



American Society of Criminology

Division on Critical Criminology and Social Justice



The Critical Criminologist:

SPOTLIGHT

Member Newsletter

Volume 26 | Issue 1

*Shining a spotlight
on critical topics since 1998*

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MESSAGE FROM THE DCCSJ CHAIR

Hi everyone and welcome to a new year for the Division on Critical Criminology and Social Justice. 2018 is shaping up to be one of energised activism (particularly by students opposed to guns) and fundamental challenges to democracy and citizen participation, one way or the other (whether in the USA, China or Russia).

We have a new Executive team in place now, with myself as Chair and Kerry Carrington as Deputy Chair. The rest of the team include Travis Linnemann (Treasurer), Jeff Ross (Past Chair), and Michael Coyle, Vincenzo Ruggiero and Amanda Hall-Sanchez (Executive Counselors at Large). Kyle Mulrooney is our Communications Manager, ably assisted by Krystle Shore, Alexa Bejinariu and Cassandra Boyer.

Thanks to all those who helped us out in undertaking Division tasks last year, and special thanks are due to Jeff Ross and Shyloh Wideman (website assistance) for ensuring that there has been a smooth transition for and to the new Executive Board. We are grateful as well for the regular contact with ASC staff and executive members.

The new DCCSJ Executive Board has made a number of important decisions in anticipation of the ASC Conference this year in Atlanta. These include:

The DCCSJ will be holding a joint social event with the newly formed Division of White-Collar and Corporate Crime at this year's conference. Michael Coyle has kindly agreed to be our 'events manager' in regards to this, and this reception sounds like it will be a most interesting and exciting evening, and provide a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new colleagues.

The DCCSJ will be awarding small honorariums to Kyle Mulrooney for his role as Manager of Communications, and for the three post-graduate students, Krystle Shore, Alexa Bejinariu and Cassandra Boyer who will be assisting Kyle, in recognition of the large workload associated with undertaking these tasks.

The DCCSJ has merged two awards into one. From now on the Praxis Award and the Practice Award will be known as the *DCCSJ Praxis Award*.

The DCCSJ Best Journal Article award has also been changed. From now on, this award will be granted solely for contributions to our journal *Critical Criminology*. The

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MESSAGE FROM THE DCCSJ CHAIR

editor (Avi Brisman) will serve on this committee, which will be chaired by an Executive member (this year, Kerry Carrington).

From 2018 onwards, the Chair of each Award Committee will draft explicit guidelines regarding selection criteria for the relevant award. These will include reference to what the award is for, and what criteria is drawn upon in selecting a winner for that award.

The Chairs of this year's award committees are:

Lifetime Achievement Award

Chair: Rob White | r.d.white@utas.edu.au

Critical Criminologist of the Year

Chair: Michael J. Coyle | mjcoyle@csuchico.edu

Praxis Award

Chair: Vincenzo Ruggiero | V.Ruggiero@mdx.ac.uk

Graduate Student Paper Award

Undergraduate Student Paper Award

Chair: Kyle Mulrooney | kmulroon@une.edu.au

Teaching Award

Chair: Carla Barrett | cbarrett@jjay.cuny.edu

Book Award

Chair: Rob White | r.d.white@utas.edu.au

Best Journal Article Award

Chair: Kerry Carrington | kerry.carrington@qut.edu.au

We are looking for 'expressions of interest' from the general membership of the DCCSJ to participate on the Critical Criminologist of the Year, Praxis, Book, Graduate/Undergraduate Student Paper and Best Journal Article award committees. Please forward these to the award chair in each case (cc'd to myself).

The newsletter, Facebook page and twitter account are all important ways to keep in touch and to communicate with one another. The strength of the DCCSJ is in its membership. We need you, because you are us. Please contribute generously.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DCCSJ CHAIR

The world as a whole is changing rapidly in many diverse ways – ecologically, politically, socially and culturally. So members of the DCCSJ must interpret, intervene in and change this world in accordance with our progressive values, justice principles and critical thought. Challenging orthodoxy is only part of the task. Taking action is vital, as the students rebelling against guns are demonstrating in their struggles against the most powerful lobby group in the USA.

See. Judge. Act.

It is time to build our base and to expand our reach. Critical criminology and social justice are global pursuits and this fact needs to be reflected in the composition and work of our membership. Let us go forth and multiply.●

Rob White

Chair – Division on Critical Criminology and Social Justice



INTRODUCING THE DCCSJ EXECUTIVE BOARD



Chair: Professor Rob White

University of Tasmania

Contact: r.d.white@utas.edu.au



Vice Chair: Professor Kerry Carrington

Queensland University of Technology

Contact: kerry.carrington@qut.edu.au



Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Travis Linnemann

Eastern Kentucky University

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Executive Counsellor: Dr. Amanda Hall-Sanchez

West Virginia University

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Executive Counsellor: Professor Michael Coyle

California State University

Contact: mjcoyle@csuchico.edu



Executive Counsellor: Professor Vincenzo Ruggiero

Middlesex University

Contact: V.Ruggiero@mdx.ac.uk



Past Chair: Professor Jeffrey Ian Ross

University of Baltimore

Contact: jross@ubalt.edu

“ A WORD OF THANKS ”

REMARKS BY **JEFFREY IAN ROSS**, OUTGOING CHAIR, DCCSJ
DELIVERED AT THE DCCSJ SOCIAL
ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2017, PHILADELPHIA, PA

We have a jam-packed agenda for the next 45 minutes.

I will say a few words, this will be followed by David Brotherton who is going to talk a little about Jock Young, who passed away four years ago this day.

And David will be followed by Marty Schwartz who will coordinate the handing out of awards.

To begin with, I have fourteen things I want to say.

First, on behalf of the Division on Critical Criminology and Social Justice executive I want to thank all of you for coming to this year's American Society of Criminology Meeting, and participating in the activities of the DCCSJ.

I also am pleased that so many of you could attend our Business Meeting and this social. It is great to see so many friends and colleagues.

OK, here goes. And if you can please stand up and or wave your hand when I call your name this would be helpful. And apologies if I neglected to mention you and the great things you have done for the Division.

Over the last year the DCCSJ has accomplished a handful of important tasks.

Second, we now have a new retractable banner and table banner/cloth reflecting our new name and in the case of the table cloth, our new name and a more modern design.

Third, we now have an official Division archivist and that is Jane Mooney.

Fourth, we also want to thank David Kauzlarich, who has done an outstanding job editing *Critical Criminology: An International Journal*, and Avi Brisman and Sappho

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“ A WORD OF THANKS ”

Xenakis, for capably serving as the book review editors. In the spring, a search committee for a new Executive Editor of *Critical Criminology: An International Journal* (consisting of David as chair with the assistance of Kerry Carrington, Jeff Ferrell and Nigel South) was formed. They recommended Avi Brisman. Shortly thereafter, per our constitution, his nomination was approved by the Exec. Avi will officially assume his duties in January 2019.

Fifth, we also want to thank Favian Martin, who over the past four years along Annie Lee, Ken Leon, and Kyle Mulrooney, formed our durable Communications team. They have done a great job in producing our newsletter, managing our social media, and making sure that these vehicles have great content, and come out on a regular basis. Thanks to Favian for managing the DCCSJ table that is an important element of our presence here at the ASC.

As many of you know, after the ASC meetings Favian will be stepping down. We have managed to secure Kyle as the new chair of the communications committee.

Sixth, kudos to Carla Barrett for leading the Division's pedagogy/teaching committee.

Seventh, thanks to Rita Shah, Emily Troshynski, and Pete Kraska for crafting a comprehensive report on the recommendations for the DCCSJ to better incorporate principles of social justice into our activities.

Eighth, I want to thank the chairs of the separate awards committees, including Martin Schwartz, Rob White, Carla Barrett, and the members of the DCCSJ who diligently served on these committees.

Ninth, I also want extend our appreciation to the numerous people who have devoted their time and energies to the success of the DCCSJ. From leading committees to serving on them. From submitting papers and panels, to their willingness to chair and/or serve as discussants at this meeting. Sending us content for our Facebook page and newsletter. Staffing the DCC table in the hotel concourse level.

And to the numerous members who work behind the scenes to make everything we do seem flawless to the outside observer.

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“A WORD OF THANKS”

Tenth, I want to thank Emily Troshynski for her incredible service as co-chair of the DCCSJ. Second, I want to thank Victoria Collins for her excellent work as treasurer and secretary.

Eleventh, my gratitude also extends to our executive counselors, consisting of Travis Linnemann, Kate Henne, Jane Mooney, and Donna Selman.

Twelfth, as many of you know, after serving as the chair of the DCCSJ for the past two years, after the ASC meeting, I will be stepping down. It has been a pleasure serving you and learning about all the great things that all of us do to further the cause of critical criminology and social justice through our pedagogy, research and activism. Meanwhile I move to “past chair status,” and my role will be to “provide organizational stability and continuity over time.”

Again, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as chair.

Thirteenth, that being said, during the spring the DCCSJ membership elected a new executive committee with Rob White, as the new chair, Vice Chair: Kerry Carrington; Secretary/Treasurer: Travis Linnemann; and Executive Counselors: Amanda Hall-Sanchez, Michael Coyle, & Vincenzo Ruggiero.

