

# THE CRIMINAL GATOR

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UF DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY, LAW,

## American Society of Criminology, eh!

Toronto, Canada, will be the setting for this year's annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology (Nov. 16th-19th). The city's average high temperature in November is 46 degrees. So be sure to pack your winter coat for the trek up to the Great White North!

A number of faculty members and graduate students are presenting at the conference. A full list of participants can be found on the ASC website at:

[http://convention2.allacademic.com/asc04/asc\\_2005\\_program.pdf](http://convention2.allacademic.com/asc04/asc_2005_program.pdf)

Among the UF participants, **Stephanie Hays** and **Karen Parker** are presenting, "Correlates of Violent and Property Crime Patterns, 1990-2000: Accounting for Time and Place."

Karen is also teaming with **Erin Lane** on two racial profiling pa-

pers.

**Lonn Lanza-Kaduce, Jodi Lane, Ronald Akers, Beth Parker,** and

**Erin Lane** are presenting, "Evaluating the Florida Faith and Community Based Delinquency Treatment Initiative: Year 1."

Jodi will also present with James Meeker on, "The Combined Impact of Theoretical Models on Perceived Risk and Fear of Gang Crime Among Women and Men."

**Rachel Taylor** is presenting her thesis entitled, "American Public Opinion on the Iraqi Prisoner Abuse."

**Brian Stults** will be busy presenting three articles. He is co-author with Eric Baumeron on, "Racial Context, Levels of Violence, and White Racial Attitudes."

He is also presenting with **Karen Parker, Erin Lane** and Geoffrey

Alpert on "A Spatial and Contextual Analysis of Racial Profiling: A Theoretical Investigation into Racial Profiling at the Local Level." Finally, he is teaming with **Dan Dexheimer** on "Racial Threat As an Explanation for Disparity in Post-arrest Incarceration Outcomes."



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## Publications Page

**Jodi Lane** has three upcoming publications to look forward to. The first, "Implementing 'Corrections of Place' Ideas: The Perspectives of Clients and Staff," was co-written by Susan Turner, Terry Fain and Amber Sehgal, and will be published in Criminal Justice and Behavior. Jodi teams with James Meeker on "Theories and Fear of Gang Crime among Whites and Latinos: A Replication and Extension of Prior Research," which will be published in the Journal of Criminal Justice. Finally, Jodi goes solo with "Exploring Fear of General and Gang Crimes among Juveniles on Probation: The Impacts of Delinquent Behaviors," which can be found in Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice.

In February, Harvard University Press will release **Jeffrey Adler's** First in Violence, Deepest in Dirt: Homicide in Chicago, 1875-1920.

In October, the Ohio State University Press will be publishing the book Prison Work, a memoir of a California correctional officer co-edited by **Joseph Spillane** and John Burnham.

**Ronald Akers** had "Sociological Theory and Practice: The Case of Criminology," published in Journal of Applied Sociology/Sociological Practice. He also teamed with Christine Sellers on "Social Learning Theory: Correcting Misconceptions," in Stuart Henry and Mark M. Lanier, eds., The Essential Criminology Reader.

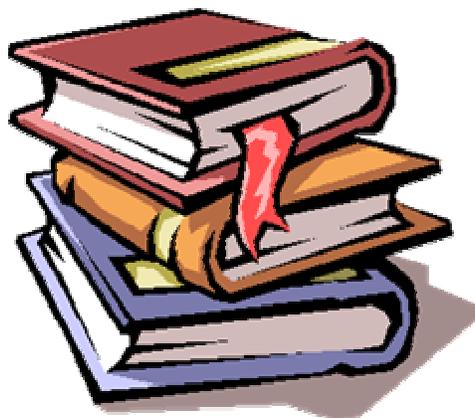
**Karen Parker, Brian Stults** and **Steve Rice's** article, "Racial Threat, Concentrated Disadvantage and Social Control: Considering the Macro-Level Sources of Variation in Arrests," will be published in the November edition of Criminology.

Karen also teamed with **Scott Maggard** on the Crime and Delinquency article, "Structural Theories and Race-Specific Drug Arrests: What Structural Factors Account for the Rise in Race-specific Drug Arrests Over Time."

