

# ACJS NOW

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Dear ACJS Members:

This marks my third issue of ACJS NOW. As I write this, it is a particularly hot and humid day. This makes me look especially forward to the upcoming conference in Toronto. I cannot wait to enjoy the mild weather, experience some fine dining, and have a blast seeing all of the three P's: Papers, Presentations, and Posters. **Also, to verify that your membership information is current, please visit the Online ACJS Membership Directory at [www.acjs.org](http://www.acjs.org).** The conference in Toronto is bound to be one of the best ever, and I really hope that you are able to attend.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Worley, Editor

Texas A&M University Central Texas

JOIN NATIONAL CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE MONTH  
ON FACEBOOK NOW!!!

See you in "The City Within a Park" in March!



2011 Annual Meeting: In the Know Now

Dates: March 1-5, 2011

Location: Toronto, Canada  
Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel

Theme:

"Beyond Our Boundaries: The Inclusivity  
of Criminal Justice Sciences"

See [www.acjs.org](http://www.acjs.org) for program details

## FROM ACJS PRESIDENT JAMES W. MARQUART

As ACJS President, I ask your active support in what we believe is a vitally important endeavor. Over the past year, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and the American Society of Criminology have worked together as the Criminology and Criminal Justice Policy Coalition (CCJPC) to build relationships with policymakers in Washington DC. The CCJPC was formed to educate Congress and the Administration on the importance of reliable social science research and to serve as a resource to policy makers interested in creating and supporting evidence-based crime and justice policy.

We recognize our varied political positions and priorities and that our research sometimes leads us to differing or inconclusive policy recommendations. Therefore, ACJS has chosen *not* to promote specific substantive legislation or policy prescriptions. Rather, as an organization, we choose to coalesce around our fundamental principles: support for reliable, accurate, and scientifically valid social science research, and for the development and promotion of a comprehensive criminal justice research agenda without the influence of partisan politics or pre-determined outcomes or opinions.

Members of Congress often have to draft substantive legislation or make funding decisions in highly specialized areas in which they may have little readily available expertise. Members of Congress rely heavily on their staffers, and are informed by the letters and calls that their offices receive on specific issues or pending bills. As a non-partisan, academic organization with members all over the nation, the ACJS is well situated to communicate with Members of Congress and their staffers to share our expertise, and educate them about the importance of comprehensive and ongoing criminal justice and criminology research.

While ACJS and the CCJPC can serve as a resource for congressional and Administration staff by providing them with unbiased, non-partisan, and scientifically sound information about the value and role of research, **no voice is more important to a Member of Congress than that of a constituent from his or her own district.** One of the most effective strategies is to supplement CCJPC letters with state-specific or district-specific sign-on letters from our members. I will continue the practice of reaching out to you to join us in this effort. I thank you for your past involvement, and I hope you will continue to be supportive.

We are looking forward to the conference in Toronto. I would like to thank everyone who is helping to make sure the upcoming conference will be a success, and I would like to extend a special thanks to the Program Chair, Dr. Leanne Alarid, for all her hard work. Please make your travel reservations soon, and don't forget to bring your passport.

Sincerely yours,

James W. Marquart

## WHAT'S GOING ON IN SWACJ?

I recently spoke with Dr. David Montague, President of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice (SWACJ), as part of a new effort to reach out to regional organizations. According to Montague, the upcoming conference will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas. "We haven't had the conference in Little Rock for quite some time, and with our new PhD program, it is long overdue; we have an outstanding slate of officers and we're looking forward to the conference," Montague said. He mentioned that there will be a special reception at the Old State House Museum. This designated national landmark is probably best known throughout the country as the scene of President Bill Clinton's 1992 and 1996 election-night celebrations. Attendees will enjoy the exhibit on the history of criminal justice in Arkansas.

This year, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) will host the conference. Montague, an associate professor at UALR, is the fifth president in the history of SWACJ to be a faculty member from this university. He is also the Director of the UALR Senior Justice Center and credits the criminal justice department at UALR for always being proactive in use of faculty and staff toward addressing real issues (juvenile justice, corrections, environmental crime).

Currently, Montague and the SWACJ Executive Board are collaborating with Roger Enriquez, Esq., editor of the SWACJ Journal, to have a special "Little Rock Conference Edition." After the conference is over, a team led by the guest editor (Dr. Lorie Rubenser) will send out invitations to scholars who presented. These papers will then go through the peer-review process.

Montague indicated that ACJS President, Jim Marquart is tentatively scheduled to appear at the conference. "Jim is a member of the Southwest Region, and we are honored to have him attend." Montague also indicated that he is looking into the possibility of having at least a portion of the conference proceedings filmed and placing this footage on the world-wide web.

