



AP-LS Conference Update Crowne Plaza Riverwalk, San Antonio, Texas, March 5th – March 8th, 2009

The program schedule for the AP-LS conference is now set and available for electronic viewing at the main conference website (<http://www.ap-ls.org/conferences/apls2009/index.html>). Through the website, you can also register for the conference and pre-conference workshops, reserve your hotel room and read about special sessions that are planned for the conference. e once again have a full conference program with two and ½ days of concurrent symposia, paper sessions, two poster sessions and a number of excellent award presentations. While not an exhaustive list of all conference events, this article provides special highlights for the upcoming conference.

We would like to draw your attention to two changes in the conference program. While we are maintaining the traditional Friday and Saturday evening poster sessions, our conference space will allow posters to be displayed throughout the day for informal viewing prior to the evening poster session. All authors have been instructed to place their posters in the Fiesta Pavilion between 8:00am and 9:00am according to the poster session schedule. While not attending a concurrent session, we encourage attendees to browse through the posters throughout the day and also visit one of the numerous exhibitor booths which will also be located in the pavilion.

New this year, the conference chairs are hosting four special invited sessions on Friday March 6th and Saturday, March 7th. These special sessions highlight a range of topics and draw on prominent members of the division. The first invited session on Friday, March 6th, is “Miranda Rights and Wrongs: Emerging Opportunities for Forensic Psychology (presented by Dr. Richard Rogers). That same day, Dr. Thomas Grisso, Christopher Slobogin and Richard Bonnie will host a special panel discussion entitled “Making Sense of *Indiana v. Edwards*”. On Saturday, March 7th, Dr. Brian Bornstein will chair the “Psychology and Law Editorial Roundtable”. Later that day, Dr. Joel Dvoskin and Dr. Stanley will conduct an interactive seminar on “Expert Psychological Testimony in Court”. Full abstracts for these special invited sessions are available for review within the conference program which can be found on the conference website.

Pre-conference Workshops (Wednesday March 4th)

Several pre-conference continuing education workshops are being offered on Wednesday, March 4th. Members and non-members are encouraged to register for either one of the full day workshops or the ½ day workshops. The full day workshops include “Management-oriented Risk Assessment of Sexual Offenders using the Risk for Sexual Violence Protocol (RSVP) (presented by Dr. Stephen Hart), “Introduction to the MMPI-2-RF (Restructured Form) (presented by Dr. Yossef Ben-Porath), and “Use of the Structured Assessment of Violence in Youth (SAVRY) Risk Assessment Tool (presented by Dr. Patrick Bartel). Half day workshops include “Structural Equation Modeling with MPlus” (presented by Dr. Candice Odgers) and “Hierarchical Multilevel Modeling” (presented by Dr. Daniel Wright). More information about the workshops and presenters can be found using the on-line registration form (<http://www.ap-ls.org/conferences/apls2009/index.html>).

Special Plenary Sessions

The conference will open with a special plenary session “Neuroscience, Genetics, and the Law” starting at 12:00pm on Thursday, March 5th. Moderated by Dr.

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AP-LS News Editorial Staff

Editor-In-Chief

Jennifer Groscup, J.D., Ph.D.
jennifer.groscup@scrippscollege.edu

Production/Advertising Editor

Michele Galietta, Ph.D.
galietta13@aol.com

Past Editor-In-Chief

Barry Rosenfeld, Ph.D.
rosenfeld@fordham.edu

Associate Editor, Research Briefs

Marc Boccancini, Ph.D.
PSY_MTB@shsu.edu

Associate Editor, Legal Update

Jeremy Blumenthal, J.D., Ph.D.
jblument@law.syr.edu

Associate Editors, Expert Opinion

Matthew Huss, Ph.D, M.L.S.
mhuss@creighton.edu
Eric Elbogen, Ph.D.
eric.elbogen@duke.edu

Website Manager

Adam Fried, M.A.
webmaster@ap-ls.org

The American Psychology-Law Society News is a publication devoted to dissemination of information, news, and commentary about psychology, mental health, and the law. The newsletter is published three times per year; February, June, and October. Original contributions are welcome, and will be published subject to editorial approval and space availability. A limited amount of space is also available for advertising and unsolicited manuscripts.

For information regarding editorial policies contact the Editor, Jennifer Groscup, Department of Psychology, Scripps College, 1030 Columbia Ave. #4099, Claremont, CA 91711 or jennifer.groscup@scrippscollege.edu. Advertising inquiries should be directed to Michele Galietta, Production Editor, via e-mail: galietta13@aol.com.

Address changes for APA members should be directed to APA Membership Dept., 750 First St. NE, Washington, DC 20002-4242; for non-APA members, student members, or members-at-large to Kathy Gaskey, AP-LS Administrative Assistant at ap-ls@ec.rr.com.

Presidential Column

An Editorial by Saul Kassin, Div. 41 President

What a difference a few months can make. Shortly after the full weight of the economic downturn exposed itself, Barack Obama was elected, preaching hope and change. Like most people my age, I never thought I would see an African American president in my lifetime. Then without warning, and after decades of duplicity, former NASDAQ Chairman Bernard Madoff was arrested for running an elaborate multibillion dollar Ponzi scheme that has claimed thousands of individual and institutional victims. At about the same time, news broke in Beatrice Nebraska that six convicted felons to an old murder were DNA exonerated and pardoned—the most wrongful convictions ever produced in a single case. All these events draw and impact upon the work of AP-LS and its membership, so let's stop and reflect on what has happened and the implications.

To begin with, there is good reason to believe that the Justice Department headed by Attorney General Eric Holder will change course on a number of substantive matters. In 2002, State Senator Obama supported a bill to require the videotaping of interrogations in capital cases (the state of Illinois has presided over far too many DNA exonerations involving coerced false confessions). At first, the idea was opposed by police, prosecutors, most senators, and the governor. After extensive negotiations with all sides, however, Obama brokered a deal. Ultimately, police and prosecutors lifted their opposition to the bill, which passed in the Illinois Senate by a vote of 58-0 and was signed into law by no other than Governor Rod Blagojevich (a whole other story for a whole other column).

After the November election, Jeremy Travis, former Director of NIJ and now President of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, wrote an open letter to the American Society of Criminology (ASC) and other relevant associations in which he argued that the federal government should rethink its role in promoting research on matters of law and justice. Noting that the Departments of Educa-

tion and Agriculture and the EPA have all recently created research offices that are more professional and independent, Travis proposed that DOJ should follow these examples and form what he would call the Office of Justice Research. Historically, economic hard times have presaged increases in poverty rates, the commission of certain types of crimes, fears of crime, and urgent calls for law and order measures. For these reasons as well, I would agree that the time is ripe for a bold initiative such as this one. The ASC Board has voted unanimously to support this proposed new Office. President Travis' letter is reprinted in this *Newsletter*. Read it, think about it, and talk about it. AP-LS should weigh in—in my opinion, to support this proposed initiative.

Then there's Bernie Madoff. His scheme, mind boggling in its \$50 billion scope, has claimed more than 14,000 victims—including the now defunct JEHT Foundation (whose name stood for Justice, Equality, Human dignity, and Tolerance)—which in recent years had funded several programs to promote the reform of the criminal and civil justice systems. In some ways, the Madoff case is like a commercial advertisement for forensic psychology and the work we do. First, it shows that psychopathy comes packaged in all colors, shapes, and sizes. To quote my John Jay colleague Michelle Galietta, recently interviewed in *Time Magazine*, the narcissistic Madoff is something of a "white collar psychopath" who harms others not with physical violence but with his calloused and vicious indifference. Second, if I may bring a social psychological perspective to the table, it appears that the 70 year-old Madoff had first orchestrated his Ponzi scheme many years ago, setting himself into a gradually escalating trap from which he could not escape without punishment—even if he were, at some point, inclined to do so. Third, and perhaps most unnerving to Wall Streeters, this case tragically illustrates just how inept human beings are at deception detection. Madoff operated in a numbers-driven economy and serviced an elite group of clients motivated by high stakes. It didn't matter. Faithful to scientific re-

Continued on p. 4

Division 41 - American Psychological Association

Law and Human Behavior Updates:

Is it time to stop the presses?

Brian L. Cutler, Editor-in-Chief

About three years ago, in my former life as a department chair, my department was given the keys to most of the rooms on the floor below, allowing for substantial growth in our teaching and laboratory space. In order to make the most of this opportunity, I arranged for the relocation of about 12 faculty laboratories. Most of the faculty members affected by this room exchange had developed a habit of storing their journals in their labs. Rather than hauling these formidable stacks from the old to the new labs, one by one my colleagues emptied their shelves into recycling bins, casting off years of American Psychologists and numerous other APA journals. When I asked why they chose not to keep them, they said that they do not use their archives, rather, they found it faster and more convenient to retrieve e-copies of journal articles from the web than to find the hard copy on their shelves.

The convenience of electronic access and storage of LHB articles and journals leads me to question the future of the print version of our journal. AP-LS members receive full-text access to their journal through our publisher's web page, including all back issues. They likewise receive articles published in the Online First section of Springer's web page – about 35 articles (plus or minus) at any one time. By the time an article is published in the print journal, it has been in circulation for a year. Our newly signed contract with Springer allows for all AP-LS members, including student members to receive the published journal at no cost to AP-LS. Despite the fact that we now receive the hard copies at no cost, I wonder how many of us actually want to continue to receive hard copies. Is it even appropriate to use the phrase “no cost” given the massive amount of paper required to print the journal and other resources required to ship the printed journal to 3000 or so addresses on several continents.

I would like to invite the AP-LS membership to begin thinking about the journal's future with respect to publication media. Should we continue to produce the journal in both electronic and print format? Should we stop the press and become an online-only journal? Perhaps there are alternative forms that we should consider, such as optional printed copies, fewer than six printed volumes per year (for many years there were four volumes per year), a single annually printed journal (containing all of the articles from the volume), or perhaps an annual DVD for each new volume.

Let me be clear about this. There are no plans to cease the production and shipment of our printed journal, so there is no immediate cause for concern among those who cherish it. Really. I am merely asking the membership to begin thinking about this issue in anticipation of our next contract negotiation, which should begin within the next year or two.

Let me also take this time to report on a few other matters. LHB continues to prosper. New manuscript submissions rose again this year. We received 184 new manuscript submissions in 2008, an increase of nearly 9% over the 2007 (169). We continue to provide editorial decision letters within 60 days in most cases, thanks to the timely work of our ad hoc reviewers, editorial board members, and associate editors. Last, I thank the 2008 Editorial Board members for their service and willingness to continue to serve in 2009 and welcome the following new members to the 2009 Editorial Board: Gregory DeClue, Jennifer Hunt, Matthew Huss, Steven Penrod, Debra Poole, Allison Redlich, and Barry Rosenfeld.

Keep sending us your best work!

Brian Cutler, Editor-in-Chief

Description of Law and Human Behavior

Law and Human Behavior, the official journal of the American Psychology-Law Society/Division 41 of the American Psychological Association, is a multidisciplinary forum for the publication of articles and discussions of issues arising out of the relationships between human behavior and the law, our legal system, and the legal process. This journal publishes original research, reviews of past research, and theoretical studies from professionals in criminal justice, law, psychology, sociology, psychiatry, political science, education, communication, and other areas germane to the field.

AP-LS/Division 41 members receive Law and Human Behavior as part of their membership. To join the American Psychology-Law Society and receive Law and Human Behavior, please visit www.ap-ls.org.

Law and Human Behavior: Online First

LHB is now a member of Springer's Online First program. In this program, manuscripts accepted for publication in LHB are immediately placed in the production cue and soon thereafter published online. It is important to note that, once these manuscripts are published online, they are published. They are not “in press,” but “published.” Each article published online is assigned a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). Sometime later, the article is then published (again) in print. This is a very exciting development for LHB, for it means that we can greatly reduce the time between acceptance of manuscripts and (online) publication.

How do I access Online First articles? AP-LS members have the benefit of full-text access to LHB articles (including back issues of published journals) through Springerlink. To obtain this access, however, members must first log onto the AP-LS web page and then navigate to Springerlink through the AP-LS page (you will find a convenient link). Many university faculty members and students also have the option of logging on through their library networks.



Presidential Column, Continued from p. 2

search on human lie detection—which shows that people are notoriously poor at judging others, sometimes despite confidence (because they focus too much on eye contact, smiles, shifting posture, and other miscues)—the elites were fooled like everyone else. Add to the mix that credible communicators, which Madoff was by reputation, tend to disarm critical thinking, leading people to mindlessly accept what they peddle. On that note, I would add that the public should be wary not only of con artists in finance, but elsewhere—such as pseudoscientists and practitioners who make the unsubstantiated claim that for a price they can train mortals to become precision-accurate lie detectors.

Finally, because I am a sucker for a good story I want to say something about the Beatrice Six. In 1989, in Beatrice, Nebraska, three men and three women were wrongfully convicted of the murder of a 68 year-old woman. Five pled guilty or no contest; four gave vividly detailed confessions during intense interrogations. In January of 2009, the six were pardoned after a full reinvestigation followed DNA testing that excluded all six defendants and matched Bruce Allen Smith, who was in the area drunk and angry that night, and who has since died. The Nebraska Attorney General's Office now concedes that all six are innocent, "Not beyond a reasonable doubt," said the assistant attorney general to the Pardons Board, "but beyond all doubt." This case is sure to become infamous in the annals of forensic psychology. It set a record for the most wrongful convictions resulting from a single investigation (there were five in the Central Park jogger case); all of the confessors went on to internalize the erroneous belief in their own guilt (one woman stood by her statement until just before the pardon, and then suggested, "I guess I was brain-washed"); and perhaps most troubling is that the interrogators were assisted in getting these confessions by a psychologist who previously had served as a private therapist to two of the defendants. So when this highly trusted source suggested the possibility that memories of the murder could have been repressed, his former clients believed him.

Saul Kassin

The following is a reprint of Jeremy Travis's open letter to the American Society of Criminology referenced above, with permission of the author:

November 11, 2008

Open Letter to the American Society of Criminology:

The inauguration of a new President and the opening of the 111th Congress present an unprecedented opportunity for the nation to rethink the federal role in promoting research on crime, society's responses to crime, and the administration of justice.

For the past forty years, the nation's research and statistics agencies—the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics—have been housed within the Office of Justice Programs of the Department of Justice. Having served as Director of the National Institute of

Justice from 1994-2000, I have a firsthand understanding of the valuable role that NIJ has played in promoting research that has benefited our nation's criminal justice system. Yet I have come to the conclusion that the current structure of the Department of Justice, which places responsibility for criminal justice research and statistics in a program-oriented office, cannot provide the rigorous, objective, timely and relevant research on crime and justice to which our citizens, and the practitioners in the law enforcement and criminal justice professions, are entitled.

The purpose of this Open Letter is to urge members of the American Society of Criminology as well as members of other associations of professionals in criminal justice, to support a new structure that would better carry out the research and statistical obligations of the federal government. Specifically, I propose that the Congress create, with support from the new Administration, a new office in the Department of Justice, called the Office of Justice Research and Statistics (OJRS) to be headed by an Assistant Attorney General for Justice Research and Statistics. This office would be separate from the Office of Justice Programs, which would continue to administer the funding programs that support reform efforts by state and local law enforcement and criminal justice agencies. Other cabinet agencies—the Department of Education, the Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency—have all recently created research and statistics offices that are more professional and independent. Now is the time for the Department of Justice to follow these examples.

The argument for creation of the new Office of Justice Research and Statistics, separate from the Office of Justice Programs, is very straightforward: if the research, statistics, and scientific development functions of the federal government are located within an office that is primarily responsible for the administration of assistance programs, three risks are created. First, the scientific integrity of the research functions is vulnerable to compromise. Second, the research and development function will never be given the priority treatment that is needed to meet the enormous crime challenges facing the country. Third, the research agenda on crime and justice will more likely reflect short-term, programmatic needs rather than the long-term need to develop a better understanding of the phenomenon of crime in America and the best ways to prevent and respond to crime.

The rationale for this proposal exists independent of the level of funding for the statistics, research and development functions of the federal government. Clearly, the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics are woefully underfunded. The new Administration and new Congress should also focus squarely on ways to enhance these budgets substantially. Yet simply augmenting the budgets of NIJ and BJS does not address the risks to scientific integrity or the importance of developing a scientific understanding of crime and testing effective responses to crime. This proposal for a new structure should not be understood as a critique of the individuals who have served in the Office of Justice Programs. The nation has clearly benefited from the contributions of OJP and its predecessors, and the research and statistics agencies have promoted a level of empirical understanding of crime and our responses to crime that was unimaginable forty years ago. Rather, this proposal is grounded in the conclusion that the current structure has inherent limitations and, unless those limitations are addressed, we can-

not make the significant advances in our scientific knowledge about crime that would substantially improve our ability to reduce crime and enhance the administration of justice.

The Challenges.

The crime challenges that face the nation are profound, complex and rapidly changing. Although the level of violence in America has fallen significantly since its peak in 1992, the rates of lethal violence in this country are between four and ten times higher than in other industrialized nations. Although the national rates of homicide and robbery have remained relatively constant over the past eight years, some cities have seen double-digit increases in these crimes, while others have experienced double-digit declines, and we have no solid research to help us understand why this is happening.

Our ability to track these crime trends, analyze patterns, develop theories about the changing nature of crime, and test the effectiveness of different interventions is hampered by a data collection system that is outdated, cumbersome and incomplete. The Uniform Crime Report data are released nine months after the crimes have been reported, even though some police departments release their crime data close to real time. The National Crime Victimization Survey is conducted once a year, and only on a national basis, making it nearly impossible to understand victimization at local levels. The Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring Program (ADAM), a quarterly survey of individuals arrested and held in police lockups, which provides timely data on trends in drug use, illegal gun use, gang activity, etc., exists in only ten cities, far short of the original plan for seventy-five. The ability to employ the differing capabilities of the UCR, the NCVS, and ADAM is limited by the fact that these three data collection systems on crime have been managed by three or four different agencies, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (UCR), the Bureau of Justice Statistics (NCVS) and the National Institute of Justice or the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ADAM), with little coordination. Tested methodologies for special analysis of crime, particularly “hot spots,” and analysis of gang dynamics, have not been implemented widely or systematically. The nation has very little capacity to track cybercrime, identity theft, or white collar crime. The current data collection systems do not identify transnational crimes. Our statistics on drug crimes, particularly drug selling, mostly reflect arrest activity, not the actual incidence of the underlying criminal activity.

Our process for setting a research agenda on crime in America has been substantially compromised by the placement of the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics within the Office of Justice Programs. Because OJP is responsible for managing substantial federal assistance programs, the culture of the office is geared, as it should be, to performing that function well. That culture is quite different from an organizational culture that supports scientific inquiry, the design and management of statistical programs, and the rigorous evaluation of interventions designed to respond to crime more effectively. The constituents of OJP are the criminal justice agencies of state and local government, and OJP is properly responsive to their needs for more grant-in-aid. An effective statistics, research and development entity should also be responsive to the needs of these agencies, but the relationship is a different one. The relationship is mediated by the scientific enterprise, of analyzing the crime phenomenon so that practitioners understand

crime better, testing new interventions so they respond to crime better, and developing new scientific and technological tools so they can better prevent criminal activity, solve crimes and administer justice.

