DEPARTMENT OF
CRIMINOLOGY &
CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Faculty Accomplishments
March 2017 – May 2017

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Below is a summary of the recent accomplishments of faculty from the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice. If you would like more information, please visit us at go.pdx.edu/ccj. Please note, the original order of authorship may not be reflected in the citations provided below. Current and former CCJ students are indicated with an asterisk.

**Danielle McGurrin**, CUPA Online Course Development Grant (Awarded Summer 2016; Workshop Activities to be Performed Fall 2016/Winter 2017), March workshop.

As part of the Dean’s Office initiative to bring innovation to online courses, Dr. McGurrin was awarded one of the CUPA Online Course Development grants during summer 2016. This grant requires the development of a new online course or the revision of an existing one. Six workshops led by OAI staff are required throughout the 2016-2017 academic year. March was the fourth workshop installment with the major topical focus on different university software programs designed to augment specific course components.

**Kelsey Henderson** co-presented with Lora Levett at the American Psychology-Law Society (APLS) Conference in Seattle, WA on March 17, 2017. She was invited to do a poster presentation as the 3rd place winner of the APLS Dissertation Award. *Investigating Predictors of True and False Guilty Pleas.* Dr. Henderson and her co-presenter showcased findings from her dissertation exploring the effect of attorney recommendations on true and false guilty pleas. They found that an advocate’s recommendation significantly affected innocent (but not guilty) individuals’ plea decisions.

**Ryan Labrecque** co-presented with Heidi Scherer and James T. McCafferty at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) Annual Meeting in Kansas City, MO on March 23, 2017. *Reducing Violence in Corrections Institutions: Revalidation.* Jail and prison administrators are responsible for ensuring institutional safety and order. Estimates indicate violence in correctional institutions is pervasive. One promising approach to reduce institutional violence is using a risk assessment to predict the likelihood of victimization. Once corrections officials identify high victimization risk offenders, authorities can take steps to triage services to mitigate such risks. This strategy; however, requires that a classification instrument is both available and predictively valid. This study reassesses the predictive validity of the Inmate Risk Assessment for Violent, Nonsexual Victimization (RVNSV) on a sample of 2,054 adult inmates from 12 state prison systems.

**Christopher Campbell, Ryan Labrecque, Megan Mohler** and **Molly Christmann** co-presented at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) Annual Meeting in Kansas City, MO on March 23, 2017. *Comparisons in Parole Supervision: Assessing Gendered Responses to Technical Violation Sanctions.* Community corrections agencies have long struggled to determine how best to respond to rule violators. Recent studies have indicated a weak relationship between technical violations and recidivism alongside the continued emphasis of other correctional research to focus on addressing criminogenic needs. Simultaneously, differences between genders regarding needs,
rehabilitation, and supervision remains an area of debate. To date, there have been few investigations of the importance of gender in supervision violations and sanctions. This study addresses this gap by examining violations and sanctions among a sample of parolees, and investigating if male and female violators respond differently.


**Misinterpreting Danger? Stereotype Threat, Pre-attack Indicators, and Police-Citizen Interactions.** This paper compares police trainings and materials on pre-attack indicators in police-citizen interactions with similar behavioral indicators of stereotype threat, which is not necessarily a sign of danger. Stereotype threat is a social identity threat in which individuals feel that they may be judged or treated negatively based on a social group stereotype (Steele 1997). This psychological threat can increase the target’s anxiety, physiological arousal, and decrease cognitive capacity. We hypothesize that symptoms of stereotype threat might be similar to pre-attack indicators being taught to police in the USA, which can lead police to potentially misinterpret a citizen’s actions. Results found significant overlap between danger indicators taught in trainings and stereotype threat indicators. The authors argue that stereotype threat should be taught in addition to relevant indicators of danger in trainings, lest officers misinterpret citizens’ stereotype threat-related behaviors solely as manifestations of imminent danger.

Ryan Labrecque co-presented with Ryan Motz and Paula Smith at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) Annual Meeting in Kansas City, MO on March 24, 2017.