This year's conference theme is entitled, "From Theory to Practice," and there are sure to be lots of practitioners in attendance. Montague indicated that professionals from the medical community may even be participating in an attempt to find a common ground with the discipline of criminal justice. In addition to paper presentations, there will also be roundtables. "These, in particular, are likely to have a nice variety of local folks and may provide a unique blend of theory and practice."

The Little Rock Conference will be a hit! The city is renowned for both its rich history and breathtaking view of the Arkansas River. Montague is encouraging conference participants to bring their families. "There will be plenty of activities for everyone," he said. For more information, please visit: [www.swacj.org](http://www.swacj.org)

## ACJS AWARDS

Did you know that there is a new ACJS award? The **ACJS Minority Mentorship Grant Award** was created in order to provide opportunities for mentorship of minority doctoral students or junior faculty by senior criminal justice professors at the same or another institution within the ACJS organization. This new award will be given at the 2011 Annual Meetings Award Ceremony to a mentorship pair. The Awardee will receive an award check and a certificate. The Mentee will receive a certificate.

Also, if you have taught full time for less than five years, you may be eligible to receive the **SAGE Junior Faculty Professional Development Teaching Award**. This award, developed in partnership between SAGE, ACJS, and participating SAGE authors was created in 2008. For more information, please visit the ACJS website.

## TEWKSBURY HANDS THE TORCH TO SPOHN

Dr. Richard Tewksbury, Professor of Justice Administration at University of Louisville, recently completed his service to the Academy as Editor of *Justice Quarterly*. Tewksbury, known for his innovative fieldwork and qualitative approach to research, has written extensively about prisoners, sex offender registries, and deviant behavior. During his tenure as editor, *JQ* produced some of the most innovative and scholarly articles ever, with topics ranging from the social construction of disaster myths (Timothy Brezina & Joanne M. Kaufman, Vol. 25, 4) to the last statements of Texas death row inmates (Judy Eaton & Anna Theuer, Vol. 26, 2) to drug market retaliation (Scott Jacques, Vol. 27, 2).

Dr. Tewksbury worked hard to ensure that *JQ* will continue to be among the top criminal justice journals. When he became the Editor of *JQ*, Tewksbury implemented Manuscript Central, the online manuscript submission and processing system which eliminated the \$10 manuscript submission fee. In addition to making these improvements, Tewksbury has been able to give authors feedback in a considerably short amount of time. In fact, the average time from the receipt of manuscript to sending out a final decision letter has averaged less than two months. Finally, under Tewksbury, *JQ* successfully made the transition to six issues in each volume.

Clearly, Tewksbury has done a remarkable job with *JQ*, and he has now passed the torch on to Dr. Cassia Spohn of Arizona. Spohn, Professor and Graduate Coordinator of Arizona State University, has written extensively on issues related to courts, sentencing, and race and ethnicity. She is without question one of the most productive scholars in the field. While *JQ* will definitely miss Tewksbury, there is no doubt that Spohn will do a great job as the new editor.

Good luck, Cassia!

# Updates for Regional Organizations

## Midwestern Criminal Justice Association

- 2010 Annual Meeting will be held in Chicago September 23-25. Abstracts due August 15.
- Meeting will be at the Inn of Chicago.
- Go to: <http://www.mcja.org/> for additional information.

## Northeastern Association of CJ Sciences

- 2010 Annual Meeting was June 9-12 at the Roger Williams University Baypoint Inn.
- Stay tuned for information regarding the 2011 conference.
- For more information, go to: [www.neacjs.org](http://www.neacjs.org).

## Southern Criminal Justice Association

- Annual Meeting in Clearwater Beach, FL from September 29-October 2.
- Conference hotel is the Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort.
- 1-800-753-3954 for hotel reservations. Mention SCJA to receive special rate.
- Proposals were due to Brian Payne by July 10.
- Preliminary Program available online at: [www.scja.net/conference.html](http://www.scja.net/conference.html).
- 2011 Conference will be in Nashville, TN.
- Go to: [www.scja.net](http://www.scja.net) for more news and information.

## Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

- 2010 Annual Meeting in Little Rock, TX from October 7-9.
- Conference Hotel is Wyndham Riverfront Little Rock: 877-999-3223.
- Abstracts are due September 8th to Program Chair, David Montague.
- For additional information go to: [www.swacj.org](http://www.swacj.org).