Fourteenth, a little over a year ago we learned about the election of Donald J. Trump to be the 45th president of the United States.

We were the first and only division of the ASC to craft a statement of opposition to Trump and his agenda. We need to collectively come together to examine what we can do as an organization to fight this affront to civil liberties, human rights and social justice. The conversation that we engage in is an extension of our activism, pedagogy and research. The ultimate goal is to develop and participate in an agenda that can help us add our voice against the negative policies and practices that the Trump presidency has unleashed.

In closing, keep doing great work in terms of scholarship, activism, and pedagogy and we will do our best to draw attention to it in our numerous communication vehicles.

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“A WORD OF THANKS”

I encourage you all to get involved. We are always looking for members to volunteer to assist with the numerous and diverse initiatives of the DCCSJ.

Also, keep sending us your questions and suggestions and we will do our best to respond and incorporate them in what we do.

That is how the executive can best serve you and the entire membership.

And remember to tip the bartender. ●



MESSAGE FROM THE DCCSJ COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Dear members of the DCCSJ,

At the outset of this message we would like to thank Jeff Ross for his guidance and leadership in his role as Chair of the DCCSJ. We especially thank Jeff for his service and for all he has done in building a strong and confident division. In this newsletter you will find the address Jeff gave at this past years DCCSJ social at the American Society of Criminology meetings in Philadelphia.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Favian Martin for his tireless efforts working as Chair of Communications for the DCCSJ. It is a difficult task, usually with very little in the way of reward, and so we thank Favian for his service to the DCCSJ and for building such a great newsletter that so many of us look forward to.

Kyle Mulrooney has now moved into the role as Chair of the Communication team and is looking forward to keeping members of the Division up to speed with DCCSJ news and all things critical criminology. Assisting Kyle in this role are some fantastic graduate students, namely Krystle Shore, Cassandra Boyer and Alexa Bejinariu. Together, we look forward to facilitating Division communication and hope to put together many informative editions of the Critical Criminologist.

To this end, we are confident that you will find this edition of the Critical Criminologist: Spotlight engaging and interesting. Indeed, we have a number of fantastic contributors. David Whyte and Steve Tombs open this issue by covering the strike in higher education in the UK where colleagues have been fighting to save their pensions and resisting the march of the neo-liberal university more generally. We are deeply inspired and encouraged by the resistance offered up by all of our colleagues in the UK and we stand in solidarity with them.

In the 'Critical Criminologist Spotlight' the brilliant Kate Henne has been so kind as to answer a few questions about her research. Next up, Shelly Clevenger, the 2017 DCCSJ teaching award winner, has written about her use of critical criminology and a social justice framework for our now well established 'Critical Teaching Column. We also have the opportunity to learn a little bit about our very own Cassandra Boyer who is featured in the 'Graduate Student Spotlight'.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DCCSJ COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Finally, Mike Mills has offered some insight into his fascinating cultural criminological work on 'doomsday' prepping in America. As always, we have included a variety of important news items and announcements and have highlighted some of the work of our DCCSJ members of which we are very proud.

Forthcoming editions of the Critical Criminologists: Spotlight for 2018 are scheduled to be released in August and December. More information is to follow by email, however, encouraged by our UK colleagues as well as higher education strikes going on in Canada and elsewhere, the next edition of the newsletter will be dedicated to covering issues pertaining to the neo-liberal university and taking a critical look at many of our own workplaces more generally. If you would like to contribute, please get in touch with us at DCCSJcommunications@outlook.com.

Without further ado, we present to you the 'The Critical Criminologist: Spotlight' ●

Best wishes,

Kyle, Cassandra, Alexa, and Krystle

INTRODUCING THE 2018 DCCSJ COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



Alexa Bejinariu is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). She earned her B.A. and M.A. in Criminal Justice from UNLV as well. Since her acceptance into the program, she has been part of several research projects dealing with civil domestic violence protection orders, human trafficking, and prisoner reentry program evaluation. Currently, Bejinariu is working on a collaborative interdisciplinary research project that explores the physical and psychological barriers victims encounter when attempting to exit commercial sexual exploitation.



Cassandra Boyer is a Ph.D. student in the Criminology and Criminal Justice program at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She earned her B.A. and M.A. in Criminal Justice at UNLV. Her research interests include the surveillance and policing of social movements, qualitative methods, feminist theory, and women in policing.



Dr. Kyle Mulrooney (Chair) is a lecturer in Criminology at the University of New England. His primary research area is the Sociology of punishment, with particular attention to the resistance of 'penal populism' in Canada. He is also interested in the use, supply, and regulation of enhancement drugs. Kyle holds a Ph.D. in Cultural and Global Criminology from the University of Kent and Universität Hamburg, an MA in the Sociology of Law from the International Institute for the Sociology of Law and a BA (Honours) in Criminology and Justice from the University of Ontario Institute of Technology.



Krystle Shore is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Sociology and Legal Studies at the University of Waterloo. Her primary research focus is policing, and she is particularly interested in police culture and militarization, police surveillance technologies such as body-worn cameras, and police response to vulnerable populations. She is also interested in how institutional forces, such as the push for knowledge mobilization, can shape and censor critical or activist scholarship. Krystle holds an M.A. in Criminology from Wilfrid Laurier University, and a B.A. (Honours) in Psychology from the University of Western Ontario.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

THE DCCSJ IS SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING AWARDS:

Lifetime Achievement Award

Chair: Rob White | r.d.white@utas.edu.au

Critical Criminologist of the Year

Chair: Michael J. Coyle | mjcoyle@csuchico.edu

Praxis Award

Chair: Vincenzo Ruggiero | V.Ruggiero@mdx.ac.uk

Graduate Student Paper Award

Undergraduate Student Paper Award

Chair: Kyle Mulrooney | kmulroon@une.edu.au

Teaching Award

Chair: Carla Barrett | cbarrett@jjay.cuny.edu

Book Award

Chair: Rob White | r.d.white@utas.edu.au

Best Journal Article Award

Chair: Kerry Carrington | kerry.carrington@qut.edu.au

TO NOMINATE, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHAIR OF EACH AWARD LISTED ABOVE.

Please send nominations by September 1st, 2018.

A dark rectangular box with a spotlight effect illuminating the text from the top left.

Critical Issue SPOTLIGHT

We Are the University

DR. DAVID WHYTE

Professor of Socio-legal Studies, University of Liverpool (United Kingdom)

Email: david.whyte@liverpool.ac.uk

Over the past 3 months, university workers in the UK have been involved in the biggest campaign of strikes and industrial action ever seen in the sector. The strike made major unexpected gains in pushing back an audacious attempt by the employers Federation Universities UK (UUK) to drastically devalue our pensions. The strike – organized by the UCU, the trade union that brings together all tertiary sector education workers - has now been suspended pending the agreement of a joint working group that has a mandate to retain “a guaranteed, defined benefit scheme”. The feeling amongst the majority of us is that we will probably need to strike again to make sure UUK sticks to this agreement. But beyond this dispute, the effect of this strike has been to create a real swell in confidence amongst university teachers and administrators, previously seen as a relatively timid and compliant bunch, to fight and to win (and the remarkable events of the Open University rebellion to remove their Vice Chancellor are undoubtedly part of this movement, see Steve Tomb's piece).

Over two extended periods Universities have [cut their pension contributions to the pension fund](#) unilaterally (because they argued, the scheme was in such good financial health). In 2017, UUK began to argue that the scheme is in deficit and that therefore they could not afford to guarantee our pension benefits. Our trade union, the UCU, has its own expert assessment that shows the [valuation 'deficit' is concocted](#) as a convenient narrative to justify pension cuts. Losses to the value of academic pensions were estimated at between 20% and 40% depending on individual circumstances. One striker calculated that if her pension could be saved, it would be worth her while to be on strike for 11 years and take the hit in lost wages!

There are so many remarkable things to say and to know about this strike. In many

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CRITICAL ISSUE SPOTLIGHT

places the most casualised university workers (around 50% of university staff in the UK are on precarious 'zero-hours' or temporary contracts) played leading roles. Across campuses, significantly more people were active in the strike and in the huge range of campaign activities than in any campaign before. [And there has been an unprecedented wave of student militancy!](#) There were student occupations at more than 20 Universities around the country, all echoing our demands and all explicitly declaring the importance of worker-student solidarity. A wave of political student occupations on this scale has not been seen for decades.

Academics - in the UK at least – are not known for their militancy. But this strike may well send shock waves into other sectors. It is one of the first in the UK to successfully navigate some of our newest anti-trade union laws. [Industrial action ballot restrictions introduced by the Conservative government in 2016](#) means that highly restrictive time scales and voting minima are much more difficult to overcome. The context for this dispute is that UUK anticipated they could bully through the pension reforms safe in the assumption that we could not beat the anti-trade union laws. Their hubris was revealed as a spectacular misjudgment when 88% of us voted to strike in January. UUK certainly did not anticipate that this would turn into [the biggest national strike in recent memory.](#)

“...This strike has stimulated a national conversation about the purpose of education and the need to revolutionize our universities.”

