CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Faculty Accomplishments
September – November 2016

To learn more:
Criminology & Criminal Justice
PO Box 751, Portland, OR 97207-0751
506 SW Mill Street, Portland, OR 97201
503 725-4014 ccj@pdx.edu
http://www.pdx.edu/hatfieldschool/criminology-criminal-justice
Kris Henning co-presented with Sergeant Greg Stewart*, PPB, at the 2016 Bureau of Justice Assistance Smart Suite Summit in Crystal City, VA on September 8th, 2016.

*Development and Use of Actuarial Scales for Prioritizing Police Resources:* Law enforcement agencies have recently been encouraged to expand their focus on high-risk offenders (Ratcliffe, 2008). This includes focused deterrence interventions that increase the actual or perceived odds of getting caught for criminal behavior (Braga & Weisburd, 2011). Whereas corrections and the courts have devoted significant attention to the development of reliable and accurate risk assessment scales, most law enforcement decisions pertaining to “risk” remain subjective. This is concerning given that research consistently finds actuarial risk assessments are more reliable and accurate (Grove & Meehl, 1996). This workshop reviewed the research on risk assessments and covered the basic steps used to create and validate actuarial measures. Examples of automated risk assessment scales used in law enforcement were provided.

Christopher Campbell presented to the Oregon Public Defender Services Commission on September 22 and to the Oregon State Legislature on September 23.

*Perceptions of Procedural Justice:* Perceptions about procedural justice influence compliance with court orders and client satisfaction. This presentation addressed how procedural justice also relates to the work of public defenders.

Kris Henning was an invited participant at the U.S. Department of Justice's Violence Reduction Network Summit in Little Rock, Arkansas, on September 26th. He co-facilitated a meeting with Elizabeth Groff from Temple University.

*Informing Violence Reduction Efforts With Community Input:* When residents perceive that law enforcement operations focus on the more obvious disorder crimes while violent offenders are left undisturbed and free to reoffend, it undermines police legitimacy, encourages a sense of impunity among offenders, and leaves communities in fear and disrepair. Using community survey data helps agencies break down this belief barrier and conduct violence prevention activities that
are most likely to receive resident support and involvement. This session addressed the mechanics of community surveys and the importance of the data they produce in engaging resident participation in neighborhood crime control initiatives.

**October 2016**

**Kelsey Henderson** was an invited attendee and poster presenter at the Research Coordination Network on Understanding Guilty Pleas Concluding Conference on October 13-14, 2016, at the Virginia Tech Executive Briefing Center. She co-presented with Lora M. Levett from University of Florida.

*Investigating Predictors of True and False Guilty Pleas: An estimated 90-95% of convictions are obtained via guilty pleas; roughly 10% of individuals exonerated with the help of the Innocence Project falsely plead guilty ([innocenceproject.org](http://innocenceproject.org)). In this study, we examined guilty pleas by investigating factors that affected whether guilty and innocent students who were accused of cheating pled guilty or took their case before the Student Conduct Committee (analogous to a trial). Using social psychological literature on social influence to drive the research (Cialdini & Goldstein, 2004), we focused on two legally and theoretically relevant factors: the attorney's presence and recommendation and the guilt of the defendant. Advocate recommendation significantly affected innocent (but not guilty) participants’ decisions. Innocent participants pressured to go to trial were less likely to falsely plead guilty (4%) compared to those without an advocate (35%), given educational advice (47%), or pressured to plea (58%). Henderson, K.S. & Levett, L.M.*

**Christopher Campbell and Ryan Labrecque** were awarded a grant from the National Institute of Justice. The grant will fund Ryan and Chris’ exploration of different methodological strategies for creating comparison groups in quasi-experimental studies.

Under ideal circumstances, researchers evaluating criminal justice programs use random assignment to create treatment and control conditions. Random assignment is not always possible, however, so researchers often use other strategies to create a comparison group (hence the qualifier “quasi” in front of “experimental”). Chris and Ryan will test five of these strategies using ten datasets archived at the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data. Their findings will help guide future evaluations of criminal justice programs.
Christopher Carey’s students were invited to sit in as part of a live studio audience for KGW's Governor Debate on October 20th.

Gov. Kate Brown and Republican challenger Dr. Bud Pierce addressed issues ranging from homelessness to education. Professor Carey serves as debate consultant and the official timekeeper for KGW.

Ryan Labrecque and Dr. Paula Smith (University of Cincinnati) were awarded a 2016 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Encouraging Innovation Grant.

