Student Research Flourishes at SCJ

School of Criminal Justice students tackle some intriguing research questions. Whether assigned to a research project, seeking a project for course credit, or simply stumbling upon an area in need of further exploration, students at every level are collaborating with SCJ faculty on a wide variety of fascinating projects. Presented here are a few examples of successful student-faculty teams: Andrew Davies and Professor Alissa Worden investigate indigent defense issues; Vanessa Panfil works on a range of projects with Professor Dana Peterson; and Vanessa Schrader collaborates with Distinguished Teaching Professor James Acker to address a pervasive lack of civic knowledge among college students.

Andrew Davies and Alissa Worden

While preparing a literature review for Design I, Ph.D. student Andrew Davies came across Professor Alissa Worden's work. He approached her with some questions, and from that conversation sprang a fruitful research collaboration that has already led to three papers accepted for publication, including a forthcoming article in Law and Society Review.

Davies and Worden began looking at issues in indigent defense, including how different states provide public defender services. Although every state is obliged to provide public defenders for those who cannot afford a lawyer, substantial differences exist from state to state, most notably in how each program is funded and the amount of money expended. The team also identified patterns tied to states' predominant political leanings. Public defense programs in more conservative states tend to be less generous and less likely to follow best practices.

As they pursued the research, Davies and Worden discovered a surprising trend. Over the last 30 years, criminal justice measures have grown harsher. Sentences are longer and more punitive. Interestingly, over the same period, funding for public defense has steadily increased. The team aims to expand on this theme in order to broaden what people think about criminal justice -- to demonstrate that there is more to CJ than increasingly harsh penalties. For example, there are numerous CJ policies, such as community corrections, rehabilitation centers, restorative justice programs for kids and public defense programs, that seek to focus on the constructive aspects of the CJ system.

Davies presented the team's research during a visit to his home in England. After his presentation, an audience member invited him to present at a meeting on the Federal Nations of North America at the British Library. The team also traveled to Atlanta, GA to present at the annual American Society of Criminology conference. As their work continues, they have ambitions to publish three more articles and turn their research into a book. Currently their focus is on recruiting undergraduate students to join the project.

Davies enthusiastically explains, “I couldn't succeed without Alissa. She offers guidance on where to publish and how to transform a big idea into publishable work. This collaboration has been a terrific experience for career development.”

Vanessa Panfil and Dana Peterson

Vanessa Panfil, a Ph.D. student entering her second year, is exploring her research interests through a number of Professor Dana Peterson’s ongoing projects. As part of the Service Outcomes Action Research (SOAR) Project, the research team conducted interviews with a sample of youth in residential treatment. Panfil reviews the interview transcripts to identify response patterns. In particular, she is looking for references to same-sex sexual behavior (e.g., “all of the girls here are gay”) to determine if there are any correlations with other factors such as feelings of safety, cooperativeness and engagement, or readiness to change. Identifying such patterns could prove an important element in developing successful treatment plans. Panfil will present her work during the 2008 American Society of Criminology conference.

Panfil is also involved in an evaluation of the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) Inside this Issue:
This year has been a time of transition for the School. The retirement of Professor David Duffee, after thirty years of service to the School, would be much harder to accept if David was not still deeply involved, continuing to advise a cadre of students and head up the SOAR project. There is no one who has been more selflessly devoted to the School and its students than David. He served as dean during difficult budget times, but managed to keep the School at the forefront of the field, maintaining top quality faculty and students, and preserving an atmosphere of cooperation and collegiality. After stepping down as dean, David continued to play important leadership roles, devoting great time and energy to tasks that brought little personal recognition but were critical to moving the program forward. He was a key player in the recruitment of minorities and women for the faculty and the Ph.D. program, and he dedicated considerable time to mentoring junior faculty. David’s service ethic is also reflected in his research and teaching. The impact of his work was appropriately recognized this spring when David was honored for his contributions to juvenile programming by the LaSalle Institute’s annual service award. He has been a dedicated and effective teacher, always the one to volunteer to teach a needed course or design a new course to fill an unmet need. David is a wonderful scholar and teacher, and no one could ask for more in a colleague. He will be greatly missed.

Vanessa Schrader and James Acker

On May 18, Vanessa Schrader received the University’s Presidential Undergraduate Research Award. A sophomore in the honors college, Schrader was encouraged to start doing research early in her studies. During a meeting for prospective Criminal Justice majors, she mentioned her interest in pursuing a research project with a law concentration and thus began a collaboration with Distinguished Teaching Professor James Acker.