Inside the union, we have seen a remarkable movement for a genuine participative democracy. The grassroots of the union is hugely empowered by a [wave of resistance that forced the leadership of the union to take a harder line with Universities UK.](#) The leadership is now saying openly that the union has changed permanently. What this means for a more democratic and member-led union remains to be seen, but there have already been several national grassroots conferences and forums emerging to harness this energy.

Colleagues who have stood on picket lines in freezing temperatures, who were

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CRITICAL ISSUE SPOTLIGHT

involved in the numerous alternative teaching events with students, and participated in a new wave of mass meetings and assemblies all report the same thing: that this strike has stimulated a national conversation about the purpose of education and the need to revolutionize our universities.

At some point the strike stopped being about pensions, and started being about a bigger imperative: the need to sweep away the principles of marketization that have strangled the life out of our universities. Perhaps the biggest slogan to come out of the strike has been the disarmingly radical #WeAreTheUniversity. The reason the strike has been so successful is that it has become a way of pushing back against all of the neoliberal nonsense we are facing. The strike was an expression of a much bigger fightback against the competitive metrics, against the performance indicators for teaching (in the UK REF and TEF), against all of the escalating and accumulating attacks on our working conditions, and all our academic autonomy. It was an expression of a fightback against a market logic that has created a new, bloated and useless management class and made the system unsustainable.

This strike has given us the confidence to wage a much longer, and higher stakes fight: a fight to reclaim our universities and to turn a hashtag slogan #WeAreTheUniversity into something that is concrete and meaningful. ●



Dr. David Whyte is a Professor of Socio-legal Studies in the department of Sociology, Social Policy, and Criminology at the University of Liverpool. His research and teaching interests are focused on the connections between law and corporate power. Dr. Whyte has specifically researched the regulation of business in a wide range of contexts (including working conditions, institutional fraud and corruption, economies of war and conflict, and human rights violations), and the ways that law maintains and reproduces violence (as part of a 'war on terror', in the workplace, and in 'austerity' policies).





Critical Issue
SPOTLIGHT

When One Goes Down, the Rest Sit Up?

DR. STEVE TOMBS

Professor of Socio-legal Studies, The Open University (United Kingdom)

Email: steve.tombs@open.ac.uk

On Friday 13th April, Peter Horrocks, the Vice-Chancellor of The Open University, the UK's biggest distance learner provider, set up by the social democratic Labour Government in 1969, literally to make access to higher education open to all, announced his resignation "[with immediate effect](#)".

Less than 3 weeks previously, on 23rd March, a live, streamed and subsequently internally [web-hosted](#) broadcast discussion between the Horrocks and the OU Student Association prompted a series of unprecedented events which led to that resignation. In that discussion, Peter Horrocks displayed a remarkable ignorance of, indeed contempt for, what academics on campus at the OU actually did:

"the people who work here should be bloody well teaching. They should be teaching directly. It's ridiculous that they are thought, they are spoken about as though they're teaching, when they're writing. That's not teaching."

His words sparked "[staff to rise up](#)". But they were only the latest in a long line of gaffes, regressive policy turns and a wilful lack of strategic nous that had come to characterise Horrocks' three years in charge of the Open University. It looked very much like his [disastrous tenure](#) at the helm of the BBC's World Service - Horrocks is a career journalist, but why let that prevent him running a University? - was being replayed in a horror show akin to a slow motion car crash.

Having overseen the [closure](#) of almost all of the University's regional centres in England and so effecting a massive centralisation, then forcing through a disastrous new tuition

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policy, leaks then confirmed a massive round of [cuts](#) (£100m from an operating budget of £420m) and redundancies (up to 300 full-time staff in the first year). In fact, on the eve of a national strike against [pensions theft](#), he sued the scale of the 'restructuring' to justify his £360,000 *pa* salary (driving through unprecedented redundancies meant paying for "[an appropriate leader](#)"!). He had become an accident-waiting-to-happen.

A few days after his 'teachers not teaching' gaffe, Horrocks issued an apology, emailed via intermediaries, which was so mealy mouthed and so grudging that the University went into meltdown. Most 'normal' activity was suspended as, first, academic staff, then various groups of support staff and, finally, students and alumni mobilised themselves. It was incredible.

Timing was key. The OU's branch of the University and Colleges Unions, UCU, were to be important in this tidal wave of protest. But it was only *part*, perhaps not at forefront. In fact my sense was of a wider workforce emboldened by the [incredible wave of national action](#) – which was undertaken by the UCU across the country - that had recently closed half of Britain Universities for 14 days in a four week

"The message was clear: we are not having it any more."

period of the most intense industrial action ever seen in the sector. Finally this seemed to signal that the relentless managerialist, marketising, hollowing-out and neo-liberalisation of our Universities could be opposed, even as Horrocks at the OU sought to put the final nail in the coffin of the [Jewel-in-the-Crown of widening participation](#) in UK HE. A group of academics had finally had enough. It was a watershed: liberating, exhilarating, exhausting; a constituency much broader than the 'usual suspects' – a somewhat conservative and heterogeneous bunch of people associated with the University - were demonstrating the sentiment which those of us who had stood on UCU picket lines day in, day out just a two weeks or so before had felt, lived, breathed. The message was clear: *we are not having it any more.*

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CRITICAL ISSUE SPOTLIGHT

Horrocks' apology for his crass remarks about 'teachers not teaching' only fuelled the flames – his half-hearted back-peddling led to 'No Confidence' votes and calls to resign with immediate effect being articulated orally and by votes in a plethora of meetings, in mass letter writing and via petitions at all levels and [in every quarter](#) of the University – at every level of senior, middle and lower level management, by all groups of staff (academic and non-academic) across all Faculties, functions, countries, as well as by students and alumni. These voices were raised in their tens of thousands. He and the few senior managers close to him were openly challenged, contradicted and ridiculed, not least on various social media platforms, while other forms of e-comms became integral to our organisation – as they had been during the strike – as WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook and Youtube became sites and means of organisation and resistance.

With no little irony, on the very day that the Open University's Voluntary Severance scheme was formally rolled out – the first, velvet glove attempt to secure 300 redundancies – Horrocks was hauled before an undemocratic University Council which would determine his future. With little option, and with the business sense of corporate men and women, the Council refused to back him. Days later, Horrocks was gone.

One man. One small victory. But perhaps, just perhaps, this remarkable sequence of events might prove a watershed in the struggle to stem the onslaught of managerialism and neo-liberalisation that has swept through our Universities through the last 30 years. And those who manage across the sector might sit up in the knowledge that they are not above being called to account. ●



Dr. Steve Tombs has been Head of the Department of Social Policy and Criminology at the Open University since 2015. His research interests include the incidence, nature, and regulation of corporate crime and harm, and in particular the regulation and 'management' of health and safety at work, and he has published widely on these matters. Dr. Tombs was also a founding Member and Chair of the Centre for Corporate Accountability, a not-for-profit advice, research, and advocacy organization, and he continues to work with the Hazards Movement, the Institute of Employment Rights, and the International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal.

Critical Criminologist SPOTLIGHT

DR. KATHRYN (KATE) HENNE

Canada Research Chair and Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology and Legal Studies, University of Waterloo
Email: khenne@uwaterloo.ca



Kathryn Henne, Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Biogovernance, Law and Society, is an Assistant Professor at the University of Waterloo (Canada) and a Fellow of the Balsillie School of International Affairs. She is also an Associate Professor at RegNet, the School of Regulation and Global Governance at the Australian National University (ANU). Her research interests are concerned with how science and technology inform constructions of deviance, particularly as they manifest in regulatory

approaches to behaviors and offenses deemed criminalistic. Dr. Henne has been appointed as the 2017-2022 Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Biogovernance, Law and Society at the University of Waterloo. This appointment comes with the possibility of renewal for an additional 5 years, and includes 2 PhD scholarships for prospective students interested in intersections between technoscience, criminology, law and society. She is also the 2018 recipient of the John R. Evans Leaders Fund Grant from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation to support the establishment of a Law and Society Emerging Research Incubator.

Hi, Dr. Henne! Please tell us a little bit about yourself and what you are currently working on.

Right now I am working on two main projects. Currently, I am studying, to borrow

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CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGIST SPOTLIGHT

from feminist materialist perspectives, the “becoming” of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and its implications for criminology. In other words, I am interested in how efforts to understand, prevent, and regulate TBI become real in the world with support from a growing scientific-industrial complex. Public discourse around concussions focuses on contact sports like football, but, in doing so, often loses sight of other important issues in this space. TBI is a leading contributor to disability across the globe, and it is expected to surpass many diseases as the primary cause of death by 2020, which means sport should not be our only concern. What about survivors of violence? We have very little (and often very poor) data about them and their experiences. I hope my research can help to remedy that gap by critically attending to the broader push to focus on the brain and biology in explanations of crime. As Victoria Pitts-Taylor observes in other contexts, the embrace of neuroscientific knowledge can invite new strands of

“...it’s important that critical criminologists engage in these discussions since we know there are real dangers in relying on biological explanations without considering structural influences and interlocking social inequalities”

biological determinism into explanations of behavior. While I am hesitant to say criminological explanations incorporating brain science are clearly neo-Lombrosian in nature, I do think it’s important that critical criminologists engage in these discussions since we know there are real dangers in relying on biological explanations without considering structural influences and interlocking social inequalities.