Evaluating a Cognitive-Behavioral Program for Inmates in Administrative Segregation: The Encouraging Innovation: Field-Initiated (FI) Program is funded under the Edward Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation program and a carve out from the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program that is aimed at combating extraordinary or precipitous increases in crime. The FI Program furthers the Department’s mission by trying new approaches, addressing gaps in responses, building or translating research knowledge, or building capacity to address the issues that bring fresh perspectives and ideas to enhance practices and prevent crime in the field. The University of Cincinnati will utilize grant funds for a research project that will be undertaken in two stages and occur in two state department of corrections systems: Oregon and North Dakota. The first stage will involve the development and implementation of an assessment and treatment protocol to reduce placements in Administrative Segregation (AS) and institutional misconduct. In addition, inmates housed in AS will participate in correctional rehabilitation services to enhance institutional adjustment and facilitate the transition to general population (i.e., primary intervention). This treatment protocol will include an incentive-based program comprised of a combination of applied behavior analysis (ABA), individual counseling and interactive journaling, group interventions, and re-entry services. This project addresses a critical issue facing many jail and prison systems today. The findings of this study will provide useful information for correctional agencies seeking to reduce their segregated inmate population.

Christopher Campbell presented to the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association on October 27.

Perceptions of Procedural Justice: how those perceptions influence compliance and things like client satisfaction or compliance with the courts, and how all of this information relates to public defenders.
Christopher Carey presented to the Multnomah County CSEC Steering Committee meeting on October 28th.

Upcoming research on Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) and the foster care system.

Danielle McGurrin represented CCJ at the University's Preview Day Orientation on Saturday, October 29.

Preview Day is an event hosted by the Office of Admissions for high school seniors and their guests. After brief introductions by CUPA advising, Dr. McGurrin spoke with students and their parents including an informal Q&A on the following topics: CCJ campus and online degree programs; similarities and distinctions between criminology and criminal justice; myths about crime and justice; faculty areas of expertise/interest; CCJ courses; internships opportunities; campus and community resources; and careers in criminology and criminal justice.

Mauri Matsuda was part of a team whose paper was accepted by Drug and Alcohol Dependence, v 169, 1 Dec 2016, pp 85-91.

Towards greater understanding of addiction stigma: Intersectionality with race/ethnicity and gender: In spite of the significant burden associated with substance use disorders, especially among persons who inject drugs (PWIDs), most affected individuals do not engage with any type of formal or informal treatment. Addiction stigma, which is represented by negative social attitudes toward individuals who use alcohol and/or other drugs, is one of the barriers to care that is poorly understood. The current study: a) assessed implicit (indirect and difficult to consciously control) and explicit (consciously controlled) beliefs about PWIDs among visitors to a public web site; and b) experimentally investigated the effects of ethnicity/race and gender on those implicit and explicit beliefs.

November 2016

Christopher Campbell, Zachary Hamilton, Ruibin Lu presented to the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 16-19, in New Orleans.

Diagnosing Dosage: Diminishing Marginal Returns of Community Supervision: With strained budgets, correctional agencies are increasingly forced to be more efficient with limited resources in community supervision. As the decarceration movement gains
political traction and conditionally released populations continue to rise, the question of efficiency in community supervision becomes all the more pertinent and dire. Equating efficiency to conceptions of dosage (supervision duration and intensity), the purpose of this study is to investigate a point of diminishing returns when community supervision may be reduced and ultimately terminated, and how such returns are gauged by way of community supervision outcomes. Using a large purposive sample of Washington State felony offenders, we will employ a diminishing marginal returns approach coupled with propensity score modeling to investigate the issue of supervision dosage and its relationship to technical violations and recidivism. The findings hold the potential to provide not only a way to systematically identify appropriate supervision intensity based on offender risk and need, but may also suggest when supervision may no longer be effective at reducing such outcomes. Implications for decisions regarding supervision intensity and duration are discussed in the context of evidence-based practices.

Mark G. Harmon (Leymon) & Breanna Boppre* presented to the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 16-19, in New Orleans.

