



CJ Chronicle

UCM Criminal Justice Department Newsletter

Winter 2008-09

Vol. 4, No. 1

Chair Notes



Greetings *CJ Chronicle* subscribers! It is difficult to believe that another semester has come and gone. The faculty and students have been extremely active this semester both within and external to classes. We are extremely proud of our Lambda Alpha Epsilon students as they retained their seventh consecutive regional

ACJA-LAE competition sweepstakes championship. We hosted the most impressive 10th annual Missouri Western District Court of Appeals Session. The Department's Institute of Justice and International Studies hosted the very successful three-day Crime and Popular Culture Conference which brought experts to campus from across the nation. We have had students and faculty conducting research, consulting and presenting at various professional national and international venues. This is all in addition to academic business and activities in which the UCM Criminal Justice Department regularly excels.

Homecoming was once again very enjoyable as a number of alumni visited the department. Please consider this as an open invitation for all alumni and friends to visit so we can reconnect and learn about your accomplishments.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the *CJ Chronicle*. It is our intention to make future editions of the *CJ Chronicle* available electronically, for off-campus access. It is published twice-annually, or once per

academic semester. If you would like to continue receiving the *CJ Chronicle* or if you know former alumni who are not receiving the *CJ Chronicle* and would like to, please send your email address to criminaljustice@ucmo.edu. Your email address will not be sold or used for any form of solicitation. You may also send feedback or newsletter suggestions to the same address.

On behalf of the Criminal Justice department, we wish each and every one a most enjoyable holiday season!!

Betsy Wright Kreisel, Ph.D.

"Cold Case" on Campus



From left: Officer Carl Anderson, Detective Bill Wall, and Sergeant David Halderman

On September 30th, officers from the Olathe police department presented a "cold case" on campus. The case involved the murder of David Harmon

of Olathe, Kansas, in 1982. Early in the investigation the case went cold, but in late 2001, almost twenty years later, Detective Bill Wall of the Olathe Police Department was assigned to reopen the case. Detective Wall used DNA testing to test evidence, re-interviewed witnesses and suspects, and eventually solved the case. Also participating in the presentation were Officer Carl Anderson and Sergeant David Halderman, both of the Olathe Police Department.

Missouri Court of Appeals



Court of Appeals Judges (from left): Judge Harold Lowenstein, Judge Joseph Dandurand, and Judge James Smart

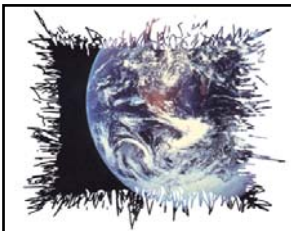
The tenth annual Court of Appeals, sponsored by the Criminal Justice Department, was held on campus on October 22.

Nearly 200 students from area high schools such as Warrensburg,

Chilhowee, Blue Springs South, Leeton, and Hogan Prep participated in addition to UCM students.

There were two sessions held by the Court. The morning session consisted of four cases and a question-and-answer session with the attendees. Court resumed after lunch for the afternoon session followed by another question-and-answer session. The Court of Appeals offers a fun and educational experience about how the appeals process in Missouri functions. Plans are under way for next year's Court of Appeals session, and the date will be announced in the spring edition of the *CJ Chronicle*.

Institute of Justice



The Institute's Crime and Popular Culture Conference was held on October 28-30. Many speakers and presenters from all over the world attended to exhibit their

research on the impact of popular culture on crime and the criminal justice system.

According to Don Wallace, professor of criminal justice and director of Institute of International Studies, "The broad goal of this academic conference was to examine policy, practice, legal, and theoretical issues concerning the interaction between crime and popular culture."

Plenary session speakers attending this year's conference included:

Dr. Jeff Ferrell-Texas Christian University
Vincenzo Sainato-John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Dr. Trent Hanna-Sam Houston State University
Jiletta Kubena-Sam Houston State University
Dr. Craig Hemmens-Boise State University
Dr. Kenneth Tunnell-Eastern Kentucky University
Dr. Mark Hamm-Indiana State University
Dr. Michelle Brown-Ohio University

In addition to the eight invited plenary session speakers, more than thirty papers were presented by scholars from a variety of disciplines. Included among the presenters were faculty members Gregg Etter and Angela Dunlap.

The conference also featured a poster session which allowed UCM students and students from other universities across the U.S. to present their research.



Craig Hemmens addresses the audience on the influence of Bruce Springsteen's music.

Plans are underway for the next conference, which will be held in April 2010

Alpha Phi Sigma: CJ Honor Society



Alpha Phi Sigma is the National Criminal Justice Honors Society and participates in a number of volunteer activities on campus and within the community. This semester, Alpha Phi Sigma helped the criminal justice department "go green" by purchasing three new recycling bins to encourage faculty members and students to recycle. The bins are located in the criminal justice office and on the third floor by the elevator.