My second project is the establishment of the Canada Research Chair in Biogovernance, Law and Society at the University of Waterloo. It’s a broader agenda to support critically engaged qualitative research on technologies of regulation. So far we have a great group looking at different practices and experiences of surveillance, inequalities in policing, queer experiences with regulation, and restorative justice. One of my personal goals for that project, and we are setting up collaborative lab spaces to support this aim, is to develop new and mutually supportive ways of training our students to analyze and engage social problems

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CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGIST SPOTLIGHT

through a lens informed by critical theory, feminist praxis, and transformative justice.

Your work on TBI sounds so interesting, and very timely! I can certainly understand how the embrace of neuroscientific knowledge might open up a space for more biological determinism. How are you seeing those kinds of explanations enter into criminological discussions of TBI? Do they rely on similar kinds of racist beliefs that informed Lombroso's work, or are they more like recent articulations of racist science? I'm thinking here of Philippe Rushton's problematic race-based work on the biological determination of intelligence during the mid-1990s and Jordan Peterson's current refusal to acknowledge systematic forms of oppression.

"I suppose my concern is how and when biology surfaces as explanations for criminal activity and whether or not and how they direct attention away from interlocking systems of inequality and structural violence."

There are different articulations of biological determinism that can—and have—entered discussions of criminological interest. I actually wouldn't limit them to questions of race, although you are right that it is certainly important to be attentive to how racism implicates some explanations that claim to be based on scientific reasoning. I suppose my concern is how and when biology surfaces as explanations for criminal activity and whether or not and how they direct attention away from interlocking systems of inequality and structural violence. Take, for example, the discourse around Aaron

Hernandez, the former National Football League (NFL) player who died in prison at the age of 27 as a result of suicide. When he was alive, public commentaries often framed him as failing to overcome a troubled past even though he had secured a multi-million contract with the New England Patriots. In short, they offered individualized explanations of criminality. We now know that Hernandez had advanced chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), which is a degenerative brain disease with complications that include aggression, depression, and behavioral problems. While this link is important to acknowledge, there's still little discussion about the multiple forms of

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CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGIST SPOTLIGHT

violence that Hernandez experienced and how they evidence larger criminological concerns. So, even in death, the discourse still centers on the individual, with the brain becoming the culprit, instead of shifting attention to relevant societal issues.

Also, is the scientific-industrial complex privileging certain forms of criminological knowledge at the expense of more critical scholarship?

When I mentioned the scientific-industrial complex, I was actually thinking of feminist science studies scholars who emphasize the importance of looking at the processes and underlying interests shaping knowledge production. With regard to TBI research agendas, one can't ignore the influence of professional sport organizations, particularly the NFL, and the U.S. military. The shrinking National Institutes of Health (NIH) budget, combined with efforts to censor what U.S. health researchers can study, arguably creates an environment where corporate and military interests can have greater influence. That's not to say that this issue doesn't apply to criminology, especially as there are longstanding observations and critiques regarding how state-supported priorities around crime, even those not formally supported by corporate or military actors, bolster institutions of control rather than progressive social change.

You mentioned that TBI extends beyond sport, but I know you have done other work related to sport, which is timely given recent events around the US Olympic Committee facing litigation for ignoring gymnasts' complaints of sexual abuse by their team doctor, the NFL player protests, and the Olympic and Paralympics Games. We can't talk about all of these issues here, but the recent Olympics in Pyeongchang brought with it massive investments in security and surveillance. What are some of the wider social implications of this influx of regulation technologies for South Koreans (or, more broadly) now that the games are over?

Yes, there are a lot of pressing issues surfacing through sport, and I have a lot of thoughts about each of them! That said, I can't comment much on the effects of the Winter Olympics, at least not yet. Certainly the efforts to manage tensions across the Korean peninsula are notable, as is the cyberattack that caused Internet system failures, which Cisco's Talos' division states looks similar to other documented attacks by Russian hackers. I am watching the post-Olympic environment in South Korea with interest. Many observers acknowledge the 1988 Summer Olympics, which were held

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CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGIST SPOTLIGHT

in Seoul, as an influential moment in the shift toward democracy in that country; however, hosting the Olympics now is a very different set of circumstances. For example, we know that in the preparation for the Olympic Games in Beijing, the Chinese government expanded its surveillance camera systems in more than 600 cities, recruited over 600,000 volunteers to assist in surveillance efforts, established security collaborations with multiple global technology companies, and empowered special military units, as well as an International Police Liaison Department, to coordinate with outside authorities. The resulting security apparatus took aim at various “threats”, including suspected terrorists and political dissidents.

Even though Chinese officials formally ended the Olympic surveillance programs, many of the systems established for the Beijing Games remain in place. Human Rights Watch has since reported on how the infrastructure justified by the Olympics has become centralized and institutionalized, which has coincided with—and arguably enabled—a significant crackdown on human rights lawyers in China. Of course, the Beijing Olympics are not necessarily unique: there is lots of compelling research on how host cities across the Americas and Europe have criminalized or forcibly relocated different vulnerable groups.

Switching gears here, your collaborative lab spaces sound like they would be a great way to combat some of the isolation that I know a lot of graduate students experience, which likely affects faculty, too. What might collaborative work bring to critical criminological scholarship in particular?

“Collaboration, I would argue, is at the heart of our most important and innovative work—be it related to theoretical advancement, to research design, or to praxis. I hope to contribute to a wider re-energization of that collaborative tradition in critical criminology...”

I very much hope it is a proactive approach that addresses some of those concerns. We have had three students die at our university in the last few weeks, so students’ mental health and well-being are very much on my mind. Beyond having a community to work with

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CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGIST SPOTLIGHT

and the personal benefits that come with that, I also think it's important that we, as activist-scholars, collaborate more. Think of the events that informed *The New Criminology* (1973), which was ground breaking for our field—both in its writing and its conception. It emerged as a result of collaboration. In fact, Neil Gunningham, a senior colleague of mine at RegNet (who doesn't even identify as a criminologist), was a postgraduate student who attended many events that Ian Taylor facilitated when he was at Sheffield. Neil is a leading figure in environmental regulation, and he attributes much of it to being able to participate in those discussions.

Collaboration, I would argue, is at the heart of our most important and innovative work—be it related to theoretical advancement, to research design, or to praxis. I hope to contribute to a wider re-invigoration of that collaborative tradition in critical criminology by creating a formal collaborative space that brings together my graduate students across the ANU and University of Waterloo, all of whom are incredibly interdisciplinary in terms of their criminological interests—which, as I mentioned, include issues related to gendered violence in Vanuatu, the surveillance of Muslim peoples, inequality and policing, questions of queerness and deviance, the delivery of victimization services, and restorative justice practice. It's incredibly exciting. I have already learned so much by working with them, and I hope they have, too. To date, our work showcases how central collaboration is—and has been—to critical criminology and questions of social justice. Moving forward, I think their graduate work, which is a diverse body of research and activism, will demonstrate how feminist, intersectional, and queer theory can advance critical criminology in distinct and important ways. ●

*Interview questions by **Krystle Shore***

For more information about Dr. Henne or her work, visit katehenne.com or email khenne@uwaterloo.ca

Critical Teaching
SPOTLIGHT

Facilitating Understanding of Critical Criminology and Social Justice Through Civic Engagement

DR. SHELLY CLEVINGER

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Email: slcleve@ilstu.edu



Dr. Shelly Clevenger grew up in Pennsylvania. She received her PhD from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). She considers herself an activist through her research, trying to raise awareness about sexual assault and intimate partner violence. In addition to being a criminologist, Dr. Clevenger is also a comic book enthusiast, which she incorporates into her classes. Her all-time favourite comic is the Incredible Hulk.

In the courses that I teach, I use a critical criminology and social justice framework for all of my lectures, discussions, assignments and projects. The primary objective that I have for my students is for them to develop empathy for others, or to be able to understand what it is like to be in another person's shoes. In my course *Sex Offenders and the Criminal Justice System*, I am asking them to understand what it is like to be an offender, how someone ended up in that position and how it impacts the rest of their life. In my *Victimology* course, I am asking students to understand the

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CRITICAL TEACHING SPOTLIGHT

experience of being victimized and a victim in our society. I have found that the best way to get students to understand these experiences and assist them in developing empathy for these populations is through civic engagement. This involves students working with the community.

Each semester, my classes partner with different community organizations. We meet with them to learn what it is that they need and we work to make their needs a reality. This helps the organization, which is non-profit, to be better able to serve the community. It also allows the students to get experience with a population that they would not otherwise have interacted with, which often helps to increase empathy among the students and let them understand social justice issues a bit better. Most recently in the fall of 2017 in my *Sex Offenders and the Criminal Justice System* course, the students were able to select a community organization to work with. Students had the choice of working alone, with a partner or in a group of three to complete their civic engagement project. They were required to create an item that the organization needed and then present that item to them after its completion. I had spoken with the organizations ahead of time to see if they would be interested in collaborating, but the students were the ones who worked to create the items and the partnership. There were three choices of community partners for the civic engagement project.



“Many of the students had their ideas and beliefs challenged...”