Criminal Justice Policy & Institutionalized Racial/Ethnic Discrimination: Incarceration rates in the United States have increased by over 500% during the last 40 years. While this rise in imprisonment has impacted both men and women, as well as all racial groups, some subgroups have experienced higher burdens of this rise than other. Crime rates alone represent a relatively modest portion of the explanation in the rise. Some scholars contend the increase is likely due to changes in the policies and practices of the "War on Crime" movement. These policies included a series of state-level sentencing reforms that focused on limiting judicial discretion, creating uniformity within similarly situated crimes, increasing length of time-served and/or reducing discretionary parole decisions. Our paper explores the interconnection between rising racial disparities in both male and female imprisonment and the adoption of sentencing reforms. The results of prior research have been far from conclusive on the impacts of these reforms, suggesting that a nuanced exploration is needed. We will specifically assess the impact of sentencing guidelines (both voluntary and presumptive) and determinate sentencing as well as truth in sentencing and three strikes laws at the state-level and over time (1970s to early 2010s).
Motivations for Plea Decisions: An estimated 90-95% of convictions are obtained via guilty pleas (Cohen & Reaves, 2006); roughly 10% of individuals exonerated with the help of the Innocence Project falsely pled guilty (innocenceproject.org). Little scholarship has examined what influences whether a defendant will plead guilty (Redlich, 2010). Self-reports from offenders suggest protecting another individual, pressure from legal actors, and a lack of options as possible motivations for false guilty pleas (Redlich, Summers, & Hoover, 2010); instrumental reasons (e.g., lessen the punishment, avoid a more serious consequence) are a possible key motivation for true and false guilty pleas (Malloy, Shulman, & Cauffman, 2014). In this study, we examined if guilty and innocent students who were accused of cheating pled guilty or took their case before the Student Conduct Committee (analogous to a trial), and if an advocate’s advice influenced their decision. Participants were asked questions regarding their motivations for taking their case to trial or accepting a plea. Thus, we examined motivations for plea decisions for both innocent and guilty individuals using quantitative and qualitative methods. Implications for defense attorney influence, plea-bargaining, and wrongful conviction were discussed.

When Focusing Deterrence Fails: Examining Differences of Deterrence Effects Among Offender Types: Though empirically shown to “work” to reduce recidivism among different settings and populations, focused deterrence strategies in community corrections also have substantial evidence of negative cases—those not effectively deterred. In spite of their popularity, the extent to which and reasons why such focused deterrence strategies work to reduce reoffending is still somewhat of a mystery. From contextual expectations of deterrence and rational choice theories, the purpose of this paper is to examine these negative cases to explicate possible reasons as to why an intervention failed in some situations but was effective in others. Using data from Washington State’s Swift-and-Certain policy for community supervision, we provided a statistical exploration of offender types based on criminogenic needs information. Furthermore, we borrowed insights from mechanistic criminology (Proctor and Niemeyer, forthcoming) to
identify how neurological, psychological, and social mechanisms operating outside of the normal scope conditions of deterrence theory potentially explain the presence of negative cases within the study. We then discussed the relevance of these mechanisms for public policies pertaining to recidivism.

**Ryan Labrecque** contributed a chapter to the National Institute of Justice’s volume of research.

*The Use of Administrative Segregation and Its Function in the Institutional Setting, National Institute of Justice (Book Chapter):* Restrictive housing is a common practice in corrections and is one of the more extreme measures of confinement available to prison and jail officials. Although this practice, commonly referred to as administrative segregation or solitary confinement, is widely used, the long-term effects and effectiveness of this practice are relatively unknown. To address these shortcomings, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has produced a volume of research that represents the most comprehensive review to date of emerging issues and concerns surrounding restrictive housing. This volume is a precursor to further research and evaluation efforts sponsored by the NIJ and partnering agencies. Dr. Labrecque examined the use of administrative segregation and its function within the institutional setting.

**Kelsey Henderson** and Dainius Simpkins presented a poster to the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 16-19, in New Orleans.

*Active Versus Passive Approaches to Whistleblowing:* Whistleblowing – the act of notifying an authority figure of another individual’s misconduct – speaks to incidents that can be found across the justice system. Past research suggests individuals are willing to accept inappropriate information (Miceli, Dozier & Near, 1991; Brocchiaro, Zimbardo, & Van Lange, 2011), and are more likely to report they would blow the whistle compared to the percent of individuals who actually do report misconduct (Brocchiaro et al., 2011). In this study, we manipulated whether participants were presented with inappropriate test information (present versus absent) from a junior experimenter and the type of opportunity participants had to report the misconduct to a senior-level experimenter (active versus passive questioning). We found that type of questioning moderately affected participants’ willingness to report misconduct; participants actively questioned were more likely to report misconduct (M = 0.50) compared to those passively questioned (M = 0.33). This study has
implications for interactions within the criminal justice system, specifically hierarchical relationships.


