Welcome to this, the first ever Criminology Program newsletter! First, I’d like to offer a heartfelt thanks to Nina Barbieri and Dr. Connell for leading the charge with this inaugural issue. It looks great, and I look forward to many more newsletters to come.

As I enter my fifth year as Program Head, it is exciting to look back at the accomplishments we have made over the past few years. And I emphasize we. It is through the collaborative efforts of our faculty, administrators, and students that we have made such impressive strides. Examples include world class hires, enrollment growth, new degree programs (most recently the online MS and the Executive Justice Administration and Leadership MS), and improved national rankings of our program and faculty, to name a few. Our alumni are also doing us proud. BA and MS graduates continue to land in a variety of exciting positions. Our PhD graduates are all gainfully employed in various colleges, universities, and government agencies across the country. I look forward to more of the same and to continued growth and recognition of our fine program.

As we look ahead, there is much we can and need to do. First, please be sure to welcome our incoming cohorts of students. Second, make an effort to get involved. Dr. Polk heads up Alpha Phi Sigma for our undergraduates, and the organization is always looking for more participants. At the graduate level, the Criminology Graduate Students Association is always welcoming of new members. Third, please attend our program functions, especially those involving guest speakers. We will be having more visitors this year, so please stay tuned for details. Fourth, make an effort to attend conferences. If national conferences are out of reach, there are many local and regional conferences that our students and faculty often attend. This fall, the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice is meeting at the Schlitterbahn Waterpark and Resort on South Padre Island (October 2-4). Several of our students and faculty will be in attendance. Conferences offer an opportunity to stay abreast of the latest developments in the field and network with peers and colleagues.

As always, if you have any questions, thoughts, concerns, or suggestions for improvements, please contact me! I may not have the answers to all inquiries, but I can certainly direct you in the appropriate direction. As a reminder, PhD advising inquiries are directed toward Dr. Morris. MS advising questions get directed toward Nora Hernandez, and BA advising questions get directed toward the EPPS Advising Center staff.

Thanks, and I hope you enjoy the year to come. See you in the trenches.

John L. Worrall, Ph.D.
Director, Criminology Program
Editor, Police Quarterly
University of Texas at Dallas
Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Piquero is an Ashbel Smith Professor of Criminology, and joined UTD-Criminology in the Fall of 2011. Most recently, he was granted the Regent’s Outstanding Teaching Award for extraordinary classroom instruction. On the reception of such a prestigious award, Dr. Piquero said, “I am extremely honored and humbled to receive such recognition and join a very distinguished group of faculty in criminology, UTD, and the entire UT System who take very seriously the role of education. I have always viewed teaching as one of the most rewarding experiences of being a professor. Discussions of theory, research, data, and policy are all inter-twined and bringing those issues into the classroom and beyond in the pursuit of scientific discovery is both priceless and precious, and it is something I have always taken very seriously.”

Additionally, Dr. Piquero is an Adjunct Professor at the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice, and Governance, Griffith University, Faculty Affiliate, Center for Violence and Injury Prevention George Warren Brown School of Social Work Washington University in St. Louis, and was Co-Editor of the Journal of Quantitative Criminology from 2008 to 2013. Prior to arriving at UT-Dallas, he was on the faculties of Florida State University, University of Maryland, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/City University of New York, University of Florida, Northeastern University, and Temple University. He has published over 300 peer-reviewed articles in the areas of criminal careers, crime prevention, criminological theory, and quantitative research methods, and has collaborated on several books including Key Issues in Criminal Careers Research: New Analyses from the Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development (Cambridge University Press, co-authored with David P. Farrington and Alfred Blumstein) and Handbook of Quantitative Criminology (Springer, co-edited by David Weisburd).