As a result of these differing priorities between the programmatic and scientific functions, NIJ has not been able to develop a multi-year research agenda that would build a deeper understanding of crime, and has not been able to test rigorously a range of interventions that reduce crime. Instead, the research portfolio of NIJ reflects a preponderance of small research projects conducted by large numbers of principal investigators, rather than long-term scientific inquiries into critical crime issues carried out by a consortium of researchers. The portfolio is weighted toward a large number of program evaluations, rarely employing the most rigorous methods, rather than a small number of rigorous research demonstration projects designed to test hypotheses rooted in sound theories.

Over the forty year history of the federal role supporting research and statistics on crime and justice, there have been numerous instances when the integrity of those functions has been compromised. Certainly one of the most troubling developments in this arena was the provision of the PATRIOT Act, inserted into that legislation without discussion, giving the Assistant Attorney General of the Office of Justice Programs final authority over the award of research grants and the publication of research findings and statistical reports. With this enactment, the autonomy granted NIJ and BJS Directors – a critical underpinning of the independence of the scientific enterprise – was eliminated. But the justification for the proposal advanced in this letter is not based on a concern about this statutory infringement, nor is it based on those instances when the integrity of NIJ and BJS was compromised. Rather, the core rationale for this proposal is that the nation should have a strong statistics, research and development capacity on the issues of crime and justice and that capacity cannot be realized as long as NIJ and BJS remain within the Office of Justice Programs.

The Office of Justice Research and Statistics.

The new Office of Justice Research and Statistics would be headed by an Assistant Attorney General, nominated by the President and confirmed by the United States Senate. The law creating this new position would specify that the holder of this office should be a scientist of national reputation, with significant experience conducting and overseeing research in this field. As with the directors of the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, or the Institute of Educational Sciences, it is expected that the Assistant Attorney General in this position would bring to the position a reputation for scientific integrity. The Office of Justice Research and Statistics would be comprised of three distinct offices – the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, and the National Institute of Justice Technology. Although more discussion is clearly required regarding the scope of these offices, the following abstracts provide a good starting point:

The **Bureau of Justice Statistics** would continue all of the functions currently carried out by BJS. But, as mentioned above, the current constellation of data collections systems on crime and justice are fragmented and incomplete. To remedy this situation – and to provide the nation the capability to track crime trends in a timely manner – the mandate of BJS should be expanded significantly. First, BJS should be

authorized to work closely with the Federal Bureau of Investigation to improve the timeliness and completeness of the Uniform Crime Reports. Similarly, responsibility for the ADAM program should be transferred from ONDCP (it was originally housed at NIJ), and responsibility for the statistical series on juvenile justice should be transferred from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (a component of OJP). But the new BJS would be more than a manager of existing statistical series. It should also develop new initiatives to track crime trends, drawing on the capabilities of police departments that now post crime trends close to real time. It would develop new protocols for tracking critical crime issues, such as the level of Illegal drug selling activity, public confidence in the criminal justice system, the operations of the federal law enforcement agencies, etc. This expanded portfolio would clearly require additional funding, but there are compelling arguments for creating a robust national capacity to improve our understanding of crime trends.

The **National Institute of Justice** would serve as the social science research entity on issues of justice. NIJ would continue to conduct research on the nature of crime (property and violent crime), the effectiveness of the law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, the patterns of criminal behavior and desistance from crime, and the relationship between communities, civil society, and crime. The key difference is that NIJ would design research programs that would be multi-year and cumulative. This research agenda would be developed under the guidance of a research advisory council. Regarding program evaluations, NIJ would only conduct evaluations of a limited number of programs. These would be selected following a competitive process. Practitioners and researchers would be invited to nominate programs or other interventions that are ripe for evaluation. In consultation with the research advisory council, NIJ would select the programs for evaluation. The criteria for selecting the evaluation would include the potential contributions of an evaluation to our understanding of crime, the potential impact of the intervention, the rigor of the evaluation design, and the capabilities of the research team. In short, NIJ would be expected to place a small number of big bets, rather than evaluating a large number of small programs.

The **National Institute of Justice Technology** would perform the functions now carried out by the Office of Science and Technology of the National Institute of Justice. The Office of Science and Technology has been very successful in developing technologies that have provided new tools for law enforcement and criminal justice agencies. Included among these successes are the development of bullet-resistant vests for police officers, DNA and other advances in forensic science, and less lethal equipment for police officers and other emergency responders. The OS&T has developed productive relationships with the national network of defense laboratories, and the technology R&D functions of the federal law enforcement agencies. As a component of the new Office of Justice Research, the science and technology functions of the Department of Justice would be substantially elevated. This new office would be responsible for coordinating the technology programs of all components of the Department of Justice. In this way, the technology investments of the Department of Justice would be designed to yield significant scientific results, and those results would be shared with all agencies that could benefit from them. The new National Institute of Justice Technology would also serve as the Justice Department's point of contact with other technology development entities in the federal government, such

as the Department of Defense, NASA, and the Department of Energy. In this way, the law enforcement and criminal justice agencies would benefit from scientific developments in these other federal agencies.

Conclusion.

If we were designing a federal research and development capacity on crime and justice today, we would probably not propose the current structure that houses NIJ and BJS within the Office of Justice Programs, three levels below the Attorney General, with a focus on state and local criminal justice. Rather, we would create a scientific branch of government that operates under scientific principles reporting directly to the Attorney General. We would recognize that crime is now a transnational phenomenon and we need to understand human trafficking, drug smuggling, immigration trends and terrorism. We would examine the many systems of justice – civil justice, immigration courts, the federal justice system, in addition to state and local justice systems. We would develop a modern capacity to understand local crime conditions using high-tech surveys. We would develop creative ways to measure non-traditional crimes, such as identity theft, corporate and white collar crime, and transnational crime. We would design a research and development program that would harness the power of technology so the agencies that enforce the law can benefit from the scientific and technological revolution. This ambitious agenda clearly requires additional resources. But it also requires a new structure within the Department of Justice, a structure that guarantees both scientific integrity and policy relevance.

Next Steps.

It is my hope that this letter generates a lively debate within the justice policy and the academic community about how best to structure the nation's research and statistical programs in the criminal justice arena. I would expect that this debate will produce worthy modifications of this proposal. Yet I also hope there is consensus that we need to move beyond the status quo. Now is the time to engage these important issues and to improve our capacity to promote research on crime and justice.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Travis
President

Book and Test Reviews

Written (or read) a new book you want reviewed? A psychological test that you want readers to know about? Recommendations for books, tests, or other media that you would like to see reviewed in the APLS News should be forwarded to Jennifer Groscup, (jennifer.groscup@scrippscollege.edu). Offers to review the work of others, or recommendations as to who an appropriate review might be for your own work are always appreciated.

Conference Update, Continued from p. 1

Thomas Grisso, this session will feature three distinguished experts (Dr. Paul S. Appelbaum, Dr. Marie Banich and Dr. Stephen Morse) who will address research developments in neuroscience and genetics including the use of such evidence in the courtroom.

On Friday, March 6th, a special session entitled “Psychological Perspectives on the Conviction of the Innocent” will include three presentations designed to enhance our understanding of the chains of events by which innocent citizens become convicted felons. The session is chaired by Dr. Brian Cutler with individual presentations by Dr. Gary Wells, Dr. Saul Kassin and Dr. Jeffrey Neuschatz.

We are pleased that Dr. Elizabeth Loftus will deliver the Invited Presidential Address on Saturday, March 7th. Dr. Loftus’ presentation is entitled “Rich False Memories”.

Special Committee Events

For student members (especially those who are attending the conference for the first time) the Teaching, Training, and Careers Committee is once again hosting a special one hour event designed to provide an overview of the conference entitled “How to Get the Most out of the Conference: Information, Advice, and Snacks for Students”. This session will be held on Thursday, March 5th prior to the opening session.

On Thursday, March 5th, from 8:00am to 10:00am, the Professional Development committee is hosting a two-hour workshop entitled “Professional Advancement of Women in Psychology and Law: Panel Discussion and Mentoring Circles”. Directly following this workshop (10:00am to 12:00pm) the Early Career Psychologist Committee will host a workshop on “Private Practice of Forensic Psychology: Preparation, Building a Practice, Problems in Practice. We encourage those interested in attending one or both of the workshops to plan on arriving Wednesday night in order to take advantage of these workshop opportunities. Full workshop descriptions are available at the conference website.

In addition the two-hour workshops, The Teaching, Training, and Careers Committee, Student Section, and Mentoring Committee are co-sponsoring a special three-part series geared toward the professional development of students and early career professionals. One session will be held each day with the co-sponsors encouraging attendance at all three sessions. Part I of the three-part series is sponsored by the Student Section and will focus on CV and Personal Statement preparation. Part II is sponsored by the Teaching, Training, & Careers Committee and will address advice on the job search and hiring process. Part III is sponsored by the Mentoring Committee and will provide practical advice and practice for an academic job interview.

The Scientific Review Paper Committee will be holding an open hearing on Saturday, March 7th, to allow comment and discussion from AP-LS members and the public on the proposed White Paper titled: “Police-Induced Confessions: Risk Factors and Recommendations” which was prepared by Saul Kassin, Steven Drizin, Thomas Grisso, Gisli Gudjonsson, Richard Leo and Allison Redlich

(the paper is available for review at <http://www.ap-ls.org/links/whitepaperconfessions.html>). This session will be the second and final public review of the paper before it is submitted to the AP-LS Executive Committee for approval as an official statement of AP-LS.

An AP-LS conference would not be complete without social events. We will continue the tradition of hosting a welcome reception on Thursday, March 5th from 6:30pm to 8:00pm for all attendees. The Minority Affairs Committee Student Award Recognition Luncheon will be held Friday, March 6th from 12:15pm to 1:30pm. Pre-registration for this luncheon is required via the overall conference registration form. If you have processed your overall conference registration form and did not pre-register for this event, please contact Kathy Gaskey (apls@ec.rr.com) to add this luncheon to your registration. Finally, various AP-LS committees and academic units/organizations are also hosting social events each night of the conference.

In the final weeks leading up to the conference we encourage everyone to check the main conference website for additional updates.

We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

Keith Cruise, Jeff Neuschatz and Gina Vincent

Membership in EAPL

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Legal Update

Editor: Jeremy Blumenthal, J.D., Ph.D.
University of Connecticut School of Law

Reading and Contemporary Law Students

Ian Gallacher, J.D., M.F.A.

Associate Professor and Director, Legal Communication and Research Program
Syracuse University

Ed. note: Efforts to familiarize psycholegal scholars with research opportunities in the law emphasize study of what law students and legal scholars learn. Only recently has focus turned to any examination of how the law is learned. Preliminary efforts to apply cognitive psychology to the way people research law (e.g., Kuh, in press) have recently emphasized the shift to internet-based and computerized means of research. In this column, a law professor and expert in legal research and communication broadens the discussion of this shift. Substantive points about law students' — and by extension, graduate students' and legal or psycholegal researchers' — methods of conducting research are explicit in his discussion. But implicit in these points is the identification of a new opportunity for psycholegal scholars to apply theory from developmental, cognitive, or educational psychology to how students, lawyers, researchers, judges, law clerks, and others do research.

It's customary for each generation to bemoan the illiteracy of the younger generations coming behind them. So it's not surprising that we should be pessimistic about the state of literary reading among people the age of most law students today. I'm pretty sure my teachers had the same discussion about my fellow students and me, that their teachers had the same discussion about them, and on and on. I suppose it's a miracle to some of our eldest colleagues that the English language didn't peter out and die years ago.

But, of course, there is one big difference now. Despite the despair previous generations have shown about our literary interests, the means of our acquiring information through reading had not changed significantly since the invention of moveable type. That is no longer true. For the first time, law school classes are being populated by students of the internet age, and there have been changes in the way they acquire and process information. They aren't good changes.

A survey I conducted during the summer of 2006 looked at the reading, writing, and research habits of incoming law students at seven law schools (Gallacher, 2007). The results suggested that law students read far more than the general population, but that should be neither a surprise nor a comfort to us; these are the best and brightest students of their generation, and if their reading doesn't far outstrip that of the general population, then the sky really is falling.

The data themselves are less reassuring. Of those students responding to the question, approximately 25% read for pleasure

one or more book a week, 31% read one book a month, 26% read fewer than one book a month but more than one a year, and approximately 5% read one or fewer books a year. And this is, remember, before they came to law school. One suspects that those numbers have dropped dramatically, at least during the semester, since the students started their studies.

The most popular style of writing read by responding students was literary fiction, at 36.3%, followed by nonfiction (25.9%), genre fiction (17.5%), biography (4%) and self help (1.3%). Students were also asked to list their favorite and least favorite books, the books they had read last, were reading now, and planned to read next. The results are printed in an appendix to the article, and suggest that the lines between literary and genre fiction might generously be described as blurrier than some of the responding students might think.

The data about reading for information are no more heartening. Almost 48% of responding students indicated that they read a newspaper daily, and this includes students who only read the sports pages and the comics. So the majority of incoming law students don't read a newspaper, or any part of one, every day. And of those students who read newspapers, only 17.4% indicated that they read them only in print form, with 16.7% indicating that they read them only online and the majority — 55.5% — indicating that they read newspapers in both print form and online.

The tendency to read from an online source of information is particularly troubling because recent data from the U.K. suggests that we are, to put it mildly, not very good at reading online (CIBER, 2008). The study, conducted by CIBER, a research group located within University College, London, looked at research habits of British "young people" — apparently those between 18 and 21. Although the study looked exclusively at British "young people," the results might sound a resonant chord with those of us who work with slightly older American law students.

Of the study's many interesting results, one in particular stands out. The research indicated that young people spend little time evaluating information found on the web for relevance, accuracy, or authority. In fact, the survey concluded, researchers engage in horizontal information seeking — the practice of viewing one or two pages from an academic site and then bouncing out of that document to another one. Around 60% of the e-journal viewers look at no more than two pages before moving on and 65% never returned to the documents they left. The authors of the study continue (CIBER, 2008, p.10):

The average times that users spend on e-book and e-journal sites are very short: typically four and eight minutes respectively. It is clear that users are not reading online in the traditional sense, indeed there are signs that new forms of 'reading' are emerging as users 'power browse' horizontally through titles, contents pages and abstracts going for quick wins. It almost seems that they go online to avoid reading in the traditional sense.

At least one commentator has recognized similar issues with his own print-based reading. Nicholas Carr (2008), writing in July's *Atlantic Monthly*, noted that:

[o]ver the past few years I've had an uncomfortable sense that someone, or something, has been tinkering with my brain, remapping the neural circuitry, reprogramming the memory. My mind isn't going—so far as I can tell—but it's changing. I'm not thinking the way I used to think. I can feel it most strongly when I'm reading. Immersing myself in a book or a lengthy article used to be easy. My mind would get caught up in the narrative or the turns of the argument, and I'd spend hours strolling through long stretches of prose. That's rarely the case anymore. Now my concentration often starts to drift after two or three pages. I get fidgety, lose the thread, begin looking for something else to do. I feel as if I'm always dragging my wayward brain back to the text. The deep reading that used to come naturally has become a struggle.

Carr attributes the changes in his reading patterns to the time he's been spending on the internet over the past few years, and many of us who have spent much time reading documents online likely share his concern that the process has changed us in subtle but important ways. If it's doing this to us, who have come to the internet after a childhood and early scholarly life spent almost entirely in the books, it seems likely that the effect on today's law students, who have spent most if not all of their lives as consumers of online information, has been that much more significant. And therein lies a big problem, because reading lies at the core of legal education and any changes in reading patterns affect the way law students learn and perform.

Whether or not it has acknowledged or even recognized it, legal education in America has, for the last hundred years or so, relied on active reading as its principal instructional medium. The Socratic teaching method is, at its heart, a public modeling of the detailed textual interrogation generations of teachers have expected their students to perform while studying. When the student is having the same Socratic experience with the books at home as the teacher has with the student in class then the student is fully engaged

with the material, asking and answering the same questions as the teacher will ask during the next class. And when that happens, the student has the chance to get more fully involved with the subject than would be possible were the student listening passively to a lecture series. It is no profound insight to say that legal education teaches students how to be auto-didactic, and that things have been that way since the days of Langdell.

Whether that is how things can continue to be, though, is less clear. If our students don't come to us with the necessary tools to help them become self-teachers, is there time in law school to equip them? And if not, can we continue to teach in the same way we were taught? Certainly the advocates of a greater emphasis on experiential learning in the law school curriculum would suggest that we should not, and would argue that experiential learning – in which (in a simplistic definition) doctrinal lessons are derived more from doing than from reading – is a more appropriate educational model for today's students.

However the current debates on curricular reform are resolved, though, I hope we can all agree that we should do as much as possible to help our students to read more, and to read more effectively, than they do now. We can do this in a number of ways: by not sacrificing law and literature classes as we look for ways to introduce experiential opportunities into the curriculum, by introducing students much earlier to the lessons of those classes – perhaps even in the summer before they come to law school, through an expanded and enhanced version of the traditional "summer reading list," by overtly emphasizing active reading techniques in all first year courses, and, perhaps most importantly, by recognizing reading as a core lawyering skill – one worthy of as much time and attention as the other lawyering skills we teach.

But the best solution probably lies outside our walls. While law schools can do a lot to help students improve their active reading skills, the better those skills are when students enter law school, the further they would be able to go while in school. So while it might be uncomfortable and difficult for legal educators to identify and engage our students in the years before they formally enter into the study of law, all our lives – students, educators, researchers, judges, clerks, and practitioners – will be better for the effort.

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Book Review

A Comprehensive Guide to Child Custody Evaluations: Mental Health and Legal Perspectives

by Joanna Rohrbaugh, Ph.D.

Review written by: Honorable Arline S. Rotman (retired)

Browsing through Joanna Bunker Rohrbaugh's new book, *A Comprehensive Guide to Child Custody Evaluations, Mental Health and Legal Perspectives*, is like one-stop shopping at a big box store. Everything you need to know as a custody evaluator can be found here. This 700 page aptly named comprehensive volume comes complete with a CD-Rom containing organizational tools for case management, forms for relevant pleadings, checklists and resource material such as Guidelines for Child Custody evaluations which can be downloaded and adapted for personal use.

Recognizing the interdisciplinary nature of family law, Dr. Rohrbaugh set out as her task to integrate "legal information and forensic procedures with social science research." Her audience is family court judges, family practice attorneys and forensic mental health professionals. This interdisciplinary approach sets her work apart from other books about child custody evaluations. All of the material is presented in easy to access, user friendly language. As an example, I looked at her explanation differentiating confidentiality from privilege. Throughout my own legal career, I was always frustrated by the often misunderstood difference between the two terms. It seemed a difficult concept for people to comprehend. Dr. Rohrbaugh defines the difference in simple to understand language

-Confidentiality protects against the disclosure of communications that are made within certain protected relationships *to anyone outside of that relationship.*

-Privilege protects against the disclosure of confidential communications *to the court.*"

This simple distinction will be a helpful reminder to both legal and mental health practitioners.