Schrader’s project grew from some literature Acker had identified regarding an overwhelming lack of civic knowledge among college students. An Intercollegiate Studies Institute survey found that students did not have even the most basic civic knowledge. Many colleges have responded to that shortcoming by offering a Legal Studies major, combining American History, Political Theory, Science, Philosophy, Criminal Justice and the Economics of Law. Schrader set out to compare the existing programs’ curricula with current UAlbany course offerings.

She explains, “Students who understand the value of civic participation are more likely to register to vote, perform community service, and communicate with their government representatives.” She goes on to highlight the benefits of a Legal Studies program, “These programs offer students an opportunity to broaden their horizons. Students can’t take four different minors, but the University can create an opportunity for students to get knowledge from many different areas.”

The program Schrader has designed would start with an interdisciplinary minor, drawing faculty from different departments across the University. She presented her research paper during the University’s Undergraduate Research Conference in May and will submit her program proposal to Interim President George Philip following a few minor revisions.

Upon completing her undergraduate studies, Schrader plans to go to law school and practice corporate or criminal law. She developed her interest in law while participating in the New Visions Program through her high school in Oswego, NY. The program offered students an opportunity to do mini-internships with government agencies. Schrader worked in the District Attorney’s office, the Court Clerk’s office, and the City Court. She also took part in the program’s mock trial. She plans to participate in Acker’s Moot Court program during her junior or senior year.

Deane’s Message

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SCJ Bids Farewell to Dr. David Duffee

It is nearly impossible to count the number of lives touched by Professor David Duffee. As a teacher, researcher and scholar, Duffee has unceasingly shared his expertise, experience and enthusiasm with students, colleagues and the community. His easygoing demeanor and steadfast dedication made him a favorite among students and his work with the Service Outcomes Action Research (SOAR) Project will doubtlessly lead to improved services for countless young people throughout the State of New York and beyond.

On May 1, Duffee's commitment to the community was honored by the LaSalle School at the 26th Annual Lasallian Dinner. He received the Lasallian Service Award for his many community accomplishments including partnering with LaSalle and St. Anne Institute to determine how children and families were impacted by the programs and services after they left placement.

A member of the very first class of Ph.D. students admitted to the University at Albany School of Criminal Justice in 1968, Duffee moved on to a faculty position at Pennsylvania State University in 1971, but never lost sight of his educational roots at UAlbany. He returned to the School of Criminal Justice faculty as an associate professor in 1979 and served as the School’s dean for more than seven years starting in 1988.

After nearly 30 years, Duffee recently retired from his post as a professor at the University at Albany. Although officially retired, he continues to oversee dissertation projects for several Ph.D. students, while also remaining active in his role with the SOAR Project. Of course, as an avid golfer, he takes the occasional break to shoot a round at one of the scenic courses near his home in Arizona.

New Faculty - Megan Kurlychek

Dr. Kurlychek joined the School of Criminal Justice in fall 2007. Her research interests include juvenile justice and delinquency, specifically prevention and rehabilitation programming. She has published several pieces focusing on the impact of rehabilitative programming offered in correctional boot camps and aftercare programs. Recently, her research focuses on the obstacles faced by offenders as they attempt to reenter society and the use of criminal history records in limiting legitimate opportunities. She earned her Ph.D. in Crime, Law and Justice from The Pennsylvania State University. Prior to joining UAlbany, Kurlychek was an assistant professor in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice of the University of South Carolina. At UAlbany, her courseload includes Juvenile Justice and Current Issues in Delinquency and Criminology.

In fall 2008, the School will welcome Dr. Jamie Fader and Dr. Allison Redlich to the faculty.

McDowall Stepping Down From Journal

After eight years at the helm, Dr. David McDowall will step down from his role as editor of the Journal of Quantitative Criminology. When McDowall began his term, the journal was predominantly print-based, but it has become increasingly web-friendly over the years. The online version is widely read, and articles are now submitted and reviewed electronically.

The Journal publishes papers that apply quantitative techniques to substantive, methodological, or evaluative areas of interest to the criminological community. It has come to be recognized as one of the top journals in the field. Of the nearly 80 articles submitted each year, only 15% are eventually accepted for publication.