The first was to create a comic book that explained how to be safe from online sexual

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CRITICAL TEACHING SPOTLIGHT

predators and sexual abuse prevention strategies. The students created the comic book and I had them printed to be distributed to homeless children living at the local homeless shelter, *Home Sweet Home*. This was a great learning experience for the students. Not only did they learn about sex offenses and how to explain it so that a child would understand the content, but they also learned about homelessness. The main take away for the students was that many people who experience homelessness are not that different from them and that the children at the shelter had access to computers and smart phones, just like their family. They also learned that homelessness was temporary for most and that there were larger forces at work that led to someone being homeless. Many of the students had their ideas and beliefs challenged about who made up the homeless population of the city.

The next choice consisted of two different groups from the same organization, *Marcfirst*, which serves individuals and families with developmental disabilities. Students could select to create a brochure/informational pamphlet on online safety and sexual consent tailored specifically for parents of children with developmental disabilities or to create a book for children with developmental disabilities about how to be safe online or topics related to sexual abuse. Students then presented their items to the parents or the children. This was a great learning experience for both groups as students were able to see that this population experiences victimization and predation in a different way and have different needs.

The final selection was for the students to create an informational book for current registered sex



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CRITICAL TEACHING SPOTLIGHT

offenders, under supervision with the probation and parole department in McLean County. The book that they created listed places of employment, recreation, housing and spirituality that is sex offender friendly. The students had to present the items to the sex offenders at their weekly group meeting at the Law and Justice Center. This was a very eye opening experience for the students as they were shocked to see that the sex offenders looked like they did, were mostly clean cut, "normal" and were not "scary" as they previously had thought. It changed their perceptions about sex offenders and also assisted in developing empathy after creating this informational book because they saw how restricting the registry is for sex offenders within this community.

In my *Victimology* classes, I also usually do a similar project as just described where the students pair with community organizations to create an item. However, the most impactful civic engagement project for both the students and the community for this course involved the students creating a piece of art that was on display for the community designed to raise awareness. In the spring 2017 semester, students in my *Victimology* class were asked to take a children's toy and manipulate or change it in a way to make a statement about sexual assault for sexual assault awareness month in April. Students seized this opportunity to express what they learned in class. They created pieces that reflected child sexual abuse, intimate partner violence and sexual assault against pregnant women, the school to prison pipeline seen in regards to the victimization of African-American females, male sexual assault, LGBTQ+ victimization, and the sexual exploitation of undocumented individuals. The art piece along with a card that explained the piece with some information about the topic, was on display in the library for the month of April in a high traffic area where lots of people from the university and community pass through.

There was also a reception held in which the students/artists met with the public and answered questions about their work and the topic. This project allowed students to really engage with the community in a meaningful way to discuss victimization. It gained a lot of attention and students took a great deal of pride in their work and the attention they received for creating such impactful pieces. They also reported that they learned more from this than writing a paper as they had to think "outside of the box" and "really apply what we learned."

Since I began my Tenure Track job at Illinois State I have incorporated civic

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CRITICAL TEACHING SPOTLIGHT

engagement into my courses as a mandatory project that students must complete as part of the course requirements. I have found that this teaching technique has given my students the opportunity to connect with the material and population and to understand social justice and critical criminology in a way that has allowed them to become more empathetic and enthusiastic for these issues. The key element for success in these projects is to prepare the students with the knowledge ahead of time. Before they create the item or go into the community, having classroom discussions, readings and assignments related to the course material and/or population you are serving is important. Reflection as a required component is also a way to ensure success in these projects. I require my students to have written reflections before and after the project so that they can process, think about and apply the experience to the material and what we have learned. Our students are the future caretakers of the criminal justice system and I think that these types of projects will help prepare them to treat offenders and victims better when out in the field. ●

For more information about any of the projects mentioned here, email Shelly Clevenger at slclev@ilstu.edu

To see news coverage of the Victimology civic engagement art project, go to:
<http://www.centralillinoisproud.com/news/local-news/students-used-kids-toys-to-teach-others-about-intimate-partner-violence/690579196>

To learn more about the Sex Offender and the Criminal Justice System civic engagement project, go to:
<https://news.illinoisstate.edu/2018/01/class-worked-break-cycle-sex-offenses/>

Critical Graduate Student SPOTLIGHT

CASSANDRA BOYER

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What are your current research projects?

Right now I'm focused on publishing the results from my Master's thesis, which was a qualitative project that focused on animal rights activists' experiences with surveillance and state-sponsored repression. I do have a few projects in the works, though. I was recently accepted into a mentorship and research program offered through the graduate college at my university for the 2018-2019 academic year. I will be working with an undergraduate on a project about students' perceptions on eco-terrorism and domestic terrorism legislation. I hope to present the findings from this research at the Western Society of Criminology (WSC) next spring in Hawaii. Last, I will be conducting field research and engaging in participant observation over the summer for a project focused on protestor victimization and strategic

incapacitation within the animal rights movement. Dr. Shelly Clevenger actually inspired this last research project through her constructive feedback offered after my Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) panel presentation in New Orleans.

What are your goals upon graduating from your program?

The dream is to land a tenure-track position while I'm ABD. There's also some really

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CRITICAL GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

cool post-doctoral positions out there, and I would be interested in applying to those as well. The main goal is to stay in academia and continue to engage in research I'm passionate about.

Who has influenced your academic career?

The faculty at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) have been instrumental in influencing my academic career. As a first-generation student, it's still pretty wild to think I'm currently in a Ph.D. program. Dr. Emily Salisbury and Dr. Madensen both encouraged me to apply to the Master's program as an undergraduate. My more senior colleagues, especially Mrs. Breanna Boppre, pushed me to pursue a traditional-track Master's and go the thesis route. Once Dr. Emily Troshynski became my advisor, my desire to stay in academia and pursue a Ph.D. degree was cemented. She set me on the path to study surveillance and engage in critical and feminist work. Dr. Troshynski is a phenomenal mentor and advisor, and continually pushes me to be a better scholar, and got me to where I am today. I am so thankful for everyone at UNLV who has impacted my life.

"The main goal is to stay in academia and continue to engage in research I'm passionate about."

What are some of your favorite academic publications? Why?

One of my favorite academic publications is a qualitative manuscript by Dr. Emily Gaarder, titled "Women and the Animal Rights Movement". I just finished reading it a few weeks ago and was inspired to view my attendance at upcoming animal rights conferences as opportunities for research. I also really liked how Gaarder (2011) applied a gendered lens to the animal rights movement. ●

Critical Topic
SPOTLIGHT

The Empirical Reality of
“Doomsday” Prepping in the United States

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Dr. Mike Mills studied for an undergraduate degree in Criminology and Sociology in SSPSR at the University of Kent, winning the Canterbury Campus Prize for Best Criminology Dissertation. Following this, he progressed to receive a distinction for a Masters in Methods of Social Research. Mike has since completed a PhD in Criminology (also at Kent) that focused on the American phenomenon of “Doomsday” prepping: Witness to the American Apocalypse? A Study of 21st Century “Doomsday” Prepping. He is now working as a Lecturer in Criminology at the University of Kent.

The growing popularity of “Doomsday” prepping within the last decade represents a curious development within contemporary American culture. Prepping is a pursuit undertaken by those who prepare to independently survive major disasters – mass casualty events in which food and basic utilities are unavailable, government assistance is non-existent, and individuals or groups might have to sustain their own survival. It typically consists of attempts to stockpile significant amounts of food, water, weapons, and medical supplies – as well as plans to retreat to remote locations in the event of disaster or secure one’s home as a centre for personal survival.

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CRITICAL TOPIC SPOTLIGHT

Whilst it is impossible to determine exactly how many American preppers there are, the state of the industry that caters to this pursuit indicates that what festered as a mostly obscure subculture a decade ago has more recently grown into an increasingly mainstream phenomenon. The personal preparedness industry's annual worth has been estimated to have grown to several billion dollars in this time (Eels, 2013), while a growing nationwide circuit of public prepping expos – including *PrepperFest* and *PrepperCon* – has also recently emerged as a visible sign of burgeoning prepping interest. Meanwhile, growing demand for 'survival food' stored by preppers has even led to its arrival on the shelves of major American chain stores – including *Costco*, *Kmart*, and *Bed, Bath & Beyond* (Fox29, 2016; Warchol, 2014) – marking prepping out as an increasingly notable phenomenon deserving attention in the social and political sciences.

“...what festered as a mostly obscure subculture a decade ago has more recently grown into an increasingly mainstream phenomenon.”

Currently, the (relatively thin) literature addressing this growing interest emphasises its apparently *apocalyptic* nature, suggesting that those who engage in prepping do so because they anticipate 'the total collapse of civil society' or 'the coming of the apocalypse' (Kabel and Chmidling, 2014: 258; Foster, 2016: 290). Regarding the politics behind this activity, existing wisdom also posits that preppers' 'apocalyptic mindset' is permeated with the 'fascistic' and 'paranoid' (Foster, 2014: 15, 27) outlooks that characterise the USA's outermost conspiratorial right-wing extremes. Simply put, then, existing work around prepping identifies it as a bizarre phenomenon arising from apocalyptic and political fringes in American culture – in doing so, inviting close comparison between it and the extremes of the US' 1990s survivalist movement, whose participants infamously came to be involved in hundreds of deaths at Waco, Texas, in 1993 and Oklahoma City in 1995 (see Hamm, 1997; Lamy, 1996). However, based either on analyses of prepping's representation on TV documentary series (Foster, 2014, 2016, see also Christian, 2016; Kelly, 2016) or online prepping forums (Kabel and Chmidling, 2014), such reflections have thus far been detached from unmediated, face-to-face interaction with preppers.