Many themes, after detailed well-footnoted discussion in the book's narrative, are summarized in visually attractive boxes. For ease of reference, the 108 boxes are identified in the detailed table of contents. These summary boxes include helpful overviews of wide ranging topics such as Risk and Protective Factors for Effects of Parental Substance Abuse on Children; Types and Frequency of Domestic Violence Allegations; General Guidelines for Parenting Plans; Criteria for Test Selection; and Three Stages of Alcoholism.

In order to learn more about the depth of coverage, you can go to <http://books.google.com> and search for *A Comprehensive Guide to Child Custody Evaluations: Mental Health and Legal Perspectives*. Clicking on "preview this book" will allow you to view several pages including the complete table of contents, a list of all the Boxes in Text, a detailed guide to the accompanying CD-

ROM, and the first sixty pages of Part I as well as a sample of the index on page 702. This will give you a better idea of why you will want to own this book than any book review could offer.

This treatise is not intended to be read from cover to cover. It is recommended, however, that the theoretical, legal and ethical issues explored in Part I be carefully considered and understood before delving into the practical and essential substantive information in the other three parts of the book.

After assuring myself that the book was indeed comprehensive, I wanted to test the quality of the substantive text. In order to do that I considered real life scenarios that professionals might face during the course of custody proceedings.

First I assumed that as a custody evaluator I was weighing the pros and cons of administering psychological tests as part of my evaluation. It should be noted that in some jurisdictions, tests can only be administered if there is specific judicial authority in the court order. Assuming that testing is authorized if needed, what tests would I use and would I be able to defend their use if I were cross-examined? What if I were the attorney faced with either presenting or challenging the use of the tests? Would the information be helpful in crafting my direct or cross-examination?

Using the Table of Contents, Part III, Ordering, Conducting and Reviewing Evaluations, I was directed to Chapter 11, -Uses and Limitations of Psychological Texts. Dr. Rohrbaugh introduces the topic by explaining the continuing controversy surrounding the use of psychological testing in custody evaluations. This will be known to some but not all custody evaluators, but is important information for every custody evaluator to keep in mind. She spells out the positions given by those evaluators who support the use of psychological testing as well as those who think tests are either not relevant to custody disputes or have poor psychometric qualities.

The criteria for test selection are set out and then summarized in a text box. Mental health professionals will be well acquainted with the language, but for attorneys and judges using this information, a glossary is provided to define terms such as the various forms of "reliability" and "validity." Since this is not everyday language for the legal profession it is very useful to have the explanations available within the text. As someone who finds it necessary to review these terms every time I am faced with them, I appreciated not needing to go to my reference files. When reading custody evaluations with reports of test results, as a judge, I was always grateful to the evaluators who wrote in plain English, and were careful to explain terms of art. In order to keep a report to a manageable size, evaluators might consider adding a glossary to their own reports rather than including the information within the body of their report.

The comprehensive explanation of psychological tests most commonly used in custody evaluations, including their potential limitations, should help the evaluator to determine what tests, if any, will be appropriate for his or her evaluation. Dr. Rohrbaugh distinguishes standard psychological tests from custody specific assessment devices, cautioning that the custody-specific testing devices provide little added value to a child custody evaluation, and might not be admissible under the Daubert standard adopted by many states. The Daubert standard of admissibility is explained with a reference to other sources should more information be needed. This section will be extremely helpful to lawyers who want to challenge the use of a test, while providing the evaluator with sufficient background information to respond to the challenge. For judges, this chapter will provide a ready reference to evaluate the oral testimony or written report. Dr. Rohrbaugh, uses helpful text boxes to summarize an Explanation of Methodology, Reliability and Validity, a Sample Explanation of Test Relevance-MMPI-2 — (the most widely used test in custody proceedings), -Sample Explanation of Psychometric Properties of Test –MMPI-2, and Sample Explanations for Not Using Psychological Tests. — -All of this information is important to a well written report. Although challenges to the admissibility of evaluators' reports are rare, evaluators should always be prepared to defend their procedures. If a judge is not convinced that an evaluator has used sound scientifically defensible techniques, the evaluation may not be given as much weight.

In summary, to answer my question about the quality of the substantive material, I found the information in this section thorough with ample accurate information and references to be helpful to everyone dealing with the issue of testing.

Next I checked Chapter 14, Writing the Report, which is a must read for everyone writing reports. As Dr. Rohrbaugh so aptly states "The report is the culmination of the evaluator's work. It must summarize the evaluation in a way that makes it clear what the *questions* are, what *procedure* was used, what *data* was collected, and what the *inferences and conclusions* are." Following her carefully constructed outline will assure any evaluator that all the essential elements are included in each report. She appropriately cautions against using jargon or psychiatric diagnoses. The latter would only be useful if the diagnosis has been made by an independent psychiatrist, has not been made as part of the evaluation unless relevant to the custody dispute and authorized by court order. Otherwise, as Dr. Rohrbaugh points out "Diagnoses are often used by the litigants and their attorneys in an inappropriate, pejorative manner." She stresses the importance of evaluating the data in the context of relevant social science research. In this respect, it is important for the evaluator to remain current as research evolves at a relatively rapid pace. When research is controversial or contradictory, such as the research on infant overnights, the controversy should be set out with a clear explanation of which research the evaluator is relying on.

The CD-Rom included with the book contains a very helpful sample report which can be adapted to any evaluation, provided the writer is careful to tailor each piece of the report to his or her own case. Similar to any boilerplate form, care must be given that everything that is included is there for a reason. Conversely, anything that does not apply should be excised. Dr. Rohrbaugh cautions not to

make the report too lengthy, a recommendation with which I heartily concur. Although it is important to include all of the necessary components of a report, I would suggest that ruthless editing is often called for. As the writer reads his or her own report, each sentence should be read with the question "Is this information relevant to a custody determination?" Judges want the basic facts, as well as a sense that the evaluation was thorough and objectively conducted. A report that is too lengthy runs the risk of losing some of its impact.

Dr. Rohrbaugh has written about the current controversy regarding the inclusion of recommendations as part of the evaluation. She references both opponents and proponents of "answering the ultimate question", with a clear summary of the major positions. In deciding whether or not to include recommendations, the evaluator should consider the predilections of the judge hearing the case as well as customary practice in the particular jurisdiction.

Dr. Rohrbaugh's familiarity with a broad range of current research is impressive. Any evaluator wishing to serve as an expert will be expected to be familiar with the research and controversies. - For evaluators who aren't familiar with current research and trends, this book will provide them with the necessary background.

The thoroughness and attention to detail with which Dr. Rohrbaugh approaches the complexity of her topic is unparalleled in my experience. It would be difficult to seek information on any aspect of a custody evaluation which is left uncovered. While recognizing that this encyclopedic book will be a useful reference to both the neophyte as well as more experienced practitioners, a few words of caution are advised.

Considerable amount of attention is paid to special issues involved in some evaluations such as substance abuse, estrangement and alienation, abduction, domestic violence, and sexual abuse. Notwithstanding the breadth of information, I would suggest that before undertaking an evaluation with these difficult and sometimes controversial special issues, the evaluator be certain of his or her competence. Attorneys handling such cases would be well advised to carefully consider the training and experience of potential evaluators or evaluators they might hire as consultants. Evaluators should never accept an appointment with issues beyond their competence. And when a difficult case is accepted, consultation with a more experienced evaluator might be advised.

Family law falls within the purview of state law. Substantive as well as procedural rules that govern custody disputes differ in some respects among our fifty states. To make matters more difficult, practices and procedures differ within each state, county by county and judge by judge. Some states have specialized Family Courts while others hear family matters in courts of general jurisdiction. Dr. Rohrbaugh's procedural frame of reference is largely based on her experience in Massachusetts where family cases and probate matters uniquely share jurisdiction in a Probate and Family Court. This limitation does not take away from the value of her book, but professionals should be certain they are familiar with the statutes, jurisdictional and procedural rules, as well as case law of their own jurisdiction.

With these caveats, I have no hesitation in saying that this work will be a valuable resource in every family law professional's library.



Expert Opinion

Editors: Matthew Huss & Eric Elbogen

Assessing Risk for Violence using Structured Professional Judgment

Kevin S. Douglas, LL.B., Ph.D.

Simon Fraser University

Almost three decades ago, John Monahan (1981, 1984) identified a handful of studies on the prediction of violence, which he collectively termed the “first generation” of research on the prediction of violence. Although he described these studies in some detail, noted their limitations, discussed positive features of the literature such as research focusing on the identification of risk factors, and pointed to promising future research directions, the most commonly cited phrase from Monahan (1981) was that “*psychiatrists and psychologists are accurate in no more than one out of three predictions of violent behavior*” (p. 77; emphasis in original). A few years later he lamented:

[r]arely has research been so uncritically accepted and so facily generalized by both mental health professionals and lawyers as was this first-generation research on the prediction of violence. The careful qualifications the researchers placed on their findings and the circumscribed nature of the situations to which they might apply were forgotten in the rush to frame a bumper-sticker conclusion – ‘Psychiatrists and psychologists can’t predict violence’ – and paste it on every policy vehicle in sight (Monahan, 1984, p. 10).

How have things changed? Quite remarkably, it would seem. First, there have been important conceptual shifts that have moved us from focusing solely on violence prediction to emphasizing risk reduction and management (Douglas & Kropp, 2002; Douglas & Skeem, 2005; Hart, 1998; Heilbrun, 1997; Dvoskin & Heilbrun, 2001; Mulvey & Lidz, 1995; Steadman, 2000; Webster & Bailles, 2000). Second, whereas Monahan (1981, 1984) counted roughly half a dozen studies on the prediction of violence, there are now literally *hundreds* of studies on violence risk assessment *instruments* alone. Recent meta-analyses suggest that most contemporary risk assessment instruments are associated with violence with moderate to large effect sizes (Blair, Marcus, & Boccaccini, 2008; Campbell, French, & Gendreau, in press; Guy, 2008; Hanson & Morton-Bourgon, in press; Walters, 2006).

Structured risk assessment instruments fall into two general camps (although there is meaningful heterogeneity within camps) – actuarial and structured professional judgment (SPJ). Most though not all actuarial instruments select their risk factors based on empirical associations with violence in a development sample (empirical item selection); all of them use equations, algorithms, or cut-off scores to produce numeric estimates of the future probability of violence. SPJ instruments select their risk factors based on a consideration of the broad literature on violence (rational or logical item selection); none of them use equations, algorithms, or

cut-off scores to produce estimates of the future probability of violence, numeric or otherwise. Despite these meaningful differences, available empirical evidence suggests that both types of approaches are comparably associated with violence.

In this column, I would like to focus on the SPJ approach to risk assessment. Although a good deal has been written about SPJ, there are several key points that could receive more clarification. The SPJ approach to risk assessment also is newer than actuarial prediction and therefore perhaps less familiar to professionals. Despite its relatively recent emergence, there have now been over 100 empirical investigations of SPJ instruments (Guy, 2008).

SPJ is the term given to a collection of risk assessment instruments that share common features. As mentioned above, this includes rational item selection and a non-actuarial means by which to make risk judgments (described below). Structure is imposed in several ways: direction for conducting a risk evaluation; inclusion of a set of 20-30 risk factors to consider in every risk assessment; operational definitions and scoring instructions for risk factors; direction for making final risk judgments about future risk for violence and risk management needs.

SPJ instruments cover a variety of settings and applications (full instrument names in references): adult violence (HCR-20; Webster, Douglas, Eaves, & Hart, 1997); adolescent violence (SAVRY; Borum, Bartel, & Forth, 2006); childhood (boys and girls) antisocial behavior (EARL-20B; Augimeri, Koegl, Webster, & Levene, 2001; 2001; EARL-21G; Levene et al., 2001); adult sexual violence (SVR-20; Boer, Hart, Kropp, & Webster, 1997; RSVP; Hart et al., 2003); adult spousal violence (SARA; Kropp, Hart, Webster, & Eaves, 1999); short-term risk for multiple adverse outcomes (START; Webster, Martin, Brink, Nicholls, & Middleton, 2004). The amount of research devoted to any one of these instruments varies.

What is the Main Purpose of SPJ Instruments?

Most basically, the primary purpose of SPJ instruments is to identify important risk factors that are present for a given person, and to facilitate the identification of risk management strategies that are logically linked to those risk factors that, if implemented, likely will reduce or mitigate risk. In so doing, SPJ instruments provide non-numeric estimates of the likelihood of future violence (discussed below) that can be used to prioritize risk management resources.

Why are SPJ Instruments Non-Actuarial?

This issue has in fact been addressed in numerous publications, and so I will just briefly outline the rationale for the development of SPJ instruments, and refer readers to other sources for more in-depth discussions (Douglas, 2008; Douglas & Kropp, 2002; Douglas & Reeves, in press; Hart, 1998; Heilbrun et al., in press a). First, it should be noted that “actuarial” is used here as defined by Meehl (1954) – the algorithmic combination of risk factors related to some outcome. Non-actuarial instruments can and should be based in science and can and should be validated empirically.

SPJ instruments are not a combination of actuarial and unstructured clinical prediction techniques. Rather, they attempt to achieve the strengths and minimize the weaknesses of both. For instance, although the discretion that is associated with clinical decision-making allows an idiographic focus, and tends to be well-suited for tailoring intervention and risk management programs, its reliability and validity may be jeopardized by the lack of structure. The strength of actuarial decision-making (the algorithmic combination of risk factors) is that algorithmic decision-rules are 100% replicable, or reliable, because they are pre-specified. Used in conjunction with empirical item selection in a given sample, this approach usually means that researchers can optimize the predictive validity of a set of risk factors in that sample. However, actuarial procedures also have potential drawbacks. For instance, the algorithms derived in one sample can be highly sample-dependent and hence under-perform upon cross-validation in new samples. This result may be particularly so if complex weighting procedures are used in deriving predictive algorithms (Grann & Långström, 2007). As such, numeric estimates of the future probability of violence might not be stable across settings. It is also the case that potentially important risk factors might be excluded from consideration, for example if they were not studied, or were measured with poor reliability, in the development research. Further, most though not all actuarial risk assessment instruments are not focused on the identification of useful risk reduction and management strategies. For these and other reasons, SPJ instruments have been developed with the goals of being comprehensive, generalizable, relevant to risk management, as well as reliable and valid.

How Does One Use an SPJ Instrument?

The steps involved in using an SPJ instrument vary somewhat across instruments. However, there are several fundamental steps that are common to all SPJ instruments.

1. The evaluation *process* is comparable to clinical or professional evaluations that would be conducted for other purposes, such as diagnosis or personality assessment. It requires a relatively comprehensive evaluation using as many sources as necessary including but not limited to an interview with the evaluatee, review of case records, psychological testing, interviews with third parties, and observation.
2. Information gathered in the first step is collated as it pertains to each of the risk factors on a given risk assessment instrument. I recommend that evaluators consider and docu-

ment the evidence for *and* against each risk factor. This approach may promote balanced scoring and case conceptualization.

3. Two further (related) steps are necessary in the consideration of each risk factor beyond merely indicating whether it is present. First, evaluators should describe the *individual manifestation* of each risk factor. For instance, if a person has substance use problems, as defined in item H5 on the HCR-20, what does it “look like” for this individual? How long has it been a problem? Is it getting worse? Second, evaluators should make a determination about the *individual relevance* of each risk factor in terms of a person’s risk for violence. For some, substance use problems might be of extreme relevance to violence risk; for others, it might not. Most (though not all) actuarial procedures, whether they use unit- or optimized-weighting procedures, assume that all risk factors are of equal relevance to all people. The “relevance” often is determined by a *sample* statistic, such as a correlation coefficient, odds ratio, or beta weight. Yet, these statistics are essentially *averages* of people. For some of those individuals, the given risk factor’s association with violence will be stronger than average; for others, it will be weaker than average.

These two steps are necessary to facilitate the case formulation and risk management planning that are part of the SPJ model. They also distinguish the SPJ model from most actuarial instruments, which do not explicitly require these steps. The reason these steps are part of the SPJ model is to try to bridge the nomothetic and idiographic levels of analysis. That is, risk factors on SPJ measures (i.e., substance use problems) have broad empirical support, but they manifest differently across people, and likely are of differential relevance to risk of violence across people. One of the critical tasks in the SPJ model, one that most actuarial instruments do not include, is to determine for whom which risk factors are most relevant in terms of understanding and conceptualizing risk for violence.

4. Specification of the risk reduction strategies that could be used to mitigate the risk associated with the risk factors that were identified, taking into account those that are considered most relevant to a person’s risk for violence. This feature of the SPJ model also differs from most actuarial risk assessment procedures.
5. Based on the foregoing, communication of one’s risk judgment is made, typically as “Low,” “Moderate,” or “High” Risk. These simple descriptive categories are intended to capture more than the estimated future likelihood of violence.
 - a. *High risk* should be applied to cases (a) with many relevant violent risk factors present, or (b) that require frequent, intensive, or highly restrictive supervision, monitoring, management, or intervention in order to stem violence risk. In general, evaluators should make a decision of high risk if they believe, based on the number and relevance of risk factors that are present, and the associated degree of intervention,



supervision, monitoring, or management required to mitigate risk, that a person will likely be violent in the future if no appropriate risk management plans are not enacted.

- b. *Low risk* should be reserved for cases (a) in which there are few relevant violent risk factors present, or (b) that require minimal or no supervision, monitoring, management, or intervention in order to stem violence risk.
- c. *Moderate risk* should be applied to cases which are neither high nor low risk, as defined above.

SPJ risk judgments, then, communicate not only a non-numeric estimate of the likelihood of future violence, but also statements about the *degree* of intervention required to mitigate risk, and the *nature* of those interventions. As described further in Douglas and Reeves (in press), evaluators should also specify *how frequently* and *how soon* re-evaluations should be conducted. The rationale for *not* including numeric risk estimates for clinical use is provided above, and in other sources (Douglas, 2008; Douglas & Kropp, 2002; Hart, 1998; Heilbrun et al., in press a; chapters within Otto & Douglas, in press).

The Role of Numbers in SPJ

If one reads a published article on an SPJ instrument, it looks a lot like a published article on an actuarial instrument – beta weights, odds ratios, areas under the curve (AUC), percent correctly classified, and so forth. Why is this so, if SPJ instruments are not intended to be used with numeric estimates? I don't think there is an inconsistency, here. Randy Kropp and I outlined a basic plan for the evaluation of SPJ instruments which included testing whether (a) the risk factors were reliable and valid, and (b) whether judgments based on those risk factors were reliable and valid (Douglas & Kropp, 2002). Most studies of SPJ instruments have evaluated the former question, which is necessary in terms of testing the choice and definition of risk factors on various SPJ tools, and hence can serve as a basis for making clinical judgments about risk.

As reviewed below, fewer studies have evaluated the latter question about whether risk judgments based on SPJ tools are reliable and valid. These studies also provide estimates of predictive validity, sometimes in the form of the number (percent) of people who are violent as a function of final risk judgments of low, moderate or high risk. These studies are not intended to provide a formal estimated probability of violence associated with judgments of low, moderate or high risk that should be used in clinical practice. Rather, they test the basic premise of the SPJ model that persons judged to be high risk are indeed at higher risk than those judged to be moderate or low risk.