His work has been cited over 14,000 times and has been ranked as the #1 criminologist in the world since 1996 in terms of scholarly publications in elite criminology/criminal justice journals. In addition to his membership on over a dozen editorial boards of journals in criminology and sociology, he has also served as Executive Counselor with the American Society of Criminology, Member of the National Academy of Sciences Panel Evaluating the National Institute of Justice, Member of the National Academy of Sciences Panel on A Prioritized Plan to Implement a Developmental Approach in Juvenile Justice Reform, Member of the National Academy of Sciences Panel on Modernizing the Nation’s Crime Statistics, Member of the Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network at Ohio State University, and Member of the MacArthur Foundation’s Research Network on Adolescent Development & Juvenile Justice. Dr. Piquero has given congressional testimony on evidence-based crime prevention practices in the area of early-family/parent training programs, and has provided counsel and support to several local, state, national, and international criminal justice agencies. Professor Piquero is past recipient of the American Society of Criminology's Young Scholar (2002) and E-Mail Mentor of the Year (2005) Awards, Fellow of both the American Society of Criminology (2011) and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (2011), and has also received numerous teaching awards including the University of Florida's College of Arts & Sciences Teacher of the Year Award (2004), the University of Maryland's Top Ten Teaching Award (2008), the University of Texas Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award (2014), as well as the University of Texas at Dallas Diversity Award.
Graduate Student Spotlight

Courtney is also a National Merit Scholar, member of the CV honors program, Brain and Behavioral Sciences honors program, BBS Dean’s scholar program, and will be presenting at the American Society of Criminology this Fall in San Diego.

She is currently working on her CV senior thesis which examines family structure as it relates to parental supervision and delinquency. Her research interests include juveniles, developmental life-course theory, and crime prevention

Courtney plans to continue on to Graduate School for Criminology.

Undergraduate Student Spotlight

Courtney Wayne

Courtney is scheduled to graduate in the Spring of 2015 with her BS in Psychology and minor in Criminology. Originally a Florida native, Courtney now works with Dr. Connell researching and analyzing school violence, survey creation, the IRB approval processes, creating fidelity measures for self-report surveys, and brief intervention training on the CHOICES grant.

Courtney is also scheduled to graduate in the Spring of 2015 with her BS in Psychology and minor in Criminology. Originally a Florida native, Courtney now works with Dr. Connell researching and analyzing school violence, survey creation, the IRB approval processes, creating fidelity measures for self-report surveys, and brief intervention training on the CHOICES grant.

Courtney is also a National Merit Scholar, member of the CV honors program, Brain and Behavioral Sciences honors program, BBS Dean’s scholar program, and will be presenting at the American Society of Criminology this Fall in San Diego.

She is currently working on her CV senior thesis which examines family structure as it relates to parental supervision and delinquency. Her research interests include juveniles, developmental life-course theory, and crime prevention.

Courtney plans to continue on to Graduate School for Criminology.
CGSA
The Criminology Graduate Student Association was started by fellow graduate students in 2008 and is advised by Dr. Lynne Vieraitis. CGSA strives to strengthen the voice of Criminology Graduate students, facilitate professional development, and foster social networking among students and faculty. CGSA organizes lecture series, community service and fundraising events.

CGSA spent 10 weeks over the summer helping distribute nearly 600 lunches to children and families in need in the Dallas area. Several faculty, staff, and students donated books and children’s games. A holiday Adopt-A-Family event is scheduled to take place this fall. More information to come!

During the spring semester, a Brown Bag lunch was scheduled with three faculty members and four ABD graduate students to discuss preparing for and studying techniques for the comprehensive exams. Stay tuned: we have a grant writing and job market Brown Bag in the works!

Fundraising:
CGSA has coupon sheets to Qdoba Mexican Grill on sale for $10, as well as t-shirts in a limited selection of sizes. A night out at Panera is also in the works. Please see a CGSA member today to get yours!

Alpha Phi Sigma
Alpha Phi Sigma, Delta Psi, is an honor’s student organization recognizing the accomplishments of high achieving criminology and related majors in the School of EPSS. At the end of the spring 2014 semester it enrolled 27 active members. During the past year, members completed community service projects at over a dozen locations with emphasis on the annual Guns and Hoses Boxing Tournament. This tournament is conducted every September with proceeds going to assist in educating the children of fallen police officers and firefighters. Fourteen APS members assisted with the Guns and Hoses Project.