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As a result of this separation, the claims outlined above contrast with the empirical reality of prepping, which my own ongoing research – based on ethnography with dozens of preppers in eighteen American states, 200 online surveys, and non-participant observation at three large prepping expos – has sought to illuminate. This work has, briefly put, exposed a severe disconnect between the descriptions offered in detached studies of prepping, and the activities and worldviews of those who actually undertake such activity. For instance, my immersion into this scene has revealed that prepping tends to be practiced in the absence of apocalyptic predictions, and without certainty regarding the future occurrence of disaster. Undergirded by *precautionary projections* around numerous *non-apocalyptic* “threats” – including terrorist attacks, infectious diseases, and economic collapses – prepping principally responds to *uncertainty* and *anxiety* around multiple disaster risks. Similarly, on the plain of politics, preppers are often more moderate than they are credited with being – more regularly espousing somewhat relatable (though not necessarily agreeable) right-wing concerns about economic fragility, vulnerabilities in the power grid, and the threat of terrorism, than fringe paranoia concerning New World Orders or race wars.

“... preppers’ fears maintain a close relationship with broader cultural currents in the USA; and prepping’s existence as a popular phenomenon thus has something to tell us about this wider setting.”

Importantly, the gap between speculative reflections circulating around prepping today and the reality of this phenomenon has, thus far, not only prevented us from accurately understanding what prepping is – it has also obscured prepping’s connections to a wider mainstream and, thus its genuine sociological significance. By unreliably over-exaggerating its supposedly sensational and exotic features, existing accounts have indeed lost sight of the ways in which prepping has been energised by wider cultural anxieties. Be it daily exposure to disaster through mass media (see Altheide, 2017; Glassner, 2010), or economic uncertainties intensified by the 2007/8 financial crash (see Foster and Magdoff, 2009; Tett, 2009;), preppers’ fears maintain a close relationship with broader cultural currents in the USA; and prepping’s existence as a popular phenomenon thus has something to tell us about this wider setting.

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CRITICAL TOPIC SPOTLIGHT

Similarly, the overlap between a growing prepping scene and relatively mainstream right-wing thinking – including disaster-related fears promoted within the US right-wing media news cycle, and visceral anxiety towards the consequences of Obama's presidency (see Amato and Neiwert, 2010; Berry and Sobieraj, 2013; Jamieson and Cappella, 2008; Press, 2012) – indicates that the state of prepping today likewise tells a wider story about political shifts and sentiment in the contemporary United States.

“...this activity is erroneously and exclusively understood as the domain of a growing outsider fringe... this ultimately serves to obfuscate the real story underlying this phenomenon, which has become increasingly embedded into the lifestyles of relatively ‘ordinary’ Americans...”

While this brief entry cannot tell that story in adequate detail – and can only briefly hint at prepping's relationships with such dynamics – it is here worth emphasising a point that can be made more succinctly: that the insights gained through face-to-face interaction *matter* in relation to prepping, as they do in criminology and the social science more broadly. Here, they are clearly necessary to acquire a valid sense of *what prepping is and what preppers think*, from which we may *then* develop an accurate idea of prepping's ties to a wider social fabric. This is an issue already emphasised in, among other

areas, the field of cultural criminology (see Ferrell and Sanders, 1995; Ferrell, Hayward and Young, 2015). Addressing tendencies in administrative / establishment perspectives to rely on pseudo-scientific statistical abstraction designed ‘to divorce from the research process the human particulars of both researches and those they study’ (Ferrell, Hayward and Young, 2008: 162, see also Young, 2011), cultural criminologists have rightly emphasised that the disconnect between a great many criminological researchers and field settings poses numerous problems for the discipline – extending throughout our comprehension of the phenomenology of transgression, our theorisation of deviance in a broader perspective, and appropriate responses to contemporary issues around crime and control.

The same problems emerge in relation to prepping. However, in this case, it has not been administrative criminologists who have settled for misleading observations

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CRITICAL TOPIC SPOTLIGHT

informed by second-hand data. Rather, the tendency to eschew face-to-face interactions with preppers has actually more often come from scholars offering critical analyses of contemporary capitalism, while *uncritically* taking prepping's depiction in media reports and TV documentaries at face value – seemingly comfortable to assume that sensationalised, newsworthy depictions of right-wing preppers are likely to be close-enough to the real thing (for example, Foster, 2014, 2016). Yet, such attempts to comprehend prepping's significance ultimately result in counter-productive theorisations, in which this activity is erroneously and exclusively understood as the domain of a growing outsider fringe. It is my contention that this ultimately serves to obfuscate the real story underlying this phenomenon, which has become increasingly embedded into the lifestyles of relatively 'ordinary' Americans, and an apparent illustration of the atomisation, individualism, anxieties, political polarisation, and 'vertigo' (Young, 2007) gaining traction in the late modern United States.

My own ongoing work is an attempt to address, uncover, and think through these issues. Beginning this research by visiting the USA in 2014 – midway through Obama's second term in office – this summer I am returning to conduct an ethnographic re-visit, in which I will spend more time with my sample, visit new expos, and assess how the transition into Trump's presidency (and other recent change) has come to bear upon American enthusiasm for preparedness. To paraphrase Robert Park's famous call to his students in 1927, if we are to develop worthwhile insights around prepping, let's hope others who attempt to comprehend it might also consider sitting in luxury bunkers, the porches of ordinary preppers, the halls of prepping expos, and getting the seats of their pants dirty.●

CRITICAL TOPIC SPOTLIGHT

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Critical Networking
SPOTLIGHT

Convict Criminology
DR. JEFFREY IAN ROSS

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Dear member or friend of Convict Criminology:

Scholarship is one of the major activities that Convict Criminology has contributed.

It is also important to get a job in an academic environment, secure tenure, and to move up in the ranks.

In the past, the CC founders periodically collaborated on scholarly articles, chapters, and entries for encyclopedias.

I believe that it might be useful, especially to our junior CC members, if the scholarly writing collaboration process was more formalized than it was in the past.

This activity could be facilitated if we can connect younger CC members, particularly those who have not yet published anything in a peer reviewed journal, with more seasoned CC members.

That being said, it is important, however, that you start by reaching out to your Ph.D. advisor to determine if they would like to co-publish with you. If this is not possible, or not applicable to your situation, then reaching out to the CC network should be considered to be a viable option that is available to you.

In order to facilitate this step, I ask that you fill out the attached form and send it to me.

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CRITICAL NETWORKING SPOTLIGHT

Although each of the older CC members will have their own unique method of mentoring, if you are going collaborate with with us, our primary concern is to continue to build upon the scholarship that Convict Criminology has produced.

Our secondary interest is research that meshes with the kinds of subjects that we do work on (perform a Google Scholar search if you do not know what this research is).

If the subject that you want publish on is tangential to these areas we will do our best to recommend other scholars whom you might want to partner with.

Cordially,

Jeff

Co-Founder Convict Criminology

<http://www.jeffreyianross.com>

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CRITICAL NETWORKING SPOTLIGHT

CONVICT CRIMINOLOGY SCHOLARLY MENTORING NETWORK INFORMATION SHEET

Revised: Friday March 16, 2018

Please complete this information sheet, as it will better assist us in matching an appropriate mentor with you.

1. Name:
2. University affiliation:
3. Highest level of University Completed:
4. Are you currently as student?
5. What level are you?
6. When do you expect to graduate?
7. Have you asked your supervisor if they want to collaborate on the paper?
8. If your supervisor has declined, please briefly explain the rationale for their response.
9. What is the title of the paper you want to collaborate on?
10. Has the paper already been submitted to a journal or will it be appearing as a chapter or entry in a scholarly book (such as an encyclopedia)
11. Provide an abstract of approximately 150 words
12. Provide a bio of approximately 150 words

Email completed form to Dr. Jeffrey Ian Ross, jross@ubalt.edu

A dark rectangular box with a spotlight effect illuminating the text from the top left.

Critical News SPOTLIGHT

UPCOMING EVENTS

'Global Issues, Cultural Perspectives'
International Conference on Cultural and Global Criminology
Utrecht, the Netherlands
June 27th to 29th, 2018

This conference 'Global Issues, Cultural Perspectives,' pursues three main aims:

- 1) To promote and disseminate the work of young (PhD) researchers working in the fields of cultural and global criminology;
- 2) To exchange and update knowledge being produced by the growing mass of consolidated and starting researchers in the fields of global and cultural criminology, particularly in the areas of eco-crime, crimes of the powerful, transnational organized crime, international security, human rights, migration and media;
- 3) To encourage and facilitate new partnerships at research and educational levels between individuals or institutions working in the fields of cultural and global criminology.