**The Effect of Gang Affiliation on Post-Solitary Confinement Institutional Misconduct.** It is well known that gang members engage in a disproportionate amount of violent behavior in prison. In response, corrections officials often place inmates with known or suspected gang affiliations in solitary confinement settings. Although there is some evidence to suggest that this tactic may improve system-wide order, this finding is largely limited to studies employing weak research designs. This study, therefore, fills a significant gap in knowledge by examining the effect that gang-affiliation has on post-solitary confinement institutional misconduct. The research and policy implications of the study’s findings will be discussed.


**Reinvesting in the Lives of Youth: A Targeted Approach to Reducing Recidivism.** Justice reinvestment strategies have been proposed to allow financial resources originally allocated for imprisonment to be reinvested into community-based alternatives. According to this perspective, the government has the responsibility to fund strategies that reduce crime, and previous studies have questioned the effectiveness of prison as one solution. Furthermore, empirical support for community-based alternatives underscores the importance of delivering interventions in offenders’ natural environments. This study explores one state’s attempt to fund strategies that reduce crime and delinquency. Through the Targeted Reasoned and Equitable Community and Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of Minors (RECLAIM) initiative, the State of Ohio attempted to reduce the risk of
recidivism by serving more youth locally, instead of in secure facilities in the six most populous counties throughout the state. Specifically, the findings suggest that the Targeted RECLAIM initiative was successful in reducing the risk of recidivism of participating youth.

**Kris Henning** spoke with KATU News about safety on college campuses.


**Kelsey Henderson** was awarded a Hatfield School of Government Public Service Grant in March 2017. *Plea Decision Making: The Role of Attorney Credibility, Trustworthiness, and Moderating Effects of Gender.* This project will explore the role of source credibility mechanisms (i.e. trustworthiness and perceived credibility of the attorney) and extra-legal variables (i.e. gender of the attorney) on defendants’ willingness to follow an attorney’s plea recommendations.

**Mauri Matsuda** was awarded a Hatfield School of Government Public Service Grant in March 2017. *Incarceration and its Effects on Families, Children, and Communities.* For this project Dr. Matsuda will be writing several papers based on longitudinal data from the Rochester Youth Development and Intergenerational Studies.

**Brian Renauer** conducted an audit for TriMet in 2016. The results of his audit were described in-depth in an article on InvestigateWest’s website on April 5, 2017. Unequal Justice is a joint project of InvestigateWest and the Pamplin Media Group, made possible in part by a grant from the Fund for Investigative Journalism.

The finding, that black riders caught without a ticket on a MAX train are significantly more likely to be banned from TriMet than whites and other groups, was statistically significant but too small to indicate systemic disparity in the transit agency’s fare enforcement practices. TriMet hired Dr. Renauer to conduct the audit as part of a broader review. Read the full article here: [http://invw.org/2017/04/05/black-riders-face-stiffest-transit-penalty/](http://invw.org/2017/04/05/black-riders-face-stiffest-transit-penalty/)

**Kris Henning** gave a presentation to the Multnomah County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council Executive Committee in April, 2017.

*Introduction to Risk Assessment for Criminal Justice Administrators.* Provided a brief overview of what forensic risk assessment is, how it is being done in the criminal justice system, and how it could be improved through the use of actuarial and structured risk assessment scales. Described how actuarial scales are developed and validated and then discussed how they should be used by criminal justice agencies.
Mark Leymon (Harmon), co-resented with Breanna Boppre at Pacific Sociological Association 2017 Conference in Portland, OR, that took place April 6th-9th, 2017.

The New Imprisonment Race: Explaining the Rise in Imprisonment of Women of Color from 1982-2015. Since 1972, U.S. female imprisonment rose twice as fast as male imprisonment with increased disparities between White females and Women of Color. Such disparities are particularly stark for drug crimes, in which Black and Latina women are increasingly imprisoned for. This paper examines the relationship between the War on Crime and the pronounced rise in Black female imprisonment. An analysis of data covering 40 states from 1983-2008 indicates that while women are less likely than men to be incarcerated, nonviolent offenses, particularly drug crimes, are increasingly driving the growth in female imprisonment and growing the disparity in female imprisonment.