Past Vice-President, Kamille Cherry, completed a tour and write-up of the Collin County Children’s Advocacy Center and won a $250.00 donation to the Center from the National APS Office. Members also provided a cash donation to the CGSA’s Adopt a Family Program. The organization is planning a forthcoming community service project for the Dallas County Juvenile Department to assist with the provision of school supplies to approximately 500 Dallas County youth. The annual Guns and Hoses Project will be conducted in September.

Currently, the Officers are as follows: President – Allison Audd, Vice President- Rachel Kail, Secretary – Rachel Ficke, Treasurer – Alexandra Pollock, Historian - Steve Shen, and Public Affairs Officer – Victoria Trevino.

Any interested student may contact any of the Officers for more information about membership or they may contact the Chapter Faculty Advisor, Dr. O. Elmer Polk at elmer.polk@utdallas.edu. The National Office requires the following criteria: 3.2 grade point average overall, must have completed four or more criminology or criminal justice classes, must be an actively enrolled student at the University of Texas at Dallas and have a declared major or minor in criminology or a related field and must have competed three full semesters of college level work.

Criminology Graduates-Spring 2014

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<td>Billie Zavala</td>
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“From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life.”

~Arthur Ashe
Ivan B. surveying the hungry crowd.

Haley, Michele, and Jessica are all smiles!

Haley handing out games donated by Dr. Worrall!

Robert, Dr. Connell, Justine, and Nina.

Stephanie C. keeping order.

Thanks for the toys, Dr. Connell!

Nina making sure they get healthy snacks.

Justine hanging out with some of our friendly families!
Dr. Ryan M. Getty received his B.A. and M.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Texas at Arlington. In 2012, he earned his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Dallas. He is currently employed as an assistant professor at California State University, Sacramento in the Division of Criminal Justice. Dr. Getty’s research interests include statistics and quantitative methodologies, research methods, police training, police deviation, and police decision-making behaviors.

Dr. Getty recently had his dissertation accepted for publication in the Crime & Delinquency Journal. His research attempted to see if police deviance was learned by field training officers grounded in Akers’ social learning theory. Officers and their field trainers from the Dallas Police Department were sampled. The results revealed that one-quarter of the officers’ misconduct could be attributed to their prior trainers.

This study was presented to the Dallas Police Department, the San Jose Police Department (SJPD), and the Reno Police Department (RPD). The SJPD and the RPD are the founders and possibly most-used models of modern field training programs. Additionally, Dr. Getty is a veteran peace officer of 26 years in both TX and GA.

During the spring semester, we were able to host three exciting guest lectures to the faculty and students.

Dr. David Pyrooz joined us from Sam Houston University to discuss his research on adolescent gangs and trends in gang membership.

Dr. Scott Decker visited us from Arizona State University to share his qualitative research on gang membership. Additionally, he led an informative talk with the Criminology graduate students about academic job interviews, job talks, and how to best prepare yourself to be on the market.

Michael E. Noyes, PhD, from the Dallas County-Community Supervision and Correction Department met with us to present revisions he oversaw to the parolee intake process. His belief is that the quality of the risk/needs assessments completed prior to disposition impact the success of the treatment.

**Featured Alumni**

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**Visiting Lecturers & Guests**

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“**Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”**

~Nelson Mandela

**Department Achievements & Activity**

**Faculty**

Denise Paquette Boots received her B.A. (1995), M.A. (2001), and Ph.D. (2006) in Criminology from the University of South Florida and is currently an Associate Professor of Criminology at the University of Texas at Dallas. She is a former juvenile residential counselor for adjudicated youth, Border Patrol Agent trainee, and Pre-Doctoral Fellow with the National Consortium on Violence Research. Her present research focuses around violence and public policy with an emphasis on life-course perspectives in evaluation, mental health, child abuse, domestic violence and homicide, parricide, capital punishment, youth crime, and intersections of race, gender, and ethnicity. Her professional and community service activities include serving on the advisory board of Family Compass in Dallas, as a member of the Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force, as a editorial board member for the respected journal *Violence Against Women*, as the Senior Executive Counselor for the Division of Women and Crime of the American Society of Criminology, and as the chair of the Campus Facilities Committee at UT Dallas. In 2010 she was awarded the University of Texas Regents Outstanding Teaching Award, one of the most selective and prestigious teaching awards in the country. She is frequently called upon as a consultant to various non-profit organizations and is regularly featured in national and local media outlets regarding topics related to interpersonal and family violence.
Department Achievements & Activity

