



Department of Criminal Justice Newsletter



Letter from the Chair – year in review

Welcome to the academic year 2017-2018 edition of the newsletter for the Criminal Justice Department! It is hard to believe that another year has passed. In this edition of the newsletter, we would like to share some good news and stories from the Department and alumni.

One of the biggest accomplishments in the Department is the creation of six general education courses. They are Introduction to Criminal Justice; Race, Crime and Justice; Gender and Crime; Diversity Issues in Criminal Justice; Politics of Criminal Justice Process; and Comparative Criminal Justice. The establishment of these general courses was to enhance undergraduate curriculum and better meet students' needs. I thank the departmental Undergraduate Committee in particular and faculty/staff in general for their endless efforts to make it happen. This achievement will benefit students and the Department for a long time.

Here is a great news: Drs. Brad Smith and Charles Klahm, along with Dr. Malcolm Cutchin (Occupational Therapy Program) and Dr. Sam Zilioli (Department of Psychology), were awarded a National Institute of Justice grant for \$568,576 to study police stress in Detroit. Congratulations to them for this prestigious award!

The Department held the first Criminal Justice Advisory Board meeting in April 2018. Twenty Board members from police, corrections, court/prosecutor and alumni met with the departmental faculty and students. They provided the Department with very useful information and suggestions for curriculum changes, internships, and collocation in research and teaching.

The Chief's Scholars program continues to be going well. Since the program started in Fall 2014, four Chief's Scholars have successfully completed all the requirements and graduated from our master's program. We recently admitted two new students from the Detroit Police Department who will start in Fall 2018. This

program not only helps educate police administrators but also benefits our students. The Chief's Scholars sit together with our traditional students to share their academic understanding and practical experience.

We started to offer the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program course in Fall 2017. In this course, our students (called outside students) and inmates from Detroit Reentry Center (called inside students) sit together for a whole semester to discuss a variety of criminal justice issues. Both outside students and inside students loved the courses.

The Department had done a lot of other activities, such as Annual Career Fair, Graduate Open House, and Chair's Student Council meetings. Our faculty continue to excel in teaching and research. During the last three years, faculty has published 83 articles, 26 book chapters and presented 80 papers at national and international conferences.

Last but not least, I thank our alumni for their generous donations to our department. The Department used alumni's donations and my start-up funds to establish the WSU Criminal Justice Graduate Research/Community Engagement Award. Dear alumni, your donation made a difference to our program and students.

I hope you will enjoy reading news and stories in this edition. We will continue to publish our newsletters. If you have any stories or news you would like to share with us and our alumni, please do not hesitate to contact us at 313-577-2705 or send them to Ms. Deb Mazur at aa6438@wayne.com. Relationships with our past and current students are invaluable to us. As always, we look forward to hearing from you.

Shanhe Jiang, Professor and Chair

Department Events

CJ Career Fair

The 27th Annual N.O.B.L.E. & Justice Society Criminal Justice Job & Career Fair, held in April 2018, was one of the largest fairs the Department of Criminal Justice has held over the last 27 years. About 175 students, from Wayne State and other colleges/universities, attended and sought full- and part-time jobs and internship opportunities. A total of 54 agencies were represented, including but not limited to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF), Customs & Border Protection (CBP), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Homeland Security Investigations, Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE), Michigan State Police, Detroit Police, and Washtenaw County Children's Services.

The 28th Annual N.O.B.L.E. & Justice Society Criminal Justice Job & Career Fair is scheduled for April 9, 2019 and will be open to all at no cost with no prior registration required. Alumni are more than welcome to attend. For more information, contact Marianka Holloway at (313) 577-0772.



Students meet with a member of the Novi Police Department during the N.O.B.L.E. & Justice Society Criminal Justice Job & Career Fair.



A student converses with a job recruiter during the Career Fair.

Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program

The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program is unlike any other class offered at WSU. The semester-long course meets once per week inside the Detroit Reentry Center (DRC) located less than ten minutes away from the university. The class combines WSU students (outside students) with an equal number of incarcerated men (inside students) at the DRC in Detroit, MI. Both inside and outside students have the same syllabus and academic requirements, and students learn about crime and justice together through intensive dialogue. Thus far, a total of 60 students have successfully completed the Department's Inside Out course, and that number should move to 90 after this fall semester.