McDowall makes it clear that his time as editor was an extremely positive experience. “One would typically read articles pertaining to two or three areas of interest, but as the editor you have an opportunity to read pieces from the whole spectrum of research. It gives you a broader perspective.” He has decided to step down in order to devote more time to his own research. “I enjoyed being the editor. It was challenging and rewarding, but it is time to move on.”

Dean’s Message

continued from page 2

Professor Marv Krohn’s decision to move to a warmer climate (University of Florida) and an administrative position also represents a tremendous loss for the School. Although Marv was a member of the University's Sociology Department from 1985 until 2003, when he joined the School's faculty full time, he always had a joint appointment with the School and was a co-PI for the Rochester Youth Development Study. Over the years he provided notable service to the School, including mentoring many Ph.D. students and serving as the School’s associate dean for the last two years. His voice of reason, good humor, and intellectual leadership will be missed by all. We wish him the best of luck in his new endeavors.

As we said our fond farewells to senior faculty, we also prepared to welcome two outstanding young faculty in the fall of 2008. Profiles of Drs. Jamie Fader and Allison Redlich will be featured in the next newsletter.

We hope to see everyone in October as the School celebrates its fortieth anniversary with a gala event in downtown Albany. Bring your families to enjoy fall foliage, renew old acquaintances, and join in the fun!
Richard C. Gentilcore, B.A. History ’66

When Richard Gentilcore returned to civilian life after serving in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, he was unsure what his future might hold. Holding a bachelor’s degree in History from the University at Albany, he was accepted into George Washington University Law School and graduate study at Georgetown. Then, an unsolicited application from the Federal Bureau of Investigation arrived. In March 1970, he began his career with the FBI, assigned to an organized crime unit. He started in Chicago, then transferred to New York to focus on the Gambino family. Ten years later, he moved to Miami – the “sub-office” for New York’s crime families.

“I was never bored,” Gentilcore says of his 24-year career. He worked extensively with informants and witnesses and collaborated closely with the U.S. Attorney, spending a significant amount of time in the courtroom.

“I started to support the School of Criminal Justice because I believe they are making a real effort to help people in law enforcement. Criminal justice is a great field to train in.” He continues, “The best way to combat terrorism is through law enforcement at home and abroad. It requires good people and good relationships with agencies all over the world.”

Gentilcore retired from the FBI in 1994 and earned a Master’s degree in International Studies through Syracuse University in 1996. He returned to UAlbany in October 2006 and spoke to a class about using informants and Title III surveillance. These days, he teaches tennis to children through a program run by the City of Ft. Lauderdale.

Catherine Cerulli, Ph.D. ’04

Dr. Catherine Cerulli always knew she would work in domestic violence prevention. She knew she wanted to create change on an individual level, but wasn’t quite sure how. Today, she is a national leader in domestic violence research.

After graduating from high school, Cerulli took a summer job outside of Albany to work with kids, many of whom had been abused and neglected. She was struck by a common thread in their lives – their mothers were with violent partners. From there she volunteered with a 24-hour domestic violence hotline. While earning her law degree at SUNY Buffalo, she worked as the coordinator of the legal clinic at Haven House, a domestic violence shelter, and went on to co-found the Family Violence Clinic at the School of Law. As an assistant prosecutor in the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office, Cerulli began considering ways to fill the holes in the system. She founded SAFE (Stop Abuse in the Family Environment), a domestic violence misdemeanor program, in 1996 and shortly thereafter entered the University at Albany’s Ph.D. program in criminal justice.

Now an assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) and director of research at SUNY Buffalo’s School of Law, Cerulli is currently involved in two major research projects. Funding from the National Institute of Mental Health supports a study aimed at identifying acute mental health needs of domestic violence victims. Currently, victims are not routinely asked about mental health or substance abuse issues. This project will use the courts as a base of operations, asking victims to complete computer-assisted surveys in hopes of linking victims with mental health services they might otherwise never receive.

Through a National Institute of Justice grant, Cerulli is tracking domestic violence victims through hospitals, family courts, and police to explore whether victim participation in prosecution enhances subsequent safety and wellness.

For Cerulli, her dissertation chair was a key component in achieving a seemingly insurmountable task. After six years in the Ph.D. program, with two small children at home, she was on the verge of quitting. When Professor James Acker encouraged her to continue, he told her, “Your degree won’t change who you are. It will change how you think.”