Outcomes from Portland’s Field Experiment with Directed Community Engagement Patrols: While much has been learned over the past decade about policing in crime “hot spots”, many practical and theoretical questions remain. This includes identifying efficient methods for directing supplemental police resources to targeted areas and ensuring treatment fidelity, determining the patrol dosage necessary to achieve crime reductions, evaluating the impact of different actions officers take once they arrive, and assessing community reactions to the increased presence of police in these locations. The current panel presented quantitative findings from Portland, Oregon’s recent randomized field experiment, known locally as the Neighborhood Involvement Locations (Ni-Loc) program. Ninety high crime areas were randomly assigned to receive none, two, or four supplemental patrols over a three-month period. Officers were encouraged to have non-investigative contact with the public in an effort to improve police-community relations. More than 15,000 patrols were pre-programmed into the agency’s computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system for the study. Session papers addressed the impact of patrol frequency on crime and calls for service, changes in officers’ behaviors (i.e., did traffic stops decrease and community engagement increase?), community attitudes towards the police in treatment versus control sites, and the degree of compliance achieved among patrol officers by using the CAD system.


Does Dosage Matter? The Effects of Two Versus Four Daily Police Patrol Visits to Crime Hot Spots: A growing body of literature finds that crime is heavily concentrated in small geographic “hot spots” and that directing supplemental police resources to these locations reduces crime (Braga, Papachristos, & Hureau 2012). While these findings have led to the rapid adoption of “hot spot policing” around the country, many questions remain regarding the optimal approach to implementing and sustaining this strategy outside the context of
a formal research study (e.g., Sherman, et.al., 2014). One of the most practical considerations is frequency: how often should the police visit these high crime areas? The current study represents the first known effort to evaluate the impact of patrol frequency using experimental methods.


*Treatment Fidelity in Directed Patrol Experiments: Potential Benefits of Using Computer Aided Dispatch:* Treatment fidelity, the extent to which interventions undergoing evaluation are delivered as intended, is a growing concern in the social sciences (Gearing, et al., 2011). Studies may fail to observe the true effects for an intervention if it is poorly implemented. Likewise, program outcomes may be difficult to replicate across different sites if there is undocumented variation in how the program was initially implemented. While the importance of fidelity has been noted by policing researchers studying patrol strategies (e.g., Weisburd, 2005), gaining full compliance of street officers remains a challenge and standard approaches to monitoring treatment adherence are time-intensive (i.e., covert observation, ride-alongs). This presentation reviewed the use of computer aided dispatch (CAD) in Portland, Oregon during a field experiment on policing in hot spots. Officers were randomly assigned to patrol high crime areas two or four times per day and these visits were pre-programmed as CAD calls. Measures of compliance with the CAD protocol were presented along with cross validation data from Automated Vehicle Locators (AVL) in patrol vehicles. Implications for treatment fidelity in future studies on directed patrol were discussed.

**Laura J. Hickman & Jennifer S. Wong** presented to the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 16-19, in New Orleans.

*An Assessment of Removable Alien Recidivism Following Removal From the United States By Federal Immigration* In July 2015, the killing of a San Francisco woman spurred a heated national debate about “sanctuary” jurisdictions that do not cooperate with federal immigration authorities seeking to take custody of specific removable aliens in local criminal justice custody. (Removable alien is the proper technical term for the group commonly referred to as “illegal immigrants” in popular vernacular.) Those opposing local sanctuary policies assert that if criminally-involved removable aliens were
transferred from local jails to federal immigration custody for removal from the country, future crimes by these individuals would be averted. This zero-recidivism assumption may seem reasonable, but it has not been tested empirically. The present study will test this hypothesis by analyzing the recidivism patterns of 679 male removable aliens taken into federal immigration custody directly from the Los Angeles County Jail over a 30-day period in 2002. Recidivism is defined as rearrests within California by local law enforcement on non-immigration related charges. The study will describe the immigration custody outcomes for this group (e.g. removal from the United States versus other) and analyze the recidivism patterns of the sample over a nine-year follow-up period, comparing repeat arrests of those removed from the country versus those who were not.

**Ryan M. Labrecque** presented a paper to the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 16-19, in New Orleans.

*Assessing for Racial Disparity in the Use and Effects of Disciplinary Segregation: A Propensity Score Matching Analysis* There are many indicators of racial disparity found throughout the criminal justice system in the United States. The existence of such disparity challenges the core values upon which our nation’s criminal justice system lies. A commitment to the pursuit of justice, fairness, and public safety compel justice officials to address disparate treatment when and where it exists. Recently, the use of restrictive housing in prison—often referred to as solitary confinement—has received an increase in national attention with one of its criticisms being that these settings house a disproportionate amount of minority inmates. Unfortunately, there are few empirical evaluations available that have examined the differential effects of race in segregation settings.

