Celebrating Our 50th Anniversary 1968-2018

2018 marks the School’s 50th Anniversary! We are celebrating all year long, including special guest lecturers, research symposia, and our 50th Anniversary Gala the weekend of October 12th. Keep checking our Anniversary Events Calendar for updates and additions.

Announcements

The School of Criminal Justice will welcome six new PhD students in the Fall 2018 cohort. They are Jeeyoung Chung, Stefan Ivanov, Hilary Jackl, Loralys McDaniel, Nathaniel Schutten, and Sishi Wu.

Commencement and Awards

The School of Criminal Justice graduated 176 students in 2017-18: 127 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, 46 with a Master of Arts degree, and three with a PhD. SCJ celebrated its 2018 Undergraduate Recognition Ceremony on May 19th. In addition to honoring our outstanding graduates, the event featured remarks from Valedictorian Nicholas Lipsett (pictured) and two winners of the School’s Distinguished Alumni Award - Andrew Davies, PhD ’12 and Edward Maguire, PhD ’97. See the photo album on Facebook.

The School of Criminal Justice celebrated its Student Awards Celebration on April 28th. See the list of award recipients below and view our photo album on Facebook.

Undergraduate Program Awards

Bruce L. Davis Criminal Justice Scholarship presented to Khadijah Barrow-Rashid
The Graeme Newman Award for Entrepreneurial Criminal Justice presented to Connor Judd
J. Edgar Hoover Foundation Leadership Scholarships presented to Annie Lin and Kayla Hamburg
Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research presented to Lisa Dobrowolsky
Distinguished Teaching Professor James Acker/Dr. Walter Francis Award presented to Jessica van Saders
Donald J. Newman Award for Outstanding Achievement presented to Lisa Dobrowolsky
Criminal Justice Valedictorian Award presented to Nicholas Lipsett

Graduate Program Awards

Lt. John F. Finn Scholarship presented to Hannah Cochran
Steven DeBraccio ’10 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award presented to Jeaneé Miller
Walter M. Francis Policing Award presented to Paul Taylor
Frank Remington Award for Interdisciplinary Legal Studies presented to Alyssa Clark
Eliot H. Lombard Award for Academic Excellence presented to Audrey Hickert
University Distinguished Dissertation Award presented to Megan Denver, Ph.D. ’17

Fundraising

The School of Criminal Justice received four major gifts so far in our 50th anniversary year. Read the full story. Many thanks to all who have made gifts so far in this landmark year for development! You can contribute to the School’s 50th anniversary campaign by visiting our giving page.


**GRANTS**

Kimberly Bernstein (PhD student) received an American Psychology-Law Society Student Grant-in-Aid for her comprehensive exam, *What More Can I Say?: First Amendment Knowledge and Competence in American Adults*.

Assistant Professor Cynthia Najdowski received funding from the University at Albany Faculty Research Award Program to support a project entitled *Racial Differences in Perceptions of Control and Freedom in Police Encounters*.

**PRESENTATIONS**


Peterson, D. (professor), LGBTQ+ students, school violence, and school safety. Invited presentation at the 17th Annual Youth Violence Prevention Conference, St. Louis, MO. April 2018.


**AWARDS AND HONORS**

Ryan Benson (BA/MA student) received an Undergraduate Research Endowed Fellowship for his research, *Why white collar criminals are not held accountable* from the UA Albany Office of the Vice President for Research.

Assistant Professor Evelien Hoeben won the Hershel D. Thornburg Dissertation Award from the Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA). It is an international dissertation award for outstanding scholastic promise in research on adolescence (for dissertations defended between September 2015 and August 2017).
Six Criminal Justice Students won 2018 President’s Awards for Leadership. They are:
Diane Dreifuss - Great Dane Award
Matthew Martinez - Great Dane Award
Carolyn Solimine - Christine A. Bouchard School Spirit Award
Subha Tasnim - Great Dane Award
Adesimola Elizabeth Tijani - Outstanding Senior Award
Amber Venturelli - Outstanding Senior Award

Dean William Alex Pridemore, PhD ’00 accepted his Distinguished Professor medallion at a SUNY-wide ceremony on May 22nd. Pictured with Dean Pridemore are SUNY Chancellor Dr. Kristina Johnson and UAlbany Provost Dr. James Stellar.