While she never expected to follow this career path, Cerulli acknowledges, “I could not do the kind of work I’m doing now without completing the Ph.D. program.” She credits the time she spent in the Ph.D. program with allowing her to think about things on a system-wide level.

Cerulli and her husband, Chris Thomas, a 1986 graduate of UAlbany’s Political Science program, have two children, Michael (11) and Owen (8). Grateful that URMC is a family-first environment, she makes it clear that she doesn’t consider herself a working mother, but instead “a mother working.”
James R. Halvorsen, M.A. ’06

Lieutenant James Halvorsen entered the School of Criminal Justice Master's program in fall 2005 along with five of his colleagues from the New York State Police. When he completed his degree, he returned to the NYSP armed with statistics and an innovative idea.

As a collision reconstructionist and motorcycle enthusiast, Halvorsen was inspired when Professor Alissa Worden encouraged her Research Design students to study their “passion.” He decided to investigate motorcycle accidents, finding the research fascinating and the statistics astounding.

Back on the job, he approached his superiors with a proposal to set up motorcycle safety checkpoints along New York State's highways. Applying a lesson learned in Professor James Acker's Law and Science course, Halvorsen argued that the personal intrusion of the checkpoint was far outweighed by the benefit to public safety.

In October 2007, a pilot of the Motorcycle Enforcement Project was implemented. The program requires all motorcycles to pull into a safety checkpoint for an inspection before continuing along the highway. Aerial speed enforcement and seatbelt inspection checkpoints hosted by local police are employed to deal with those who flee the site.

Following a successful pilot run, Halvorsen's colleague, Sergeant Dan Larkin, put a marketing spin on the program and prepared a grant proposal. The approved grant includes 15 enforcement details and ten education sites across the state. Its success is drawing interest from several states and the federal government. Halvorsen has presented the project at the Lifesavers 2008 Conference, the Empire State Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Conference, and will travel to Billings, MT to present at the National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators Conference.

Recently, he was invited by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to join their Motorcycle Safety Assessment Team. Panelists evaluate motorcycle safety programs for states and localities all over the country. Halvorsen believes the increase in fuel costs is bound to increase the number of people riding motorcycles, making safety programs more important than ever.

Halvorsen is the person who came up with the Motorcycle Enforcement Project at the Lifesavers 2008 Conference, the Empire State Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Conference, and will travel to Billings, MT to present at the National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators Conference.

When asked why he supports the School of Criminal Justice, Walt Francis gives a straightforward answer. “Past graduates have an obligation to help the place that helped them,” he says. Francis happily admits that whenever he applied for a job he knew he would have no problem competing with candidates from other universities. “People ‘in the know’ recognized that a degree from UAlbany was the best,” he says, “Many people have their School of Criminal Justice education to thank for their successful careers.”

Over the past 20 years, Francis has taught at six different community colleges and universities. He recently retired from a faculty position at Western Nebraska Community College.

Francis considered entering law school, but chose the Master's program in criminal justice following a visit to the campus and a conversation with John Morgan, assistant dean at the time. “The criminal justice program at UAlbany had a high reputation and all of the pioneers of the field were there; Sherman, Newman, and Toch. It was unbelievable that they were all in the same place,” he recalls.

Awarded a merit-based fellowship that covered tuition and then some, Francis says he supports the School now to “pay back the investment” the School made in him years ago.

Francis discussed with then-Dean David Bayley ways in which he could support the School. Having read about the Lumbard and Remington awards, Francis was considering support for one or both. Bayley suggested, however, that Francis consider endowing his own award. In 2001, the School of Criminal Justice awarded the first Walter M. Francis Policing Award. Most recently, Francis has begun working with UAlbany’s Office of Gift Planning to establish a bequest in his will.
Many thanks to all those who supported the School of Criminal Justice last year. The following donors have contributed all or a portion of their annual gift or pledge to the School of Criminal Justice from January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007.

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Development Highlights

Ways to Give
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Please remember to designate your gift for the School of Criminal Justice.
John H. Laub, Ph.D. ’80, Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Maryland, College Park, has been awarded the title of Distinguished University Professor.

