American Society of Criminology Annual Conference - Atlanta, GA


Gibson, C., & Swatt, M. Does joining a gang increase violent victimization during adolescence?: Estimating causal effects using a propensity score matching design.

Garcia, C. A., & Lane, J. Looking in the rear view mirror: What incarcerated women think girls need from the system.


Kim, E., Park, M., & Williams, H. A case study of trafficking in North Korean women in China.

Morris, S., & Gibson, C. An investigation of corporal punishment's causal effect on child behavioral outcomes: Results from a propensity score matching approach.

Reckdenwald, A. Female perpetrated intimate partner homicide: The role of patriarchy in explaining recent trends.


Lane, J., & Meeker, J. W. Social disorganization perceptions: Fear of gang crime and behavioral precautions among women and men.

Santos, S., & Lane, J. Ex-inmate perspectives on informal methods of control utilized by correctional officers.

Hayes-Smith, R. M., & Levett, L. M. Sexual assault resources on campus: Availability and adequacy.

Schrage, C. L. & Ward, J. T. The freedom to offend: Assessing the independent effects of internal and external freedoms on the self-control-crime link.


Tennyson, K. Police brutality and reporting practices in Brazil.

Patton, C., Nobles, M., & Fox, K. Stalking and attachment theory.

Nobles, M., Fox, K., & Patton, C. Assessing stalking behaviors in a Control-Balance Theory framework.

Faculty and graduate students flew or drove to Atlanta, Georgia to participate in this year’s American Society of Criminology annual conference. This conference was held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis and ran from Wednesday, November 14th, 2007 until Saturday, November 17th, 2007. The department’s faculty and graduate students presented several important papers, some of which are listed above.

What's inside this issue?

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Richard Hollinger was quoted in the September 20, 2007 edition of the Wall Street Journal "Online Edition." [Link](http://online.wsj.com/article_email/article_print/SB11902491286693218-11byQIAmMDExODTtwMDYyNDAyWJ.html)

Eve Brank is cited for an opinion editorial in the July 15, 2007 issue of Newsday. The article is entitled: Punish the 'social host'? Nassau's new law penalizes adults for allowing underage drinking, and not specifically parents.

Lora Levett was recognized as an Anderson Scholar Faculty Nominee.
Fall 2007

The Syndicate is the graduate student organization for Criminology, Law and Society. Its mission is to support the academic and professional development of graduate students in the program.

This year the Syndicate will fund several active members of our organization to give presentations at the annual American Society of Criminology annual meeting that is being held in Atlanta, Georgia. It is also hoped that additional funds may be available to fund active members to attend conferences in the spring semester.

At this time it is hoped that fund-raising efforts will begin which include the sale of department t-shirts. First year Master’s student Heather Stewart has taken the lead on this fundraising endeavor. Please note that your fund-raising ideas are always welcome.

In general department news, it has been announced that our department has been granted a joint hire with the Latin American Studies Department. Such a hire will enhance our ability to coordinate academic endeavors outside our department and potentially increase the range of students we generally seek to recruit.

Becky Hayes-Smith has taken over as our representative to the Graduate Student Council, thus ensuring that we are aware of issues and funding opportunities within the Graduate School generally.

Lastly, I would like to thank Matt Nobles for his years of service as Syndicate President. Turnover is a constant within graduate programs, but nonetheless it is a reminder of all the good people that walk in and out of our doors every year.

Sincerely,
Hayden Griffin, III
President, Gator Criminology, Law and Society Syndicate

Other 2007-2008 Officers:
Jeffrey T. Ward, Vice President
Carrie Schrage, Treasurer
Kate Fox, Secretary