## Western Association of Criminal Justice

- Annual Meeting in Lake Tahoe, Nevada from October 13-15.
- Harveys Lake Tahoe Hotel & Casino: 1-800-455-4770. Reserve by 9/12/2010 for the competitive rate of \$69 per night.
- Email abstract to Jeremy Ball at: [Jeremyball@boisestate.edu](mailto:Jeremyball@boisestate.edu) by September 1st.
- Website: [www.cja.boisestate.edu/wacj/](http://www.cja.boisestate.edu/wacj/)

## 2010 Outstanding Mentor Award

### Q&A with Dr. Rolando V. del Carmen

In 2010, Dr. Rolando V. del Carmen of Sam Houston State University received an Outstanding Mentor Award at the ACJS Conference in San Diego, CA. Dr. del Carmen is no stranger to awards and has won the Fellow Award (1990), the Bruce Smith Sr. Award (1997), and the Founder's Award (2005). As of now, he has the sole distinction of being the only member in ACJS history to have received all four of these prestigious awards.

Dr. del Carmen received a tremendous amount of support from his former students in order to be nominated for and ultimately receive an Outstanding Mentor Award. All of these nominees are now prolific scholars in their own right, and include Drs. Janet Mullings (SHSU), Katherine Bennett (AASU), Michael S. Vaughn (SHSU), and Chad Trulson (UNT), among others. Even ACJS 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Craig Hemmens wrote a letter on del Carmen's behalf. In his letter of support, Hemmens, a former student of del Carmen's eloquently stated, "To be known as a 'del Carmen student' is a badge of honor both within the College of Criminal Justice and in (the field of) criminal justice."

Recently, I asked Dr. del Carmen a few questions about what it means to be a mentor. The interview proved to be very interesting, and I hope it will provide insights into how we as criminal justice faculty members and practitioners can become better mentors.

**RW:** You are evidently an outstanding mentor. Has there been any person in particular who has influenced you and/or provided guidance during your career?

**RD:** I had great mentors while a student in the Philippines, but in the United States the person who influenced me and provided guidance during my career was the late Dr. George Beto, a Texas legend in corrections. He and I had adjacent offices for years at the Criminal Justice Center. A wise man, he was generous with his time and extraordinarily kind. Along with many others, academics as well as criminal justice practitioners, I sought his advice when faced with difficult decisions in my career. His advice never failed. One of many things I learned from Dr. Beto is to take a strong interest in students as individuals, always be supportive, and to care a lot about their careers.

*Continued on back page*

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TO:

## CONGRATULATIONS TO 2010 ACJS OUTSTANDING MENTOR

### Q&A on Mentorship with Dr. Rolando V. del Carmen

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**RW:** How do you balance mentorship with other scholarly demands, such as, teaching and research?

**RD:** Mentorship comes in various ways not all of which require much time. Office conferences do, but much can be accomplished through letters and e-mails. It can also be done during class hours, in the hallways, and during class breaks. For me, there is need to prioritize daily tasks. Priorities for the day are given immediate attention, be those starting an article, responding to students' requests for recommendations, preparing for a seminar, or teaching an undergraduate class. I need to plan out my day, be well organized, and spend the least amount of time in a task and still be maximally effective. I do not always succeed, but it helps to try.

**RW:** Is there a difference in how you mentor a graduate student versus a junior faculty mentor, or do you use a similar approach?

**RD:** Using a similar approach works best. Both respond effectively when treated as colleagues. Students are more deferential, but they know they are just as highly respected and inevitably respond with optimum effort. Suggestions work a lot better than prescriptions; they know the final decision is always theirs. In the end, they know what they do, not the suggestions given, is what matters.

**RW:** If you were to do your career all over again, is there anything you would do differently?

**RD:** There is nothing at all I would do differently. I would still want to be born and raised in the Philippines, later become an American citizen, and teach in the College of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University. Here I have had the truly wonderful opportunity to know outstanding students over the years, many of whom have become superstars in their own academic careers. I take a strong vicarious pleasure in their success. From them I have learned so much and their friendships have deeply enriched my academic and personal life.

*Congratulations to Drs. Leanne F. Alarid, Harry E. Allen, Todd R. Clear, James O. Finckenuer, Rosemary L. Gido, Zelma Henriques, Katherine Johnson, Janice O. Joseph, Jess Maghan, Marilyn D. McShane, Alida V. Merlo, Laura J. Moriarty, Roslyn Muraskin, Allen Patenaude, James Ruiz, Mittie Southerland, Mary K. Stohr, Dorothy L. Taylor, Richard Tewksbury and Gennaro F. Vito. All of these individuals were recognized as outstanding mentors at the 2010 ACJS Conference.*