Faculty

Timothy M. Bray is Director of the Institute for Urban Policy Research at the University of Texas at Dallas. As the only research institute to be established by a grass roots community building organization, the Institute retains a character that makes it unique among its peers. The Institute’s mission is to improve lives and quality of life through research, education, training, and technical assistance that informs, motivates, and inspires. The Institute accomplishes this mission by conducting strategic and evaluation research, delivering certificate and other non-credit educational and training programs, and providing one-on-one technical assistance tailored to solve real-world problems. Working with large and small non-profits, city and county governments, schools, and community groups, the Institute continues to build friendships in the communities we serve, helping to realize visions of lasting change. Dr. Bray is also a clinical professor on the EPPS faculty. He teaches graduate and upper division courses in quantitative methodologies and structural correlates of social disorganization. He mentors graduate students, and involves them in the research work of the Institute. Dr. Bray received his Ph.D. in Criminology from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Prior to earning his doctorate, Dr. Bray served as an Assistant Bureau Chief with the Illinois State Police, where he headed the strategic and operational research units. Upon leaving the State Police, Dr. Bray was awarded the Achievement Medal for his innovative approach to solving contemporary and traditional policing issues.

Nadine M. Connell is an Assistant Professor in the Criminology Program in the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences. Dr. Connell received her B.S. in Criminal Justice and Sociology from Northeastern University in Boston. She received her Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland at College Park, where she began working on research projects to improve outcomes for at-risk youth, including the first randomized evaluation of evidence based after-school programs. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Texas at Dallas, Dr. Connell was an assistant professor at Rowan University in New Jersey, where she ran a five year multi-school evaluation of substance use prevention programs in high schools and bullying prevention programs in middle schools. While at UT Dallas, she has implemented a two-year mentoring grant funded by the Department of Justice that focused on improving educational and employment outcomes among at-risk high school students. She has also recently been awarded a renewable three-year grant by the Criminal Justice Division of Office of the Governor to implement and evaluate substance use prevention and positive decision-making curriculum in Garland ISD middle schools. Her research interests include bullying and school-based violence prevention, substance abuse, program evaluation, juvenile delinquency, and capital punishment.

Bruce A. Jacobs studies offender decision-making and the violence that swirls in and around drug markets. He has authored or co-authored 3 books and numerous peer-reviewed articles on these topics and specializes in the application of qualitative methods to offender populations. Dr. Jacobs has been a full professor since 2008. He serves as the chair of Criminology Comprehensive Examination Committees well as Safety and Security Council. He is also a member of various committees including the University Committee’s on Educational Policy and the University Committee on Academic Integrity.

Tom V. Kovandzic an Associate professor in the Criminology program. His research centers on violence and crime control with a special focus on gun control and crime deterrence. He received his Ph.D. from Florida State University.

James W. Marquart is a tenured full professor of criminology at the University of Texas at Dallas where he is also the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. He has long-term research and teaching interests in prison organizations, capital punishment, criminal justice policy, and research methods. His current research involves an analysis of the long-term effects of the in-cell racial integration policies in the California and Texas prison systems. His most recent book (with Chad R. Trulson) is First Available Cell: Desegregation of the Texas Prison System (University of Texas Press, 2009).