The conference is organized by the Utrecht School of Law (UU) and is financially supported by the Erasmus+ DCGC program and its four main academic partners. It will be held over three days (27-29 June 2018), featuring four keynote speakers and parallel panel sessions with a maximum of three presenters per panel.

Keynote Speakers: Prof. Yvonne Jewkes (University of Kent); Prof. Stephanie Kane (Indiana University); Prof. Keith Hayward (University of Copenhagen); Prof. Máximo Sozzo (National University of the Littoral)

Conference Registration: The registration fee is € 100.- and € 25.- for PhD candidates. For past and present DCGC candidates the conference is free. To complete registration, please send an email to Carin Schnitger (wpi-congres@uu.nl) (please mention the title of the conference, "Global Issues, Cultural Perspectives" in your email). The programme will be available mid May 2018.

*For additional information about the conference, please contact
Damián Zaitch (d.zaitch@uu.nl) or Dina Siegel (dina.s@uu.nl)*

UPCOMING EVENTS

'Between Edges and Margins' Conference
Ghent, Belgium
September 13-14, 2018

Ghent University, the University of Kent, Utrecht University, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, the University of Porto, VU Amsterdam and the ESC Working Group on Qualitative Methodologies and Epistemologies are pleased to invite you to the newly established joint conference on innovative methods in the study of deviance titled 'Between Edges and Margins'. The conference will be hosted by the Institute for Social Drug Research (ISD) which is part of the Department of Criminology, Penal Law and Social Law of the Faculty of Law and Criminology, Ghent University.

Keynote Speakers

- Eamonn Carrabine (University of Essex)
- Jennifer Fleetwood (Goldsmiths University)
- Nick Mai (Kingston University)
- Fergus McNeill, Alison Urie and Louis Abbott (Distant Voices: Coming Home project)

Call for Abstracts (due May 15, 2018)

We invite scholars from a wide array of social science disciplines to submit panel proposals, abstracts of individual presentations, posters and requests for the organization of workshops. It is also possible to organize a full 'alternative format' session. In this case, the applicants should be able to fill a timeslot of 2 hours with methodologically oriented sessions (e.g. presenting documentaries, photovoice, discussing your instruments, organizing roundtables and debates,, etc.). Submissions will be reviewed by the scientific board and you will be notified of the decision before June 15, 2018. A special issue of the Journal of Extreme Anthropology will be dedicated to the conference. During registration, presenters can indicate whether they want their (full) papers to be considered for this publication.

The conference also foresees workshops that will be of particular relevance for PhD students (e.g. qualitative software training).

Other questions? Contact us via email: edges.margins@ugent.be

We look forward to welcoming you in Ghent!

The BEM organizing team: Tom Decorte, Olga Petintseva, Elke Van Hellemont, Michael Mills, Damian Zaitch, Kristel Beyens, Rita Faria & Yarin Eski

UPCOMING EVENTS

Call for Participation: “Critical Teaching” Roundtables, ASC 2018 – Atlanta

The Critical Pedagogy Collective, the DCCSJ's teaching committee, is calling for participation for a series of “Critical Teaching” roundtables planned for the 2018 ASC meetings in Atlanta. The committee is open to any and all ideas, but here are some we are currently thinking about:

- Teaching strategies for “fake news” and “alternative facts”
- Using open-source materials
- Teaching Fascism and its new global rebirth
- Teaching Activism/Social Movements (students' rights, the intersections of BLM, Parkland, #MeToo)
- Decolonizing the curriculum/decolonizing the university
- The increasing precarity of teaching in the neoliberal University (adjunctification, lumpen-professoriate, etc.)
- Struggles, strikes, and solidarity – advocating for ourselves
- We need to talk about teaching the housing and food insecure student who is more than ever isolated, in debt, depressed, and tetering on the edge

To Submit

You are welcome to submit individually or to organize and submit a full roundtable along with others. Note that Roundtable participation does not count toward ASC panel participation limits. Send your ideas to us at teachingcritcrim@gmail.com no later than **10pm, Tuesday, May 1, 2017**.

PLEASE include the following with your submission:

- **Full Name and Affiliation**
- **Email address and Phone Number**
- A **Working Title** for your roundtable presentation or roundtable
- A short **Abstract** of your individual contribution or full roundtable

Please forward to your networks. Questions should be sent to the Critical Pedagogy Collective at teachingcritcrim@gmail.com
[Past Critical Teaching Roundtables](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Crime, Law and Justice in the Global South:
International Workshop
Santa Fe, Argentina.
November 7-9, 2018**

Co-hosted Faculty of Juridical and Social Sciences, University of Litoral, and Faculty of Law, QUT, Australia.

Academic knowledge about crime, law and justice has generally been sourced from a select number of countries from the Global North, whose journals, conferences, publishers and universities dominate the intellectual landscape –particularly, the English speaking world. As a consequence research about these matters in contexts of the Global South have tended to reproduce concepts and arguments developed there to understand local problems and processes. In recent times, there have been substantial efforts to undo this colonized way of thinking.

This three day workshop set in the ideal location of Santa Fe, Argentina brings together scholars from across the globe to contribute to this task of de-colonising knowledge about crime, law and justice. The workshop aims to link northern and southern scholars in a collective project to create globally connected critical and innovative knowledges. The workshop will be convened in three languages; Portuguese, Spanish and English. Selected papers will be published as a Special Edition of the International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy, an open access journal.

Call for Abstracts (Due May 31, 2018)

Abstracts of 250 words are invited in Spanish, Portuguese or English. Early submission is advised as the workshop will be limited to 100. Email abstracts to: delitoysociedad@unl.edu.ar

UPCOMING EVENTS

Critical Criminology and Social Justice Conference University of New South Wales, Sydney Kensington Campus September 26-28, 2018

The Centre for Crime, Law and Justice at UNSW, Sydney is delighted to announce that we will be holding the Critical Criminology and Social Justice Conference on 26th-28th September 2018. The first Critical Criminology conference was hosted by the University of Sydney in 2007; the last conference was held at Monash University in 2014.

Critical criminology provides scholars, practitioners and activists with conceptual and political tools for re-examining dominant conceptions of crime, for understanding, resisting, and transforming 'criminal justice' and abolitionism, and for reflexivity about our own practices. Taking our lead from developments elsewhere, we have rebadged the 9th conference as Critical Criminology and Social Justice to emphasise a commitment to research and action in the pursuit of social justice. We also encourage reflection on the meaning of social justice and on the relationship between critical criminology and social justice and what it might become.

Abstracts: We invite abstracts (200 words max) for individual papers (20 mins) or themed panels considering (but not limited to) suggested themes:

- Indigenous criminology and methodologies
- Gendered, racialised and economic violence
- Critically engaging with criminal justice systems and practices e.g. criminalisation, policing, courts, carceral systems and beyond
- State power and state crime
- Migration and borders
- Security and risk – domestic, international and transnational dimensions
- Transgressive pedagogy
- Southern criminology
- Queer criminology
- Green/environmental criminology

Abstracts due: 1 June 2018; the outcome will be advised on or around 1 July 2018. To submit your abstract please email cclj@unsw.edu.au

Registrations: will open soon at <http://www.cclj.unsw.edu.au/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Centering the Margins: A Critical Criminology Conference
Eastern Michigan University
April 12-13, 2019



For more information email rshah9@emich.edu

JOURNAL: CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY

The official Journal of the ASC Division on Critical Criminology and Social Justice

The journal *Critical Criminology* explores social, political and economic justice from alternative perspectives, including anarchistic, cultural, feminist, integrative, Marxist, peace-making, postmodernist and left-realist criminology. Rather than limit the scope of its coverage to state definitions of crime, *Critical Criminology* focuses on issues of social harm and social justice, including work exploring the intersecting lines of class, gender, race/ethnicity and heterosexism. The journal will benefit professionals interested in alternative methodologies and theories, including chaos theory, non-linear analysis, and complex systems science as it pertains to the study of crime and criminal justice. The journal offers works that focus on creative and cooperative solutions to justice problems, plus strategies for the construction of a more inclusive society.



Incoming Editor of *Critical Criminology*: Dr. Avi Brisman, Eastern Kentucky University

Contact: avi.brisman@eku.edu

Submit your articles online:
<https://link.springer.com/journal/10612>

DCCSJ MEMBER PUBLICATIONS

ARTICLES

Carlson, J. (2018). Legally armed but presumed dangerous: An intersectional analysis of gun carry licensing as a racial/gender degradation ceremony. *Gender & Society*, 32(2), 204 – 227.

DeKeseredy, W. S., Hall-Sanchez, A., Nolan, J., & Schwartz, M.D. (2017). A campus LGBTQ community's sexual violence and stalking experiences: The contribution of pro-abuse peer support. *Journal of Gender-Based Violence*, 1, 169-185.

DeKeseredy, W. S., Hall-Sanchez, A., & Nolan, J. (2017). College campus sexual assault: The contribution of peers' pro-abuse informational support and attachments to abusive peers. *Violence Against Women*. DOI: 10.1177/1077801217724920.

Kaufman, S. B. (2016). Mourners in the court: Victims in death penalty trials, through the lens of performance. *Law & Social Inquiry*, 42(4), <https://doi.org/10.1111/lsi.12246>

Ruggiero, V. (2017). Networks of greed. *Justice, Power and Resistance*, 2, 3-23.

