

ACJS NOW

January 2007

Volume 1

Issue 2

Dear ACJS Members:

The second issue of NOW contains great content and motivation from our officers. I hope you are enjoying this publication and find it useful as well as informative. If you have any suggestions for NOW, please do not hesitate to contact me. This publication, as well as ACJS Today and the ACJS website, are terrific mediums to keep up to date and in the know. Happy New Year!

For those of you who are new to ACJS and this publication, the purpose of NOW is to provide members with information and updates about ACJS, its journals and newsletter, and regional organizations in a concise format. Members receive NOW in August/September and January/February to coincide with the start of academic terms. NOW is just one more way ACJS is

FROM ACJS PRESIDENT JEFF WALKER

Wow! What a great response to our first edition of *ACJS Now*. It looks like it was a good decision to let people know what is going on in ACJS with a hardcopy newsletter. The comments were so supportive that I will be presenting a policy change to the ACJS Board in Seattle to make *ACJS Now* a permanent part of ACJS publications. Melissa Burek has done a tremendous job editing the newsletter, and I will be recommending that she remain the editor.

In my first message, I outlined three things I wanted to accomplish during my time as President of ACJS: a closer relationship between ACJS and international members and groups, greater student involvement, and an excellent annual meeting. Since this will be my last message for *ACJS Now*, I would like to update you on what has happened so far in this short year. Please continue to provide feedback as we seek to make this newsletter a service to the membership.

In an attempt to increase the presence of ACJS in international criminal justice/criminology, I attended several major international conferences. The first conference I attended was the joint meeting of the International Society of Criminology (ISC), the International Consortium of Criminology Associations (ICCA), and the awarding of the first Stockholm Prize in Criminology. The Stockholm Prize is, in my opinion, a strong step forward in putting criminal justice/criminology worldwide on par with its social science siblings, and I was glad we had a small part in it. The second meeting was the British Society of Criminology conference. This meeting was quite a surprise to me as it was amazingly similar to the ACJS meetings. Along with criminological theory were a large number of criminal justice- and policy-oriented panels and papers. The next meeting was the European Society of Criminology. This was a great meeting where people from all over the world attended, including those from Western Europe, Eastern Europe, and Asia. The challenge for ACJS is to increase our recognition and

Reserve & Register for ACJS Seattle 2007



Sheraton Seattle Hotel and Towers
1400 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101
Main Phone: 206-621-9000
Reservations: 888-627-7056
Fax: 206-621-8441

By web, follow the link to the hotel at
http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_668_2915.cfm
Deadline for hotel conference rates is 2/20/2007

2 Ways to Register for the Annual Meeting
http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_668_2915.cfm

- (1) Online payment and registration
- (2) Retrieve registration form electronically and mail or fax completed document with appropriate payment

For either option, follow the "Click here" link.

Deadline for pre-registration is 1/31/2007
After January, registration is on-site in Seattle

It should go without saying that students are the future of this discipline. If they are not welcomed and encouraged to participate in the professional organizations, these organizations will wither and die. Even though we continue to add new doctoral programs, we cannot keep up with the demand for new faculty in criminal justice/criminology. That means we must encourage our best and brightest students to continue their academic careers and join the professorate. One of the first decisions I made when elected was to include graduate students on all of my committees. My thought here was that it would be good for students to get some exposure to how committees and professional service work. Hopefully, the thirty or so students I placed on my committees have enjoyed their service, have met some potential mentors, and have learned a little of what it is like to be an active participant in the discipline. I have encouraged the next two presidents to continue this tradition; and I hope it becomes an ingrained part of ACJS service. The annual meeting in Seattle also promises to have more support for students than any other conference. I budgeted for two student receptions for the conference. Thanks to the wonderful efforts of the Student Affairs committee, chaired by Kim Lersch, we have obtained support from a number of schools to host more student receptions. I am also very happy to report that at the mid-year meeting in September, the ACJS Executive Board voted to drop the higher membership category of "Student with Journals." Beginning with 2008 renewals all students will receive the journals for one fee \$30.

My final goal was to put on a successful meeting in Seattle. The first thing I did was make the excellent decision to ask Craig Hemmens to be my program chair. That has turned out as

ACJS Executive Board Mid-Year Meeting Highlights

- ⚖ Student membership rates with journal changed to \$30 effective 2008.
- ⚖ Special issue on assessment in CJ Studies in 2007
- ⚖ JQ now housed at Northeastern University & JCJE now housed at the University of Texas-San Antonio
- ⚖ Minnesota added to the Midwest Region
- ⚖ Regional trustees must now reside and have employment affiliation in the region which they are elected to hold office.
- ⚖ Baltimore meeting registration was 1,573.
- ⚖ Policy on environmental guidelines and procedures created to promote recycling and reuse.

Not to overlook – Words from our 2nd VP

As an undergraduate student, I was emotionally and philosophically affected by the civil rights movement. My involvement in the field of criminal justice, first as a practitioner and later as an academic, has been driven by a desire to make positive changes in the criminal justice system. From the development and acceptance of evidence-based practices, to the development of students majoring in criminal justice, to the professional development of tenured faculty, ACJS has played a critical role in the development of the criminal justice field. The successes of ACJS, and in the field of criminal justice, are marked by individuals who made a choice to be involved, to be active rather than passive.