Michael Carpenter, M.A. ’87 and Roger Fulton, M.A. ’87 released their latest work, A Practical Career Guide for Criminal Justice Professionals, published by Looseleaf Law. It is a guidebook with advice and techniques for achieving success in any criminal justice career. Carpenter is an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at Adirondack Community College in Glens Falls, NY. Fulton retired as a Captain with the New York State Police and now resides in Glens Falls.

William Sprague, M.A. ’87 has been promoted to Major in the New York State Police and will serve as Commander of Troop G in Loudonville, NY.

Michael J. Lynch, Ph.D. ’88, Professor in the Department of Criminology, University of South Florida recently released his book, Big Prisons, Big Dreams: Crime and the Failure of America’s Penal System, published by Rutgers University Press.

Bryon Christman, M.A. ’89 was promoted to Major with the New York State Police.

George Anderson, M.A. ’92 was promoted to Assistant Chief with the NYPD in August 2007. He has served as Commanding Officer of the Police Academy since March 2007.

Scott Coburn, M.A. ’93 was promoted to Captain of Internal Affairs with the New York State Police.

Karen A. Hendershott, M.A. ’93 retired in 2003 from the New York State Police after a 20-year career. She currently enjoys being home with her two young sons and teaching part time as an Adjunct Professor in Criminal Justice at Broome Community College.

Patricia Groeber, M.A. ’97 has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the New York State Police and will serve as an Assistant Deputy Superintendent with the Internal Affairs Bureau in Albany, NY.

Kam C. Wong, Ph.D. ’98 is the Chair of Xavier University’s Department of Criminal Justice.

Pauline K. Brennan, Ph.D. ’99 received an Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award from the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) Alumni Association. The award was presented on April 10, during UNO’s Faculty Honors Convocation & Breakfast. Brennan is an Assistant Professor in UNO’s School of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Anna King, M.A. ’99 earned her Ph.D. in 2005 from the University of Cambridge. She held an Assistant Professorship at Keele University before returning to the US where she did a one-year postdoc with the Center for Mental Health Services and Criminal Justice Research (Rutgers University). She is currently Director of Research for the Crime and Justice Institute in Boston, MA.

Adam Bruno, M.A. ’01 has been promoted to Sergeant in the 46th precinct of the New York City Police Department.

Robert C. Meyers, M.A. ’01 graduated from the Pace University School of Law in May 2007 and passed the July 2007 New York State Bar exam. He has applied for admission to practice as an attorney through the 2nd Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

Lynn A. Addington, Ph.D. ’02 has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Justice, Law & Society at American University.

Rebekah Nellis Kennedy, B.A. ’04 graduated from Albany Law School in May 2007 with a Juris Doctor degree and was admitted to the New York State Bar in January 2008.

Barbara Rockell, Ph.D. ’06 recently released her book, Women Street Hustlers: Who They Are and How They Survive, published by the American Psychological Association.

Shuping Tzeng, Ph.D. ’06 visited the School of Criminal Justice from Taiwan in fall 2007. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department and Graduate Institute of Criminology at National Chung Cheng University.

Julianna Berardo, B.A. ’07 began training in July 2007 for Teach for America in Los Angeles, CA. She is working in downtown L.A., going into low-income communities and trying to close the educational gap by getting the community to work together toward their goals.


Andrea Rose, M.A. ’00 and her husband, Juan Guerrero, welcomed a son, Hunter Thomas, in November 2007.

Marc and Heidi Bonner, M.A. ’06 welcomed Aidan Conley and Cian Lewis in November 2007.

Nathan Carter DeWitt was born in November 2007 to JoAnne Malatesta, Ph.D. ’08 and her husband, Dan DeWitt.
On May 17 & 18, the School of Criminal Justice celebrated its annual Graduate and Undergraduate Recognition Ceremonies. Since last year’s commencement exercises, SCJ students have completed 121 degrees - 82 Bachelor’s degrees, 35 Master’s degrees and four Doctoral degrees.

Graduate Awards
Eliot H. Lumbard Award for Academic Excellence - Gregory Zimmerman
University Distinguished Dissertation Award - Min Xie
Lt. John F. Finn Scholarship - Caitlin Anne Hickin
Walter M. Francis Policing Award - Brian Aagaard
Frank Remington Award for Interdisciplinary Legal Studies - Susan Ehrhard

Undergraduate Awards
Valedictorian Award - Matthew Wolf
Donald J. Newman Award for Outstanding Achievement - Laura Covey
Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research - Vanessa Schrader

Distinguished Alumni Awards
Each year the School of Criminal Justice presents Distinguished Alumni Awards to individuals whose careers merit special recognition. The 2008 honorees were Joycelyn M. Pollock, Ph.D. ‘82 and Fr. Richard D. Shaw, Ph.D. ‘90. They received their award medallions during the School’s Graduate Recognition Ceremony on Saturday, May 17.