The American Psychology-Law Society is holding its annual conference right up the street! From March 5th through March 8th, APLS will be in Jacksonville, Florida. Please check out their website [http://www.ap-ls.org/conferences/apls2008/index.html](http://www.ap-ls.org/conferences/apls2008/index.html) for more information. The conference will begin with several workshops. One that might be of particular interest to CLS students is the workshop taught by world renowned scholar, Barbara Tabachnick (of Tabachnick and Fidell, /Using Multivariate Statistics/). The full conference program will be available online near the end of the year or beginning of January. Student APLS members who are first authors on paper or poster presentations receive free registration for the conference. If you are not a first author on a presentation you can still get free registration by being a student volunteer. If you are interested in this or anything else related to the conference, talk to Eve Brank (ebrank@ufl.edu).
deviant behavior. This theory suggests that there are four main factors which influence participation in any behavior, illegal or legal. Those factors are definitions favorable to the behavior, association with peers who participate in the behavior, imitation (viewing the behavior), and reinforcement (the positive and negative outcomes of participating in the behavior). A sample of convicted sexual offenders from one county in Florida was obtained through mail surveys. Results indicated partial support for the theory, with definitions favorable to illegal sexual behavior being significant. Research into the factors which influence participation in sexually deviant behavior is critical in developing effective treatment programs for sex offenders.
Graduate: Andrea Schoepfer  
Current Status: Assistant Professor, California State University-San Bernardino  
Chair: Nicole Leeper Piquero  
Dissertation Title: CEOs and the roles they play in corporate misconduct: An examination of CEO characteristics.  
Abstract: My study uses quantitative and qualitative methodologies to ascertain if there are certain characteristics of chief executive officers (CEO) of Fortune 500 companies that contribute to violations committed by the company. In other words, controlling for organizational characteristics, are certain individual CEO characteristics associated with misconduct? My study used aspects from the business literature and criminological theories to predict Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) violations for the years 2000 through 2006. In this sample, measures derived from the business literature were better able to predict SEC violations than those measures derived from criminological theories. Furthermore, specific individual characteristics such as age, number of marriages, number of children, where and when CEOs received their education, extracurricular activities, and other such measures are discussed.

Graduate: Stephanie A. Hayes  
Current Status: Assistant Professor, Buena Vista University (Iowa)  
Chair: Lonn Lanza-Kaduce  
Dissertation Title: A structural examination of rural crime in the Midwest, 1980-2000: What has changed over time and why?  
Abstract: Recent research has documented an increase in rural crime, particularly violent crime, over the past two decades. While the relationship between community structure and crime has received a large amount of attention in criminology, most of this research has focused only on urban areas. This study builds on previous works by not only examining the relationship between structural factors and arrests in rural areas, but also by taking into account structural changes that have had a profound effect on rural life over the past few decades (i.e., the industrialization of farming). Using cross-sectional time series regression and pooled time series regression, I estimate the effects of changes in social disorganization and the industrialization of farming on criminal arrests in rural, Midwest counties from 1980 to 2000. Overall, the findings suggest that the industrialization of farming, particularly changes in the number of farms in a county, has had a significant impact on arrests.

Graduate: Wesley G. Jennings  
Current Status: Job market, tenure track position  
Chair: Lonn Lanza-Kaduce  
Dissertation Title: Trajectories of two Racine birth cohorts: A theoretically integrated model for explaining offending.  
Abstract: Macro-level research evidencing the relationship between communities and crime dates back to the early ecological work of Park and Burgess and later further developed by Shaw and McKay into what is commonly referred to as social disorganization theory. This research has since shown that poverty, ethnic heterogeneity, and residential mobility lead to the inability for members of the community to develop mechanisms of informal social control, which in turn leads to higher rates of crime.

In contrast, micro-level theories such as Sampson and Laub’s theory argues that individual pathways of offending can be altered by life transitions such as marriage and employment. Comparatively, Moffitt’s taxonomy asserts that there are two theoretically distinct groups of offenders, where one group displays an adolescent-limited type of offending and the other group are considered to be life-course-persistent or chronic offenders. Moffitt has also argued that the life-course-persistent type is predominantly a male phenomenon.

This study will provide one of the first attempts to explore the possibility of developing a theoretically integrated model for explaining group offending using trajectory analysis and relying on data from two Racine Birth Cohorts. Results from this study relying on official data yielded varying levels of support for all of the theoretical frameworks mentioned above. Specifically, all of the trajectory models discovered groups consistent with Moffitt’s typology, as well as uncovering groups not necessarily consistent with her typology. Also consistent with Moffitt, sex was shown to be a significant covariate for predicting group assignment. Bivariate support was found for Sampson and Laub’s age-graded theory of informal social control. Lastly, multivariate support was revealed for the impact of living in a socially disorganized area. Yet, once mlogit models were estimated incorporating the individual and neighborhood effects there was evidence of mediation. It appeared that individual and family variables at times completely or at least partially mediated the effect of social disorganization as a distinguishing feature of group membership. Implications for the current findings and directions for future research are also discussed.
The department thanks professor Lora Levett for hosting the 2007 department Halloween party.

Thanks to all who attended! As evidenced by the photos above, students and faculty wore creative costumes to the party and thoroughly enjoyed their evening.