In November, Alpha Phi Sigma sponsored a mock voting poll with most of the proceeds going to United Way. The mock voting election consisted of three criminal justice faculty members and one staff member running for President. Participating members included Don Wallace, Dane Miller, Betsy Kreisel, and Barb McNeel. In the end, Barb McNeel raised the most money and was declared "President." The mock election was an excellent opportunity to get students involved with a "real" election and to raise money for United Way.

Alpha Phi Sigma also offers a tutoring program, CJ Pals, for any criminal justice student who needs help with classwork as well as those who would like to help tutor others. Q. Olivia Shields, Vice-President of Alpha Phi Sigma, is the coordinator of CJ Pals. Please direct all inquiries to her via e-mail at q_olivia_shields@yahoo.com.

This semester, Alpha Phi Sigma sponsored “brown bag” faculty research presentations which allowed faculty members to present their research to students and faculty members. The presentations were held on Mondays at noon and were organized by Lary Lehman, Alpha Phi Sigma’s Sergeant-at-Arms. Faculty members participating this semester were:

Gene Bonham and Lynn Urban

Presentation: Fractals, Strange Attractors, and Feigenbaum’s Number

Don Wallace

Presentation: Ruminations on Torture and Natural Law

Angela Dunlap

Presentation: Give the World a Little Better Picture of the Way We Do It: Literary Illustrations of Jurisprudence in Mississippi.

The chapter advisor is Don Wallace and our executive board includes President Amanda Johnson, Vice-President Q. Shields, Secretary Tabitha Markwardt, Treasurer Jackie Duncan, and Sergeant-at-Arms Lary Lehman.

Lambda Alpha Epsilon: LAE



The Gamma Epsilon Delta (GED) chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association-Lambda Alpha Epsilon was very active this semester. In September, LAE organized several fundraisers in order to help raise money for the chapter to attend national competition in April. LAE also sponsored a garage sale and a car wash, which allowed the members to get dirty and clean at the same time!

LAE Fundraisers and Regionals

In October, LAE sponsored numerous fundraisers to raise money for the national competition in April. During the two weeks of October, LAE organized a t-shirt sale, sponsored a Homecoming candidate, and organized a “Kiss the Mule” contest for faculty. Both fundraisers were a tremendous success. Also in October, LAE members volunteered their time to do Highway Cleanup along Highway 50.

However, at the end of October, it was down to business with LAE participating at the regional competition from October 31st through November 2nd. The conference was held in Kirksville, Missouri, at Truman State University, and this year’s theme was “The Dark Figure of Crime.” The team only took 29 members—including two faculty advisors and one professional member. Adding to the increasing difficulty was the fact that half of the membership in attendance happened to be new members attending their first conference.

Despite these challenges, though, LAE received first place, making it their seventh consecutive regional title. Never in the history of LAE has a chapter won seven consecutive Regional titles—until now. Another noteworthy point is that out of 99 trophies, our LAE chapter received 64. Another testament to the overall dominance of this team is the fact that 27 out of 29 in attendance received trophies. Typically, in a group the size of 55, only 20 will place in a given category. The members of LAE ranked in every category, from academic testing and physical agility to crime scene investigation and firearms.

Tom Noble received the Top Academic award from the conference, and he received three first place awards and a second place award. Brody Sanson once again received the Top Gun Award for the highest individual firearms score. The overall sweepstakes was awarded to Gamma Epsilon Delta. The organization is now preparing for the national competition on April 5-10, in Jacksonville, Florida.



Our awarding winning LAE chapter proudly poses with their latest collection of trophies!

The chapter advisor for LAE is Roger Pennel, and the executive board members include: Jennifer Ianno (President), Brent Jepson (Vice President), Rachael Feagan (Secretary), Steve Aston (Treasurer), Timasha Haliburton (Historian), and Alan Martinez (Sergeant at Arms).

The following students were inducted into the American Criminal Justice Association/Lambda Alpha Epsilon (ACJA/LAE) at UCM:

Elivia Abarca	Audra Leis
Andrew Albers	Chuck Light
Eric Amyx	Nick Lowther
Ryan Armstrong	Nick McDaniels
Aaron Ashley	Tanner Metz
Zac Bryan	John Newman
Andrew Frederick	Megan Phillips
Andrew Gordon	Cathy Pucket
Nick Halloran	Brad Smith
Jaime Kienzle	Kristen Tracy
Bryan VanFleet	

CONGRATULATIONS!