RECENT EVENTS

Many thanks to the special guests who shared their work with us over the spring semester.

John Laub, PhD ‘80
17th Annual Michael J. Hindelang Lecture
*A Tale of Two Eras: Reconsidering Turning Points and Pathways out of Crime*

Candace Kruttschnitt
*Do Intersectional Variations Shape Prisoners Understanding of Their Past Lives? An Examination of the Stock Narratives of Persistent Offenders*

Janet Lauritsen
*Modernizing Crime Statistics*

Callie Burt
*Racialized Experiences and Crime over Time: A Micro-Sociological Model of Risk and Resilience*
The School of Criminal Justice hosted two symposia during the spring semester.

The Justice and Multiculturalism in the 21st Century project, led by Professor Frankie Bailey, PhD ‘86, held the Symposium on Incarcerating Girls and Women: Past and Present on April 6 and 7.

The School’s new Laboratory on Decision Making in Crime, led by Professor Greg Pogarsky, held the Symposium on Criminal Justice Decision Making in Social and Legal Context on April 19 and 20.

**Service**

Professor James Acker, PhD ‘87 began duties as the University Grand Marshal this spring and in that capacity leads processional at commencement and other ceremonial events.

**Public Engagement**

Professor Alan Lizotte and Dean William Alex Pridemore will participate in the new Regional Gun Violence Research Consortium, a partnership between New York State and five neighboring states that will collect and analyze data with the goal of reducing gun violence.

**Media Coverage**

Professor Frankie Bailey was a guest on Blog Talk Radio. Listen to her interview - Red River Radio’s No Limits with Barbara M. Hodges.

Professor Frankie Bailey and Alice Green, PhD ‘83 were featured in an All Over Albany article about the Albany Public Library’s upcoming Literary Legends event - APL Foundation Literary Legends 2018: Alice Green and Frankie Bailey.

Professor Dana Peterson’s participation in the 17th Annual Youth Violence Prevention Conference at UMSL was highlighted in an UMSL Daily article - Youth Violence Prevention Conference examines everyday issues affecting school safety. She was also interviewed by St. Louis Public Radio about LGBT students’ experiences with school-based victimization. Listen to the interview.

Professor Robert Worden was quoted in the Times Union article, Troy poised to study increasing number of police officers.

**Defenses**

Dissertation Defenses


**Prospectus Defense**


**Comprehensive Exam Defenses**


**Alumni News**

**Patrick Farrell, BA ‘18** will attend the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom beginning in Fall 2018 to pursue an MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice. Patrick chose Oxford among offers from the University of Cambridge and the London School of Economics and Political Science. He plans to focus on comparative criminal justice, security, and human rights.

**Genevieth Vargas, MA ‘17** will enter the Columbia University School of Social Work in Fall 2018. She will complete her field practice in the Criminal Justice concentration.

*Living on Death Row: The Psychology of Waiting to Die*, edited by Professor Emeritus Hans Toch, Professor James Acker, and Vincent Bonventre, includes chapters from:

**Professor Emeritus Fred Cohen**, Death Row Solitary Confinement and Constitutional Considerations.

**Robert Johnson, PhD ‘75** (Gabe Whitbread), Lessons in Living and Dying in the Shadow of the Death House: A Review of Ethnographic Research on Death Row Confinement.

**Lecturer Charles Lanier, PhD ‘04**, ‘Dreaming That I’m Swimming in the Beautiful Caribbean Sea’: One Man's Story on Surviving Death Row.

Thank you for a great year! We’ll see you in September with the next Dean’s News.