ACJS is a large organization with over 2400 members. My involvement in ACJS at the regional and national levels has enriched my life both personally and professionally. The vitality and future of ACJS rests with its members. Representation from all members of ACJS is needed. Our strength as an organization will be sustained by our acceptance of our diversity. I urge you to make a choice to be involved; to make a choice to be active; to make a choice to serve; to make a choice to help shape the future of ACJS.

You can activate your choice by joining the various sections (Police, Corrections, Minorities and Women, International Sections, Community College, etc.), voting, attending conferences, presenting papers, becoming officers of the regional organizations, and/or becoming involved in one of the standing committees. The standing committees have a direct impact on the operation of ACJS and serve as an important connection between the ACJS Executive Board and the membership. The committees are in place at this time for the Seattle and Cincinnati conferences and the committee chairs have been selected for the 2009 conference in Boston. Barbara Sims, Penn State-Harrisburg, is the program chair for the Boston and would more than welcome your help if you are available. If you are interested in serving on one of the standing committees please contact me or one of the committee chairs for more information.

See you in Seattle!
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Go to http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_664_11016.cfm for committees and chair contact information.
Committees: Academic Review, Affirmative Action, Awards, Budget, Finance, & Audit, Constitution & By-Laws, Membership, Nominations & Elections, Program, Publications, Student Affairs, Ethics



Updates for Regional Organizations

Midwestern Criminal Justice Association

- Student Paper Competition Winner was Chris Melde, from the University of Missouri-St. Louis.
- Next conference is September 27-29 in Chicago.
- Abstracts due September 1 to Bill Wells at wwells@siu.edu
- Charles Corley became the president and Marvin Free became the immediate past president.
- Congratulations to Dan Dahlgren for being elected 2nd VP.
- Go to www.mcja.org for more information.
- Mitchell Chamlin became the editor of the *Journal of Crime and Justice*

Northeastern Association of CJ Sciences

- Annual meeting is June 6-9, 2007 at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island. Early acceptance for papers deadline is mid-January, 2007. Final deadline ~ early April, 2007
- For more information, go to www.neacjs.org.
- NEACJS is also looking for a new home for the Secretariat. Contact Ed Day at led7@psu.edu with questions and application information.

Southern Criminal Justice Association

- Brandon Applegate became President, Alexis Miller became 1st VP, and Peter Wood became immediate past president.
- Next conference is September 26-29 in Historic Savannah, GA at the Doubletree Hotel. Proposals due by July 15 to Alexis Miller at scja@mtsu.edu

Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

- Ronald "Chip" Burns became the immediate past president and Willard M. Oliver became the current serving president.

Message from First Vice President Ron Hunter

Welcome to the second edition of ACJS NOW. At the Seattle meeting, I will take over as president of ACJS. In advance, I want to thank Jeff Walker for the excellent job that he has done and continues to do as president and congratulate him and Craig Hemmens for the great conference upcoming in Seattle. Rick Tewksbury and I have a hard act to follow in preparing for the 2008 meeting in Cincinnati. We will do our best. We encourage you to join us as we explore our theme of "American Justice, Rhetoric or Reality?"

In addition to planning another solid annual meeting, I will follow up on Jeff's work of strengthening ties with our international colleagues in the criminal justice sciences. I will continue to support ACJS's promotion of certification standards for our discipline. And I also intend to add my personal endorsement for the expansion of our research and scholarship beyond criminal justice concerns to include broader studies of justice and justice administration in general.

ACJS is an excellent organization with a group of dedicated members serving on our Executive Board as well as serving on our editorial boards and many committees. It is an honor to work with these fine people in serving you.

Academic Certification for CJ Programs

ACJS is accepting applications for Academic Certification based on the Standards for Certification of Academic

Programs that were approved in May 2005 by the ACJS

Executive Board. The goal of ACJS in adopting these

Standards and implementing a Certification Review process is to measurably improve the quality of criminal justice

education. For several years, ACJS had Minimum Standards

for Criminal Justice Education and these standards were used

in a peer review process through ACJS Academic Review.

Call for Submissions for Today

- **Feature Articles:** Articles may vary in writing style (i.e. tone) and length. Articles should be relevant to the field of criminal justice, criminology, law, sociology or related curriculum and interesting to our readership. Go to http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_666_3516.cfm for article guidelines.
- **Book Reviews:** This is a great opportunity for students and anyone who is interested in sharing their thoughts on a particular book. If you would like to write a book review but don't have a book in mind, just let us know! Go to http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_666_3516.cfm for writing guidelines.
- **Professional Profile:** This is an excellent chance to introduce a prominent person to ACJS *Today* readers. Send in a short article (350 – 500 words) along with a photo of the individual. See the February 2006 and June 2006 issues of ACJS *Today* for examples.
- **Ph.D. Forum:** Share the results of your dissertation by submitting your abstract.
- **Reader Questions:** Have questions? Ask them and we'll forward it to an expert in the field for a response.
- **Your 2¢ Worth:** Can't share it with your colleagues, your children or even your spouse---YOU CAN TELL US. Sound off on a controversial topic anonymously.

Forward submissions to:

Nicolle Parsons-Pollard, *ACJS Today* Editor,

804-828-1874; 804-827-1275 FAX

acjstoday@vcu.edu

Dates & deadlines to note for *Today* submissions:

<u>Publication Dates</u>	<u>Submission Deadlines</u>
February	January 15
June	May 15
October	September 15
December	November 15

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