To be considered for the Winter 2019 course, students are required to fill out an application via the Department's website. Students who make the short list of applicants will then complete a brief interview with Dr. Larson before he makes final decisions.

Inside-Out was founded by Lori Pompa at Temple University with the first class taking place in the Philadelphia Prison System in 1997. The program has since grown to include over 800 trained instructors from across the United States and several countries. At this time, the program has successfully reached over 30,000 students living both inside and outside prison walls.

Students can also learn more about the program by visiting the website at <http://www.clas.wayne.edu/CRJ/inside-out>



Inside and outside students of the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program at Detroit Reentry Center during the Winter 2018 semester.

CJ Advisory Board meeting

In order to strengthen the connections with local CJ agencies and alumni, seek input from the local CJ agencies and alumni for curriculum and other changes, seek collaboration with local CJ agencies in internships, teaching and research, the Department established the Criminal Justice Advisory Board in Winter 2018. The Board consists of members from police, corrections, court/prosecutor/public defense and alumni.

The first Board meeting was held at the WSU Student Center. Attendees included board members from local agencies and alumni, CJ faculty and students. DPD Chief James Craig and Dean Wayne Raskind of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences also attended the meeting.



Clockwise from top left: Master's student Olivia Haas, Drs. Charles Klahm and Bonnie Wu, former Southgate Chief of Police and CRJ alum Charles Castle, Chief Tony Holt of the Wayne State Police Department, Chief Ronald Haddad of the Dearborn Police Department, and former Dean of the WSU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Wayne Raskind.

Internship Program

This summer, Dr. Jim Geistman, the department Internship Coordinator, updated and expanded the list of agencies that students who are interested in completing an internship may contact. The list consists of contact information with over 50 agencies spanning these areas:

- courts
- prosecutors
- defense attorneys
- state, local, and federal law enforcement
- probation, parole, and corrections
- child and juvenile services

The information details how many hours per week and hours per semester are required by the agency; instructions on how to apply for an internship with a certain agency; the name, email address, and phone

number of the contact person at the agency; specific requirements the agency may have for interns; and which semester(s) a student can apply for an internship with that agency.

If any of the readers of this newsletter are at agencies who use interns and would like to host a Wayne State CRJ major, please email Dr. Geistman at al9322@wayne.edu.

A number of undergraduate CRJ students interned at various placements during the last year. You can read more about some of their experiences here:

- [Abigail Crippes](#) – HAVEN (program for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault)
- [Mallory Downs](#) – Prosecutor's Office
- [Kari Golematis](#) – Frank Murphy Hall of Justice
- [Caitlin McGee](#) – Project Reentry Intern at the State Appellate Defender Office (SADO)
- [Morgan Sawgle](#) – Detroit Police Dept.

New Courses from CJ

To enhance undergraduate curriculum and better meet students' needs, the Department of Criminal Justice is offering five new undergraduate courses starting Fall 2018.

The first course, CRJ 2550 Race, Crime and Justice, introduces students to criminological and legal analysis of the American criminal justice system as a form of race-based social control. It will discuss social constructs, individual biases, theoretical approaches, and current research and data about the ways in which race is connected with criminal involvement and criminal justice processing. This course satisfies both the general requirements and the specific guidelines and criteria governing a General Education Course in the area of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

The second course, CRJ/GSW 2650 Gender and Crime, will introduce students to U.S. history, practices, and policies affecting gender bias in the criminal justice system. Students will learn how the roots of gender identity and gender-based prejudices influence criminal and victim behavior, as well as how the criminal justice system treats gender groups as they relate to federal, state, local, and international jurisdictions. This course satisfies both the general requirements and the specific guidelines and criteria governing a General Education Course in the area of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

The third course, CRJ 3900 Comparative Criminal Justice, will compare the United States criminal justice system with that of selected other countries, covering not only the foundations of the criminal justice system, but also various components of these systems. This course satisfies both the general requirements and the specific guidelines and criteria governing a General Education Course in the area of Global Learning.