This year LAE embarked on a new type of fund raiser, putting a new spin on an old favorite which will hopefully become an annual event for the CJ department. Instead of the “cancel class” fund raiser, where students donate money to support a professor canceling class for a day, LAE joined the Homecoming 2008 activities, and the “winning” professor was required to kiss Mo the Mascot at the Homecoming pep rally.

The competition among the faculty members was fierce initially—Betsy Kreisel pulled an early lead.

Her lead was short-lived, however, because another faculty member caught up and eventually “won” the contest. Professor Dane Miller was the lucky winner who had to pucker up and kiss Mo the Mascot during the pep rally. He tried to put up a fight, promising a restraining order against Mo drawn up by Don Wallace. After making threats of suspected “voter tampering” due to a faculty member seating scandal allegedly involving Angela Dunlap, he realized that the dispute was to no avail.



Dr. Miller thought that he had fulfilled his obligation after the initially kissing Mo, but he was instructed that the other mascot, “ManCow,” was waiting anxiously for his turn! Yes, Professor Miller not only had to kiss Mo the Mascot, he had to kiss the real mule! Fortunately for LAE, Professor Miller raised over \$115.00 in his can alone, making the grand total \$242.00 for the fundraiser. Dr. Miller, thank you for being such a good sport!

Student American Correctional Association: SACA



In September, three SACA officers, Jessica Nelson, Brooke McQuerry, and Bryan Van Fleet, attended the Missouri Corrections Association Fall Conference, which was held at the Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri. The members attended professional sessions that addressed several issues of corrections, including on-the-job stress, education, and psychotic disorders. Overall, the experience of the conference was beneficial to the members and helped them network with actual professionals of the corrections field.

At the end of October, SACA organized a bake sale in order to raise money for the United Way. SACA worked directly with Alpha Phi Sigma's mock voting poll to raise money. Between the two organizations, over \$60 was raised.

In November, SACA organized a field trip for members to attend the Lansing Correctional Facility in Lansing, Kansas. Ten students and one faculty member attended the tour. At Lansing, students met two prison inmates who talked openly about their criminal background and the realities of prison life. Members also learned about the Safe Harbor Prison Dog Program which was started at Lansing in 2004. The program serves as a rescue mission for stray, abandoned or abused dogs. Prison inmates serve as caregivers and trainers in order to prepare the dogs for adoption.

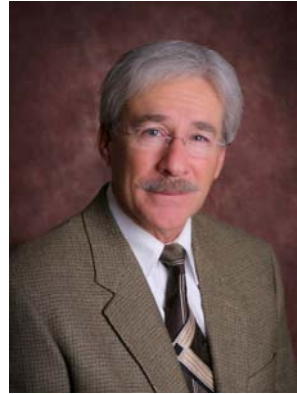
SACA members also visited an inmate panel at the Jackson County, Missouri, jail. Three inmates take part in a new program entitled "Wake Up Tour," which is a disciplinary program similar to the "scared straight" concept, but this program emphasizes offender responsibility and accountability, and encourages them to face up to the reality of where there behavior will lead them.

In January, SACA members Jennifer Ianno and Amanda Johnson will participate in the student poster presentations at the American Correctional Association Conference in Kissimmee, Florida. The conference will feature several workshops and exhibits.

The chapter advisor is Fran Reddington, and co-advisor is Angela Dunlap. The executive board of SACA includes: Amanda Johnson (President), Krystin Herman (Vice President), Brooke McQuerry (Secretary), Bryan Van Fleet (Treasurer), and Jessica Nelson (Historian).



Graduate Student Spotlight



This edition of the *CJ Chronicle* recognizes graduate student Thomas O. Gentry, III. Tom currently serves as the Public Information Officer with the Independence Police Department. Some of his duties include providing information (on and off camera) to the broadcast media and to the print media regarding police matters. In addition, Tom contributes a weekly article to the *Examiner* newspaper, writes and publishes a monthly newsletter, and writes and publishes the police department's annual report. In addition, Tom organizes and participates in news conferences, writes news releases, and disseminates police reports and photos to local and national news agencies upon request.

Tom earned a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Columbia College, and has just completed coursework for his Master's degree in Criminal Justice here at UCM. He has been offered a position to teach part time at Columbia College and plans to pursue a Ph.D. and eventually teach full time. He and his wife, Fredalyn (also a UCM grad), have five children and ten grandchildren.

Undergraduate Student Spotlight



The undergraduate student spotlight for this edition shines on Danielle Eickhoff. The LAE chapter sponsored Danielle as a Homecoming queen candidate. Danielle ran a tough campaign, competing against all of the sorority candidates on campus. Overall, she placed in the top ten.