Ruggiero, V. (2017). The radicalization of democracy: Conflict, social movements and terrorism. *Critical Criminology*, 25 (4), 593-607.

Ruggiero, V. (2017). Hybrids: On the crime-terror-nexus. *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/01924036.2017.1411283>

BOOK CHAPTERS

DeKeseredy, Walter S. (2017). Explaining campus violence against women: Unhealthy masculinity and male peer support. In C. Kaukinen, M. Hughes Miller, & R.A. Powers (Eds.), *Addressing Violence Against Women on College Campuses* (pp. 65-77). Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

DeKeseredy, W. S., & Hall-Sanchez, A. (2018). Male violence against women in the global south: What we know and don't know. In K. Carrington, R. Hogg, J. Scott, & M. Sozzo (Eds.), *The Palgrave handbook of criminology and the global south* (pp. 883-900). London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Scharie Tavcer, D., & DeKeseredy, Walter S. (2018). Female crime: Theoretical perspectives. In J. Barker & D. Scharie Tavcer (Eds.), *Women and the Criminal Justice System* (2nd ed.) (pp. 33-56). Toronto: Emond.

Scharie Tavcer, D., Barker, J., & DeKeseredy, Walter S. (2018). Experiences of female offenders: The intersection of victimization and (re)offending. In J. Barker & D. Scharie Tavcer (Eds.), *Women and the Criminal Justice System* (2nd ed.) (pp. 173-203). Toronto: Emond.

DCCSJ MEMBER PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Braak, G., Leighton, P., & Cotton, A. (2018). *Class, race, gender, crime: The social realities of justice in America (5th Ed.)*. Minneapolis, MN: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

DeKeseredy, W.S., & Dragiewicz, M. (2018). *Routledge handbook of critical criminology*, Oxford, UK: Routledge.

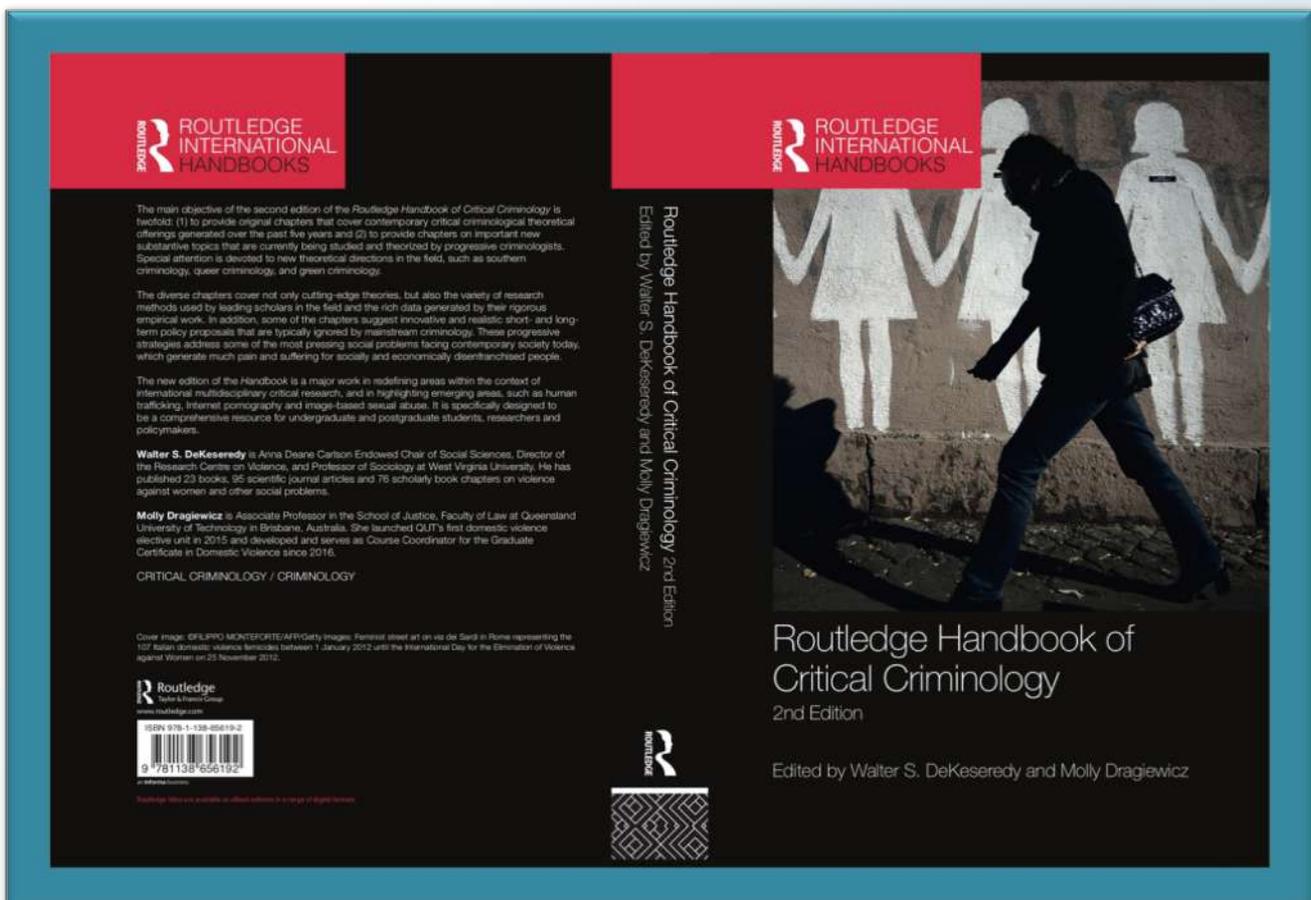
Case, S., Johnson, P., Manlow, D., Smith, R., & Williams, K. (2017). *Criminology*, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Clevenger, S., Navarro, J. N., Marcum, C. D., & Higgins, G. E. (2018). *Understanding Victimology: An active learning approach*, London, UK: Routledge.

Friedrichs, D. O., Schoultz, I., & Jordanoska, A. (2018). *Edwin H. Sutherland*, London, UK: Routledge.

Hamm, M., & Spaaj, R. (2017). *The age of lone wolf terrorism*, New York, NY: Columbia University Press.

Ruggiero, V. (2018), *Los Crimenes de la economia*, Madrid: Marcial Pons



ACCOLADES

Co-authored by **Walter DeKeseredy**, **Molly Dragiewicz** and **Martin Schwartz** and published by University of California Press, *Abusive Endings: Separation and Divorce Violence Against Women* is the recipient of the Division on Victimology's 2017 Robert Jerin Book Award.

Kathryn (Kate) Henne has been appointed as the 2017-2022 Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Biogovernance, Law and Society at the University of Waterloo. She is also the 2018 recipient of the John R. Evans Leaders Fund Grant from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation to support the establishment of a Law and Society Emerging Research Incubator.

Peter Kraska has been honored by the Academy of Criminal Justice Science with the Academy's Police Section Award for his 25 years of research and writing on police militarization.

OTHER NEWS ITEMS

PhD Scholarships Available

There is an open call for 7 PhD positions at the Erasmus University Rotterdam. Appointments are within the Erasmus School of Law but also PhD candidates in criminology are encouraged to apply (and have been funded in previous years). These are paid PhD positions (€ 2,222 gross per month) for a 4 year period (max). Two of the positions fall within the so-called Erasmus Initiative for Inclusive Prosperity that can be particularly interesting for critical criminologists to apply for. Dr. Lieselot Bisschop was recently appointed as Assistant Professor within that Initiative and notes that she would love to strengthen the focus on criminological topics within this interdisciplinary research initiative.

More information can be found at

<https://www.academictransfer.com/en/45563/phd-researcher-in-law-or-criminology-mf-10-fte-start-in-september-2018-7-positions/>

If you know of any promising candidates please get in touch with Dr. Bisschop via email (bisschop@law.eur.nl).

Call for Submissions to the Doctoral Student Forum

The Doctoral Student Forum, published in every issue of ASC's *The Criminologist*, seeks submissions. Essays may cover any aspect of doctoral student life and be single or co-authored (2,000 word limit). Please send submissions to the Chair of the ASC Student Affairs Committee, Kaitlyn Selman, at krobison@odu.edu.

View past issues of *The Criminologist* at <http://www.asc41.com/criminologist.html>

Job Opportunity: Lecturer, School of Justice

The School of Justice, Queensland University of Technology, is home to distinguished international researchers and the Crime and Justice Research Centre. It is a leader in high-impact interdisciplinary research in Southern Criminology. We are recruiting for a Lecturer to contribute to the real world research and teaching undertaken at QUT.

For more information, please see;

<https://qut.nga.net.au/publicfiles/qut/jobs/676D307B-F588-C8D7-864D-A40224E61F32/18233%20-%20Lecturer,%20School%20of%20Justice.pdf>



If you would like to contribute a written piece or if you have a news item you would like featured in the next edition of 'The Critical Criminologist: Spotlight', please email us at DCCSJcommunications@outlook.com

or message us on social media

Facebook: @DivisionCriticalCriminology

Twitter: @ASCCriticalCrim