Parker, K. F., & Reckdenwald, A. (forthcoming). Women and crime in context: Examining the linkages between patriarchy, structural conditions and female offending across space. Feminist Criminology


Introducing Our New Students and Faculty...

**New Masters Students**

John Boman returns to the south after earning his Bachelor of Arts degree from Ohio University where he doubled majored in History and Criminology. One area of interest of John’s is biosocial theories of crime. John is currently the participant pool coordinator for the department.

Oscar Celorio earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Florida International University. Oscar is currently interested in illegal immigration & crime and the effects of illegal immigration on criminal justice administration. In his free time, Oscar enjoys spending time with his wife, boating, listening to music, and playing sports.

Zahra Shekarkhar joins the department with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology from the University of Miami. Zahra is currently interested in immigration & crime and minorities & crime. When Zahra is neither studying nor researching, she enjoys listening to music, dancing, and attending stand-up comedy shows.

Kevin Leffler made his way to the UF from the state of Indiana where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University. Kevin double majored in psychology and criminal justice. Kevin’s current areas of interest include: criminal justice intervention analysis and media & crime.

Heather Stewart earned both a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology and a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the University of Florida. Heather’s main areas of interest include: sexual & violent deviance and social learning theory. She enjoys riding & training horses, kayaking, camping, and fishing.

W. Alex Hangen continues his education at UF after earning his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Florida.

**New Doctoral Students**

Sherri DioGuardi joins the program with experience as a court reporter. Sherri has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Florida Gulf Coast University and a Master in Business Administration degree from Saint Leo University. Sherri’s areas of interest include: due process, jurisdictional influences, juvenile justice, and popular perception of judicial administration. In her free time, Sherri enjoys reading, playing tennis, and creating artwork.

Eunyoung (Joy) Kim enters the program with a Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland. Joy earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Daegu University, which is located in South Korea. Joy’s research areas include: terrorism, gender & crime, and policing. In her free time, Joy likes to watch Korean TV shows.

Lindsey Wylie returns to the University of Florida for a doctoral degree after earning her Master of Arts in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, located in New York City. Lindsey has a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from UF. Lindsey’s research agenda includes: mental health policy, drugs crimes & policy, intermediate sanctions, juvenile delinquency, and women & crime. In her free time, Lindsey’s likes to bike and travel and conduct community service working with substance abusers.

Chris Gibson joined the department faculty in the Fall of 2007. Chris has previously held academic positions at the University of South Florida and Georgia Southern University. He earned both his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology and his Master of Arts degree in Criminology from East Tennessee State University. Chris was awarded his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska. Chris specializes in Quantitative Methods and is currently teaching the doctoral level research methods course. His other research interests include: neighborhood context & child development, life-course & biosocial criminology, psychometrics & measurements, and neighborhood level research.

The department extends Chris and Georgia (his dog) a very warm welcome!
Attention Faculty & Graduate Students:
Please tell us about your activities for inclusion in the bi-annual publication of The Criminal Gator. At the beginning of the fall and spring term you will be asked to submit information related to: recent and forthcoming publications, ongoing research, recent and upcoming paper presentations, grants, and teaching & research awards. In addition, you may also submit any other news that you want to share with the department!

The submission form as well as archived editions of The Criminal Gator can be found at: http://www.crim.ufl.edu/news.html

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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 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees.

- For undergraduate studies: http://www.crim.ufl.edu/undergrad/index.html
- For graduate studies: http://www.crim.ufl.edu/grad/index.html

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**SCJA Award**

Congratulations to Wesley Jennings for receiving the 2007 Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the Southern Criminal Justice Association. Wesley has completed both comprehensive examinations and has successfully defended his dissertation. He is currently on the job market and will undoubtedly have a very successful academic career!

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**Latin American Studies and Department Hires**

The college has approved a line for a faculty position that will be a joint hire between the Department of Criminology, Law and Society and the Department of Latin American Studies. In addition to the joint position, graduate student Kristin Tennyson will be teaching a new undergraduate course: Criminal Justice in Latin America. In other hiring news, the department is proud to announce that Professor Marvin Krohn, who is currently at SUNY Albany, will be joining our faculty beginning in Fall of 2008.

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**The Old Ball & Chain**

Department criminologists cannot elude the old ball and chain!

**Graduate students and faculty that were...**

...recently engaged: Carrie Schrage

...recently married:
- Professor Jodi Lane
- Justin Hayes-Smith
- Becky Hayes-Smith
- Tina Kelchner
- Ashley Kolnes

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Congratulations!!!