Joycelyn M. Pollock, Ph.D. ‘82, J.D.
Professor of Criminal Justice; Texas State University-San Marcos
Joy Pollock is a professor of Criminal Justice at Texas State University-San Marcos. She earned a B.A. in Sociology at Whitman College and her M.A. and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the University at Albany. She also obtained a J.D. at the University of Houston and passed the Texas Bar in 1991. In 1985, she joined the criminal justice faculty at the University of Houston-Downtown. As a volunteer with the Houston Police Department Crisis Intervention Unit, she developed an interest in the evaluation of victim service programs. Victimology, criminal justice ethics, and women in the CJ system remain her primary research areas and she continues to teach courses on these topics. Pollock served as chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at Texas State University from 1993-1996 and graduate director from 2002-2006. In addition to teaching at Texas State, she has delivered training in the areas of sexual harassment, ethics, and criminology to a variety of law enforcement groups. She has received numerous awards and honors, including a Senior Justice Fellowship from the Center for Crime, Communities and Culture of The Open Society; a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship at Turku School of Law in Turku, Finland; and the Bruce Smith Award for “outstanding contributions to criminal justice” from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. She has served as president of the Southwest Association of Criminal Justice, trustee-at-large for the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and on the editorial board of several academic journals. Pollock is currently working on a PREA grant with Dr. Barbara Owen and Dr. James Wells to explore the contextual elements of violence in prisons for women. She is also preparing new editions for her books Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice and Criminal Law.

Richard D. Shaw, Ph.D. ‘90
Chaplain; Coxsackie and Greene County Correctional Facilities
Fr. Richard Shaw had already been a priest of the Albany Catholic Diocese, serving as a full-time teacher when, studying in Boston in 1972, he volunteered to assist the chaplain at the city’s Charles Street Jail. Upon returning to his assignments in New York’s Capital District he gradually shifted the main focus of his responsibilities from teaching to local jail ministry. He began with the Rensselaer County Jail, and then added to his ministry both Albany and Schenectady County Jails. After serving a decade in this ministry, he joined the Ph.D. program at the University at Albany School of Criminal Justice, completing his doctorate in 1990. In that same year, Shaw entered into chaplaincy with the New York State Department of Corrections, serving first at the Summit Shock Incarceration Facility. Throughout the 1980s and ‘90s he also taught Sociology and Criminology courses, first at Maria College and then Siena College. Shaw has authored five books, including Chaplains to the Imprisoned (Haworth Press), which was based on his doctoral dissertation. At present he ministers at Coxsackie and Greene Correctional Facilities and at two parish churches, in Catskill and Athens, NY. Coinciding with the commencement celebration, May 18, 2008 marked Shaw’s fortieth anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.
Research Center Averages $2.2 Million in Annual Funding

The Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center has a long-established tradition of excellence in conducting research on a variety of criminal justice topics. Over the past ten years, annual funding for the Center has averaged roughly $2.2 million.

The Center’s research mission is broadly construed. Over the years, the Center has sponsored research projects on a wide range of basic and applied criminal justice research topics. A variety of federal & state agencies, local organizations, and private foundations that sponsor criminal justice-related research have supported Center projects. Following are just a couple of examples of recent grant activity run through the Center. For information on other research projects, please visit http://www.albany.edu/scj/current_projects.htm.

Haven’t checked out the School’s Website lately?

New Features Include

- Ph.D. Student Profiles
- Upcoming Events Calendar
- Updated Alumni Page

The website is about to undergo major renovations. Visit frequently to watch them unfold.

As always, your comments and suggestions are most welcome. Send them to Diana at mancini@uamail.albany.edu.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue of the SCJ Newsletter. If you have comments or questions, please contact Diana at mancini@uamail.albany.edu or (518) 591-8730.
Marguerite (Rita) Warren, Ph.D.