The fourth course, CRJ/PH 3000 Crime and Mental Health, will discuss a range of topics such as the definition of mental illness, deinstitutionalization and criminalization of mentally ill individuals, the impact of mental illness on criminal proceedings, treatment/intervention effectiveness, and the reentry/reintegration of mentally ill individuals in the United States.

The fifth course, CRJ/PH 4050 Crime and Public Health, will cover topics such as the health of incarcerated populations, the health of criminal justice professionals, health consequences of crime and risk behaviors, public health and law, gangs and gang violence, mental health and substance abuse, environmental justice, and public health interventions with criminal justice populations in the United States.

Learning Community

The Justice & Society Learning Community successfully wrapped up its third year and has entered into its fourth. So far, about 120 students and 9 peer mentors have completed the Learning Community requirements and, along the way, become connected in real ways with their fellow students and the Departmental faculty, particularly Dr. Klahm and Dr. Larson.

Among other elements, the Department's Learning Community prioritizes transforming the classroom experience into one where students, mentors, and faculty interact in meaningful ways and really get to know each other. It's about community, of course, but it's also about creating the feel of a small, liberal arts classroom at a large, urban university. It's well established that the more attention students receive and the better they get to know the faculty members teaching their courses, the more fulfilling and enriching the college experience they will have. This is exactly the kind of experience that the Department of Criminal Justice is prioritizing more and more among its undergraduate and graduate students.

The Justice & Society Learning Community was one of about 15 selected from over 40 applications that were submitted University-wide this year. There are many reasons for this, but it is due in part to the extent that it has connected with community organizations in and around Detroit. Community engagement and experiential learning are key ingredients to the Learning Community and serve as its foundation. In recent years, students have partnered with local non-profit organizations that serve at-risk youth, homeless individuals, previously incarcerated men and women, domestic violent shelters, and, most recently, local schools in the same community as Wayne State. The Learning Community also started a Thanksgiving Potluck three years ago with the help of a graduate student, Leah Ouellet, who worked for the organization

at the time. The Potluck has brought criminal justice students together with students from local high schools to participate in a day of community serving, giving back, and, of course, sharing food and getting to know one another.

If you would like to support the Justice & Society Learning Community, please connect with Dr. Charles Klahm at charles.klahm@wayne.edu



Wayne State Learning Community students pose for a picture during the BuildOn Service Learning Day.

Alumni/Recent Graduate

Leah Ouellet, M.S. in CJ (graduated in Winter 2018)