Does it Work? State of the Research on SPJ

As mentioned above, there have been over 100 evaluations of the validity of SPJ instruments, approximately half of which are of the HCR-20. There have now been approximately 16 studies on whether the risk judgments of low, moderate, or high risk actually identify people at differential risk for violence. I'll briefly summarize results of these studies, focusing on the 11 published studies (see

also Douglas, 2008; Douglas & Reeves, in press; Heilbrun et al., in press a, b; chapters within Otto & Douglas, in press).

Most studies of SPJ final risk judgments show that they are related to violence as or more strongly than the numeric use of the instruments upon which they are based. In 9 of 11 published studies, the final (non-actuarial) risk judgment of low, moderate or high risk was significantly predictive of violence (for reviews, see Douglas, 2008; Douglas & Reeves, in press; Heilbrun et al., in press a, b). In the five published studies that tested the incremental validity of these judgments against the numeric use of the instruments, each reported that they added incrementally to the use of the numeric scores on the instruments. To give one example of such research, I'll describe a prospective study conducted by de Vogel and de Ruiter (2006) on 127 forensic psychiatric patients. In this study, consensus ratings of low, moderate and high risk on the HCR-20 were strongly predictive of later violence (AUC = .86). Of 36 patients estimated to be low risk, none were later violent; of 61 estimated to be moderate risk, 5 (8%) were later violent, and of 30 estimated to be high risk, 19 (64%) were later violent. In multivariate analyses, addition of the risk judgment of low, moderate or high risk (re-coded for research as 0, 1, or 2) significantly improved upon the predictive validity of the HCR-20 total numeric score. Other studies have reported that the final risk judgments of low, moderate or high risk predict as well or better than actuarial instruments (de Vogel, de Ruiter, van Beek, & Mead, 2004; Douglas, Yeomans, & Boer, 2005).

Conclusions

The SPJ approach to risk assessment is relatively new, though research would suggest that it is one viable means by which to conduct a violence risk assessment. Most basically, it is intended to identify risk factors, anticipated level of risk, and necessary risk reduction and management strategies. The degree of research in support of SPJ instruments varies by instruments, and clinicians should consult this research base as part of the process of deciding whether to use any of these instruments. There are at least two important and interesting areas for future research on the SPJ model. First, although research is quite consistent in supporting the validity of estimates of low, moderate or high risk, there is no research on *why* they are as or more strongly related to violence relative to the numeric use of SPJ instruments, or when compared with actuarial instruments. Second, it will be vital to test whether use of SPJ instruments actually *reduces* later violence through the identification and management of important risk factors.

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Research Briefs

Editors: Marc Boccaccini, Ph.D.
and Maria Hartwig, Ph.D

Baillargeon, J., Binswanger, I.A., Penn, J.V., Williams, B.A., & Murray, O.J. (2009). **Psychiatric disorders and repeat incarcerations: The revolving prison door.** *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 166, 103-109. Data on psychiatric disorders and history of incarceration were obtained for a sample of 79,211 prison inmates. Over a 6-year period, inmates were significantly more likely to have multiple prior incarcerations if they had a major psychiatric disorder. A diagnosis of bipolar disorder had the strongest association with incarceration, with inmates with bipolar disorder being approximately three times more likely than other inmates to have four or more previous incarcerations.

Davis, K., Fallon, J., Vogel, S., & Teachout, A., (2008). **Integrating into the mental health system from the criminal justice system: Jail aftercare services for persons with a severe mental illness.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 46, 217-231. In a sample of 36 persons participating in Assertive community service (ACT), aftercare hospitalizations and days incarcerated were reduced (compared to pre-ACT), while arrests were not.

Dembo, R., et al., (2008). **Evaluation of an innovative post-arrest diversion program: 12-month recidivism analysis.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 47, 356-384. Florida juveniles (male $n = 255$, female $n = 154$) completed a Post-Arrest Diversion (PAD) program between April and June of 2003. Completion of PAD was associated with significantly fewer arrests and charges, compared

The AP-LS newsletter research briefs are written by students in the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program at Sam Houston State University: Erika Canales, Laadan Gharagozloo, Laura Heinonen, Vivian Lotts, Amanda McGorty, and Amy Wevodau; and by students in the Forensic Psychology Ph.D. Program at John Jay College: Sarah Jordan, Jason Mandelbaum, Joseph Toomey, and Brian Wallace.

to juveniles who did not complete the PAD program.

Denning, R., & Homel, R. (2008). **Predicting recidivism in juvenile offenders on community-based orders: The impact of risk factors and service delivery.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 46, 189-215. In a sample of 190 adolescent males, implementation of the Youth Justice System (YJS), a program implemented in Australia in order to work with young offenders and monitor their compliance, was not associated with a significant decrease in recidivism.

Heilbrun, K., DeMatteo, D., Fretz, R., Erickson, J., Yasuhara, K., & Anumba, N. (2008). **How "specific" are gender-specific rehabilitation needs? An empirical analysis.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 35, 1382-1397. Archival records from 2,321 offenders (1,435 male and 886 female) revealed significant differences between males and females on the companions, financial, criminal history, family/marital, accommodation, and alcohol/drug domains of the Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R). Female offenders fell into higher score ranges than male offenders in the companions, financial, alcohol/drug, and family/marital domains, indi-

cating more substantial problems for the female offenders. Male offenders fell into higher score ranges than female offenders in the criminal history and accommodation domains.

Maeder, E. M. & Wiener, R. L. (2008). **Likelihood of using drug courts: Predictions using procedural justice and the theory of planned behavior.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 26, 543-553. In a sample of 166 substance users, trustworthiness and deliberative attitudes predicted intention to use drug courts in the future. However, only deliberative attitudes was predictive of intent to use drug courts when both predictors were examined in the same model.

Magaletta, P.R., Patry, M.W., Wheat, B., & Bates, J. (2008). **Prison inmate characteristics and suicide attempt lethality: An exploratory study.** *Psychological Services*, 5, 351-361. Researchers reviewed archived suicide incident reports in order to complete the Lethality of Suicide Attempt Rating Scale (LSARS) for 205 male prison inmates. Results indicate that past use of PCP or LSD and the presence of an Axis II disorder significantly increased the risk of high lethality suicide attempts.

Mellow, J. & Christian, J., (2008). **Transitioning offenders to the community: A content analysis of reentry guides.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 47, 339-355. Transition guides for prisoners being released ($N = 13$) were analyzed to evaluate content, readability, and interactive nature. Reading level was found to be difficult for many guides. Of the 13 guides reviewed, 8 described specific strategies to use for locating services.

Sacks, J. Y., et al. (2008). **Prison therapeutic community treatment for female offenders: Profiles and preliminary findings for mental health and other variables (crime, substance use and HIV risk).** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 46, 233-261. Female offenders in a prison Therapeutic Community ($n = 163$) and those in an Intensive Outpatient Program ($n = 151$) showed improvements in such domains as, mental health, substance abuse, criminal behavior, and HIV risk, during the initial six months after release, suggesting prison TC may be more effective than IOP.

Schoenwald, S. K., Chapman, J. E., Sheidow, A. J., & Carter, R. E. (2009). **Long-term youth criminal outcomes in MST transport: The impact of therapist adherence and organizational climate and structure.** *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, 38, 91-105. Juveniles who engaged in delinquent behaviors and their caregivers ($N=1,979$) participated in Multisystemic therapy. High therapist adherence was the strongest predictor of low criminal charges. Job satisfaction, potential for growth and advancement, and participation in decision making were also indicators of

lower levels of criminal charges when therapist adherence effects were held constant.

Spano, R., Rivera, C., Vazsonyi, A.T., & Bolland, J.M. (2008). **The impact of exposure to violence on a trajectory of (declining) parental monitoring: A partial test of the ecological transactional model of community violence.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 35, 1411-1428. African American youths ($N = 348$) were surveyed to examine the impact of exposure to violence on parenting over time. Youths who had a sharply increasing trajectory of exposure to violence over time also tended to have a decrease in parental monitoring.

St. Lawrence, J.S., Snodgrass, C.E., Robertson, A., & Baird-Thomas, C. (2008). **Minimizing the risk of pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV among incarcerated adolescent girls: Identifying potential points of intervention.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 35, 1500-1514. Incarcerated female juveniles ($N=234$) completed demographic, individual, partner, peer, and family measures and were tested for sexually transmitted diseases. Participants' older age, earlier sexual debut (age at first-time intercourse), gang membership, higher perceptions of being at risk for STDs, and higher levels of substance use were each positively correlated with risk for STDs.

Warner, T.D., & Kramer, J.H. (2009). **Closing the revolving door?: Substance abuse treatment as an alternative to traditional sentencing for drug-dependent offenders.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 36, 89-109. The effectiveness of Pennsylvania's drug and alcohol treatment-based interme-

diated punishment, Restrictive Intermediate Punishments (RIP/D&A), was examined using rearrest rates at 12, 24, 36 months postrelease ($N = 3,290$). Offenders who successfully completed treatment had a lower risk of rearrest than offenders receiving traditional sentences (e.g., jail, probation). Offenders sentenced to RIP/D&A who did not successfully complete treatment were more at risk for rearrest than traditionally sentenced offenders in general.

Way, B.B., Sawyer, D.A., Lilly, S.N., Moffitt, C., & Stapholz, B.J. (2008). **Characteristics of inmates who received a diagnosis of serious mental illness upon entry to New York state prison.** *Psychiatric Services*, 59, 1335-1337. In a study of prison inmates in New York state ($N=2,918$), 6% were admitted to mental health services and given a diagnosis of serious mental illness. Of the 6%, almost all inmates had a prior psychiatric hospitalization (97%), and many had previously attempted suicide (62%), received inpatient treatment for substance abuse (59%), and had previously been incarcerated (46%).

DELIQUENCY/ ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR

Bäckström, M., & Björklund, F. (2008). **The Measures of Criminal Attitudes and Associates (MCAA): Further testing of structural and criterion-related validity.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 35, 1398-1410. The validity of a Swedish translation of the MCAA was evaluated using two samples (184 criminal offenders and 556 participants who completed the questionnaire through an Internet Web site open to the public). Criterion-related validity was evi-

denced through the offenders having more positive attitudes toward criminality than the internet sample, changes in the offenders' MCAA ratings after treatment, and test scores being meaningfully related to criminal history variables. Cronbach's alpha for the MCAA scale was .95.

Beaver, K. (2008). **The interaction between genetic risk and childhood sexual abuse in the prediction of adolescent violent behavior.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 20, 426-443. Data from the Add Health, a prospective, longitudinal, and nationally representative sample of American adolescents in 7th through 12th grade, was used to examine the independent and interactive effects of childhood sexual abuse and genetic risk on violent delinquency. Sexually abused males, in comparison with nonabused males, self-reported greater involvement in violent delinquency during adolescence. Sexually abused females were not more likely to engage in violence when compared with females who were not sexually abused. For males, the combination of sexual abuse and high scores on the genetic risk index was associated with greater self-reported violence.

Beaver, K.M., Schutt, J.E., Boutwell, B.B., Ratchford, M., Roberts, K., & Barnes, J.C. (2009). **Genetic and environmental influences on levels of self-control and delinquent peer affiliation: Results from a longitudinal sample of adolescent twins.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 36, 41-60. Analysis of Add Health data from sibling pairs revealed that genetic factors accounted for between 40% and 56% of the variance in low self-control and between 37% and 62% of

the variance in contact with and exposure to drug-using peers.

Brinkley, C.A., Diamond, P.M., Magaletta, P.R., & Heigel, C.P. (2008). **Cross-validation of Levenson's psychopathy scale in a sample of federal female inmates.** *Assessment*, 15, 464-482. Confirmatory factor analysis did not support the expected 2-factor structure of the Levenson Self-Report Psychopathy Scale (LSRP) in a sample of 430 federal female inmates. Instead a 3-factor solution (Egocentric, Antisocial, Callous) provided the best fit with the data, similar to solutions proposed by previous research with female inmates. The researchers argue that the significant relationship between high LSRPS scores, self-reported hostility, antisocial behavior, aggression, and egocentricity suggest that the LSRPS taps different aspects of psychopathy as described by Cleckley (1976).

Decuyper, M., De Fruyt, F., & Buschman, J. (2008). **A five-factor model perspective on psychopathy and comorbid Axis-II disorders in a forensic-psychiatric sample.** *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 31, 394-406. Male forensic-psychiatric patients ($N=48$) were assessed with the PCL-R, NEO Personality Inventory (NEO-PI-R), NEO Five-Factor-Inventory (NEO-FFI), and two Dutch self-report personality inventories, the VKP and ADP-IV Questionnaire. Analysis revealed significant correlations between the five-factor model traits and antisocial personality disorder ratings on the ADP-IV and the VKP. There were only two significant correlations between the five-factor model traits and PCL-R



scores. Antisocial Personality Disorder was the most common Axis-II disorder among those high in psychopathy.

Dolan, S. L., Bechara, A., & Nathan, P. E. (2008). **Executive dysfunction as a risk marker for substance abuse: The role of impulsive personality traits.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law, 26*, 799-822. This study evaluated the relationship between family history of substance use, executive functions, impaired decision making, and current substance dependence among 38 inpatient substance dependent participants and 30 community controls. Substance dependent individuals reported poorer executive functioning. Family history was related to impaired performance on tests evaluating the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex. Results also indicated that impulsive personality traits, specifically urgency scores, accounted for group differences in executive functioning.

Douglas, K.S., Lilienfeld, S.O., Skeem, J.L., Poythress, N.G., Edens, J.F., & Patrick, C.J. (2008). **Relation of antisocial and psychopathic traits to suicide-related behavior among offenders.** *Law and Human Behavior, 32*, 511-525. ASPD and the impulsivity/lifestyle features of psychopathy were associated with suicide-related behavior (SRB) in a sample of 682 male offenders. However, the relationship was mediated by high negative emotionality and low constraints. ASPD was weakly but significantly related to concurrent suicide ideation and past SRB. Additionally the behavioral dimensions captured by PCL-R Factor 3 were related to SRB. PPI-I was inversely related to suicidal indices while PPI-II was positively related. Results suggest that PCL-R

Factor 3 may be more closely related to suicidal behavior than the DSM-IV conceptualization of ASPD.

Edens, J.F., Marcus, D.K., & Ruiz, M.A. (2008). **Taxometric analyses of borderline personality features in a large-scale male and female offender sample.** *Journal of Abnormal Psychology, 117*, 705-711. Taxometric analyses of scores from the PAI Borderline Features subscales provide support for a dimensional structure of borderline personality pathology in a sample of male ($n = 787$) and female ($n = 368$) prison inmates.

Edens, J. F., Poythress, N. G., Lilienfeld, S. O., & Patrick, C. J. (2008). **A prospective comparison of two measures of psychopathy in the prediction of institutional misconduct.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law, 26*, 529-541. In a sample of 46 inmates who were assessed with the PCL-R and the Psychopathic Personality Inventory (PPI), PPI total and two factor scores tended to be stronger predictors of the total number of institutional violations (r ranged from .28 to .36 at two-year follow-up) than PCL-R total and facet scores (r ranged from -.01 to .21).

Enns, R.A., Reddon, J.R., Das, J.P., & Boudreau, A., (2008). **Measuring executive functions in female delinquents using the cognitive assessment system.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation, 47*, 3-23. Adolescent delinquent females ($n = 100$) and males ($n = 111$) had lower than the norm full scale scores on the Cognitive Assessment System (females $M = 92.88$ $SD = 11.08$; males $M = 89.80$ $SD = 16.31$).

Forsman, M., Lichtenstein, P., Andershed, H., & Larsson, H. (2008). **Genetic effects explain**

the stability of psychopathic personality from mid- to late adolescence. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology, 117*, 606-617. A sample of male and female twin pairs from Sweden ($N = 1,480$) were assessed for psychopathic personality using the Youth Psychopathic Traits Inventory (YPI). Results indicate that genetic effects primarily explain the high stability of psychopathic personality from mid- to late adolescence.

Haden, S. C. & Shiva, A. (2008). **Trait impulsivity in a forensic inpatient sample: An evaluation of the Barratt impulsiveness scale.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law, 26*, 675-690. Male forensic psychiatric inpatients ($N=425$) completed the Barratt Impulsivity Scale (BIS-11) and Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI). Participants reported more nonplanning than motor and attentional impulsiveness. Analyses also revealed several significant association between impulsiveness and measures of psychopathology on the PAI.

Kenny, D.T., Lennings, C.J., & Munn, O.A., (2008). **Risk factors for self-harm and suicide in incarcerated young offenders: Implications for policy and practice.** *Journal of Forensic Psychology Practice, 8*, 358-393. Incarcerated adolescents ($N = 242$) were assessed to identify risk factors for suicide and self-harming (SSH) behavior. Those showing SSH behaviors within the past 18 months were more likely than non-SSH adolescents to have injected drugs, committed crimes for drugs, been under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs during a crime, engaged in high-risk sexual activity and thrill seeking, been unconscious more than two times due to head injury, expe-

rienced severe childhood abuse or emotional neglect, and have had a history of aggressive behaviors.

Kucharski, I. T., Petitt, A.N., Toomey, J., & Duncan, S., (2008). **The utility of the Personality Assessment Inventory in the assessment of psychopathy.** *Journal of Forensic Psychology Practice, 8*, 344-357. Criminal defendant's scores ($N = 92$) on the PAI and the PCL-R were compared to determine validity of the PAI as a self-report multi-scale inventory used for identification of psychopathic characteristics. Measures of behavioral features, but not affective/interpersonal features, were useful for differentiating between those high and low in psychopathy.

Lowe, N.C., Dawson-Edwards, C., Minor, K. I., & Wells, J.B., (2008). **Understanding the decision to pursue revocation of intensive supervision: A descriptive survey of juvenile probation and aftercare officers.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation, 46*, 137-169. Juvenile Intensive Supervision Team (JIST) employee ($N = 66$) were surveyed about perceptions concerning program goals and revocation. Results show rehabilitation rated as the least important function and technical violations as the most frequent violation.

Miller, J.D., Gaughan, E.T., & Pryor, L.R. (2008). **The Levenson Self-Report Psychopathy Scale: An examination of the personality traits and disorders associated with the LSRP factors.** *Assessment, 15*, 450-463. Undergraduate males ($n = 119$) reported higher levels of the interpersonal and affective aspects of psychopathy on the LSRP than females ($n = 152$), but there were no

significant gender differences found with regard to levels of social deviance. Total LSRP scores were positively correlated with Neuroticism and negatively correlated with Extraversion, Agreeableness, and Conscientiousness. LSRP Factor 1 and Factor 2 were significantly correlated ($r = .46$) and both factors were positively correlated with all *DSM-IV* PDs except OCPD.

Minor, K.I., Wells, J.B., & Angel, E., (2008). **Recidivism among juvenile offenders following release from residential placements: Multivariate predictors and gender differences.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 46, 171-188. In a sample of 580 juvenile offenders (males = 567 & females = 113), 5 of 33 variables were significant predictors of recidivism: being male, older, having a history of abandonment, sexual abuse, or special education needs predicting a higher likelihood of recidivism.

Neumann, C.S., & Hare, R.D. (2008). **Psychopathic traits in a large community sample: Links to violence, alcohol use, and intelligence.** *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 76, 893-899. PCL:SV scores from a community sample of 514 adults from the MacArthur Violence Risk Assessment Study indicate that clinically significant levels of psychopathy in the general population are rare. Factor-analysis results supported the four-factor model of psychopathy in this community sample.

