



## Department of Criminal Justice Newsletter

### **From the Chair**

Welcome to the Fall 2016 edition of the newsletter for the Department of Criminal Justice at Wayne State University! Time Flies! Another semester is almost finished. In the Summer and Fall 2016 semesters, the Department has been working on its strategic plan for the next seven years. The plan will be finalized in December.

Our faculty continue to be excellent in research. In addition to published articles and books/book chapters, faculty actively seek internal and external grants. For example, [Drs. Brad Smith and Charles Klahm](#) received a University Seed Grant to study the impact of body-worn cameras on officer behavior and internal investigations of citizen complaints. [Drs. Matt Larson and Charles Klahm](#) also received a University Seed Grant to support their exploratory analysis of the impact of concentrated demolitions on neighborhood-level crime rates.

Students are our top priority. The Department strengthens its interaction with students in a variety of ways. Several students have participated in faculty-led funded and unfunded research projects. Learning Community courses are used to involve students more in the class and connect them to the local community. The Chair's Student Council meetings provide a forum for student input and dialogue to/from the Department/faculty and its student body. The Department/faculty also guide, participate and support the Justice Society (formerly known as the Criminal Justice Student Organization) and its activities.

As always, we are deeply appreciative of our alumni's support. Some alumni have sent us their suggestions; others have provided assistance for our student internships; still others generously donate their money to the Department so that we can offer scholarships. I thank all alumni who showed their support to the Department in one way or another.

I wish you and your loved ones a safe and happy holiday season. Please keep in touch!

Shanhe Jiang, Chair and Professor

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Dr. Wayne Raskind, Lt. Michael Diccio, Sgt. Dena Leath, Chief Craig

In the fall of 2014 Wayne State University's (WSU) Department of Criminal Justice in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences partnered with the Detroit Police Department (DPD) to create the Chief's Scholars Program. The program was designed to make an investment in CJ leadership by providing full tuition graduate scholarships for the Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice at Wayne State University. The intent was to nurture current and future leaders within the Detroit Police Department. Both WSU and DPD determined that certain executive-level officers at DPD would benefit from completing the M.S. in Criminal Justice, and that such education would benefit DPD, WSU and the Detroit community generally. Criminal justice graduate education is designed to provide the knowledge and tools required of modern leaders to implement evidence-based and data-driven responses to crime and justice issues. It is also designed to provide a broad appreciation for the ethical, legal and administrative challenges faced by modern leaders in CJ. In addition, fellow students and faculty gain

applied perspective through the presence of CJ leaders in the classroom, and these leaders' practice is influenced by the diverse perspectives of WSU students.

The first two Chief's scholars (Lt. Michael Diccio and Sgt. Dena Leath) are graduating this December. Recognizing the program's success, The College of Arts and Sciences and the WSU Graduate School deans (Dr. Wayne Raskind and Dr. Ambika Mathur) have committed to an expansion of the program. As a result, two additional sergeants (Dawn Engel and Howard Phillips) were admitted to the program this past fall and are progressing through their coursework. Two additional junior executive-level leaders will join them in the fall of 2017, and two more after that will start the program in the fall of 2018. We are very excited about the expansion of this partnership.

We would like to congratulate our first two graduating scholars and welcome our two newest Chief's Scholars to the program (Sergeant Dawn Engel and Sergeant Howard Phillips). We look forward to continuing to help make a positive difference in our community.

By Bradley Smith, Ph.D., Professor, Wayne State University Criminal Justice Department

### **Criminal Justice International Conference**

The Departments of Criminal Justice and Sociology at WSU and College of Sociology at Central China Normal University held an international conference from October 22 to 23, 2016 at WSU. The conference was on Migration, Inequality, and Justice in a Global, Urban Environment. Four panels focused on crime and criminal justice in China and the U.S., issues in Detroit, urbanization and integration in China, and migration and governance in China. The panelists were from Central China Normal University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, WSU, Oakland University, and Department of Corrections in Michigan. The WSU Provost Office for Educational Outreach and International Programs and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences sponsored the conference. Participants from both China and the U.S. were very satisfied with the conference and academic exchange. Leaders from Chinese schools and WSU discussed further faculty and student exchanges in future. Central China Normal University will host the second joint international conference

with WSU in June 2017 in Wuhan, China. The conference theme will be on Mobility, Social Justice and Public Safety.

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Wayne State's CRJ 1010, [Justice and Society Learning Community](#), comprised of undergraduate criminal justice students, partnered with buildOn to hold their second annual service-learning day on Nov. 12. Students were able to partake in community service opportunities at seven sites around Detroit before celebrating together with a Thanksgiving-themed potluck.

"Our theme for the day was 'connect' and I got to see so many iterations of that throughout the day," said [Leah Ouellet](#), a criminal justice graduate student who co-organized the event. "There were WSU students and buildOn students connecting with each other, staff and faculty connecting with students, and students going out



into the city to connect with various community members, including people experiencing homelessness, veterans and senior citizens."

[Matthew Larson](#), assistant professor of criminal justice, stresses the importance of exposure to the diverse culture of Detroit for students, which is a primary goal for the service-learning day.

"The goal with all of this is to expose the students to Detroit and the diversity of populations that live here in the city," said Larson. "As future CRJ practitioners, the earlier they hear about and understand the complexity of peoples' stories, the better prepared they'll be when they are

working in the thick of that diversity."

Ouellet worked with Larson and assistant professor [Charles Klahm](#) of Wayne State's Department of Criminal Justice, along with the buildOn staff and peer mentors, to organize the event. With over 100 participants, Ouellet said the event aimed to build community, and she was happy to achieve that for the second year in a row.

*By Carly Adams, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences communications associate*

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The former Criminal Justice Student Organization has changed its' name to **the Justice Society**. [Samanatha Bynum](#), current president, would like to put the focus on three areas-- they are those students interested in going into law, those interested in any level of law enforcement and those students interested in advocacy work. Doing community service will also be a part of membership in the group. Bringing in speakers from these groups will give students a chance to talk directly with those in the "real world" doing the "real work."



**Sgt. Collin Rose**

The students, faculty and staff of the Wayne State Department of Criminal Justice wish to express our condolences to his fiance' Nicole Salgot, his family and fellow police officers and friends.