**Paul Magnarella** recently published two articles. The first, "Protecting Indigenous Peoples," appears in Human Rights and Human Welfare. The second, "The Background and Causes of the Genocide in Rwanda," appears in a special issue of the Journal of International Criminal Justice devoted to Rwanda and is edited by Antonio Cassese, the first president of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and a member of the Appellate Chamber of both the Yugoslavian and Rwandan Criminal Tribunals.

**Alex Piquero** has articles forthcoming in: Criminology & Public Policy, Criminal Justice & Behavior, Journal of Research in Crime & Delinquency, and Journal of Criminal Justice.

**Eve Brank** and **Stephanie Hays** had their article, "Parental Responsibility Statutes: An Organization and Policy Implications," published in the Journal of Law and Family Studies. They, along with a colleague from Nebraska, also had, "Global and Specific Attitudes Toward Parental Responsibility" accepted by the Journal of Applied Social Psychology. Eve also had a paper with **Mark Fondacaro** (and some psychology students) accepted. It is entitled, "Identity Orientation, Voice, and Judgments of Procedural Justice During Late Adolescence," and will be in the Journal of Youth and Adolescence.



## New Faculty Profile: Lora Levett



Dr. Levett graduated from Florida International University in August, 2005 with a Ph.D. in Legal Psychology and a minor in Social Psychology. She completed her dissertation while teaching at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (part of the City University of New York system) and Barnard College, Columbia University.

Her major area of research is juror and jury decision making. Her dissertation research explored mechanisms designed to improve jurors' abilities to

comprehend complex scientific testimony and was funded by a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant.

Other research interests include eyewitness testimony, jury selection (especially pertaining to juvenile waiver cases), juvenile justice, and sexual harassment.



## Department Welcomes a New Batch of Grad Students

The Department recently welcomed its new graduate student cohort. The new students, their alma mater, and degree-seeking statuses are:

Amanda Adams, Emory, M.A.

Tina Kelchner, UCF, Ph.D.

Brian O'Connell, Castleton State College, Ph.D.

Jessica Perry, Ohio University, M.A.

Saskia D. Santos, UF, M.A.

Jeffrey T. Ward, New Brunswick State, M.A.

Yang Liu Zhong Nan Univ. of Econ and Law, M.A.

April Nicewonger, UF, Ph.D.

Erica Knutsen, UF, B.A./M.A.

Ian Seth Denison, UF, M.A.

Bryan L. Miller, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Ph.D.

MiRang Park, MSU, Ph.D.

Dagmar Pudrzynska, UF, M.A.

Carrie Lynn Schrage, Valdosta State, Ph.D.

Tasha Youstin, FAU, M.A.

Billy Holcombe, UF, M.A.

Suchat Wongsinnak, UF, Ph.D.

## Angela Gover Awarded Grant from NIJ

In January 2005 **Angela Gover** was awarded a \$450,000 grant from the National Institute of Justice. The three-year project, "The Impact of Proactive Enforcement of No-Contact Orders (NCOs) on Victim Safety and Repeat Victimization," is being conducted with colleagues Robert Brame, Katie Kaukinen, and Pamela Lattimore at the University of South Carolina.

In 2003, Gover, MacDonald, and Alpert reported that processing domestic violence offenders in a specialized criminal domestic violence in Lexington County South Carolina court significantly reduced re-arrests by 40% compared to a historical control group of offenders processed in traditional court. Although a reduction in recidivism was found, the process evaluation indicated that victim safety was a serious problem during the period between an offender's initial appearance in bond court and trial. At arraignment during bond court, approximately 90% of defendants arrested for criminal domestic violence are placed on NCOs. Offenders violate their NCOs if they attempt to contact victims by telephone or in person. Although the use of NCOs to disrupt the cycle of violence between bond hearings and judicial proceedings is widespread, the level of compliance with these orders is not well understood nor is it known whether intensive enforcement of NCOs reduces harm to victims, is ineffective, or is counterproductive.

The new NIJ study examines the effects of intensive no-contact order enforcement on both offender and victim outcomes. Approximately 800 NCO cases will be randomly assigned either to the current level of NCO enforcement (the control condition) or to systematic, intensive enforcement (the treatment condition). Official data will be collected and interviews will be conducted with a random sample of 300 victims at two points in time to measure victimization experiences and NCO compliance levels six weeks and six months subsequent to the initiation of the NCO. The interview data will be used to assess the impact of intensive enforcement of NCOs on both offender and victim outcomes. The offender outcomes for the study include official records and victim reports of offender compliance with the NCO and offender recidivism. The victim outcomes include perceptions of the effectiveness of the NCO, victim safety, and victim physical and mental well-being. Overall, the project will address gaps in the current knowledge base by providing important findings on the prevalence of violation of NCOs and the impact of a proactive enforcement intervention on offender and victim outcomes.