Neumann, C.S., Malterer, M.B., & Newman, J.P. (2008). **Factor structure of the Psychopathic Personality Inventory (PPI): Findings from a large incarcerated sample.** *Psychological Assessment*, 15, 169-174. Factor analysis of PPI scores

from 1,224 offenders failed to support the 2-factor model identified by Benning et al. (2003). Findings suggest that a 3-factor solution (Factor 1: Impulsive Nonconformity, Blame Externalization, Machiavellian Egocentricity and Fearlessness, Factor 2: Stress Immunity and Social Potency, Factor 3: Coldheartedness and Carefree Nonplanfulness) may be more appropriate.

Ruiz, M.A. & Edens, J. F., (2008). **Recovery and replication of internalizing and externalizing dimensions within the Personality Assessment Inventory.** *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 90, 585-592. Researchers split a sample of 1099 offenders and used factor analysis to examine the fit of a two-dimensional model of PAI scores (Internalization and Externalization). The two-dimensional model fit the data better than a one-dimensional model.

Ruiz, M.A., Poythress, N.G., Lilienfeld, S.O., & Douglas, K.S. (2008). **Factor structure and correlates of the dissociative experiences scale in a large offender sample.** *Assessment*, 15, 511-521. Dissociative Experiences Scale (DES) scores from 1,515 offenders suggested poor fit for a 3-factor model. DES total scores correlated significantly with trauma-related variables after controlling for negative affect. Total scores related to measures of antisocial behavior and aggression. Total scores did not, however, predict criminal or violent recidivism at a 1-year follow up.

Stanford, M. S., Houston, R. J., & Baldridge, R. M. (2008). **Comparison of impulsive and premeditated perpetrators of intimate partner violence.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 26, 709-722. Using the

Impulsive/Premeditated Aggression Scale, authors classified ($N = 113$) men convicted of domestic violence and court ordered into an intervention program into one of two groups: impulsive ($N = 76$) or premeditated ($N = 37$). Participants also completed the Psychopathic Personality Inventory, Personality Assessment Inventory, and an aggression history questionnaire. Men classified as premeditated scored higher on psychopathic traits and treatment rejection, while men classified as impulsive reported more serious and varied psychopathology.

Sturek, J.C., Loper, A.B., & Warren, J.I. (2008). **Psychopathy in female inmates: The SCID-II Personality Questionnaire and the PCL-R.** *Psychological Services*, 5, 309-319. Female prison inmates ($N = 136$) were assessed with the SCID-II-PQ and PCL-R. Results indicate a positive relationship between the Antisocial Personality Disorder (ASPD) scale from the SCID-II-PQ and Factor 2 of the PCL-R (based on two-factor model of psychopathy). Furthermore, summary analysis of SCID-II-PQ items indicated that conduct disorder items from the ASPD scale were effective in correctly identifying 72% of inmates meeting criteria for psychopathy (PCL-R total score e^{25}).

Swogger, M.T., Walsh, Z., & Kosson, D.S. (2008). **Psychopathy subtypes among African American county jail inmates.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 35, 1484-1499. The PCL-R, IM-P, STAI-T, and SCID-I were used to identify psychopathy subtypes in a sample of 262 African American male county jail inmates. The 6-cluster solution included: Cluster 1 (Primary psychopaths, $n = 33$),

Cluster 2 (Secondary psychopaths, $n = 42$), Cluster 3 (Low psychopathology criminals, $n = 48$), Cluster 4 (anxious, anti-social criminals, $n = 35$), Cluster 5 (alcohol-dependent criminals, $n = 55$), and Cluster 6 (drug-dependent criminals, $n = 49$). The finding of six clusters is inconsistent with findings from European American inmates and suggests a more complex taxonomic picture among African Americans.

Teten, A. L., Miller, L. A., Bailey, S. D., Dunn, N. J. & Kent, T. A. (2008). **Empathic deficits and alexithymia in trauma-related impulsive aggression.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 26, 823-832. Authors used regression analysis to investigate whether alexithymia and empathy were related with impulsive aggression among 38 impulsive aggressive veterans. Alexithymia was uniquely related with impulsive aggression while deficits in empathy were associated with general verbal aggression.

Vaughn, M. G., Howard, M. O., & DeLisi, M. (2008). **Psychopathic personality traits and delinquent careers: An empirical examination.** *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 31, 407-416. Juvenile offenders ($N = 723$) were assessed by trained graduate students using the Antisocial Process Screening Device (APSD). Participants also completed the Psychopathic Personality Inventory-Short Version (PPI-SV), the Self-Report of Delinquency (SRD), and items from the Brief Symptom Inventory (BSI). Higher scores on the PPI-SV and APSD Narcissism factors and the APSD Impulsivity and Unemotional factors were associated with delinquent behaviors. Juveniles scoring high on the APSD Impulsivity



and Narcissism factors, and those scoring high on the PPI-SV Rebellious Narcissism factor were more likely to engage in hostile aggression.

Verona, E., Sadeh, N., Case, S.M., Reed, A., & Bhattacharjee, A. (2008). **Self-reported use of different forms of aggression in late adolescence and emerging adulthood.** *Assessment, 15*, 493-510. Two studies investigated the psychometric properties of a self-report measure of commonly recognized forms of aggression (FOA). Study 1 ($N=1,567$ students) identified a 5-factor model of aggression (Physical, Property, Verbal, Relational and Passive-Relational) and several significant differences between forms of aggression. Study 2 examined the fit of the 5-factor structure in a new sample of ethnically mixed college students ($N=192$), and found that a 4-factor or 2-factor higher-order model provided the best fit with the data.

Walsh, Z., & Kosson, D.S. (2008). **Psychopathy and violence: The importance of factor level interactions.** *Psychological Assessment, 15*, 114-120. Two studies examined the independent and interactive effects of the Interpersonal/Unemotional (Factor 1) and Impulsive/Antisocial (Factor 2) factors assessed by the PCL-R in a sample of county jail inmates ($n=199$) and civil psychiatric patients ($n=863$). The Factor 1 x Factor 2 interaction was a significant predictor of violence in both samples. Factor 2 was a stronger predictor of violence, but the relationship between Factor 2 and violence was stronger at higher levels of Factor 1.

Walters, G.D. (2008). **Self-report measures of psychopathy,**

antisocial personality, and criminal lifestyle: Testing and validating a two-dimensional model. *Criminal Justice and Behavior, 35*, 1459-1483. Results from an SEM analysis of 5 studies showed modest to adequate fit for a two-dimensional model of criminality (proactive, reactive). Analysis also revealed that the two-dimensional model was superior to one-factor and social learning models in direct comparisons using the AIC relative fit measure.

FORENSIC ASSESSMENT

Barendregt, M., Muller, E., Nijman, H., & de Beurs, E. 2008. **Factors associated with experts' opinions regarding criminal responsibility in The Netherlands.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law, 26*, 619-631. Experts opinions about criminal responsibility were associated with several offender and crime characteristics. Axis I psychiatric symptoms were associated with an increased lack of responsibility. Axis II personality disorders were associated with diminished responsibility, although severely diminished responsibility to a lesser extent. The type of crime committed by the defendant was found to be less important than how the crime was committed. Minority status led to a higher chance of being held responsible.

Bianchini, K.J., Etherton, J.L., Greve, K.W., Heinly, M.T., & Meyers, J.E. (2008). **Classification accuracy of MMPI-2 validity scales in the detection of pain-related malingering.** *Assessment, 15*, 435-449. Several MMPI-2 validity scales (F, Fb, FBS and MI) showed high levels of accuracy for detecting malingering in clinical patients with chronic pain ($N=$

115). Several scales (F, Fb, FBS, MI, L, ES, Hs and Hy) were useful for differentiating between responses produced by deliberate exaggeration, legitimate psychological disturbance, and the pressure of pursuing a legal claim.

Boccaccini, M.T., Turner, D.B., & Murrie, D.C. (2008). **Do some evaluators report consistently higher or lower PCL-R scores than others? Findings from a statewide sample of sexually violent predator evaluations.** *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law, 14*, 262-283. In a sample of 321 sex offenders who were scored on the PCL-R by one of 20 different evaluators, approximately 30% of the variance in PCL-R total scores was attributable to idiosyncratic scoring tendencies of the evaluators. The mean PCL-R scores assigned by two of the most prolific evaluators differed by nearly 10 points. Rater agreement for PCL-R total scores was low ($ICC=.47$) in a subsample of offenders with two PCL-R scores from state-contracted evaluators.

Cooper, V.G., & Zapf, P.A. (2008). **Psychiatric patients' comprehension of Miranda rights.** *Law and Human Behavior, 32*, 390-405. Psychiatric inpatients ($N=75$) demonstrated similar levels of understanding on Grisso's and Goldstein's measures for assessing Miranda-related abilities, even though the language used by Goldstein's measure required a lower grade reading level and had a higher reading ease score than Grisso's measure (but was not more easily understood than Grisso's measure). Psychiatric symptoms were negatively correlated with Miranda comprehension even after controlling for IQ.

Fernandez, K., Boccaccini, M.T., & Noland, R.M. (2008). **Detecting over- and underreporting of psychopathology with the Spanish-language Personality Assessment Inventory: Findings from a simulation study with bilingual speakers.** *Psychological Assessment, 15*, 189-194. English- and Spanish-language validity scales of the PAI performed similarly for detecting malingering in a sample of 72 bilingual participants. Negative Impression Management and Positive Impression Management scales demonstrated the highest levels of accuracy for the identification of simulators in both language versions. However, optimal cut scores for identifying simulated protocols varied somewhat across language versions.

Large, M. M., & Nielsens, O. (2008). **Factors associated with agreement between experts in evidence about psychiatric injury.** *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, 36*, 515-521. Reports from experts ($N=148$) who were either engaged by the same side ($n=51$) or opposing sides ($n=97$) were examined for expert agreement about the presence of a mental disorder and specific diagnosis. Experts on the same side had good agreement about the presence of a mental disorder ($\kappa=.74$), but lower agreement for the exact diagnosis ($\kappa=.31$). Experts on adversarial sides had poor agreement for both presence of a mental disorder ($\kappa=.09$) and diagnosis ($\kappa=.14$).

Murrie, D.C., Boccaccini, M.T., Zapf, P.A., Warren, J.I., & Henderson, C.E. (2008). **Clinical variation in findings of competence to stand trial.** *Psychology, Public Policy,*

and Law, 14, 177-193. Researchers examined the frequency with which competence to stand trial evaluators in Virginia ($n = 55$) and Alabama ($n = 5$) reported that offenders were incompetent to stand trial (IST). The rate of IST opinions for evaluators ranged from 0% to 62%, with psychiatrists being less likely than psychologists to report that offenders were IST. However, there was still a significant amount of variability in IST rates for psychologists (range = 0% to 55%).

Shealy, C., Cramer, R.J., Pirelli, G. (2008). **Third party presence during criminal forensic evaluations: Psychologists' opinions, attitudes, and practices.** *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 39, 561-569. Data from a survey of forensic practitioners ($N = 160$) indicate that the majority of clinicians believe the presence of a third party can negatively impact a forensic evaluation (e.g., interfere with rapport building). However, presence of interpreters and students/trainees was viewed more positively than presence of attorneys or family members.

Walters, G.D., et al. (2008). **Malingering as a categorical or dimensional construct: The latent structure of feigned psychopathology as measured by the SIRS and MMPI-2.** *Psychological Assessment*, 15, 238-247. Researchers used SIRS ($n = 1,211$) and MMPI-2 ($n = 711$) scores from civil and criminal examinees to examine the latent structure of feigned psychopathology. Results suggest that feigned psychopathology is dimensional rather than taxonic. Results suggest that malingering exists as a

continuous, rather than a dichotomous, construct.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, CONFESSIONS, & DECEPTION

Alison, L., Kebbell, M. & Leung, J. (2008). **A facet analysis of police officers' self-reported use of suspect-interviewing strategies and their discomfort with ambiguity.** *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 22, 1072-1087. Hong Kong police officers ($n = 99$) reported preferred interviewing tactics and need for closure. Officers with more Discomfort with Ambiguity used a wider array of interviewing tactics (including being more coercive). Findings support the identification of a duplex structure of interviewing tactics, with two intersecting facets (cognitive-affective & facilitative-coercive).

Ask, K., Rebelius, A. & Granhag, P.A. (2008). **The 'elasticity' of criminal evidence: A moderator of investigator bias.** *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 22, 1245-1259. Police trainees ($n = 117$) read the background of homicide case and received confirming or disconfirming evidence. Disconfirming evidence was rated as less reliable and generated more questions regarding reliability. Differential skepticism was higher for witness evidence than DNA or photo evidence demonstrating varied 'elasticity.'

Cao, L., Hou, C., & Huang, B., (2008). **Correlates of the victim-offender relationship in homicide.** *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 52, 658-672. Researchers examined sociodemographic and situational factors of 308 homicide cases to identify their

potential role in three types of homicide: homicide between strangers, between acquaintances, and between intimates. Older age was predictive of acquaintance and intimate homicide, married suspects murdered intimate partners more than strangers, those with previous convictions were more likely to kill strangers, and premeditation was most common in acquaintance homicide.

Campos, L., & Alonso-Quecuty, M. L. (2008). **Language crimes and the cognitive interview: Testing its efficacy in retrieving a conversational event.** *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 22, 1211-1227. Researchers studying memory for criminal conversations examined the effectiveness of the Cognitive Interview (CI). CI participants ($n = 25$) made fewer errors and provided more correct information compared to participants using a free recall technique ($n = 25$).

Henkel, L. A., Coffman, K. A. J., & Dailey, E. M. (2008). **A survey of people's attitudes and beliefs about false confessions.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 26, 555-584. Jury eligible individuals completed two surveys ($N = 116$ for survey one and $N = 169$ for survey two) concerning their attitudes regarding false confessions. Respondents were aware that false confessions occur but did not believe they would ever falsely confess. Participants reported that confessions were not a definitive indicator of guilt, but were unaware of factors that contributed to false confessions.

Higgins, G.E., Gabbidon, S.L., & Jordan, K.L. (2008). **Examining the generality of citizens' views on racial profiling in diverse situational contexts.** *Criminal Justice and*

Behavior. 35, 1527-1541. Researchers conducted a Gallup poll of 2,250 randomly selected Americans, including an oversample of Hispanics ($n = 500$) and Blacks ($n = 800$) to test the "generality" of citizens' views regarding airport, traffic stop, and consumer racial profiling. Blacks were more likely than whites and Hispanics to believe that racial profiling is widespread and whites were less likely than Blacks and Hispanics to believe that racial profiling is widespread. Whites were more likely than Blacks and Hispanics to view racial profiling as being justified. Blacks were less likely than Hispanics to believe that racial profiling was justified.

Mann, S.A., Vrij, A., Fisher, R.P., & Robinson, M. (2008). **See no lies, hear no lies: Differences in discrimination accuracy and response bias when watching or listening to police suspect interviews.** *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 22, 1062-171. Police officers' use of cues when detecting deception ($N = 103$) was investigated using different modalities: audio only, visual only, or both. Only visual cues yielded lower accuracy and led to lie bias.

Peace, K.A. & Bouvier, K. A., (2008). **Alexithymia, dissociation, and social desirability: Investigating individual differences in the narrative content of false allegations of trauma.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 47, 138-167. Undergraduates (males = 58 & females = 233) completed measures of alexithymia, dissociation, and social desirability in a study examining differences between truthful and fabricated written narratives of trauma. The presence of alexithymia was associated with lower plausibility and dis-



sociation with less coherency and plausibility.

Unkelbach, C., Forgas, J.P., & Denson, T.F. (2008). **The turban effect: The influence of Muslim headgear and induced affect on aggressive responses in the shooter bias paradigm.** *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, 44*, 1409-1413. In a computer game, participants ($N = 66$) made quick decisions to shoot/ not shoot, showing a bias for targets wearing Muslim headgear. Positive mood selectively increased likelihood of shooting Muslims; angry mood increased the propensity for participants to shoot all targets.

Van Bergen, S., Jelicic, M., Merckelbach, H. (2008). **Interrogation techniques and memory distrust.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 14*, 425-434. Participants ($N = 50$) imagined being innocently accused of a crime and interviewed using one of five techniques (false evidence, false eyewitness, minimization, maximization, or suggested memory problems). Participants most frequently confessed when presented with false evidence; the techniques had a differential effect on a measure of memory distrust, with the suggestion of memory problems creating the most distrust.

LEGAL DECISION- MAKING/JURY RESEARCH

Krahe, B., Temkin, J., Bieneck, S., & Berger, A. (2008). **Prospective lawyers' rape stereotypes and schematic decision making about rape cases.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 14*, 461-479.

Undergraduate law students ($N = 451$) and postgraduate law trainees ($N = 129$) read rape case scenarios in which a

woman was raped by a stranger, acquaintance, or ex-partner and the perpetrator used force or took advantage of alcohol induced defenselessness. When perpetration involved alcohol and a stranger or acquaintance, participants agreeing with the rape myth rated the complainant as more responsible. Priming participants with the legal definition of rape did not eliminate the trend.

Dhami, M.K. (2008). **On measuring quantitative interpretations of reasonable doubt.** *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied, 14*, 353-363. Two studies investigated three techniques for measuring quantitative interpretations of reasonable doubt. Study 1 showed differences in reasonable doubt thresholds between all three methods: the novel membership function (95%), direct rating (85%), and decision-theory (53%). In study 2, judicial instructions affected only the direct rating method. All methods were equally predictive of verdict.

Furgeson, J.R., Babcock, L., & Shane, P.M. (2008). **Behind the mask of method: Political orientation and constitutional interpretive preferences.** *Law and Human Behavior, 32*, 502-510. Political orientation was associated with legal reasoning and preferred interpretation of the Constitution in two independent samples of law clerks and college students. A strong association between clerks' political orientation and interpretive preferences was found such that more conservative participants were less likely to prefer expansive interpretations. An experimental study with the student sample indicated that altering the perceived policy implications of judicial restraint could change initial

preferences regarding interpretation.

Henkel, L.A. (2008). **Jurors' reactions to recanted confessions: Do the defendant's personal and dispositional characteristics play a role?** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 14*, 565-578.

Participants ($N = 281$) read a trial transcript which varied confession characteristics: no mention of a confession was made, a confession was recanted due to a medical or psychological condition, or to stress of the interrogation, or a confession was inadmissible but no reasons were given. Guilty verdicts occurred more frequently when the reason for confession was mental disorder or interrogation stress, as opposed to a medical condition.

Landström, S. & Granhag, P.A. (2008). **Children's truthful and deceptive testimonies: How camera perspective affects adult observers' perception and assessment.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 14*, 381-396. Children were videotaped making either truthful or deceptive statements. Adult participants ($N = 256$) viewed the videos where the camera focus was close-up, medium (child only), medium (child and interviewer), and long shot. The closer the focus the more critically the children were assessed, but this did not affect veracity judgments.

