

ACJS NOW

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Issue

Dear ACJS Members:

It is exciting to launch my first issue of ACJS NOW as the new editor. This would not have been possible without the support and assistance of my predecessor, Dr. Melissa W. Burek. Thanks very much, Melissa for helping me to "learn the ropes" and for three years of hard work! On another note, I am really looking forward to heading out to San Diego where the upcoming ACJS annual meeting will be held. There is no doubt that this conference will have plenty of the three Ps -- papers, panels, and presentations. It will be an excellent representation of what the Academy has to offer in terms of input and knowledge from scholars and practitioners, nationally and internationally. On behalf of ACJS, I invite and encourage you to attend the 2010 ACJS Annual Meeting in San Diego.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Worley Editor

See you in "America's Finest City" in February!



2010 Annual Meeting: In the Know Now

Dates: February 23-27, 2010

Location: San Diego, CA
Town and County Resort and Convention
Center

Theme:

"Beyond Our Boundaries: The Inclusivity
of Criminal Justice Sciences

Abstract Submission Deadline:

September 15, 2009

Go to www.acjs.org and follow the links to
submit abstracts online.

FROM ACJS PRESIDENT JANICE JOSEPH

It is indeed an honor to serve as President of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS). I would like to thank the ACJS Board members who completed their term of service in March 2009. Their contribution has left a lasting imprint on the organization. Special appreciation goes to Wes Johnson, Barbara Sims, Mittie Southerland, and Cathy Barth for an outstanding and successful conference in Boston. The attendance at the conference was the second highest in ACJS history. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Wilson Palacios, the Program Chair for the upcoming meeting. He has been working hard to help make sure that the conference in San Diego will be a wonderful success.

Criminal justice is a unique field and a well established discipline. We have high-quality journals and publications, various degree programs, and professional conferences. Criminal justice is a diverse and heterogeneous field and this diversity is the source of our strength. In recognition of the growth and impact of our discipline, on March 4, 2009 the U.S. House of Representatives declared March as National Criminal Justice Month. Members of the House of Representatives urge "policymakers, criminal justice officials, educators, victim service providers, nonprofits, community leaders, and others to promote awareness of how to prevent and respond to crime through National Criminal Justice Month."

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) has played a central and unique role in the vitality of the criminal justice profession by serving as the unifying organization for criminal justice professors, researchers, practitioners, and students. It offers the opportunities for professional development, networking, and information about career opportunities. Today ACJS is a dynamic organization, and it must remain a dynamic organization to meet the many challenges today and in the future. We are working hard to strengthen ACJS and to increase our visibility throughout the United States and, increasingly, throughout the world but the success of any professional organization depends as heavily on its leaders as on its members. Through active membership on committees and the executive board, you can advance the goals and ideals of ACJS and our discipline. I, therefore, strongly encourage you to get involved and to participate in the governance of the organization. ACJS needs your involvement and collectively we can shape the future of criminal justice.

Planning for the 2010 annual conference in San Diego, California, February 23 – 27, 2010 is well underway. Conference Program Chair, Wilson Palacios and other committee members are currently accepting Abstracts. Please remember that the deadline to submit Abstracts is September 15, 2009.

ACJS NOW WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU...NOW!

ACJS NOW is the official newsletter of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. It is published twice a year and can be an excellent way for ACJS Members to get the latest information and news. It is also an important way for members to convey news. As editor, I would like to invite you to contact me if you notice any ways *ACJS NOW* might be more effective. No suggestion is too small, and every idea will certainly be welcomed.

