

2005-06 Seattle University Criminal Justice Committee Report

Outcome of 2004-05 Advisory Committee Meeting

Last year was the first annual meeting of the Seattle University Criminal Justice Advisory Committee. It was a successful gathering with 28 of 30 committee members in attendance. The primary objective of the first meeting was to discuss the purpose and goals of the committee and to receive feedback regarding our curriculum, employment trends, and possibilities for university-agency collaboration. The questions and outcomes of the meeting are outlined below:

1) *What are the current employment opportunities/trends in your agency/area of expertise and what can we do to make our students competitive in the job market and/or for graduate study upon graduation?*

We identified desired skills and backgrounds for employment in four general areas in the criminal justice system as well as desired degrees, position requirements, and employment trends (See attached Table):

▪ **CORRECTIONS**

- Good writing skills
- Experience with computers
- Counseling skills
- Professional etiquette
- Cultural awareness
- Interviewing skills
- Grant writing skills
- Physical fitness

▪ **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

- Computer forensic background (Secret Service)
- Intel background, foreign language, graduate degree in law, accounting, forensic science (FBI)
- Human service social skills (SPD)
- Clean background

▪ **COURTS/LAW**

- Knowledge of forensic science and physical science

▪ **FORENSIC SCIENCE**

- Internship experience
- Self promoting skills – e.g., knowledge of how to market themselves in a highly competitive job market

2) *What sorts of collaborative partnerships are possible between your agency and our program (internships, research, teaching components of courses, other...)?*

We discussed ideas for collaborative partnerships including current and potential internship, research, and service opportunities:

- **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** (See Internship Listings)

- **POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- WSP Crime Lab
- Other law enforcement-related
- Institutional corrections (juvenile & adult)
- Agency program evaluations
- Other?

3) *In what ways might our program be of service to your agency and/or contribute more generally to CJ agencies and/or public education regarding crime and justice issues within our community?*

We discussed ways in which our students and faculty might be of service to agencies such as research, smaller data entering/analysis projects, or volunteer service. We did not get far on this topic and would like to explore possibilities for the future.

Departmental Update

ENROLLMENT/STUDENT INTEREST

We have had a 440% increase in enrollment in the CJ program at SU over the past three years growing from 59 majors in Fall 2002 to 261 Fall 2005 (See attached breakdown by year and degree/specialization). With this growth has come an unprecedented opportunity to educate students from all over the United States and the world with many of our students coming from outside Seattle and the United States specifically for our program. Beyond the “CSI phenomenon,” which has increased interest in criminal justice and forensic science in universities and criminal justice agencies everywhere, we believe that much of the interest in our program has come from the degree and specialization options that were implemented in Fall 2003 that are not available at most universities at the undergraduate level. These degree and specialization options were implemented in direct response to student interest and the need to better prepare criminal justice graduates for specialized career routes requiring a background in coursework not traditionally required in a criminal justice undergraduate program. What we have found is that students are starved for an undergraduate educational opportunity that merges theory and practice and the social and physical sciences.

DEPARTMENTAL STATUS

As of Fall 2005, Criminal Justice has returned to departmental status after eight years of being administratively housed with Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology in the Society, Justice, & Culture Department. This restructuring is the result of the skyrocketing enrollments and the difficulty in logistically managing as a program under the umbrella of the larger department. Criminal Justice has, by far, more majors than any of the other SJC programs (and has the largest number of majors in the College of Arts & Sciences) and given the distinct curricular focus of the criminal justice major it was determined that the separate departmental status was the best route to take. We will continue to work closely with our colleagues in Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology through joint teaching workshops and scholarship presentations and will do peer reviews of untenured faculty members across departments as part of a consortium. We are excited about this new direction and believe this will give the CJ major and the programs we offer more visibility to students and the community.

FACULTY

For over 30 years the Criminal Justice program has operated with two full-time faculty members and 6-8 adjunct faculty. Last year we were fortunate to be able to hire Elaine Gunnison as a visiting assistant professor. Dr Gunnison has now been hired as a full-time tenure track faculty member and we were also fortunate to be able to hire Bob Keppel as a full-time visiting assistant professor and Deirdre Bowen as a full-time instructor. We are beginning this year with five full-time faculty members:

Bowen, Deirdre, PhD, JD/Instructor

Research/teaching interests in plea bargaining, criminal justice organizations, sociology of deviance, and research methods and statistics.

Gunnison, Elaine, PhD/Assistant Professor

Research/teaching interests in life course criminology, female offending patterns, comparative criminal justice, and corrections

Helfgott, Jacqueline B., PhD/Associate Professor; Chair

Research/teaching interests in criminal behavior, psychopathy, institutional and community corrections, ex-offender reintegration, restorative justice, and copycat crime

Kelliher, S.J., Michael, S.J, D.Crim/Associate Professor

Research/teaching interests in the polygraph, restorative justice, victimology, criminology & literature, and white collar crime

Keppel, Robert, PhD/Visiting Assistant Professor

Research/teaching interests in law enforcement, criminal investigation, homicide and serial murder, and offender profiling

We have also expanded our adjunct faculty members, most of whom are professionals who currently work in the criminal justice field:

- ❖ Darlene Conley, PhD; Sociologist/Senior Researcher JDA Associates
- ❖ Bev Himick, PhD; Forensic Scientist/WA State Patrol Crime Lab
- ❖ Gil Kerlikowske, MA; Chief/Seattle Police Department
- ❖ Trisha King-Stargel, MA; Ret./Kent Police Department
- ❖ Tim McTighe, MA; Chief/ U.S. Pretrial Services
- ❖ Mac Pevey, MA; Community Corrections Supervisor/ WA State Department of Corrections
- ❖ Ed Reed, PhD; Seattle University Matteo Ricci College
- ❖ Sarah Roberts, JD; Prosecuting Attorney/Shoreline & Lake Forest Park
- ❖ Brian Stampfl; Detective/CSI Unit Seattle Police Department
- ❖ Kathy Taylor, PhD; Forensic Anthropologist
- ❖ Mike Williams, MA; Ret. Assoc. Superint. Monroe Correctional Complex/WA State Department of Corrections
- ❖ Riva Zeff, MSW; Lead Juvenile Probation Counselor/King County Superior Court

CURRICULAR IMPROVEMENTS

A number of curricular improvements were made for 2005-06 in response to last year's meeting and in working with advisory committee members:

- **Additional CJ Core Requirements for CJ Major**
 - Criminal Justice Organizations and Criminal Justice Statistics added to existing core CJ requirements. CJ core courses now include: Introduction to Criminal Justice, Criminology, Criminal Law, Criminal Justice Statistics, Criminal Justice Research Methods, Criminal Justice Organizations, Criminal Justice Senior Synthesis.
- **New Criminal Justice Departmental Honors Program (BCJ degree only)**
 - Opportunity for students in the BCJ degree to complete a senior honors thesis under faculty supervision and to graduate with departmental honors.
- **Enhanced BS/Forensic Science Degree and Course Offerings**
 - Increased physical science requirements with the addition of forensic science lab, organic chemistry, analytical chemistry, completion of chemistry series, anatomy and physiology I & II, and completion of physics or biology series.
 - New Forensic Science Lab course taught through a contract with the WSP Crime Lab and taught by crime lab forensic scientist Bev Himick.
 - New Crime Scene and Medicolegal Death Investigation course taught by advisory committee members forensic anthropologist Kathy Taylor and Det. Brian Stampfl
- **Enhanced BS/Forensic Psychology Degree and Course Offerings**
 - Increased math and science requirements with the addition of Precalculus and Math electives, general biology, and anatomy and physiology I & II.
 - New required forensic psychology course
- **Internship Opportunities**
 - Our students have been successful in obtaining internship positions in a wide range of agencies. Thank you to advisory committee members for helping in this regard. Last year (and this) year we have students interning at the King County Medical Examiners Office, Families & Friends of Violent Crime Victims, Interaction Transition, WA Department of Corrections, KC Adult & Juvenile Detention, King County Sheriff, NW High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, US Probation, and other agencies.
 - We have developed an Internship Contact List for students (attached) and will look to continually add to and improve the list.
- **Collaborative Research**
 - As an outcome of last year's discussion, we sought ideas for applied research that would answer a particular question of interest to local CJ practitioners that would be of some service to the local CJ community. We explored several ideas and decided to pursue a study of community correctional officer perceptions of offender needs. The study is being conducted by Elaine Gunnison and Jackie Helfgott with the generous assistance of Bill Corn from U.S. Probation, Tim McTighe from US Pretrial Services, and Mac Pevey and Kevin Bovenkamp from WA DOC. We received a university research assistantship grant to hire a student research assistant (Tania Reyes) so the opportunity has provided an excellent hands-on learning opportunity for a student. The pilot results were presented last March at the *Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences* Annual Meeting in Chicago and the final results will be presented at the upcoming conference in Baltimore in March 2006. We are in the process of analyzing the data collected and after the results are presented at ACJS we will submit the article for publication.

New Committee Members/Agencies Represented

We have been overwhelmed and inspired by the willingness of local, state, and federal agencies in the area to join the advisory committee.

New members to the advisory committee for 2005-06 include:

- ❖ **John Batiste**, Chief WSP
- ❖ **Rodney G Benson**, Special Agent in Charge, *DEA*
- ❖ **Kevin Bovenkamp**, Regional Administrator, *WA Dept of Corrections*
- ❖ **Harold Clarke**, Secretary, *WA Dept of Corrections*
- ❖ **Kelvin Crenshaw**, Special Agent in Charge, *ATF*
- ❖ **Fanny Correa**, Director Victim Services, *Families & Friends of Violent Crime Victims*; Clinical Director of *Virginia Mason Separation & Loss*
- ❖ **Willie Daigle**, Associate Superintendent, *Monroe Correctional Complex, WA Dept of Corrections*
- ❖ **Paul Holland**, *Seattle University Law Clinic*
- ❖ **Reed Holtgeerts**, Director, *King County Dept of Juvenile & Adult Detention*
- ❖ **Karen Kinch**, Volunteer Coordinator, *King County Dept of Juvenile & Adult Detention*
- ❖ **Barry Logan**, Director, *WSP Crime Lab*
- ❖ **Suzanne Long**, Police Officer Recruiter, *Seattle Police Department*
- ❖ **Norm Maleng**, KC Prosecuting Attorney
- ❖ **Susan Rahr**, Sheriff, *KC Sheriff's Office*
- ❖ **Henry Richards**, Superintendent, *Special Commitment Center- McNeil Island, DSHS*.

Agencies Represented on the SU CJ Advisory Committee:

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms
Drug Enforcement Administration
Families & Friends of Violent Crime Victims
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Interaction Transition
King County Adult & Juvenile Detention
King County Medical Examiner's Office
King County Prosecutor's Office
King County Sheriff's Office
Northwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
Seattle Police Department
Seattle University Center for Service
Seattle University College of Arts & Sciences
Seattle University School of Law
The Defender' Association
United States Probation & Pretrial Services
United States Secret Service
Washington State Department of Corrections
Washington State Department of Social & Health Services
Washington State Patrol

SU CJ Advisory Committee Member List: Attached is a listing of current (continuing and new) SU CJ Advisory Committee Members.