Robert G. Morris Ph.D. (Sam Houston State University, 2007) arrived at UTD in the fall of 2007. In 2011, he was awarded the prestigious UT System Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award, and in 2012 was awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor for excellence in research, as well as teaching. Between 2007 and 2014, Professor Morris published over 45 peer reviewed research manuscripts in journals such as the Journal of Criminal Justice, Justice Quarterly, Journal of Quantitative Criminology, and PLoS One. Professor Morris’ current research is focused on the empirical assessment of specific justice process components, from inception (e.g., pretrial release) through reentry, among other topics. He specializes in predictive analytics and data management, offering data analysis and statistics courses at the graduate level. Professor Morris is the Director of UTD’s Center for Crime and Justice Studies, the Associate Program Head for the Criminology Program, sits on the Dallas County Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) as Chair of the Sub-Committee on Research, and is an editorial board member for the Journal of Criminal Justice, Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice, Journal of Criminal Justice Education, and the International Journal of Cyber Criminology. Recent publications include: Morris, R.G., Teneyck, M., Barnes, J.C., Kovandzic, T. (2014). The effect of Medical Marijuana Laws on Crime: Evidence from State Panel Data, 1990-2006. PLoS One 9(3) and Morris, Robert G., J.C. Barnes, John Worrall, and Erin Orrick. Survival Mixture Modeling of Recidivism. Crime and Delinquency. (In Press)
Department Achievements & Activity

Faculty

Nicole Leeper Piquero is a Professor of Criminology and Associate Dean for Graduate Programs in the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas. She received her Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland. Her research focus includes the study of white-collar and corporate crimes, criminological theory, as well as gender and crime. She was the recipient of the 2008 National White Collar Crime Research Consortium Young Career Award and the 2011 Outstanding Publication Award, has been recognized as an "academic star" (in 2007 and 2011), and was recognized as Teacher of the Year (2005-2006) from the University of Florida's College of Arts and Sciences. She also has served as Secretary for the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) from 2008-2010, as an ACJS Trustee-at-Large from 2010-2013 and as editor of the Journal of Drug Issues from 2009-2012.

O. Elmer Polk is a clinical professor at UTD, and also holds visiting appointments with Kennesaw State University and The University of North Texas. He has been actively involved in the study, practice, research, and teaching of criminal justice and criminology since 1969. His specialties include juvenile justice systems, criminal justice career paths, community and institutional corrections, and violent crime. He completed his B.A. in Criminal Justice at the University of South Florida, an MS in Criminal Justice at Rollins College and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University. Prior to acacde, Dr. Polk served for seventeen years in numerous staff, supervisory, and administrative capacities in adult and juvenile corrections in Florida and Texas. He wrote and administered a grant establishing community programming for the Navajo Tribe in Arizona and served as Director of a residential halfway house for Native American youth on the Navajo Nation. He was one of the pioneers of intensive probation supervision in Florida’s Community Control Program and in the Bexar County, Texas Juvenile ISP Project. He has served on Boards of Directors and Citizen’s Advisory Boards, received several teaching awards, published one co-authored book on juvenile justice and numerous articles. He has received multiple grants including U.S. Department of Justice funding to study various aspects of violent and gun-related crime in the North Texas and has written a variety of book reviews, instructor’s manuals, and technical reports.

Robert W. Taylor is professor and director of the Executive Master of Science Program in Justice Administration and Leadership. Previously, Dr. Taylor was the founding Executive Director of the W.W. Caruth Jr. Police Institute at Dallas (CPI). The Institute was established through a $9.5 million grant from the Communities Foundation of Texas. From 1996 to 2008, Dr. Taylor was professor and chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of North Texas. For the past forty years, he has studied criminal justice administration and police responses to crime and terrorism, focusing on issues in the Middle East. He has acted as a consultant to numerous federal, state and local agencies. Dr. Taylor has authored or co-authored over two hundred articles, books, and manuscripts. His articles appear in Defense Analysis (University of Oxford, England Press), the ANNALS (American Academy of Political and Social Sciences), Police Quarterly, and Crime and Delinquency. Dr. Taylor was awarded the University of North Texas, Regent’s Lecture Award (2003) for his work in the Middle East. In March 2008, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences presented Dr. Taylor with the prestigious O.W. Wilson Award “in recognition of his outstanding contribution to police education, research and practice.”