Dr. Marguerite (Rita) Warren, a pioneering figure in personality development and a renowned scholar in the field of criminology, passed away in her home outside of Charlottesville, Virginia on March 19, 2008. She was 88 years old. Rita received her doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley. For 11 years (1972-1983), Rita, a clinical psychologist, was a popular professor at the School of Criminal Justice at the University at Albany. She taught courses that dealt with psychological perspectives of crime and its treatment. Rita was the first and, for most of her career, the only female professor at the School and one of very few women at the University holding the rank of professor. She instituted the School’s first course on Women and Crime.

Rita is best known for her work as the research director of the California Community Treatment Project (CTP), a large 12-year study of youth assigned to differential treatment and therapeutic protocols on the basis of personality and developmental attributes. Funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, CTP was one of the first large experiments to be conducted in an applied criminal justice setting. The project influenced later research and practice on “responsivity” and the notion of matching offender clients to interventions intended to optimize their chances of success. Based on the Theory of Interpersonal Maturity (I-Level), a typology formulated by Dr. Warren and colleagues from the School of Psychology at Berkeley, CTP also informed later research on personality and crime causation.

At the national level, Rita worked on President Johnson’s Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice and served on the Crime and Delinquency Committee of the National Institute of Mental Health. She was an active member of the American Society of Criminology, serving as an executive counselor and later vice president. She was among the early organizers of the ASC Division of Women and Crime. She and her esteemed CTP colleague, Ted Palmer, established an award in their names that is given through the Division of Corrections and Sentencing.

While at the University at Albany, Rita supervised the dissertations of 12 doctoral students, many of whom have gone on to have distinguished careers in their own right. Throughout graduate school and their careers, Dr. Warren’s students considered her a beloved mentor, known for sound academic guidance, wisdom about life, and festive social gatherings.

In 1983, Rita retired with her partner, Martin Warren, to a home they built at the Monroe Institute in Virginia. Her retirement was an active one in a community she cherished to the fullest. For many years, she played a central role in research activities at the Monroe Institute. Until shortly before her death, former students and colleagues continued their relationships with Rita through visits to her retirement home and correspondence. To those who knew her, Rita will be remembered as a wise mentor, gifted teacher, devoted and loving friend, principled and genuine human being, fellow traveler, good listener, and gracious host.

She is survived by three daughters Laurie Grant, Lesley Grant, and Lisa Warren as well as six grandchildren, and one great grandchild.
On April 28, the School of Criminal Justice presented its Distinguished Public Service Award to Jamie Fellner. Fellner is senior counsel of the United States Program of Human Rights Watch, an organization that addresses a wide range of human rights abuses in the United States including police abuse, inhuman or degrading conditions of confinement, mistreatment of immigrants, the death penalty, and discrimination against racial and ethnic minorities. Since September 11, 2001, U.S. government antiterrorist policies have been a program priority as well. Prior to her current position, she served as director of the U.S. Program from 2001 to 2007 and as associate counsel from 1994 to 2001.

Fellner is the author or co-author of numerous Human Rights Watch reports, including *Beyond Reason: The Death Penalty and Offenders with Mental Retardation; Punishment and Prejudice: Racial Disparities in the War on Drugs; Race and Drug Law Enforcement in Georgia; Cruel and Usual: Disproportionate Sentences for New York Offenders; Red Onion State Prison: Supermaximum Security in Virginia; Out of Sight: Supermaximum Security Confinement in the United States; Cold Storage: Supermaximum Security Confinement in Indiana*; and *Losing the Vote: Felony Disenfranchisement in the United States*.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Smith College and her JD from Boalt Hall at the University of California at Berkeley. Fellner's award was presented in conjunction with the annual John E. Burton Lecture given by Congressman Michael R. McNulty. McNulty will retire at the completion of his 40th year in elective public office. His legacy will include extensive service at the local, state and national levels.

Other recent recipients of the School’s Distinguished Public Service Award include 2007 - David Kaczynski, Executive Director, New Yorkers Against the Death Penalty; 2006 - John R. Dunne, senior counsel, Whiteman Osterman & Hanna; 2005 - Chauncey G. Parker, New York State Director of Criminal Justice and Commissioner of the Division of Criminal Justice Services; and 2004 - Lieutenant John F. Finn (posthumously), Albany Police Department.
40th Anniversary Celebration
October 24-25, 2008
Invitation and event schedule will arrive soon.
Additional information available at www.albany.edu/scj/40thAnniversary.htm.