Danielle is from St. Louis, and is currently a junior here at UCM majoring in criminal justice with a minor in psychology. She is an active member of LAE and also serves as a student ambassador. In

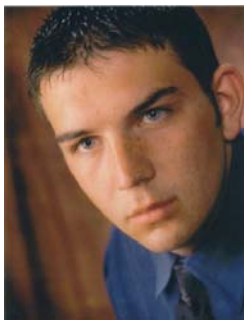
her free time, Danielle is a member of the Psychology club, the Central Martial Arts group, and intramurals. She also serves as a volunteer with the MO Volunteers at the Missouri Veterans Home and Warrensburg Manor, the Mule Haul, Up til Dawn, and Fighters with Courage and Power.

Faculty Spotlight

Our faculty spotlight for this edition of the *Chronicle* highlights the achievements of Gregg Etter. Dr. Etter spoke to the Warrensburg chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DARS) on October 10. Dr. Etter spoke to the chapter about the types of scams and frauds that lead to identity theft and how you can help prevent it. Dr. Etter has been asked to perform other lectures for gang research, officer safety, and drug information. He currently teaches classes such as Policing a Democratic Society, Police Organization and Management, and Administration. Dr. Etter has previously taught Organized Crime and Hate Crimes.



Student Awards and Honors



Seth Meek was recently awarded the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS) Scholarship. The ASIS Scholarship is awarded annually to students who are interested in the security profession and have made a contribution to the field of

business security. Students that are eligible for the ASIS Scholarship have to have a minimum grade point average of 3.0/4.0 scale. Students must also submit an 800-1200 word paper on the topic of security or a similar criminal justice topic.



Two criminal justice students were chosen to attend the West Point Ethics Conference in October at the United States Military Academy at West Point in New York. This year there were four spots given to UCM to fill with deserving students, and two of the four students selected were criminal justice majors.

Timasha Haliburton and Nick McDaniels are two students who set themselves apart from the rest of those being considered by their extensive leadership roles and academic success within the UCM community. Timasha currently serves as Historian for the LAE chapter, and she created the first alumni E-newsletter for LAE, entitled *LAE Monthly*. Timasha was also selected for the McNair Scholars program.

In addition to being an active member of LAE, Nick McDaniels is a Community Advisor for the University Conference Center “CJ Ship” floor, which is comprised entirely of criminal justice students. His leadership skills extend beyond the classroom and dormitory and into the lives of potential students. Nick participated in a student panel discussion for visiting high school seniors and their parents, where he discussed the benefits and rewards of choosing UCM’s criminal justice program.

Alumni News



Alumnus Josh Pennel, son of Roger and the late Deneise Pennel of Warrensburg, was awarded the Robert I. Jaquith Law Scholarship Award. The Jaquith Law Scholarship is awarded annually to select students who have been admitted to an American Bar Association approved law school. Eligible students must be committed to obtaining a law degree and must possess excellent character qualities.

Josh is enrolled at the University of Buffalo School of Law in New York. This past summer, Josh worked as an intern with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of New York in Buffalo. Last year, he was one of three first-year law students selected as a "Dean's Buffalo Public Interest Law Program Fellow." He also serves on the Law Review.

Josh earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in criminal justice here at UCM, in 2001 and 2008, respectively. Josh graduated with a 4.0 grade point average and was presented the Graduate Student Achievement Award by the criminal justice department.



Alumnus Mark James was honored with an honorary doctorate degree from UCM. President Aaron Podolefsky presented the honorary degree to Mark during the commencement ceremony on December 13th. Mark is currently the Director of the Missouri Department of Public Safety with over 29 years of experience. For nine years, he worked with the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) before starting a 20-year tenure with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). He was in charge of the ATF Bureau for the Kansas City Division, which encompassed a four-state area: Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa. He has been responsible for overhauling ATF's intelligence function and designing the MSHP's first criminal intelligence unit.

Mark graduated from UCM in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration and he earned a master's degree in strategic intelligence from the National Defense Intelligence College of the Department of Defense.

Faculty and Staff News



Dr. Langston Retires

The CJ Department sadly announces the retirement of Dr. Dennis Langston. Dr. Langston has been teaching in the criminal justice department at UCM since 1978. He graduated with his Bachelor's degree from

Southwest Missouri State University (now currently Missouri State University). He obtained his Master's degree from the University of Central Missouri and later on an Education Specialist Degree. In 1985, he graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with his doctorate. Dr. Langston a probation officer in the state of Missouri from 1973-1974 and 1975-1978. From 1974-1975, Dr. Langston worked for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, Juvenile Division. He became an instructor for the criminal justice department in 1978. Dr. Langston was honored in a retirement reception held on November 24th at Heroes Restaurant. We will miss you!

Upcoming Events

January – American Correctional Association conference, Kissimmee, Florida

March – ACJS annual conference, Boston, Massachusetts

April – Lambda Alpha Epsilon national conference, Jacksonville, Florida

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