## Faculty News

**Alex Piquero** has recently completed an NIJ-funded project on domestic violence escalation/specialization, and just started a project that is examining the willingness to pay for punishment/rehabilitation in Pennsylvania.

**Karen Parker** was elected as a member of the Crime, Law and Deviance Council, American Sociological Association for a three year term (2006-2008).

**Paul Magnarella** took part in the "2005 Teaching Nuclear Weapons Nonproliferation Summer Institute" held at Washington and Lee University. His participation was funded by the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Institute of Peace.

**Brian Stults** was awarded \$5000 for his consulting work on an NSF grant for John Logan at Brown University.

**Eve Brank** was interviewed on the local NPR station and quoted in the Orlando Sentinel about her parental responsibility research.

## Akers, Piquero Named UF "Innovators"

In the August edition of *Gainesville Magazine*, **Ronald Akers** and **Alex Piquero** were highlighted as two of University of Florida's "innovators" who are making a difference in the community. Below is an excerpt of the article.

### UF's DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY

Writing and rewriting the book on criminology.

The department is tied for 11th place in U.S. News and World Report's "America's Best Graduate Schools 2006." For a department that's only been around for less than a decade, that's not too shabby. Department chairman **Lonn Lanza-Kaduce** credits much of the department's success to its "interdisciplinary nature" as well as to the professors within, especially **Ron Akers** and **Alex Piquero**.

**RON AKERS**, 66, is the "senior statesman" of criminology. He is the author of one of the primary theories of crime, the social learning theory. "The basic idea is that criminal and deviant behavior are learned by the same processes as are conforming behavior," explains Akers, former president of the American Society of Criminology and of the Southern Sociological Society. "You don't have to assume pathology or genetic defect as a factor in whether one will commit a deviant/criminal or conforming behavior." Rehabilitative programs today emphasize "social skills, pro-social behavior and attitudes" due largely to his recommendations. Piquero says Akers is one of the top 10 criminologists in the world, adding, "Ron is to criminology as the Beatles were to songwriting."

**ALEX PIQUERO**, 35, is the up-and-comer. The British Home Office (the equivalent of our Justice Department) invited Piquero to present to key members of the Blair government on criminal recidivism and on the financial and social implications of incarceration policies. UF's 2004 Teacher of the Year, Piquero has worked with the criminology department at his alma mater, the University of Maryland (the top-ranked program in the country), to study the deterrent effects of anti-terrorism measures in airport security. Along with a peer at UC Berkeley, Piquero is also conducting a massive study on the recidivism patterns of sex offenders, using residents of Philadelphia.

Full text of the "Innovators" article can be found at <http://www.gainesville.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050806/MAGAZINE19/50803080>



### Piquero also highlighted on UF webpage

Aside from the Gainesville Magazine article, **Alex Piquero** is currently one of the professors "spotlighted" on the University of Florida homepage. For more information, please go to [www.ufl.edu](http://www.ufl.edu) or [www.ufl.edu/spotlight/piquero.html](http://www.ufl.edu/spotlight/piquero.html)



UF DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY, LAW, AND SOCIETY



*The University of Florida Department of Criminology, Law, and Society is an inter- disciplinary program, teaching students with a wide range of interests and conducting research on crime, delinquency, law, and justice. We are one of the largest academic programs in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, offering under-graduate, graduate and doctoral degrees.*

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Other Department News.....

**Steve Rice** has accepted a tenure track position in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Seton Hall University.

**Scott Burns** is teaching as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University this fall. He is also in pre-production for the film "D.C. Kings" (as director and co-producer), a documentary film shot in cinema veritae style about women who work part time as drag "kings".

**Dave Khey** passed final exams for his master's of science degree in Pharmacy, with a concentration in Forensic Drug Analysis. Commencement will be held in December.

**Matt Nobles** and **Stephanie Hays** attended the Eighth Annual Crime Mapping Research Conference, which was held September 7th-10<sup>th</sup> in Savannah, Georgia. They are also attending the Bureau of Justice Statistics/Justice Research and Statistics Association Conference, which will be held October 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> in St. Petersburg, Florida.