Ruva, C. L., & McEvoy, C. (2008). **Negative and positive pretrial publicity affect juror memory and decision making.** *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied, 14*, 226-235. Undergraduate mock jurors ($N = 159$) viewing a murder case displayed similar source memory errors in negative and positive pre-trial publicity (PTP) conditions. Guilt rating

effect sizes (compared to a nonexposed condition) were greater for negative PTP than for positive PTP.

Sauerland, M. & Sporer, S.L. (2008). **The application of multiple lineups in a field study.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 14*, 549-564. Confederates asked passers-by for directions to a certain area. Participants ($N = 648$) were asked to identify the confederate; some lineups were target present and some target absent, and participants identified portrait, body, profile, and accessory bag lineups. The combinations of lineups increased guilt diagnosticity, with portrait lineups being most diagnostic.

Shaked-Schroer, N., Costanzo, M., & Marcus-Newhall, A. (2008). **Reducing racial bias in the penalty phase of capital trials.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law, 26*, 603-617. Authors altered the content of jury instructions to examine juror bias toward Blacks. White and non-White participants received instructions that manipulated the defendant's race (White/Black) and instruction type (standard/simplified). Simplified instructions included definitions of legal terms and used a simplified sentence structure. Simplified instructions led to reduced bias against Black defendants and better understanding of sentencing instructions.

Skagerberg, E.M., & Wright, D.B. (2008). **The prevalence of co-witnesses and co-witness discussions in real eyewitnesses.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 14*, 513-521. In a study of real witnesses ($N = 60$), 58% discussed events of the crime and 39% discussed suspect details when a co-witness was present.

Wiener, R.L., & Richter, E. (2008). **Symbolic hate: Intention to intimidate, political ideology and group association.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 35, 463-476. Mock jurors ($N = 180$) were presented with litigation scenarios that contained variations in symbolic speech symbols, reasons for displaying these symbols, and statute type. The presence of alternative justifications for displaying some speech symbols (i.e., cross burning) lowered participants' perceptions of the intent to intimidate while other symbolic acts (e.g., displaying swastikas) were deemed true threats.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Bonta, J., Rugge, T., Scott, T. L., Bourgon, G., & Yessine, A. K., (2008). **Exploring the black box of community supervision.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 47, 240-270. In a sample of 154 probationers, recidivism decreased as the amount of time probation officers spent discussing criminogenic needs with the probationers increased.

Brennan, T., Dietrich, W., & Ehret, B. (2009). **Evaluating the predictive validity of the COMPAS risk and needs assessment system.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 36, 21-40. Offenders' ($N = 2,328$) were assessed with Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS) as part of their processing at entry into probation agencies. AUC values for predicting arrests ranged from .66 to .80, with most exceeding .70.

Douglas, K.S., Epstein, M.E., & Poythress, N.G. (2008). **Criminal recidivism among juvenile offenders: Testing the incremental and predic-**

tive validity of three measures of psychopathic features. *Law and Human Behavior*, 32, 423-438. In a sample of 85 delinquent youth, the Childhood Psychopathy Scale (CPS) was more consistently related to most types of recidivism than the PCL:YV and Antisocial Process Screening Device (APSD, self report), with the PCL:YV having a non-significant association with recidivism. The predictive effects of the measures were no longer significant when relevant covariates, such as age, substance use, conduct disorder, and previous property crime, were included in multivariate predictive models.

Ferguson, A.M., Ogloff, J.R.P., & Thomson, L. (2009). **Predicting recidivism by mentally disordered offenders using the LSI-R: SV.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 36, 5-20. In a sample of 208 mentally ill offenders, Level of Service Inventory-Revised: Screening Version (LSI-R:SV) scores were predictive of recidivism among mentally disordered offenders (AUC = .65). However, the LSI-R:SV did not reliably predict recidivism for individuals who had dual diagnoses of mental illness and substance abuse.

Frowd, C.D., Bruce, V., Smith, A.J., & Hancock, P.J.B. (2008). **Improving the quality of facial composites using a holistic cognitive interview.** *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*, 14, 276-287. A novel Holistic-Cognitive Interview (H-CI) facial composite construction technique was compared to the traditional Cognitive Interview (CI). H-CI composites yielded superior name recollection, better facial matching, and higher similarity ratings than CI composites.

Manchak, S.M., Skeem, J.L., & Douglas, K.S. (2008). **Utility of the revised Level of Service Inventory (LSI-R) in predicting recidivism after long-term incarceration.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 32, 477-488. The LSI-R was a moderate predictor of general, but not violent, recidivism in a sample of 555 Long-Term Inmates (LTIs). The LSI-R appears to work equally well for LTIs and shorter-term inmates as a predictor of general recidivism.

McDermott, B. E., Quanbeck, C. D., Busse, D., Yastro, K., & Scott, C. L. (2008). **The accuracy of risk assessment instruments in prediction of impulsive versus predatory aggression.** *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 26, 759-777. Authors investigated the relationship between risk measures (PCL-R and HCR-20) and three types of aggression (impulsive, predatory, and psychotic) among 238 patients in an inpatient forensic hospital. Impulsive aggression was associated with anger (AUC = .73) and HCR-20 scores AUC = .71). Anger (AUC = .95) and PCL-R scores (AUC = .84) were most strongly associated with predatory aggression. Psychotic symptoms were most strongly associated with psychotic aggression (AUC = .90).

Ménard, K.S., Anderson, A.L., & Godboldt, S.M. (2009). **Gender differences in intimate partner recidivism: A 5-year follow-up.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 36, 61-76. Examination of 596 cases of intimate partner violence (15% perpetrated by women) revealed men were more likely than women to have committed the offense in the presence of children (31% versus 19%) and to have used severe violence in the incident (37% versus 23%). Men were more likely to recidivate than

women (48% versus 19%) and to have evidence of drug or alcohol problems, or a history of probation or parole. Drug use was the only criminal justice variable that significantly predicted recidivism in men and women.

Schwalbe, C.S. (2008). **A meta-analysis of juvenile justice risk assessment instruments: Predictive validity by gender.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 35, 1367-1381. Across 19 studies examining risk of recidivism for juveniles (Total $N = 57,938$), effect sizes for male offenders ranged from $r = .13$ to $.44$, and effect sizes for female offenders ranged from $r = .03$ to $.57$. The overall average effect size was $r = .27$. The largest effect size for males was exhibited by the Arizona Risk/Needs Assessment ($r = .44, .48$ for male and female offenders respectively). The largest effect size for females was exhibited by the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory ($r = .32, .57$ for male and female offenders respectively).

Walters, G.D., & Schlauch, C. (2008). **The Psychological Inventory of Criminal Thinking Styles and Level of Service Inventory-Revised: Screening Version as predictors of official and self-reported disciplinary infractions.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 32, 454-462. The LSI-R:SV was somewhat better at predicting self-reported disciplinary infractions than the PICTS in a sample of male inmates at a 24 month follow up ($n = 83$). The PICTS General Criminal Thinking (GCT) score was able to better predict officially recorded disciplinary infractions than the LSI-R:SV, although the differences were not statistically significant. Only age and GCT scores achieved incremental validity when age, GCT, and



LSI-R:SV scores were included as predictors in the same model.

SEX OFFENDERS

Kingston, D.A., Yates, P.M., Firestone, P., Babchishin, K., & Bradford, J.M. (2008). **Long-term predictive validity of the risk matrix 2008: A comparison with the static-99 and the sex offender risk appraisal guide.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 20, 466-484. Adult male sexual offenders ($n = 351$) were assessed at the with modified versions of the Static-99, SORAG, and RM2000. Recidivism was monitored for an average follow-up period of 12 years. The RM2000 demonstrated moderate predictive accuracy for sexual recidivism (ROC = .64), violent (including sexual) recidivism (ROC = .65), and criminal recidivism (ROC = .69). For sexual recidivism, the Static-99 was significantly more accurate than the RM2000. In predicting violent (including sexual) recidivism, the SORAG was statistically superior to the RM2000. For criminal recidivism, the SORAG was superior to the RM2000.

Letourneau, E.J., & Armstrong, K.S. (2008). **Recidivism rates for registered and nonregistered juvenile sexual offenders.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 20, 393-408. Recidivism rates across a mean 4.3 year follow-up were examined for registered and nonregistered juvenile sex offenders ($n = 111$ matched pairs). In comparison with nonregistered offenders, registered offenders had 85% higher odds of nonperson recidivism. There was no significant between-group difference with respect to nonsexual person offenses.

Lindsay, W.R., Steptoe, L., & Beech, A.T. (2008). **The Ward and Hudson pathways model of the sexual offense process applied to offenders with intellectual disability.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 20, 379-392. Sex offenders with intellectual disability ($n = 62$) were classified according to four self-regulation pathways. Explicit/active offenders had a significantly higher rate of contact with their victim whereas automatic/passive offenders had a higher rate of noncontact offending. Explicit/active offenders also had a significantly lower rate of reoffending than the automatic/passive offenders.

Rice, M.E., Harris, G.T., Lang, C., & Chaplin, T.C. (2008). **Sexual preferences and recidivism of sex offenders with mental retardation.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 20, 409-425. Sex offenders with MR ($n = 69$) exhibited more deviant preferences for prepubertal children, male children, and young children than the non-MR offenders ($n = 69$). Sex offenders with MR were also more likely to have had a prepubertal victim, a prepubertal male victim, and a very young victim. They were no more likely than the comparison offenders to exhibit preferences for extremely coercive sex with children or to exhibit deviant adult activity preferences, nor were they more likely to recidivate violently.

Sandler, J.C., Freeman, N.J., & Socia, K.M. (2008). **Does a watched pot boil? A time-series analysis of New York state's sex offender registration and notification law.** *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 14, 284-302. Monthly arrest counts were obtained from criminal history files for every

offender arrested for a sexual offense in New York state between 1986 and 2006. Time series analyses indicated that sex offender registration and notification laws were not effective in reducing the rates of rape, child molestation, sexual recidivism, or general sexual offending.

WITNESS ISSUES

Allwood, C.M., Innes-Ker, A.H., Homgren, J., & Fredin, G. (2008). **Children's and adults' realism in their event-recall confidence in responses to free recall and focused questions.** *Psychology, Crime & Law*, 14, 529-547. Examined confidence and accuracy (realism) in 8-9 and 12-13 year old children and adults in two experiments ($N = 227$). The 8-9 year olds had comparable levels of realism to adults and were neither over or underconfident for free-recall; all participants were overconfident responding to focused questions.

Boyce, M., Lindsay, D., & Brimacombe, C. (2008). **Investigating investigators: Examining the impact of eyewitness identification evidence on student-investigators.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 32, 439-453. Information-gain analysis showed that student investigators were unduly influenced by the witness' identification or non-identification. Investigators were highly influenced by the witness, regardless of whether they had a good or a bad view of the crime.

Brewer, N., Weber, N., Clark, A., & Wells, G.L. (2008). **Distinguishing accurate from inaccurate eyewitness identifications with an optional deadline procedure.** *Psychology, Crime & Law*, 14, 397-414. Participants ($n = 500$) viewed

a crime and made simultaneous identifications in one of three conditions: Forced choice required an answer after 8s of exposure; optional deadline allowed a choice of selecting after 8s exposure, if not then a further 8s, and if not then unlimited exposure; final condition used unlimited exposure. Optional deadline more accurately discriminated between correct and incorrect identifications.

Clark, S., & Wells, G. (2008). **On the diagnosticity of multiple-witness identifications.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 32, 406-422. Researchers used a Bayesian analysis of eyewitness identification data to study the effect of multiple eyewitness outcomes on diagnosticities. Adding a nonidentifying witness to an identifying witness decreased diagnosticity more than adding a second identifying witness raised it.

Hutchings, P. B., & Haddock G. (2008). **Look Black in anger: The role of implicit prejudice in the categorization and perceived emotional intensity of racially ambiguous faces.** *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 44, 1418-1420. White participants ($N = 82$) viewed racially ambiguous faces displaying varied emotions (angry/neutral/happy). Participants higher in implicit prejudice were more likely to classify racially ambiguous faces with angry expressions as Black and reported the intensity of the emotion as greater than participants with lower levels of implicit prejudice.

Laimon, R. L., & Poole, D. A. (2008). **Adults usually believe young children: The influence of eliciting questions and suggestibility presentations**

on perceptions of children's disclosures. *Law and Human Behavior*, 35, 489-501. Children's ($N = 114$, age 3-8) freely recalled responses were more accurate than disclosures following "yes" responses to yes-no questions, which were more accurate than disclosures following "no" responses. Students ($N = 108$) usually believed descriptions given during free-recall and following "yes" responses, and did not believe descriptions given after "no" responses.

Lindholm, T. (2008). **Who can judge the accuracy of eyewitness statements? A comparison of police and lay-persons.** *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 22, 1301-1314. Swedish judges ($n = 59$), police detective ($n = 36$) and lay-persons ($n = 60$) evaluated the accuracy of eyewitness statements (video or transcript) from ethnic in- or out-groups. Detectives were most accurate; accuracy was better for transcribed than videotaped statements. Judges used the most liberal response criterion overall. Detectives and lay-persons were more liberal when judging out-group members. Lindsay, R.C.L., Semmler, C., Weber, N., Brewer, N. & Lindsay, M.R. (2008). **How variations in distance affect eyewitness reports and identification accuracy.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 35, 536-535. The effect of distance on description accuracy, choosing behavior, and identification test accuracy was explored ($N = 1300$). Results indicated substantial errors in distance judgments, mediocre description accuracy, and decision accuracy that declined with distance.

Lippert, T., Cross, T. P., Jones, L., & Walsh, W. (2008). **Telling interviewers about sexual**

abuse: Predictors of child disclosure at forensic interviews. *Child Maltreatment*, 14, 100-113. Files from cases of child sexual abuse ($N=987$) were examined to identify case characteristics associated with full disclosure of abuse. Full disclosure was more common when the child was older at both time of the offense and at the time of the forensic interview, the victim was female, the investigation was initiated by the child's disclosure, and the child's family was supportive.

Megreya, A.M., & Burton, A.M. (2008). **Matching faces to photographs: Poor performance in eyewitness memory (without the memory).** *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*, 14, 364-372. Three studies investigated baseline recognition rates for unfamiliar faces in ideal conditions (no delay or side-by-side comparison). All studies showed poor performance (67-83%); studies 1 and 2 showed no differences between live and photographic stimulus presentation.

Neal, T.M.S., & Brodsky, S.L. (2008). **Expert witness credibility as a function of eye contact behavior and gender.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*. 35, 1515-1526. Undergraduates ($N=232$) saw a video with varying conditions: male expert or female expert paired with either low, medium, or high eye contact. Male experts with high eye contact were seen as more credible than experts who made medium or low eye contact. The female expert's credibility was similar for each eye contact condition.

Powell, M. R., Fisher, R. P., & Hughes-Scholes, C. H. (2008). **The effect of using trained**

versus untrained adult respondents in simulated practice interviews about child abuse. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 32, 1007-1016. Child protection workers ($N=50$) were trained in the use of open-ended questions and completed two practice interviews with either a trained or an untrained participant. Results indicated significant increases in the use of open-ended questions by those who practiced with trained actors in both immediate and 12-week follow-up post-training interviews.

Pozzulo, J. D., Crescini, & C., Lemieux, J. M. T. (2008). **Are accurate witnesses more likely to make absolute judgments?** *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 31, 495-501. Undergraduate students ($N=74$) viewed a one minute video of a male confederate discussing street safety awareness and then viewed a six person target absent lineup for either two seconds or an unlimited amount of time. Participants who viewed the unlimited lineup had increased response latency, although there was no difference between groups for response accuracy. Participants who correctly rejected the lineup were found to be more confident in their identifications, while those with longer response latency were less confident in their decisions.

Pozzulo, J. D., Crescini, C., and Panton, T. (2008). **Does methodology matter in eyewitness identification research?: The effect of live versus video exposure on eyewitness identification accuracy.** *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 31, 430-437. Undergraduates ($N=104$) were assigned to either a live exposure or videotaped exposure condition and then to either a

target absent or target present lineup condition. Participants completed the Stress-Arousal Checklist and a lineup response form which included a confidence rating. Mode of target exposure did not have a significant effect on accuracy of identification. Participants in the live exposure conditions experienced higher levels of stress and arousal. Confidence levels were significantly higher for those who made a correct identification in the target present lineup.

Pozzulo, J.D., Dempsey, J., Corey, S., Girardi, A., Lawandi, A. & Aston, C. (2008). **Can a lineup procedure designed for child witnesses work for adults? Comparing simultaneous, sequential, and elimination lineup procedures.** *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 38, 2195-2209. Participants ($N= 165$) viewed a staged theft and made identification from target-present or target-absent lineups. Similar rates of identification were found for target present lineups. Differences in rates of correct rejections of target-absent lineups were found; sequential and elimination lineups yielded more correct rejections than simultaneous lineups.



Division News and Information

Early Career Psychologists

Lora Levett, Chair, Committee on ECPs

The main goal of the AP-LS Committee on Early Career Psychologists (ECPs) is to provide support and opportunities within AP-LS for ECPs. Last summer, we conducted a survey of our membership to ascertain the best ways that AP-LS could accomplish this goal. First, we would like to extend our gratitude to the 270 members of AP-LS who completed the survey and the 60 ECPs who participated in our focus group – thank you! The results showed general support within our membership for initiating programming within AP-LS geared toward ECPs, and we brought the results and our suggestions to the Executive Committee last August at APA. The Executive Committee approved the formation of an ad-hoc committee on ECPs, funds for an annual conference workshop and social geared toward ECPs, and reduced dues and conference fees for ECPs within three years of receiving their latest degree. ECPs are now able to register for conferences at a reduced rate and join AP-LS at the student rate for the first three years post-graduation.

We have been busy planning our conference workshop for this March. On Thursday, March 5th, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m., Dr. Louis Schlesinger (Professor of Forensic Psychology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Diplomate in Forensic Psychology, American Board of Professional Psychology) will be presenting a workshop titled “Private Practice of Forensic Psychology: Preparation, Building a Practice, and Problems in Practice.” In the workshop, Dr. Schlesinger will discuss graduate and post-graduate preparation, developing a subspecialty in forensic psychology, licensure issues and inter state cases, board certification (ABPP), building a practice, getting and keeping referrals, problems in practice, staying out of trouble, and other emerging practice issues. The workshop is open to all membership and is free of charge. We also will be hosting a social the opening night of the conference. After the welcome reception, the committee on ECPs will host a reception for ECPs and soon-to-be ECPs in the Executive Salon 3 room at the conference hotel from 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Please feel free to stop by and say hello to the ECPs!

The committee on ECPs also has exciting plans for the future. We are currently working on proposing an AP-LS grant-in-aid program for ECPs to our Executive Committee. In addition, we have planned a newsletter column series to address issues commonly faced by ECPs. We will also continue to offer workshops and host socials for ECPs at our annual conference. If you have input for the committee on how to best support ECPs, if you would like to make a suggestion for a newsletter column or workshop topic, or if you would like to join the ad-hoc AP-LS Committee on ECPs, please contact the committee chair, Lora Levett, at llevett@ufl.edu.