Ryan Labrecque, Jay Kennedy (Michigan State University), Jeremy Wilson (Michigan State University). Journal article in Global Crime (Published April 14, 2017).

Towards a more proactive approach to brand protection: Development of the Organisational Risk Assessment for Product Counterfeiting (ORAPC). This article develops an initial proactive product counterfeiting risk assessment that is designed to focus upon a specific product’s risk for being counterfeited. The goal of developing this risk assessment is to help corporations identify the products that are most at risk for counterfeiting, thereby giving them the ability to focus their resources in the areas where the greatest opportunities for crime are present. This risk assessment is intended to serve as the first line of defence in a comprehensive and proactive brand owner strategy centred on identifying product-specific counterfeiting risk.

Greg Stewart* and co-authors from PSU’s Department of Psychology Kimberly Kahn, Jean McMahon, Joel Steele had a journal article published in Law and Human Behavior, April 2017 (Vol. 41, No. 2, 117–126).

How suspect race affects police use of force in an interaction over time. Although studies often find racial disparities in policing outcomes, less is known about how suspect race biases police interactions as they unfold. This study examines what is differentially occurring during police–suspect interactions for White, Black, and Latino suspects across time. Results demonstrated that Black and Latino suspects receive more force in the beginning stages of the interaction, whereas Whites escalated in level of force faster after initial levels. By breaking down police–suspect interactions into discrete sequences, the current study reveals a better understanding of when bias originates in police use of force and informs how to focus policing interventions.

Mark Leymon (Harmon) presented a report to the Oregon Supreme Court’s Council on Inclusion and Fairness (OSCCIF) chaired by Justice Richard Baldwin on April 17, 2017.

Unequal Justice. Mark Leymon consulted with the research partners on the analysis of over 8.4 million individual charges filed against Oregonians over the last decade. He worked principally with Kate Wilson in selecting an appropriate tool to highlight racial disparities in the system. Principally the researchers used of a percentage based Relative Rate Index that simultaneously takes into account both the overrepresentation of people of color and the underrepresentation of white Oregonians in the criminal justice system. Dr. Leymon assisted in identifying the crimes where disparities were the highest and assessing statistical likelihood that these disparities were random or could have been caused by other factors. He also worked with the research team to
independently verify the analysis of other researchers on the team and calculate and generate additional ways to display the racial disparities highlighted by the project.

**Ryan Labrecque** and co-authors Paula Smith and Lindsey Mueller from the University of Cincinnati had a book chapter published in *The Oxford Handbook of Prisons and Imprisonment* (April 2017) edited by John Wooldredge and Paula Smith.

*Employment and Vocation Programs in Prison.* Historically, work has played an important role in managing correctional populations and providing a means to reduce prisoner idleness. As correctional ideologies have shifted over time, the concept of working while incarcerated has taken on more of a rehabilitative approach. Several policies and correctional initiatives have been developed to integrate prison industry and employment services into correctional systems in an effort to address the poor employment histories and low job-related skills of offenders. Evaluations of these programs demonstrate that participation in prison industry and employment services can increase job prospects and lower the chances of recidivism. The effectiveness of prison-based employment programs vary, however, and is dependent upon the key components incorporated into their design. Despite the differences between programs, employment services offered in prison seem to be an effective approach to addressing employment deficits among offenders.

**Ryan Labrecque, Christopher Campbell, Jaycee Elliott*, Megan King*, Molly Christmann*, Kari Page*, John McVay and Katie Roller (both from Multnomah County Department of Community Justice).** Journal article accepted in *Corrections: Policy, Practice and Research.*

*An Examination of the Inter-Rater Reliability and Rater Accuracy of the Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI).* As part of this project, students were trained to administer the LS/CMI alongside newly hired probation officers. Students then coded several audio-recorded officer-offender interviews and their ratings were examined for reliability in scoring. This study finds an adequate to strong level of inter-rater reliability for the LS/CMI.

**Ryan Labrecque,** David Pyrooz (University of Colorado Boulder) and Bert Useem (Purdue) were awarded a grant from the Charles Koch Foundation.