Do you have something that you would like to inform other ACJS Members about? Maybe you would like to vent about something anonymously. Or perhaps you would just like to share your 2 cents worth with someone who is willing to listen. If any of these apply, please feel free to contact *ACJS NOW* Editor, Robert M. Worley either by email: rmw24@psu.edu or phone: 432-853-0645

1st VP JAMES MARQUART ARGUES WE SHOULD GET "BACK TO BASICS" IN THE WAKE OF A GLOBAL RECESSION

"Cuts," "lay-offs," "pullbacks," "reduction in forces," and "unpaid work furloughs" are the buzzwords and headline grabbers in the popular media today. Budget reductions and financial turmoil are not limited to the corporate sector alone. College and university administrators across the country are being asked to trim their budgets and work forces. At the same time, many higher education institutions are raising tuition and fees to offset budget reductions. Higher education, especially the "publics," is being scrutinized intensely to account for every dollar spent. The spotlight will also be shown ever brighter on the professoriate to account for their time and activity beyond the classroom. Teaching is the core mission of the university and the reason many of us entered this time-honored profession. To this end, I am proud to say that the University of Texas System values and recognizes quality teaching in words and action. Professor Denise Boots (UT Dallas Criminology Program) was recently awarded the Regents Outstanding Teaching Award, an award that also carried a cash prize of \$25,000. Perhaps now is the time to re-examine the role of effective teaching in universities as well as to restore the balance between our teaching and research roles. Dr. Boots is an outstanding teacher and researcher; we can, must, do both.

Professor James W. Marquart is the Associate Provost and Director of the Criminology Program at the University of Texas at Dallas.



Search for *Justice Quarterly* Editor -

2nd VP Melissa Barlow, Chair

I recently spoke with 2nd VP, Melissa Barlow, who is also the Chair of the committee that is responsible for finding the next *JQ* Editor. Dr. Barlow explained that the ACJS Policy Manual makes her the Chair of this very important committee. According to Barlow, the search for the *JQ* Editor will commence very soon. There will be a formal announcement for the position, which will be widely distributed. A set time will be given for people to apply for the position. The search committee will then begin its deliberation.

JQ is one of the official journals of AJCS and is one of the most important publications in the field. There is no doubt that the new editor will have plenty of work in store, especially as the journal makes the transition from four to six issues per year.

ACJS will announce the search for the next Editor of *Justice Quarterly*, in August 2009. Information regarding the search will be posted in the ACJS Hot Topics section at www.acjs.org.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

This committee has big plans, according to the Chair, Dr. Roslyn "Roz" Muraskin. I recently spoke with her in order to find out more about this committee's goals and objectives. I was very impressed with what I learned. First of all, Roslyn told me that the goal of the Affirmative Action committee is to ensure that minorities are given the same opportunities as other members of ACJS. In addition to racial minorities, women are also included in this group.

Roslyn was asked to be the chair of the Affirmative Action committee by the current President, Dr. Janice Joseph. Prior to this, she was the co-chair. Roslyn told me that the committee is relatively new and it has become more active each year. She explained that at the upcoming conference in San Diego the Affirmative Action committee will establish multiple workshops, panel discussions, and seminars.

The above opportunities are open to everyone but are specifically designed for scholars who are about to receive or have just received their PhDs. At these meetings, participants will receive instruction regarding publishing and tenure/promotion. This will also be a unique opportunity to "network." For more information, contact AA Committee Chair Roslyn Muraskin at Roslyn.Muraskin@liu.edu



Updates for Regional Organizations

Midwestern Criminal Justice Association

- 2009 Annual Meeting will be held in Chicago September 24-26. Abstracts due August 1.
- Meeting will be at the Inn of Chicago.
- Go to www.midwesterncja.org (note, this is a new website address) for additional information.

Northeastern Association of CJ Sciences

- 2009 Annual Meeting was June 10-13 at the Roger Williams University Baypoint Inn.
- Stay tuned for information regarding the 2010 conference.
- For more information, go to www.neacjs.org.

Southern Criminal Justice Association

- Annual Meeting September 16-19 Charleston, SC.
- Conference hotel is Doubletree Guest Suites.
- 1-800-222-TREE for hotel reservations.
- Proposals were due to Elizabeth Mustaine by July 10.
- Preliminary Program available online at www.scja.net/conference.html
- 2010 Conference will be in Clearwater Beach, FL.
- Go to www.scja.net for more news and information.

Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

- 2009 Annual Meeting in Laredo, TX October 8-10.
- Conference Hotel is La Posada: 1-800-444-2099 or www.laposadahotel.com/
- Abstracts were due September 9th to Program Chair, Tracy Andrus.
- For additional information go to <http://www.swacj.org>.

Western and Pacific Association of CJ Educators

- Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada October 14-16.
- Stratosphere Hotel & Casino 1-800-998-6937, use Group Code WPACJE/www.stratospherehotel.com
- Email abstract to Jeremy Ball Jeremyball@boisestate.edu by September 1st.
- Members from all regions of ACJS welcome!

ACJS CERTIFICATION

Most all of us, by now, have heard the phrase "ACJS certification." Perhaps some of you even have colleagues who work at programs that have successfully been certified by ACJS. Though there has certainly been a lot of talk regarding this issue, some of you may still have the question, "What exactly is certification?" If you have wondered this, you are more than likely not alone.

Certification refers to the process by which a program is reviewed by ACJS. Reviewers are fellow ACJS members, who hold the rank of associate professor or higher. These individuals must also be tenured and have at least five years of experience. Also, all reviewers must demonstrate that they can be objective and unbiased.

During the certification process, a program undergoes a significant self-study. Reviewers will analyze the program to ensure that it is delivering the highest quality of criminal justice education. Reviewers are also trained to focus on empirical evidence of a program's success, rather than intent.

If a program becomes ACJS certified, students who have graduated since the application for the certification process have the privilege of saying they graduated from a certified program. If a program fails the certification process, it is still able to continue. ACJS certification, after all, is a voluntary process. Also, programs that are denied, may reapply whenever they wish. For more information and an application for program certification, visit www.acjs.org and click "certification."

First Annual International Crime, Media, and Popular Culture Studies Conference: A New Venue for ACJS Members

The Indiana State University Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice would like to invite you to attend the "First Annual International Crime, Media and Popular Culture Studies Conference: A Cross-Disciplinary Exploration" to be held October 5th, 6th & 7th, 2009 at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana. Abstract submissions and registration (presenters and non-presenters) deadline is September 2, 2009. Please visit the conference [website](http://www.acjs.org) for further details regarding abstract

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TO:

Mittie Southerland, Executive Director

What You Should Know NOW

- Thank you to **Nicolle Parsons-Pollard**, Virginia State University, *ACJS Today* Outgoing Editor and **Melissa W. Burek**, Bowling Green State University, *ACJS NOW* Outgoing Editor for their dedication and excellent service to ACJS over the past three years. Welcome to the new editors, **Sean Maddan**, University of Tampa, *ACJS Today* Editor and **Robert M. Worley**, Penn State Altoona, *ACJS NOW* Editor.
- Are you receiving email notifications from ACJS? If not, please check your membership status and email address on the ACJS Membership Directory. The directory is updated quarterly and includes the names of current members in all membership categories. The contact information is excluded for those members who have opted out of the published online directory. Please send updates and corrections to Cathy Barth at manager@acjs.org with "Membership Directory" in the subject line. Membership can be renewed online through the ACJS Hot Topics link at www.acjs.org or through the Membership page.
- The International page of the ACJS website provides links to international (including USA) criminal justice/criminology organizations, journals, upcoming conferences, and resources/information. Have you led a CJ international delegation? Did you develop a website journaling the experience? ACJS is interested in linking to documentation of CJ international delegations. Please send links and descriptive information to info@acjs.org. The first posting in this section provides a link to the People to People Criminal Justice Delegation to China in June 2008.
- Beginning in 2010, *Justice Quarterly* will be published six times per year and the Journal of Criminal Justice Education will become a quarterly publication. As an ACJS member, you are provided access through informaworld.com to complete searchable back and current issues of the journals. Forthcoming articles will be available with your membership in the near future. Early each year info@informaworld.com sends an email to the address you provide ACJS. To take advantage of your electronic access to JQ and JCJE, you must provide ACJS with an active email address and you must activate your voucher from informaworld.com.