

Call for Presentations, Invitation to Participate, and Abstract Submission System

ACADEMY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES 2026 ANNUAL MEETING

March 3 - 7, 2026
Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
Philadelphia, PA

**Conference Theme: “*Crises Across the Criminal Justice
Landscape: The Nexus of Governance and Responsibility*”**

Stephanie Mizrahi, ACJS President
California State University, Sacramento

Aimée “May” Delaney, Program Co-Chair
Worcester State University

Paul Gormley, Program Co-Chair
Lynn University

Jared Dmello, Program Co-Chair
Adelaide University

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**The Program Committee requests submissions by Friday, September 26, 2025.
The final deadline for submissions is Friday, October 10, 2025. Please note that
the online submission system will close at midnight EST on October 10, 2025.**

Note on the Theme of the Conference

The theme of the conference is “Crises Across the Criminal Justice Landscape: The Nexus of Governance and Responsibility”. The goal of this year’s theme is to use the 25th Anniversary of the tragic events of 9-11 to look at how criminal justice has changed in the last two decades. This includes the emerging issues facing the criminal justice system, and — most importantly —the responsibility of the criminal justice system in addressing those issues at home and abroad. Because many of the issues criminal justice academics and practitioners are facing no longer stop at national borders, the conference is going to have a strong international as well as domestic focus.

ACJS 2026 Program Topic Areas and Committee Members

Please look through ALL program topic areas prior to your submission to find the one that best fits your paper topic. The *submission deadline through the ACJS website is requested by September 26, 2025. The absolute final submission deadline is October 10, 2025.*

<p style="text-align: center;">Program Co-Chairs</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Aimée X. Delaney, Program Co-Chair Worcester State University</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Paul Gormley, Program Co-Chair Lynn University</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jared Dmello, Program Co-Chair Adelaide University</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Deputy Program Co-Chairs</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cathy Marcum Appalachian State University</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rachael Powers University of Cincinnati</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Local Arrangements</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cassandra Reyes West Chester University</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Research Showcase</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jennifer LaPrade Missouri State University</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Author Meets Critics</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Schannae Lucas California Lutheran University</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">International Advisors</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phil Reichel University of Northern Colorado</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prabha Unnithan Colorado State University</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Student Panels</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pauline Brennan University of Massachusetts at Lowell</p>	

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Track 1: Climate Security</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">William Moreto University of Central Florida</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Climate Change & Environmental Justice</p> <p style="text-align: center;">William Moreto University of Central Florida</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Water & Food Security</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Avi Brisman Eastern Kentucky University</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Human Security, Global Migration & Refugees</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meghna Bhat Independent Scholar</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Non-Traditional Approaches to Security</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Steven Chermak Michigan State University</p>

<u>Track 2: Transnational Crime and Conflict</u> Phil Reichel University of Northern Colorado	
Terrorism & Violent Extremism Jeff Gruenewald Arkansas State University	Radicalisation Murat Haner Arizona State University
Warfare, Genocide, & State-Sponsored Violence Melissa Swauncy-Coleman DePaul University	Gangs & Urban Warfare Christian Bolden Loyola University New Orleans
Human Trafficking Angie Schultz University of Northern Colorado	Transnational Organized Crime and Corruption Jay Albanese Virginia Commonwealth University

<u>Track 3: Emerging Threats in the 21st Century (Next Generation Threats?)</u> Kyung-Shick Choi Boston University	
AI: Tool or Threat Claire Lee University of Massachusetts Lowell	Cybercrimes & Cybersecurity Mark Beaudry Worcester State University
International Cooperation Yuliya Zabyelina The University of Alabama	Cryptocurrency & Money Laundering Sesha Kethineni Prairie View A&M University
Threats to Domestic & Global Critical Infrastructure TBD	

<u>Track 4: Theories of Crime and Criminality</u> Wesley G. Jennings University of Mississippi	
Biological, Bio-social, & Psychological Theories Eric Connolly Sam Houston State University	Critical & Conflict Theories Jennifer Cobbina-Dungy Michigan State University

Deterrence, Rational Choice, Routine Activities, & Situational Theories Christopher J. Schreck Rochester Institute of Technology	Developmental & Life Course Theories Fawn Ngo University of South Florida
Structure, Culture, & Anomie John Brent Eastern Kentucky University	Labeling & Interactionist Theories Abigail Novak University of Mississippi
Social Disorganization & Community Dynamics Jon Maskaly University of North Dakota	Strain, Learning, & Control Theories Jennifer Wareham Wayne State University
Gender and Sexuality-Based Theories Claire Renzetti University of Kentucky	

