

The editors have made the full text of OSJCL available online. While this reduces paid subscriptions, it makes the journal accessible to countless potential readers and contributors, a feature which expands its usefulness and visibility.

The OSJCL editors would very much like to have more criminologists as readers and contributors. In fact, a future issue will focus on “What Criminology Can Offer the Law World.” For more information, please visit http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/osjcl/
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 email Derrick Bryan at bryan.127@osu.edu. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please send Derrick your e-mail address.

Derrick M. Bryan  
Department of Sociology  
Ohio State University  
238 Townshend Hall  
1885 Neil Avenue Mall  
Columbus, Ohio 43210