Lynne M. Vieraitis earned her Ph.D. in Criminology from Florida State University and is an associate professor in the Criminology Program at the University of Texas at Dallas. She conducts research in the areas of identity theft, criminal justice policy and gender inequality and violence. Her book, Identity Thieves: Motives and Methods, co-authored with Heith Copes, was published in 2012 by Northeastern University Press.

John L. Worrall is Professor of Criminology and Program Head at the University of Texas at Dallas. A Seattle native, he received a B.A., double majoring in psychology and law and justice, from Central Washington University in 1994. Both his M.A. (criminal justice) and Ph.D. (political science) were received from Washington State University, where he graduated in 1999. From 1999-2006, he was a member of the criminal justice faculty at California State University, San Bernardino. He joined UTD in Fall 2006, was promoted to full professor in 2008, and in 2010 was selected to direct the criminology program. Dr. Worrall has published articles and book chapters on a wide range of topics ranging from legal issues in policing to crime measurement, having recently been ranked one of the most prolific sole and lead authors in the discipline. Courses he regularly teaches (and has authored texts for) include introductory criminal justice, criminal procedure, and crime control policy. He also teaches the professional development seminar for criminology Ph.D. students. As Program Head at UTD, Dr. Worrall directs undergraduate, M.S., and Ph.D. programs in criminology, including an online MS program, which he developed. He is active in ACJS and ASC, and a number of regional associations. Finally, he continues to serve as editor of the journal Police Quarterly, a position he has held since 2008.
Department Achievements & Activity

Students

Nina Barbieri is entering her 3rd year as a PhD candidate and is expecting to complete her dissertation by Spring 2016. Her research interests include adolescence & delinquency, school violence, victimization, and the effects of institutional disenfranchisement. She has published in *Youth Violence & Juvenile Justice* and *The American Journal of Criminal Justice*. She is also currently working with Dr. Nadine Connell and Michele Mietl, on surveying Texas Teen Courts in order to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the Texas Teen Court system, procedures, and organizational design. Nina currently serves as the CGSA Community Service Coordinator and Risk Manager. She has presented her research at the American Society of Criminology and Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences conferences, as well as the International Society for Research on Aggression’s world meeting held in Luxembourg.

Stephanie Cardwell is a second year doctoral student in criminology at the University of Texas at Dallas. Her primary research interests include life-course/developmental criminology, juvenile delinquency, and quantitative and qualitative methods. Her recent publications appear in the Journal of Criminal Justice Education and the Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice. In July, she was invited to attend an ICPSR workshop hosted by the National Addiction and HIV Data Archive Program. The course covered the current studies released in the Pathways to Desistance series, a longitudinal study of serious adolescent offenders. Further, the workshop was focused teaching participants how to analyze life event calendar data within the study.

Stephen Clipper, originally a native of New Jersey, received his M.A. from Rowan University before transferring to UTD in the fall of 2011. Stephen currently teaches an Advanced Criminal Justice course and is a research assistant for the Center for Crime and Justice Studies, but in the past he has worked as a research assistant for Dr. Connell on a mentoring program recruiting college mentors for a local high school. His research interests include quantitative methodologies, pretrial release, and policing.

Jessica Craig grew up in the small North Texas town of Denison and graduated with her Bachelors from Texas A&M University in 2011 (Gig ‘em Aggies!). After graduation, she married Matthew Craig, who is currently employed at Lockheed Martin in Fort Worth. She started at UTD in the fall of 2011 as a Ph.D. student and earned her MS in Criminology in 2013. She is currently the president of the Criminology Graduate Student Association and is studying for the comprehensive exams in the fall. Jessica’s research interests include life course criminology, theory-testing, and reentry. Her work has appeared in *Journal of Crime and Justice, Criminal Behaviour* and *Mental Health, and Crime & Delinquency*.