**Mauri Matsuda** presented to the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 16-19, in New Orleans.

*Intergenerational effects of parent substance use on children's problem behaviors:* The presentation included preliminary analyses investigating the effects of parent substance and alcohol use on children's development of problem behaviors.

Can Directed Patrol With a Focus on Community Engagement Reduce “Backfire” Effects and Increase Equity? A key concern for evidence-based policing practices is a potential “tradeoff” between effectiveness and equity (Engel & Eck, 2015; Renauer, 2012). Other scholars have noted a potential “backfire” effect of hot spots policing on community trust (Weisburd, Hinkle, Famega, Ready, 2011). These issues were explored in Portland's experimental study on directed patrols emphasizing community engagement.

Jason Jones was recognized during the Blazer’s home game against the Houston Rockets on November 27.

Jason was honored as a Hometown Hero for working with persons experiencing behavioral health crises, developing solutions in the houseless community, and engaging in other problem-solving efforts in Portland.


Effect of Portland’s Directed Patrol Intervention on Community Attitudes Toward the Police: This talk discussed the impact that Portland’s directed patrol intervention (Ni-Loc) had on community attitudes and perceptions about the police. The Ni-Loc intervention was a randomized field experiment executed in Portland, Oregon, in 2014 that was designed to increase positive attitudes toward police among residents and decrease crime.

Kathryn Wuschke, Valerie Spicer, Justin Song, presented to the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 16-19, in New Orleans.

Crime in the Built Urban Environment: Exploring the Impact of Road Networks and Land Use on Residential Burglary Patterns: For decades, environmental criminology theory has emphasized the connections between the built urban environment and criminal activity. The urban landscape determines both the origins and destinations of everyday journeys from home to work, school, shopping or entertainment areas, and it provides the pathways on which residents travel. As such, the built environment guides and limits the locations that offenders may search within in order to identify potential criminal opportunities. For these reasons, access and proximity to major roads, as well as key local activity nodes
such as shopping malls, transit stations and bars, have been frequently found to be an important indicator of local crime. Advancements in spatial data availability have allowed for further exploration of these connections at the micro-spatial scale. This research explores the micro-spatial concentrations of residential burglary within one Canadian municipality. The spatial distribution of residential burglary hotspots is explored in relation to the street network, as well as local crime attractors and generators. Findings emphasize that the concentrated nature of residential burglary can be explained in part by physical structure of the urban environment.

**Ryan Labrecque**, Robert Morgan, Paul Gendreau, Paula Smith, Andrew Gray, Nina MacLean, Stephanie Van Horn, Angelea Bolanos, Ashley Batastini, and Jeremy Mills, contributed a journal article.

*Quantitative syntheses of the effects of administrative segregation on inmates’ well-being published in Psychology, Public Policy, and Law (Journal Article):* There is a widely held belief that the use of administrative segregation (AS) produces debilitating psychological effects; however, there are also those who assert that AS is an effective strategy for reducing prison antisocial behavior and violence. Given these conflicting opinions it is not a surprise that the use of segregation in corrections has become a hotly debated and litigated issue. To clarify the competing perspectives, Dr. Labrecque and colleagues undertook two independent meta-analytic reviews to determine what effect AS has on inmate's physical and mental health functioning, as well as behavioral outcomes (e.g., recidivism). The findings of this study tentatively suggest that AS may to produce any more of an iatrogenic effect than routine incarceration.
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.

Criminal Justice Policy Research Institute (CJPRI) provides multidisciplinary research for criminal justice and community organizations throughout Oregon and nationally.

CJPRI strives to meet the research needs of its diverse clientele and improve the body of literature pertaining to criminology and criminal justice issues through independent research projects with a focus on both theory and practice. The researchers at CJPRI have a diverse set of interests and skills and welcome inquiries for collaboration on a wide range of research issues. CJPRI research projects have focused on urban crime and policing, public perceptions of crime and justice, rehabilitation and correctional best practices, domestic violence, and immigration and crime. Researchers working with CJPRI can provide a wide variety of methodological techniques to answer research questions including complex statistical analysis, database development, GIS mapping, survey research, literature reviews, process evaluations, and policy and program evaluation. CJPRI has also developed and supported training programs to address concerns over race/ethnic profiling in law enforcement.

If you would like to learn more about the Criminal Justice Policy Research Institute (CJPRI), please visit http://www.pdx.edu/cjpri/.

You can find information on the Portland Crime Data Project and the Crime Analysis Team which seeks to address gaps in public knowledge about crime in Portland through detailed analysis of temporal and geographic patterns in local crime at http://www.pdx.edu/crime-data/