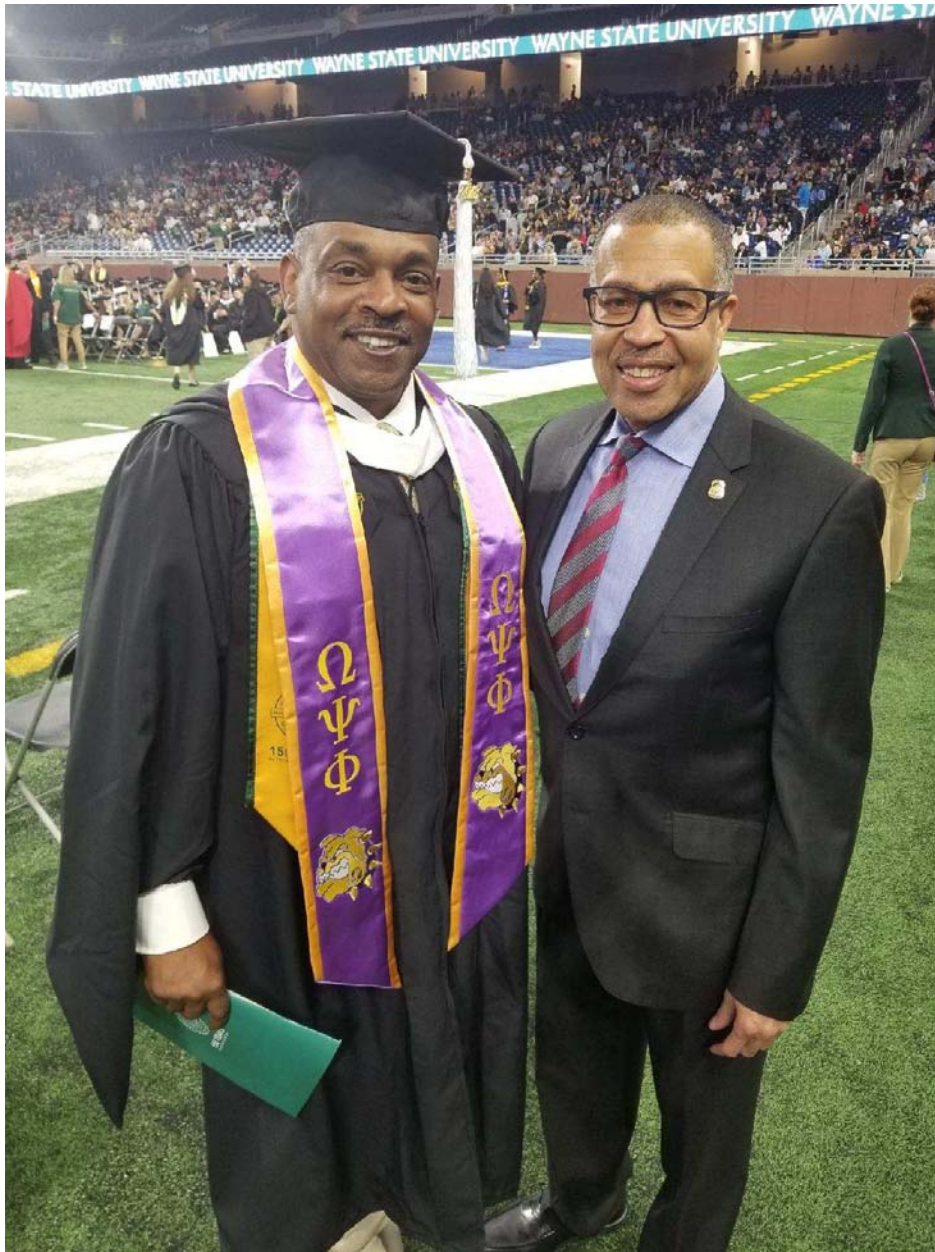
I started my master's degree at Wayne State University in 2015. I was eager to gain research experience in order to determine whether a career in academia would be a good fit for me. Since starting, I've been super fortunate to have the support of faculty members willing to take on graduate students in their research. As a graduate research assistant, I helped conduct a study evaluating the impact of Detroit's blight removal program on neighborhood crime levels. I learned a ton about the legacy of housing inequality in Detroit while helping navigate the immense task of collecting and organizing data from various agencies. Additionally, I was able to help create a project proposal aiming to study the impact of stress on police behavior. Participating in the creation of a research project offered a lot of valuable insight into the world of academia, and helped as I launched my own research for my master's thesis.

Since starting, I've enjoyed becoming part of the department's community. I was excited to coordinate a couple of service events for the undergraduate students in the Learning Community and serve as a peer mentor for the 2016-2017 academic year. I also was thrilled to help organize the department's first "Just Poetry" event, which showcased several of the department's Chief's Scholars alongside others who've interacted with the criminal justice system. Furthermore, I'm endlessly thankful for the opportunity to attend the American Society of Criminology's 2016 meeting and the Academy of Criminal Justice Science's 2017 meeting. These experiences, and the guidance of the department's faculty, have made me confident in my decision to pursue a doctorate degree. After completing my master's thesis this summer, I am now focusing on applying to graduate programs for the Fall of 2018. I know that my time at Wayne State will prove invaluable, and can't thank the department's faculty enough for their willingness to mentor graduate students.

Students

DPD Chief's Scholars Program

The Chief's Scholar Program is designed to nurture current and future leaders within the Detroit Police Department (DPD), and to bring the latest evidence-based practices to the DPD. Since the program started in Fall 2014, two Chief's scholars have successfully completed all the requirements and graduated from our master's program and two completed all the requirements except an essay. The Department recently admitted two more students from the DPD who have started this Fall 2018. Congratulations to all the scholars who have graduated and to those still studying toward a master's degree!