Alexis Harper is a long time student of UT Dallas where she earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Criminology, and is currently in pursuit of a Ph.D. which she anticipates completing in 2015. She is a member of Alpha Phi Sigma, CGSA, ACJS, ASC, and has presented research at multiple conferences. Alexis works as a Research Associate at the Institute for Urban Policy Research with Dr. Timothy Bray, participating in program design, evaluation, and reporting for a variety of organizations. Her projects include offender reentry programs and after school programs for disadvantaged youth, data collection and assessment with local police departments, and collaboration with city officials to address issues pertaining to poverty and blight in Dallas. Her latest publications include reports assessing children’s health in North Texas for a major hospital in Dallas-Ft. Worth. Alexis’ research interests involve community based initiatives to reduce crime.

Stephanie Huberman is a doctoral student in the Criminology Program. She completed a dual undergraduate degree in criminology and psychology at the University of Denver. In 2009, Stephanie earned her MA in Psychology from Boston University, where she conducted research on family violence and the use of expert witness testimony in the courtroom. She also interned with the State of Colorado Division of Adult Parole and Community Corrections and the National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in Denver. Stephanie has performed research on individuals admitted to the Trauma and Psychiatric ER at Parkland Hospital and UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. Stephanie is currently a teaching assistant and member of CGSA, she recently contributed several entries on high-profile crimes that will be published in an upcoming crime encyclopedia. Her research interests include violent crime, serial murder, domestic violence, expert witness testimony, and life-course criminology.

Michele Bisaccia Mietl is working toward her Ph.D. in Criminology at UT Dallas. Michele received her J.D. in 2005 and her Master’s Degree in Criminology in 2012. Michele previously served as a Staff Attorney for the ABA Death Penalty Project and then as a Staff Attorney for the DC Bar where she facilitated and managed legal clinics in the District. She currently serves as a Faculty Associate for Arizona State University’s School of Criminology and Criminal Justice and as an Adjunct Lecturer for SMU’s Meadows School of the Arts. In the fall of 2014, Michele will teach Courts and Prosecution at UT Dallas and be a member of the FBI Citizen’s Academy. Michele’s scholarship will appear in *The Criminal Law Bulletin* later this year. She is currently working on several pieces of additional research and scholarship. Michele is a funded student and an EPPS Graduate Fellowship Recipient.

Nina Barbieri is entering her 3rd year as a PhD candidate and is expecting to complete her dissertation by Spring 2016. Her research interests include adolescence & delinquency, school violence, victimization, and the effects of institutional disenfranchisement. She has published in *Youth Violence & Juvenile Justice* and *The American Journal of Criminal Justice*. She is also currently working with Dr. Nadine Connell and Michele Mietl, on surveying Texas Teen Courts in order to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the Texas Teen Court system, procedures, and organizational design. Nina currently serves as the CGSA Community Service Coordinator and Risk Manager. She has presented her research at the American Society of Criminology and Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences conferences, as well as the International Society for Research on Aggression’s world meeting held in Luxembourg.

Stephanie Cardwell is a second year doctoral student in criminology at the University of Texas at Dallas. Her primary research interests include life-course/developmental criminology, juvenile delinquency, and quantitative and qualitative methods. Her recent publications appear in the Journal of Criminal Justice Education and the Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice. In July, she was invited to attend an ICPSR workshop hosted by the National Addiction and HIV Data Archive Program. The course covered the current studies released in the Pathways to Desistance series, a longitudinal study of serious adolescent offenders. Further, the workshop was focused teaching participants how to analyze life event calendar data within the study.

Stephen Clipper, originally a native of New Jersey, received his M.A. from Rowan University before transferring to UTD in the fall of 2011. Stephen currently teaches an Advanced Criminal Justice course and is a research assistant for the Center for Crime and Justice Studies, but in the past he has worked as a research assistant for Dr. Connell on a mentoring program recruiting college mentors for a local high school. His research interests include quantitative methodologies, pretrial release, and policing.