*Understanding the use and effects of restrictive housing in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in the post-Ashker v. Governor of California era.* A mixed methods investigation on the use and effect of the restrictive housing step-down program used in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) prison system. This research project will involve a quantitative analysis of inmate and institutional data and a series of interviews with inmates and staff who are in various stages of the step-down program.

**Kelsey Henderson** gave an invited/guest lecture at Lewis and Clark College Law School in Portland, OR on April 17, 2017.

*Jury Decision-Making: An Overview.* The invited lecture provided an overview of jury decision-making and persuasion to second- and third-year law students.
Christopher Carey and Rebecca Bender gave a presentation to the Zidell Foundation in Portland, OR in April 2017.

*Child Trafficking in Oregon.* Along with international anti-trafficking advocate Rebecca Bender, Christopher Carey presented information on child trafficking in Oregon and paths to community intervention.

Danielle McGurrin, as a member of CUPA’s Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, participated in two companion workshops in April 2017: *Foundations of Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion* and *Socially Conscious Practices* hosted by Sally Eck (PSU School of Gender, Race, and Nations). Both workshops focused on evidence-based pedagogical practices designed to make teaching and learning a more mindful, intentional, collaborative, and effective experience for faculty and students alike.

Kelsey Henderson was awarded a Portland State University Faculty Development Project grant on May 12, 2017.

*Evaluating the Totality of Confession Evidence.* Confessions are one of the most damaging types of evidence in the courtroom (Kassin & Neumann, 1997). Confession evidence is a product of the interrogation, and the accuracy of a confession depends on the interrogation methods used and the content of that confession. In this project, Dr. Henderson plans to examine jurors’ abilities to examine the content of a confession as a product of a more or less reliable interrogation (traditional methods vs. best practices), thus investigating how jurors view the totality of confession evidence. The overall goal is to better understand how individuals make decisions and improve decision-making and detection rates within the system.

Alexandre Pomar* and Molly Harvis*, CCJ Masters students, presented a paper at the Symposium on Homelessness, hosted by the Hatfield Graduate Journal of Public Affairs on May 19, 2017. Conference proceedings were published in Vol 2:1 of the journal.

*Homeless or Criminal? A Criminology and Criminal Justice Analysis on Homelessness in Portland, Oregon.* This paper demonstrates the importance of studying homelessness, through the lens of criminology and criminal justice, to raise awareness on demographic disparities within the Portland homeless population in accord to criminal justice theory. This paper ultimately relies on existing literature to determine if “homeless” implies “criminal” and to what extent implicit bias by law enforcement officers lend to this stigma.


This two-part workshop provided an opportunity to expand and adjust a current course syllabus in consideration of the topics covered in the workshop. The first workshop was a wonderful opportunity to connect with faculty from across campus, including a number of faculty within CUPA, to discuss ways to improve current course structure to ensure a safe and inclusive environment is maintained. Dr. Wuschke left with a number of ideas that will be implemented in her teaching, both in-person and online.
Mark Leymon (Harmon) and Christopher Campbell were awarded a Portland State University Faculty Development Project grant in May 2017.

*Understanding How Racial Disparities Are Produced: A System-Wide Assessment of Multnomah County’s Criminal Justice System.* The change in the rates of imprisonment over the past 40 years are stark, increasing 550% since the mid-1970s. When taking into account the jail and probation/parole populations, there are nearly 1 in 100 Americans are under supervision of the criminal justice system (Tonry, 2009). Tragically, this has hit some people much harder than others, many of whom are disadvantaged economically, politically, or racially. This project is designed to determine when and where certain decision points of justice officials negatively influence racial disparities in the criminal justice system in Multnomah County. The study consists of a longitudinal system-wide assessment of the county’s criminal justice contacts from arrest through reentry. Using the research team’s current partnership with the county, the specified data will first be collected on each possible decision point. Dr. Leymon and Dr. Campbell will then identify which points experience an increase in racial disparities (i.e., flashpoints) weighted by offense type followed by identifying flashpoints that may cause an increase downstream in the system. This will essentially identify which points are acting as a catalyst to increase disproportionate contact at later points in the system. Dr. Leymon and Dr. Campbell envision submitting a series of larger, national grant proposals (e.g., NSF, NIJ, BJA) based on what will be completed here.