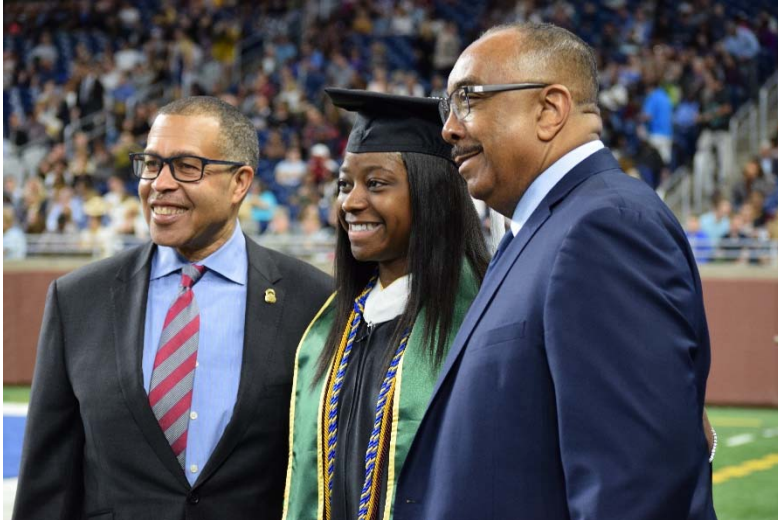


DPD Chief's Scholar Howard Phillips on graduation day with Detroit Police Department Chief James E. Craig.

Criminal Justice Graduate Research/Community Engagement Award

Starting in Fall 2017, the Department of Criminal Justice is offering a competitive award for Criminal Justice Master's students. Up to two students can receive the award each year. The award was given to one student in the academic year 2017-2018 and 2018-2019, respectively. The award will be continued in the academic year 2019-2020. Awardees have worked or will work together under faculty guidance on a research and/or community engagement project in metro Detroit and are expected to provide a talk to faculty and graduate students about the process at the end of the year.

Commencement May 2018



*DPD Chief James E. Craig with
Master's graduate Johnetta Williams
and WSU Chief of Police Tony Holt.*

Faculty

CJ faculty visited PPSUC in Summer 2018

Criminal Justice faculty Drs. Shanhe Jiang, Brad Smith, Bonnie Wu and Charles Klahm visited People's Public Security University of China (PPSUC) in Beijing from May 31 to June 6. They presented papers at an international conference and gave talks to faculty and students at PPSUC. They also met officials from that school. The visit strengthened the ties between the two schools and increased the opportunities to establish collaborative programs. It enhanced understanding of cultures and criminal justice systems for both sides that will benefit teaching and research in the near future.



Drs. Charles Klahm and Brad Smith meeting with PPSUC students.

Faculty Publications & Talks or in the news

Yuning “Bonnie” Yu, (March 20, 2018). From Supervisory Procedural Justice to Officer Procedural Justice: An Empirical Study of Chinese Police Officers. WSU Humanities Center Brown Bag Series.

Newsweek printed Dr. Steve Stack’s comments on the film series 13 Reasons Why. Here is the link for the information: <http://www.newsweek.com/13-reasons-why-suicide-searches-study-644166>

Visiting Scholar from China

Dr. Jinpen Zhai, professor from the People’s Republic Security University of China, visited the Department from August 2017 to August 2018. During his visit, Dr. Zhai sat in classes, gave a talk on Chinese policing and police system, interacted with faculty on research and teaching, and participated in social events with faculty. He has invited faculty to visit his school. Dr. Zhai has played an important role to promote exchanges between his university and WSU for faculty and students.



DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRESENTS:

Comparison of Sino-US Policing

Speaker:
Dr. Jinpeng Zhai

April 19, 2018
1:30-3:00pm

Room 3339 Faculty Administration Building, 3rd floor

DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
600 W. Kalam
3054 F.T. LD
Detroit, MI 48202
313.377.2700

WAYNE STATE
College of Liberal Arts
and Sciences

Dr. Jinpeng Zhai is a visiting scholar from the People's Public Security University in Beijing, China. Dr. Zhai is a professor and researcher of Chinese policing systems and processes. His areas of expertise are criminal enforcement, anti-terrorism, and police education. We hope you'll be able to join us for his talk on the comparative aspects of policing in China and the United States.