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Department Achievements & Activity

Students

Justine Medrano graduated from Baylor with a BA in Sociology and Criminal Justice in 2009. After graduation, she lived and taught English for a year in Bangkok, Thailand. In 2010, Justine attended California State University at Fresno and received her MS in Criminology. She then decided to take a year off, serving as an AmeriCorps Vista. Justine was placed in a nonprofit, called Focus Forward, where she worked in a juvenile hall developing an education and mentoring program to improve overall graduation rates. In 2013 she attended Thomas Jefferson Law School, and completed a legal internship with the Innocence Project. Justine then decided to pursue her PhD, and is about to begin her 2nd year here at UTD. Her research interests include juvenile delinquency, gangs, corrections, and human trafficking. She is currently working with Dr. Connell, on her CHOICES research project. It deals with brief juvenile delinquency prevention, in particular decision-making and classroom engagement.

Turgut Ozkan is deeply involved in security related issues in my professional career. As a security analyst, Turgut has worked mainly on international security issues. He has received varying certificates relating to energy security, terrorism and media, cyber security, etc. from the organizations such as United Nations and NATO. It's been two years since he started UTD. Turgut’s research interests are biosocial criminology, behavioral genetics, developmental theories of crime, terrorism, and juvenile delinquency, and looks forward to meeting anyone with similar interests!

Zachary Powell is currently a M.S. student in UTD’s Criminology program with his eyes set on tracking into the Ph.D. program. As he enters his second year of grad school, he plans on assisting CGSA with their fall community service Adopt-A-Family event and continuing his research experience. Additionally, Zach is working on a research project with Dr. Vieraitis, Dr. Heith Copes from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and fellow UTD graduate student Ashley Pike on white-collar crime expertise.

Richard Riner is a second year PhD candidate, and a nine veteran of law enforcement. Richard has served as an instructor for the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy during his last five years as a sworn officer. After returning to school, Richard completed bachelor’s degrees in Political Science and Criminal Justice, as well as the Master’s program at the University of Arkansas. He is currently working on the CHOICES research project which focuses on adolescent decision-making and academic engagement. Richard's primary research interests are violence against women and children, victimology, and evidence based crime policy.

Arthur Vazquez is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice. He received a Bachelor in Interdisciplinary Studies from the UT Arlington in 2007, and his Master’s in Public Administration in 2009. He also earned a Master’s in Education – Counseling from the University of North Texas in 2011, and is a Nationally Certified Counselor. He is currently a 4th year Criminology doctoral student at UTD. Arthur has over 15 years of experience in various areas within the non-profit, community sector and school districts; primarily working with at-risk individuals under the age of 21. His main area of interest is youth at risk for or currently involved in gangs and/or graffiti crews. This includes utilizing multiple facets in addressing the problem including: counseling, prevention, advocacy, intervention, and re-integration. He has been a graffiti consultant, gang interventionist, and gang consultant for various agencies within DFW for over 10 years. Arthur’s research interests include graffiti, gangs, criminology theory, ethnic and qualitative methodologies, juvenile delinquency, and reality and cognitive counseling.

Valerie Womack just entered the PhD program after graduating from UT Dallas with her MS in Criminology in 2014. Valerie previously earned her BA in Sociology with a criminology concentration (and minors in psychology and theatre) from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2008. She has presented her research at the American Society of Criminology’s Atlanta conference and is scheduled to discuss her current work at the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice’s meeting in South Padre Island as well as the American Society of Criminology’s San Francisco conference. Valerie is also a Dallas police officer approaching six years of full-time service.

Haley Zettler is a third year PhD student in UTD’s Criminology program. Her primary research interests include community corrections, pretrial release, corrections, and program evaluation. She is a former Adult Probation Officer and has several years experience supervising probationers, conducting pretrial sentence investigations, and serving as a court officer in a district court. She is currently working on a research project for a local probation department with the Center for Crime and Justice Studies, and is preparing to teach her first class at UTD this Fall.
Upcoming Events

- September 24
  Profit share for CGSA at Panera Bread in Richardson, TX
  Contact Vice President Haley Zettler to learn more and get a copy of the flyer

- September 26
  Colloquium on networking, interviewing, and being on the job market
  RSVP to Dr. Worrall by 9/19/2014

- October 7
  Colloquium on the entire grant writing process
  Open to all interested
  GR 2.326, 11:30-1

- November 7
  ASC practice symposium

- December
  CGSA Adopt-a-Family event