<p align="center"><u>Track 5: Offending and Victimization: Types, Causes, and Interventions</u></p> <p align="center"><u>Chad Posick</u> Georgia Southern University</p> <p align="center"><u>Janice Joseph</u> Stockton University</p>	
Violent Crimes Rachael Powers University of Cincinnati	Drugs, Alcohol, & Substance Wanda Leal Sam Houston State University
White Collar & Organizational Crimes Jennifer Noble California State University, Sacramento	Family & Intimate Partner Violence Lee Ross University of Central Florida
Sex Crimes Cassandra Young University of Denver	Property & Public Order Crimes Ben Stickle Middle Tennessee State University
Bullying, Harassment, & Abuse Kristina Childs Fisher University of Central Florida	Trauma & Mental Health Kellie Wallace Lasell University
Neighborhoods & Communities Tusty ten Bensel University of Arkansas, Little Rock	Poverty & Social Class Karen F. Parker University of Delaware

Race & Ethnicity Alexander Updegrave University of North Texas	Sex, Gender, & Sexuality Ahram Cho New Mexico State University
Hate Crimes David May Mississippi State University	Social Capital & Resilience Bob Bing UT Arlington
Crime and Loss Prevention Jeffrey Rush Retired	Crimes Against Children Chrystina Hoffman University of West Florida
Risks and Protective Factors: Offending Nicole Leeper Piquero University of Miami	Risks and Protective Factors: Victimization Karima Mourhat Southeast New Mexico College

<u>The Criminal Justice System</u>	
<u>Track 6: Domestic & Global Issues in Law Enforcement</u>	
Eric Dlugolenski Central Connecticut University	
Law Enforcement Administration, Management, & Leadership Gary Corder Baltimore Police Department	Police Legitimacy & Community Relations Jason Ingram Sam Houston State University
Law Enforcement Operations, Personnel, & Training Don T. Gala USDOJ-FBI Retired	Law Enforcement Investigations and Forensics Lorenzo Boyd University of New Haven
Law Enforcement Decision-Making, Behavior, and Misconduct Carol Huynh North Carolina Central University	International and Comparative Developments in Law Enforcement Veronyka James Harris County Office of Justice and Safety
<i>Track 7: Domestic & Global Issues in Courts and Law</i>	
Michael S. Vaughn Sam Houston State University	

Trials, Appeals, and Sentencing Cassia Spohn Arizona State University	Legislation and Legal Changes Robert Brooks Worcester State University
Bail and Pre-Trial Issues Tina Freiburger University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	Prosecutorial Discretion & Plea Bargaining Arthur Garrison Kutztown University
Death Penalty and Wrongful Convictions Talia Harmon Niagara University	International and Comparative Developments in Courts and Law Laura Iesue Sam Houston State University
<i>Track 8: Domestic & Global Issues in Corrections</i> Faith Lutze Washington State University	
Community Corrections, Personnel & Administration Mi-Ling Hsieh University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire	Institutional Corrections, Personnel, & Administration Erin A. Orrick Sam Houston State University
Reentry, Rehabilitation, & Reintegration Jill Gordon Cleveland State University	Special Needs Populations & Programs Judith Harris University of Houston, Downtown
Restorative and Community Justice Roger L. Schaefer Central Washington University & Timothy J. Holler University of Pittsburgh	International and Comparative Developments in Corrections Francis Boateng University of Mississippi
<i>Track 9: Domestic & Global Issues in Juvenile Justice</i> Jennifer Peck University of Central Florida	
Juvenile Corrections Stuti Kokkalera Sam Houston State University	Juvenile Courts & Legal Issues Lorna Grant North Carolina Central University
Juveniles & Police Kimberly Chism CSU Sacramento	Schools & Crime Peter Lehmann Sam Houston State University

International and Comparative Developments in Juvenile Justice Katarzyna Celinska John Jay College of Criminal Justice	
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<u>Track 10: Research Methods</u> Ryan Spohn University of Nebraska, Omaha	
Qualitative Methods Danielle Rudes Sam Houston State University	Quantitative Methods Jacinta Gau University of Central Florida
Innovation in Design & Methods Abdullah Cihan California State University, Sacramento	Public Criminology & Media TBD
Evaluation Research Prabha Unnithan Colorado State University	

<u>Track 11: Criminal Justice Education and Pedagogy</u> Catherine Marcum Appalachian State University	
Faculty, Administration, & Leadership in Criminal Justice Education Gaylene Armstrong University of Nebraska Omaha	Advances and Innovations in Pedagogy Catherine Marcum Appalachian State University
Assessment and Program Review Claire Braaten Texas A&M San Antonio	Community Colleges Jessica Noble Lewis and Clark Community College
Service, Experiential, & Community-Engaged Learning Vickie Jensen California State University, Northridge	

NOTE: All papers presented at the 2026 ACJS Annual Meeting are to be original works never before published, printed, or accepted for presentation elsewhere.