Pre-conference Symposium for Students and First-Time (or even Second-Time) Convention-Goers

Title: “How to Get the Most out of the Conference: Information, Advice, and Snacks for Students”

Sponsored by the APLS Teaching and Training Committee and the APLS Student Section March 2009

Time: 11-12, Thursday March 5, 2009

A panel of graduate students and faculty members will lead a discussion about how to get the most out of the conference. Topics will include (a) why to attend the conference, (b) what to expect at the conference, and (c) helpful tips for successfully navigating the conference. In addition, the AP-LS Student Section Chair and Chair-Elect will provide information about conference events specifically for students. Last, there will be a brief discussion of “things to do” in San Antonio, Texas. Hope to see you there!

Student and Early Career Professional Development Series

The Teaching Training and Careers Committee, Student Section, and Mentoring Committees are co-sponsoring a special three-part series at this year’s conference that is geared toward the professional development of students and early career professionals. The co-sponsors encourage attendance at all three sessions. SCHEDULE:

SESSION I: Thursday 03/05/09 - 2:15pm to 3:30pm - CV and Personal Statement Seminar
(Sponsored by Student Section)

SESSION II: Friday 03/06/09 - 5:30pm to 6:30pm - Advice on the Job Search and Hiring Process Panel
(Sponsored by Teaching, Training, & Careers Committee)

SESSION III: Saturday 03/07/09 - 12:15pm to 1:30pm – Preparation for the Academic Job Interview Interactive Session
(Sponsored by Mentoring Committee)

**Please check the conference program for further details on location, content, and format.

Scientific Review Paper Committee Scientific Review Paper Committee Session at AP-LS

Scientific Review Paper Committee, Chaired by William Thompson, is having a session during the meeting to hear comment and discussion on the “white paper” titled “Police-Induced Confessions: Risk Factors and Recommendations,” which was prepared by Saul Kassin, Steven Drizin, Thomas Grisso, Gisli Gudjonsson, Richard Leo and Allison Redlich. Check your AP-LS Conference program for details. The white paper is available for review on the AP-LS website at <http://www.ap-ls.org/links/whitepaperconfessions.html>. After the review process, the AP-LS Executive Committee will be asked to consider endorsing the white paper as an official statement of the organization.

AP-LS NEWS, Winter 2009

Division News and Information

Problem-Solving Correctional Research: Filling a Gap in APLS

Sarah Manchak & Jennifer Skeem

The U.S. leads the world in its rate of incarceration (Walmsley, 2005). The number of Americans under some form of correctional supervision recently reached an all-time high of over 7 million (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2008). Over recent years, there has been increasing recognition that longstanding punitive correctional policies have done little to reduce crime (e.g., Levitt, 2004; Spelman, 2000; see also Haney, 2006). Economic and sociopolitical factors have begun shifting policymakers' attention to evidence on "what works" to reduce offenders' risk of recidivism. Across the nation, stakeholders have become interested in results-driven policies and evidence-based criminal justice programs (Aos, Miller, & Drake, 2006). The notion that robust research evidence can be applied to increase public safety – and to improve outcomes for some people involved in the criminal justice system – is gaining real traction. In short, it is an exciting time to study corrections. There is great demand for identifying data-based solutions to the problem of recidivism. Who better to help meet this demand than members of the American-Psychology Law Society (AP-LS)?

Historically, problem-solving correctional research has been grossly underrepresented in AP-LS conference programming and LHB journal articles, particularly compared to topics like psychopathy or violence risk assessment. Although some of our members have made remarkable strides with policy-relevant correctional research, they could use company. So could the larger field of correctional research and practice.

The AP-LS Corrections Committee was (re)formed two years ago. The committee is chaired by Jennifer Skeem and includes Joel Dvoskin, Patricia Griffin, Sarah Manchak, Robert Morgan, Daryl Kroner, Jeremy Mills, and Ira Packer. Three committee members – Kroner, Mills, and Morgan – bring a wealth of corrections expertise and connections with them, in joining our effort at AP-LS. The committee's goal is to increase APLS' representation of researchers who study supervision, services, and rehabilitative programs for correctional populations.

The committee's efforts were most visible at the 2008 AP-LS conference in Jacksonville. There, Donald A. Andrews, an internationally recognized expert in correctional programming and treatment, delivered an invited address and led a round table discussion with AP-LS members. Behind the scenes, the committee established an expert panel to review AP-LS conference submissions on corrections topics. They also worked with a co-chair of the AP-LS program at APA to highlight corrections topics. Compared to the three previous years, there was an increase in symposia and paper sessions on corrections at both the APLS and APA conferences in 2008. Although this is terrific news, there is still much room for improvement: the number of submissions is not commensurate with their potential impact on correctional policy and practice in today's environment.

What next, then? The committee received support for two major activities this year:

First, Henry J. Steadman, Ph.D., will present an invited address on "Problem-solving research for justice-involved persons with mental illness" at our San Antonio conference on Saturday, March 7th 2009 at 4:15 pm. Dr. Steadman is internationally known for his research on the interface between mental health and criminal justice systems. People with serious mental illness are grossly over-represented in the correctional population, and tend to have particularly poor criminal justice outcomes. Dr. Steadman's work is designed to identify - and help implement - solutions to improve the delivery of appropriate services to justice-involved people with mental illness and to improve criminal justice outcomes. After highlighting this research, Dr. Steadman will lead a discussion with the audience on opportunities for studying this important and exciting topic.

Second, the AP-LS Corrections Committee is accepting proposals for a Seed Grant to support research relevant to improving the supervision of – or services for – correctional populations. Postdoctoral fellows and faculty are eligible to apply. The committee will give funding priority to proposals that (a) go beyond assessment to address services, intervention, and recidivism reduction, (b) will generate seed data for a larger grant proposal, and (c) are driven by theory and have direct implications for practice. The committee will fund one seed grant of about \$5,000. Proposals should be about five pages in length, and should highlight the study aims/rationale, proposed method and analyses, and potential impact. Please include a simple budget. Proposals should be submitted by e-mail, in .pdf format, no later than **April 30, 2009** to skeem@uci.edu. Proposals will be reviewed by corrections committee members.

Your suggestions and comments are welcome (contact smanchak@uci.edu). We will continue collaborating with members of other organization (e.g., the Criminal Justice Section of APA's Division 18) to disseminate announcements about these conference and funding endeavors. Our goal is to draw promising corrections researchers to our organization and to spark greater interest in corrections research among APLS members. We believe that the considerable talent of our members has much to offer in helping to solve contemporary problems in corrections. The time is ripe!

References

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- Bureau of Justice Statistics. (2008). *Corrections facts at a glance*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs.
- Haney, C. (2006). The wages of prison overcrowding: Harmful psychological consequences and dysfunctional correctional reactions. *Washington University Journal of Law & Policy*, 22, 265-293.
- Levitt, S. (2004). Understanding why crime fell in the 1990s: Four factors that explain the decline and six that do not. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 18, 163-190.
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Division News and Information

APLS Book Series

The APLS book series is published by Oxford University Press. The series publishes scholarly work that advances the field of psychology and law by contributing to its theoretical and empirical knowledge base. The latest book in the series, by Larry Wrightsman, is entitled *Oral arguments before the Supreme Court: An empirical approach*. Larry traces the history of oral arguments from John Jay and the beginning of the Supreme Court to the present day Roberts Court. Challenging the notion that oral arguments play an insignificant role in decisions, Wrightsman provides a careful and detailed analysis of the transcripts of oral arguments and shows that oral arguments are central to the decision making process. The editor is interested in proposals for new books. Inquiries and proposals from potential authors should be sent to Dr. Ronald Roesch, Series Editor (E-mail: roesch@sfu.ca or phone: 778-782-3370).

The following books are available for purchase online from Oxford University Press (note that APLS members receive a 25% discount, as shown on the website): <http://www.us.oup.com/us/collections/apls/?view=usa>

Wrightsman, L. S. (2008). *Oral arguments before the Supreme Court: An empirical approach*.

Levesque, R. J. R. (2007). *Adolescents, media and the law: What developmental science reveals and free speech requires*.

Wrightsman, L. S. (2006). *The psychology of the Supreme Court*.

Slobogin, C. (2006). *Proving the unprovable: The role of law, science, and speculation in adjudicating culpability and dangerousness*.

Stefan, S. (2006). *Emergency department treatment of the psychiatric patient: Policy issues and legal requirements*.

Haney, C. (2005). *Death by design: Capital punishment as a social psychological system*. (This book received the Herbert Jacob Book Prize from the Law and Society Association for the "most outstanding book written on law and society in 2005").

Koch, W. J., Douglas, K. S., Nicholls, T. L., & O'Neill, M. (2005). *Psychological injuries: Forensic assessment, treatment and law*.

Posey, A. J., & Wrightsman, L. S. (2005). *Trial consulting*.

Handbook of Teaching Materials

The recently-revised "**Handbook of Teaching Materials for Undergraduate Legal Psychology Courses**" (by Edie Greene and Erica Drew) is available on the AP-LS website (www.ap-ls.org) under the Academics link. The handbook provides models for integrating psychology and law into the undergraduate curriculum, course descriptions, relevant textbooks, sources for lecture material, suggested writing assignments and active learning exercises, and video and on-line resources.



American Academy of Forensic Psychology Workshop Schedule: 2009

The American Academy of Forensic Psychology, the membership of ABPP board certified forensic psychologists, presents an ongoing series of workshops and training seminars led by leaders in the field of forensic psychology. Workshops focus on contemporary psycho-legal issues relevant to forensic, child, clinical and neuropsychologists and are designed for those interested in pursuing psycho-legal topics in depth.

The schedule for 2009-2010 can be found at www.abfp.com, along with a listing of the specific topics covered in each workshop. More information also appears in Conference and Workshop planner on page 36 and detailed information about upcoming workshops appears to the left.

The American Academy of Forensic Psychology is approved by the American Psychological Association to offer continuing education for psychologists. AAFP maintains responsibility for its programs.

Call for Psychology and Law Syllabi

The AP-LS Teaching, Training, and Careers Committee (TTC) is continuing its efforts to collect syllabi for courses in Psychology and Law or closely related topics. There are already a number of syllabi that have been collected over the years on the AP-LS website (<http://ap-ls.org/academics/downloadIndex.html>). However, we would like to routinely post new syllabi. We would appreciate your assistance in providing us with a copy of your syllabi. If you have not already provided one, please do so in the following way:

Send a copy of your syllabi to Matthew Huss (mhuss@creighton.edu). Soft copies may be submitted as e-mail attachments (Word Perfect, Word, or ASCII files are preferred).

Now Updated: Resource Directory of Forensic Psychology Pre-Doctoral Internship Training Programs

The APLS Teaching, Training, and Careers Committee is pleased to announce that the newly updated "Resource Directory of Forensic Psychology Pre-Doctoral Internship Training Programs" is now available on-line at the APLS website www.ap-ls.org. This directory includes a listing of U.S and Canadian pre-doctoral internships with forensic rotations including: setting, population, type of forensic assessment and treatment experiences, as well as time spent at each training experience. Email and website addresses have been included to facilitate contact with internship programs. This directory is a must-have for students interested in forensic psychology.

The TCC is indebted to Professor Alvin Malesky and Allison Croysdale for all their efforts spent in updating this directory.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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• Council Representative	William Foote	ForNPscyh@aol.com
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• Early Career Psychologists Committee	Lora Levett	llevett@ufl.edu
• Division Administrative Secretary	Kathy Gaskey	APLS@ec.rr.com
• Conference Advisory Committee	Patricia Zapf	pzapf@jjay.cuny.edu
• 2008 APA Program Chairs	Veronica Stinson	Veronica.Stinson@smu.ca
	Roslyn Caldwell	rcaldwell@jjay.cuny.edu
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	Nancy Ryba	nryba@jjay.cuny.edu
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	Jeffery Neuschatz	neuchaj@uah.edu
	Gina Vincent	Vincent@umannmed.edu
• 2010 APLS Conference Chairs	Jodi Viljoen	viljoenj@sfu.edu
	Sam Sommers	sam.sommers@tufts.edu
	Matt Scullin	mhscullin@utep.edu

New AP-LS Web Site Editor

The new AP-LS Web Site Editor would like to improve the look, functionality, and content of the AP-LS web site (<http://www.ap-ls.org>). If you have ideas for revisions that you would like to see make to the web site, please email them directly to the Web Site Editor, Dr. Kevin O'Neil at oneilk@fiu.edu. Content that should be added to, or corrected on, the Web site is especially desired.



Nominations, Awards, and Announcements

Diversity in Psychology Research Awards

The Minority Affairs Committee sent out the call for proposals in November. The following are award recipients of \$1000 each:

Award Recipient: Julia Busso Kennard, M.A., John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York
Project: The Effects of Suspect Race on False Confessions

Abstract

Research has shown that police interrogation techniques can lead to false confessions, however, the way in which the race of the suspect interacts with these techniques during police interviews and interrogations has yet to be examined. Basic social psychological research indicates that race can play a prominent role in social perceptions and influence, and preliminary research on race and *Miranda* waiver shows that Black suspects have less trust in police and are less likely to waive their *Miranda* rights than White suspects. We believe that Black suspects, lacking trust in police, may be more likely to confess to crimes they did not commit than White suspects because they have greater fear of the negative repercussions of failing to cooperate with police. The current study will examine the rate of false confessions by Black and White suspects using a mock crime paradigm asking participants to “steal” money from the university to help a fellow study participant. True and false confession rates for Black and White suspects will be examined as well as the suspects’ reasons for confessing to the crime.

Award Recipient: David Flores, University of Nevada, Reno
Project Title: Examining the Impact of Implicit Racial Bias on the Exercise of Peremptory Challenges

Abstract

Considerable attention has recently been devoted to the systematic exclusion of racial minorities from jury service. Recent Supreme Court decisions (*Miller-el v. Dretke*, 2005; *Snyder v. Louisiana*, 2008) reaffirmed the unconstitutionality of race-based exclusions during jury selection, originally established in *Batson v. Kentucky* (1986), and have further underscored this as a prominent issue in the American trial system. Previous archival research in the area has substantiated concerns about racial inequities, demonstrating a relationship between prospective juror race and the exercise of peremptory challenges (e.g., Rose, 1999). Recent experimental research has provided convergent evidence, exposing the influence of race on jury selection, while also revealing the general ineffectiveness of self-report justifications for identifying this influence (Sommers & Norton, 2007).

The social contextual dynamic of *voir dire* mirrors conditions under which theory suggests judgment and decision-making processes are highly susceptible to the effects of unconscious forms of racial bias. Unconscious, automatic racial bias represents perhaps the most invidious form of bias in this domain, as its effect goes undetected even to the individual, yet is nonetheless capable of contributing to racial inequality in jury selection. Emerging research has suggested a relationship between implicit racial

bias and the exercise of peremptory challenges. Much more work is needed, however, to more thoroughly elucidate the precise character of the role of implicit bias in jury selection, and the social dynamic and specific contexts that facilitate its operation. Such knowledge will be vital to those engaging in the debate regarding peremptory challenges, as well as to those who are considering the development of preventative or remedial procedural measures to address influence of racial bias in jury selection.

The proposed research is comprised of two studies tailored to pursue work on these two important fronts. One study will be devoted to a theoretical extension, focusing on further examining the structure of implicit racial stereotypes and their influence on jury selection practices, while also simultaneously exploring the role of various potential moderating factors. The second study will provide for an investigation of one social contextual dimension of jury selection in which the impact of implicit bias may be more pronounced.

Award Recipient: Isaiah Pickens, M.A., Fordham University
Project Title: An investigation of pathways to academic amotivation and reactive aggression among high school students: domain specificity or multifinality?

Abstract

The present study seeks to examine how lower academic motivation (academic amotivation) and reactive aggression develop among high school students. Using patterns of thinking as a basic framework, beliefs and situation-specific decision making processes will be explored as antecedents to academic amotivation and reactive aggression among a sample of 300 male and female students recruited from three public high schools. While support exist for the role of beliefs and situation-specific decision making processes on the development of academic amotivation and reactive aggression respectively, researchers have yet to determine the extent to which patterns of thinking in one domain (i.e. academic) account for the development of behaviors in the other domain (i.e. social) and vice versa. To address this limitation, the primary goal of the present study is to explore four independent and nested developmental models of academic amotivation and reactive aggression utilizing structural equation analytic techniques. This methodology permits exploration of both the domain-specific and cross-domain influences of cognitive antecedents on development and maintenance of academic amotivation and reactive aggression. Furthermore, the secondary goal of this study is to examine differential gender effects within and between models. It is expected that the models representing beliefs and situational decision making processes that reflect inflexible, or biased, patterns of thinking will be associated with greater academic amotivation and reactive aggression within each model. Furthermore, it is expected that the model accounting for cross-domain influences of decision making processes on behaviors will represent the optimal relationship between variables. These findings will provide the understanding necessary to create specific educational interventions aimed at improving youths academic and social outcomes within school.

Nominations, Awards, and Announcements

APLS BOOK AWARD

The APLS Book Award Committee is pleased to announce the winner of the award for the outstanding book in Law and Psychology for 2007-2008:

Roger J.R. Levesque, J.D., Ph.D., Department Chair and Professor of Criminal Justice at Indiana University

For his 2007 book, *ADOLESCENTS, MEDIA, AND THE LAW: WHAT DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENCE REVEALS AND FREE SPEECH REQUIRES*, published by Oxford University Press, in the Perspectives in Psychology and Law Series sponsored by APLS.

The award will be presented at the March, 2009 APLS Conference, where Professor Levesque will present an invited address.

We congratulate Professor Levesque for his achievement!

Congratulations to the 2009 AP-LS Conference Student Travel Award Winners!

Sara Appleby	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Carmelina Barone	Simon Fraser University
Stephanie Evans	University of Alabama
Naomi Freeman	NYS Office of Mental Health
Heidi Gordon	Simon Fraser University
Sarah Greathouse	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Allyson Horgan	University of Texas at El Paso
Tarika Daftary Kapur	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Kaitlyn McLachlan	Simon Fraser University
Cynthia Najdowski	University of Illinois at Chicago
Elizabeth Nicholson	Simon Fraser University
Jennifer Schell	Maastricht University
Sanjay Shah	Drexel University/Villanova Law School
Diane Strub	Simon Fraser University
Joseph Toomey	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Chantal van Reeuwijk	Sam Houston State University
Lindsey Rhead	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Samantha Schwartz	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Rebecca Weiss	Fordham University
Shanna Williams	McGill University

Congratulations to AP-LS Fellow and Honorary Distinguished Members!

The Fellows Committee approved the Fellowship application of one new fellow, Lois Oberlander Condie, and two current APA Fellows, Lisa Grossman and Jeffrey Siegel. David Faigman and Susan Stefan were named Honorary Distinguished Members of AP-LS. Honorary Distinguished Members are those individuals who have made significant contributions to our field but who are not members of AP-LS or APA. Congratulations to all on these well-deserved honors.

Fellow Status in the APA

Becoming a Fellow recognizes outstanding contributions to psychology and is an honor valued by many members. Fellow nominations are made by a Division to which the Member belongs. The minimum standards for Fellow Status are:

- Doctoral degree based in part upon a psychological dissertation, or from a program primarily psychological in nature and conferred by a regionally accredited graduate or professional school.
- Prior status as an APA Member for at least one year.
- Active engagement at the time of nomination in the advancement of psychology in any of its aspects.
- Five years of acceptable professional experience subsequent to the granting of the doctoral degree.
- Evidence of unusual and outstanding contribution or performance in the field of psychology.