Kris Henning and Greg Stewart* completed a research report for the Bend Police Department in May 2017.

*Community Attitudes Regarding Public Safety in Bend, Oregon.* The survey was conducted to help the Bend Police Department assess how they were doing as an organization and how they can improve their relationship with the community. The survey identified issues that the Bend community wanted Bend PD to work on and gathered insight into how the community would like them to address those issues.

Debra Lindberg and Christopher Campbell were honored in the CUPA Outstanding Teacher of 2016/17 Awards. A 25-student Awards Committee reviewed the original nominations and shared their own experiences with each nominee. Dr. Lindberg won Outstanding Teacher for Criminology and Criminal Justice, and Dr. Campbell was declared the runner-up. Both received praise for their work teaching, advising, and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students.

Brian Renauer conducted an audit for TriMet in 2016. The results of his audit were mentioned in *The Vanguard* on May 29, 2017.

The finding, that black riders caught without a ticket on a MAX train are significantly more likely to be banned from TriMet than whites and other groups, was statistically significant but too small to indicate systemic disparity in the transit agency’s fare enforcement practices. TriMet hired Dr. Renauer to conduct the audit as part of a broader review. Read the full article here: [http://psuvanguard.com/communities-of-color-question-trimet-priorities/](http://psuvanguard.com/communities-of-color-question-trimet-priorities/)
Kathryn Wuschke, Kris Henning, and Greg Stewart* were awarded a CUPA Faculty Enhancement Grant for their research on crime mapping.

Accountability and transparency play an important role in fostering public trust in police agencies. At present, a renewed effort to build trust between police and communities coincides with greater data availability; as a result, police agencies are providing the public with better access to up-to-date crime information. Crime maps often facilitate this public access to police activities. Maps are typically easy to understand, and provide spatial reference to contextualize crime data. However, along with availability comes debate regarding the appropriate level of detail of such maps, with specific concern for victim privacy. With address-level precision, dot maps provide the public with detailed crime information, but lack a consistent method to respect the anonymity and security of victims. In contrast, hotspot maps anonymize individual data by aggregating nearby event locations, but lack a standard development procedure, resulting in considerable variation in the appearance, clarity and accuracy of the output. Further, there is a lack of research exploring how public viewers interpret either type of map. This multiphase study explores methods for public crime mapping by investigating user interpretations of different map styles; measuring the tradeoff between access, accuracy and privacy in crime maps; and developing guidelines to balance these conflicting needs.
FULL-TIME FACULTY TEACHING & RESEARCH AREAS

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Kelsey Henderson, Ph.D., Criminology, Law, & Society
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Police-community relations, fear of crime, police legitimacy, survey research

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Spatial patterns of crime, GIS mapping, crime prevention through environmental design, land use planning
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CCJ)

The Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice (CCJ) emphasizes the generation and practical application of empirical evidence to crime and justice issues. We seek to promote effectiveness, efficiency, and equity in crime prevention and control efforts by (1) providing students with quality educational experiences that prepare them for lifelong professional success, (2) conducting and disseminating research on theoretical and policy-relevant topics, and (3) collaborating with justice-related organizations to assess, evaluate, and improve policy and practice. Our Department values empirical inquiry, access to higher education, diversity, social justice, and community engagement. We offer degrees at the undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, and graduate level. Please visit us at go.pdx.edu/ccj for more information.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (CJPRI)

CJPRI is housed within the CCJ department. The institute strives to promote informed decision-making on the complex issues related to crime prevention, crime control, and the criminal justice process. Its goal is to provide policymakers and the public with research and empirical guidance that is objective, practical, rigorous, and evidence- and theory-based to advance efficient, effective, and equitable policy and practice in the field of criminal justice. Faculty from the CCJ Department at Portland State University comprise the core research expertise of CJPRI.