All attendees at the ACJS Annual Meeting shall abide by the ACJS Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics can be found on the ACJS website, www.acjs.org.

Program Guidelines

All program participants are required to pre-register for the conference and to provide their own transportation and meeting expenses. Pre-registration will be available at www.acjs.org on the Annual Meeting page of the website.

Abstracts should be submitted **only once** via the ACJS website. **DO NOT SEND ABSTRACTS DIRECTLY TO THE TOPIC AREA CHAIRS.** If you have questions about your submission, please send them to the Program Co-Chairs at 2026acjsprogram@gmail.com.

LCD projectors will be available in the meeting rooms. No laptops/computers or overhead projectors will be provided. Additional audio/video equipment is the responsibility of the presenter. Individuals wanting additional equipment must either bring their own equipment to the conference or make arrangements through the ACJS A/V provider (information can be obtained from the Association Manager, manager@acjs.org).

ACJS Program Participation Options

Research Showcase

The Research Showcase is a collection of visual displays of research that encourages informal interaction between authors and audiences. The primary author of a Research Showcase presentation must be in attendance and committed to standing near his or her presentation throughout the allotted session.

Paper Presentations

Panels consist of four or five presenters of written papers and a panel chair. Presenters make formal presentations of completed works. The panel chair opens and closes the session and coordinates questions and comments from the audience.

Student-Authored Paper Panels

Undergraduate and graduate student authors may submit their papers to a regular topical area of their choice where they will present with other faculty and practitioners. However, students have the option to submit their papers for presentation on an all-student panel. These panels are on a variety of topical areas and are designed to facilitate initial presentations in a supportive and welcoming environment. Students who select this option should select "*student panel*" as their topic area.

Complete Panels

A complete panel consists of coordinating the arrangement of four papers related to a common theme. The person facilitating the complete panel must include a panel chair, panel title, and four–five papers with all supporting information for the papers at the time of submission to the website.

Roundtables

Roundtables are open discussions of a topic, organized by a moderator and four-five discussants with special knowledge or expertise in the topic area. No formal papers are presented. Often the discussion concerns diverse viewpoints or findings in a topic area.

Open Workshop

An open workshop is instructional or interactive in nature but does not require advance registration of attendees. Typically, open workshops involve one or more presenters speaking on more practical educational issues such as seeking extramural research funding, the job search process, developing course syllabi, or entering university administration. Open workshops can also be hands-on experiences that involve the audience as participants (e.g., mock job interviews, victim-offender mediation). An Open Workshop is in a different format than a traditional panel because there are no discussants and no scholarly papers presented.

Other Information

Only original papers that have not been published may be submitted to the Program Committee for presentation consideration. Presentations of the same paper presented elsewhere are discouraged. In addition, please submit only one submission per lead author/presenter. If you are a lead author/presenter on more than one paper, and there is a conflict, the program committee will not be able to make any adjustments to the schedule.

There will be several workshops offered on Tuesday March 3rd. The meetings and panels are Wednesday-Saturday March 4-7, 2026. Sessions will be scheduled Saturday as a regular part of the conference. Sessions may be scheduled at any time during the meetings. ACJS cannot honor personal preferences for the day and time of presentations. If a session does not have a chair, a program committee member may choose a presenter from the last paper on the session. All program participants are expected to register for the meeting. You can go to the ACJS website at <https://www.acjs.org/> to find Annual Meeting information to register online or access a printer-friendly form to fax or return by mail.

DEADLINES	
September 26, 2025	Requested submission of abstracts and information.
October 10, 2025	Final deadline for abstracts and information.
October 20, 2025	Participants notified by email of acceptance/rejection of abstracts.
October 20, 2025	Topic Chairs to have all panels to Track Chairs. Track Chairs to review all panels in their Track by October 30, 2025.
December, 2025	Draft program available at www.acjs.org . Participants are asked to review and provide corrections and notification of conflicts to the program committee co-chairs by January.
February, 2026	Final program available at www.acjs.org . Participants are asked to consult the final program for presentation dates/times/locations as these may have changed from the draft program.
March 3, 2026	Completed papers for panel presentations due to panel chairs. Consult the final online program (www.acjs.org) for panel and panel chair information.

Submission Procedures

All submissions must be made via the ACJS submission site. Do not send submissions directly to the individual committee members. Please note that the ACJS Annual Program is created from the information you submit online. To reduce the number of errors in the program, please review and verify that all the information you enter into the submission form is complete and correct.