Members nominated for Fellow Status through AP-LS must provide evidence of unusual and outstanding contributions in the area of psychology and law. All candidates must be endorsed by at least one current AP-LS Fellow. For further information and application materials, please contact Kathy Gaskey, AP-LS Administrative Officer (APLS@ec.rr.com)

AP-LS Award for Outstanding Teaching And Mentoring In The Field Of Psychology & Law

The Teaching, Training, and Careers Committee of the American Psychology-Law Society is proud to announce that **Professor Edie Greene** of the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs has been selected as the recipient of the 2008 Award for Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring in the Field of Psychology and Law.

This competitive award is given to a scholar in the field of psychology and law who has made substantial contributions in terms of student teaching and mentoring, teaching-related service and scholarship, development of new curricula, administration of training programs, etc. Professor Greene's record is outstanding in all of these ways and more. We congratulate her on this grand achievement.



Nominations, Awards, and Announcements

The AP-LS Dissertation Awards Committee would like to congratulate the winners of the 2008 Dissertation Awards

1st Place:

Margaret Stevenson is our 1st-place winner. Her dissertation, entitled "Understanding jurors' discussions of a defendant's history of child abuse and alcohol abuse in capital sentencing trials," documented the nature of jurors' deliberation discussions about child abuse and alcohol abuse by coding the extent to which jurors used them as mitigating factors, used them as aggravating factors, or argued that they should be ignored. The committee reviewers described Margaret's study as "high-quality and meaningful," and they noted that her project "makes a very high contribution on both a theoretical and practical level." Margaret completed her dissertation at the University of Illinois at Chicago under the supervision of Bette Bottoms. Margaret will receive \$1000 for winning first place.

2nd Place:

Laura Kirsch is our 2nd-place winner. Her dissertation, entitled "An investigation of self-report and psychophysiological empathic responses in non-psychopathic and psychopathic individuals," examined the relationship between psychopathy and empathy. She sought to develop and validate an objective measure of empathy using psychophysiological indices of emotional experience as indicators of an empathic response. The committee reviewers described Laura's research as "highly original" and "completely novel." The committee reviewers stated that Laura's project "has the potential to advance the field" and "makes an immediate contribution to the study of empathy and psychopathy." Laura completed her dissertation at the University of Arizona under the supervision of Judith Becker. Laura will receive \$500 for winning second place.

3rd Place:

We had a tie for third place between Melanie Farkas and Lindsay Malloy. Melanie's dissertation, entitled "Ability of malingering measures to differentiate simulated versus genuine mental retardation," examined whether three commonly used measures of malingering can differentiate between those of normal intellect who were instructed to feign mental retardation and those with documented mental retardation. The committee reviewers described Melanie's methodology as "carefully designed," and they stated that her dissertation will make a "timely contribution to the field." Melanie completed her dissertation at Fordham University under the supervision of Barry Rosenfeld. Melanie will receive \$250 for sharing third place.

Lindsay's dissertation, entitled "Maltreated and nonmaltreated children's evaluations of disclosing an adult's wrongdoing," examined the reasons maltreated and nonmaltreated children elect to disclose or not to disclose negative experiences. The committee reviewers described her project as "thorough in design and analysis," with the potential to "make a good contribution both theoretically and practically." Lindsay completed her dissertation at the University of California, Irvine, under the supervision of Jodi Quas. Lindsay will receive \$250 for sharing third place.

Each award winner will have the opportunity to present her dissertation in a poster session at the 2009 AP-LS Annual Conference in San Antonio.

AP-LS Dissertation Award Program

The American Psychology-Law Society confers Dissertation Awards for scientific research and scholarship that is relevant to the promotion of the interdisciplinary study of psychology and law. Students who complete dissertations involving basic or applied research in psychology and law, including its application to public policy, are encouraged to apply for these awards. Only students who complete their dissertations in 2008 are eligible for Dissertation Awards. First-, second-, and third-place awards will be conferred. Winners will be invited to present their research at the 2009 AP-LS Conference in San Antonio, TX.

To apply for the Dissertation Awards, please attach the following items in an e-mail to aplsdissertations@gmail.com by January 1, 2009: (1) the dissertation as it was submitted to the student's university, (2) the dissertation with all author and advisor identifying information removed, and (3) a letter of support from the dissertation advisor. You must be a member of AP-LS to be eligible for a Dissertation Award. For more information, please contact David DeMatteo (dsd25@drexel.edu), Chair of the Dissertation Awards Committee.

Fellowships and Positions

Faculty Position Chicago School of Professional Psychology

Founded in 1979, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology is an independent professional graduate school with a dynamic student body and a professionally accomplished faculty. Our curriculum and training opportunities prepare graduates to deliver outstanding professional services emphasizing the ability to understand and work with diverse populations. The Department of Forensic Psychology at The Chicago School is seeking an outstanding practitioner-scholar for full-time faculty appointment (half-time appointment will be considered) to begin in July 2009.

Successful candidates must be able to demonstrate ongoing professional activity and scholarship and the ability to involve students in their program of scholarship. Preference will be given to candidates with the ability to teach in the areas of: Intellectual Assessment, Cognitive and Affective Bases of Behavior, Biological Bases of Behavior, Forensic Report Writing/Advanced Assessment, Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, and/or Psychopharmacology. Furthermore, the newly developed Forensic Center offers faculty the opportunity to engage in a wide array of community initiatives, including recidivism reduction, family reunification, policy advocacy, and program evaluation. All candidates are required to have a doctorate degree in psychology. Three years of teaching experience is preferred. Candidates must also supply evidence of graduate-level teaching effectiveness, a proven track record of clinical forensic experience and scholarship.

The Chicago School offers a generous compensation and benefits package, as well as the opportunity to work for a leader in the field of professional psychology. Some of our key benefits include: medical and dental coverage, company-paid life and disability insurance, 403b with employer contribution, multiple flexible spending accounts (FSA), tuition reimbursement, professional development, and regular employee appreciation events.

To apply for this position, please send a letter of intent, a copy of your CV, official transcripts, and three letters of recommendation to: Email: Megan Jamieson, Department Manager mjamieson@thechicagoschool.edu Subject: Dept. Faculty Search – Forensic Psychology. Mail: The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Department of Forensic Psychology, Attn: Megan Jamieson, Department Manager, 325 North Wells Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60654, Re: Dept. Faculty Search – Forensic Psychology. For more information about The Chicago School visit www.thechicagoschool.edu. The Chicago School is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Part-time Faculty Position Argosy University

Argosy University, Washington D.C. is seeking applicants for a part-time faculty position in our M.A. Forensic Psychology program. Applicants must have a commitment to graduate instruction, faculty governance, student mentoring and interaction, student advisement, and involvement in professional and scholarly activity. Candidates must hold a doctoral degree in psychology or related field, have the ability to hold faculty rank, and be licensed or license-eligible in VA, MD, or DC. Commitment to the field of forensic psychology as evidenced by education, experience and professional affiliation. A minimum of three years graduate teaching experience strongly preferred. We offer a competitive salary and benefits. To apply, submit letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and a list of three references to: dresume@argosy.edu indicating APLSFOR in the subject line. For more information, visit www.argosy.edu.

Forensic Psychology Coordinator Argosy University

This is a part-time position in a Department of Forensic Psychology with opportunities for additional paid teaching responsibilities. Requirements: Doctoral degree in Psychology or an equivalent field, licensed or license eligible as a psychologist, experience as a forensic psychologist and university/college teaching experience. Responsibilities include: Review student admission applications, interview student applicants, attend and conduct new student orientations, participate in on-site information sessions, orient new adjunct faculty to the culture at Argosy University including the internet and the use of technology, partnering on recruiting new faculty, participate in the selection of internship sites, coordinate comprehensive examinations, visit all classes at the beginning of each term, and participate in selecting local program advisory board members. Qualified applicants should submit their letter of application and curriculum vita to Dr. R. Preston Gelhart, Chair and Professor of Forensic Psychology Argosy University, Southern California. Email Submissions Preferred: rgelhart@argosy.edu. Education Management embraces diversity as a critical step in ensuring employee, student and graduate success. We are committed to building and developing a diverse environment where a variety of ideas, cultures and perspectives can thrive.

Assistant Professors University of New Orleans

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOPATHOLOGY & BIOLOGICAL BASES OF PSYCHOPATHOLOGY. The Department of Psychology at the University of New Orleans, a member of the LSU system, is searching for two creative and energetic scholars to join our faculty at the Assistant Professor level (tenure track) for Fall 2009. In recent years, the Department has developed two strong and unique Ph.D. programs, one in Applied Developmental Psychology and one Applied Biopsychology, both with an emphasis on psychopathology. The primary considerations in hiring for both positions will be the applicant's scholarly potential and fit within the particular concentration. For the developmental psychopathology concentration, a successful candidate will demonstrate a strong commitment to a developmentally-oriented approach to research and practice. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in psychology but individuals trained in many psychological disciplines (e.g., developmental, clinical, school, community, gerontology) will be considered. For information on the developmental psychopathology position, contact Carl Weems at cweems@uno.edu or 504-280-6772. For the biological bases of psychopathology concentration, applicants must have a Ph.D. in psychology but individuals trained in any area of biological psychology will be considered, as long as their research contributes to theories and/or applications related to psychopathology. We are particularly interested in applicants with expertise in psychophysiology or behavioral medicine, especially those with translational research programs or interests. For information on the biological bases of psychopathology position, contact Kevin Greve at kgreve@uno.edu or 504-280-6185. Applicants should send their vita, a statement of research interests and career goals, sample reprints/preprints, and three letters of reference to: Faculty Search Committee, Department of Psychology, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA 70148. Review of applications will be ongoing and continue until the available positions are filled. The University of New Orleans is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity employer. Women, ethnic minorities, veterans and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.



Funding Opportunities

Announcement of Funding Opportunity for Scholarship Relating to Litigation

The ABA Section of Litigation (the Section) established The Litigation Research Fund to support original and practical scholarly work that significantly advances the understanding of civil litigation in the United States. The Section anticipates making individual awards of between \$5,000 and \$20,000. Legal academics as well as social scientists and scholars from other disciplines are invited to apply.

The Section has funded various academic conferences and scholarship relevant to civil litigation such as research on the “vanishing trial” that was published in the *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*, vol. 1, no. 3 (2004). The new Litigation Research Fund builds upon this commitment. The Fund will be administered by a Section task force chaired by Professor Bruce A. Green of Fordham University School of Law, and informed by advice from researchers convened by the American Bar Foundation, a leading research institute for empirical research on law.

The Litigation Research Fund will support research and writing projects in two broad areas: First, scholarship relevant to litigation policy (e.g., on issues important to rule makers, legislators, or courts, or helpful to the organized bar in developing guidelines and formulating positions); and second, scholarship bearing on litigation practice (such as writings addressing trial skills or other aspects of how litigators conduct their work). Funded scholarship may relate to judicial administration; judicial independence; rules and standards relating to litigation (e.g., ethics rules, rules of evidence, and rules of civil procedure); the assistance of counsel; trial and discovery practice; or the jury process, among others.

Preference will be given to works with an empirical foundation, although they need not involve original data collection. Position papers, comparative and historical scholarship, and other original academic work of practical significance to litigation and litigators will also qualify for funding. Works already in progress are eligible. Authors will maintain the copyrights in their works; however, the Section of Litigation will receive the non-exclusive right to distribute, publicize and quote from the completed works in order to make them available, as appropriate, to members of the Section of Litigation, courts, lawmakers and policymakers, and others.

Applicants should submit a short statement (approximately 5 pages) describing the project with a project title and how it will be conducted; the form the final product will take (e.g., article or book); when it will be completed; the importance of the project in light of the above criteria; and a project budget. Please include grantee institution’s name and contact person with e-mail and mailing address. The award is not intended to cover institutions’ indirect costs. Awardees will be asked to sign the ABA grant conditions before the award is made. A curriculum vita including a list of the applicant’s prior publications should also be submitted. Priority consideration for the next awards will be given to submissions received by February 28, 2009. For additional information, contact: Professor Bruce Green (bgreen@law.fordham.edu).

Applications should be submitted by e-mail with the subject line “Litigation Research Fund” to Monica Cortez (cortezm@staff.abanet.org), ABA Section of Litigation, with copies to Robert Nelson (rnelson@abfn.org), Director, American Bar Foundation, and Professor Bruce Green (bgreen@law.fordham.edu).

AP-LS/Division 41 Stipends for Graduate Research

The Division 41 Grants-in-Aid Committee is accepting proposals for small stipends (maximum of \$750) to support empirical graduate research that addresses psycholegal issues (the award is limited to graduate students who are student affiliate members of AP-LS). Note: AP-LS does not pay indirect costs to the institution or the University.

Interested individuals should submit a short proposal (a maximum of 1500 words excluding references) in electronic format (preferably Word or PDF) that includes: (a) a cover sheet indicating the title of the project, name, address, phone number, and e-mail address of the investigator; (b) an abstract of 100 words or less summarizing the project; (c) purpose, theoretical rationale, and significance of the project; (d) procedures to be employed; and, (e) specific amount requested, including a detailed budget and (f) references. Applicants should include a discussion of the feasibility of the research (e.g., if budget is for more than \$750, indicate source of remaining funds). Note that a prior recipient of an AP-LS Grant-in-Aid is only eligible for future funding if the previously funded research has been completed.

Applicants should submit proof that IRB approval has been obtained for the project and the appropriate tax form W-9 for US citizens and W-8BEN for international students. Dr. Robert Cochrane (committee chair): RCochrane@bop.gov. Tax forms and IRB approval can be FAXed to Dr. Robert Cochrane (committee chair): 919-575-4866. Please include a cover sheet with your FAX.

There are two deadlines each year: September 30 and January 31.

Funding Opportunities

Minority Affairs Committee Conference Travel Awards

Purpose of award:

The Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) was established by the American Psychology-Law Society to facilitate activities and develop opportunities within the Division that embrace, respect and value diversity. More specifically, the purpose of the conference travel awards is to provide financial assistance to students who would like to attend the 2008 American Psychology-Law Society's Annual Conference in an effort to increase diversity attendance.

Award amounts:

Five travel awards will be provided: one award in the amount of \$500.00, and four awards in the amount of \$250.00 each.

Eligibility for awards:

Current full and part-time undergraduate and graduate students from underrepresented groups may apply. Applicants must be student members of AP-LS with priority given to students presenting at the conference. Although the primary target for these awards are for historically disadvantaged groups that include racial/ethnic minorities and first-generation college students, the MAC will also consider proposals from other underrepresented groups.

Award applications should contain the following:

1. A cover letter which provides all contact information of the applicant and confirms the applicant's eligibility for the award as a member of an underrepresented group.
2. A three-page (maximum), double-spaced, typewritten application containing the following information: Discussion of the applicant's benefits of attending and presenting at the conference; Discussion of the applicant's financial need for the award; Discussion on how the award will be utilized along with a detailed itemized budget (award recipients will need to submit financial receipts to the MAC Chair & AP-LS Treasurer for reimbursement); Listing of three names of experts in the field who are attending the 2009 APLS conference that the applicant would like to meet during the MAC luncheon (please see conference program on the AP-LS website). Award recipients must be available to attend the reception hosted by the MAC.

Application submission deadline:

Applications must be submitted no later than midnight, EST, Wednesday, February 11, 2009. Please direct all inquiries and applications to Roslyn M. Caldwell, Ph.D., Minority Affairs Committee Chair via email: rnc523@gmail.com. Applications will be awarded on a competitive basis and selected based on the applicant's financial need.

Award announcements:

Award recipients will be notified by February 27, 2009. The awards will be presented during the 2009 American Psychology-Law Society's Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

APF Visionary and Weiss Grants Call for proposals

The American Psychological Foundation (APF) Visionary and Weiss grants seek to seed innovation through supporting research, education, and intervention projects and programs that use psychology to solve social problems in the following priority areas:

Understanding and fostering the connection between mental and physical health to ensure well-being; Reducing stigma and prejudice to promote unity and harmony; Understanding and preventing violence to create a safer, more humane world; and Supporting programs that address the long-term psychological needs of individuals and communities in the aftermath of disaster.

Amount (New in 2009):

One-year grants are available in amounts ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000. Multi-year grants are no longer available. Additionally, a \$10,000 Raymond A. and Rosalee G. Weiss Innovative Research and Programs Grant is also available for any program that falls within APF's priority areas.

Deadline:

March 15, 2009

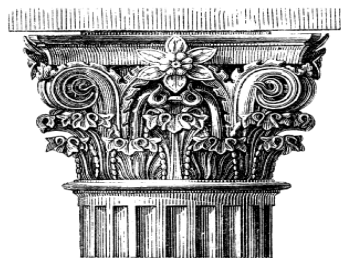
Eligibility:

Applicants must be affiliated with 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. APF will NOT consider the following requests for grants to support: political or lobbying purposes entertainment or fundraising expenses anyone the Internal Revenue Service would regard as a disqualified group or individual localized direct service conference/workshop expenses. APF encourages proposals from individuals who represent diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, and sexual orientation. For more information and to access the grant application form, please visit <http://www.apa.org/apf/grantguide.html>. Please contact Emily Leary (eleary@apa.org; 202.336.5622) with questions.

Fellowship and Position listings are included in the APLS News at no charge as a service to members and affiliates. All listings should be forwarded, in MS Word or WordPerfect, with minimal formatting included to Jennifer Groscup (jennifer.groscup@scrippscollege.edu). Deadlines are January 1, May 1, and September 1, with each issue placed online approximately six weeks later. Any requests for Fellowship and Position listings should include details regarding which issues of the newsletter the listing should be included (i.e., a one-time listing, for a specified number of issues or period of time, or a listing that should appear on a regular schedule).



Notes From The Student Chair



AP-LS

Student Officers

E-mail Addresses

Chair, Gianni Pirelli
GPirelli@gc.cuny.edu

Past Chair, Andrew Cassens
acassens@csopp.edu

Chair Elect, Sarah Manchak
smanchak@uci.edu

Secretary/Treasurer, David Duke
wddukejr@gmail.com

Web Editor, Shannon Maney
Shannon.Maney@umassmed.edu

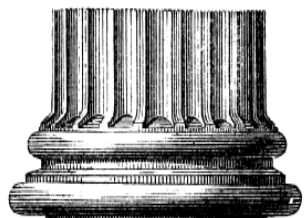
Member-at-Large/Liasons (Clinical)
Tess Neal
tmneal@bama.ua.edu
Julia McLawsen
juliamcc@stanfordalumni.org

Member-at-Large/Liasons (Experimental)
Andre Kehn
akehn@uwyo.edu
Leah Skovran
lskovran@bigred.unl.edu

Member-at-Large/Liason (Law)
Ryan Montes
rmontes@nova.edu

AP-LS Student Homepage
www.aplsstudentsection.com/

AP-LS Student E-mail
aplsstudents@gmail.com



Dear AP-LS Student Member:

On behalf of the Student Section cabinet I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. Since this summer, your 2008-2009 student cabinet has been working hard on a number of exciting initiatives. After receiving an important and necessary budget increase, we have been able to build upon and expand the quantity and quality of web-based resources and student-focused conference-related programming. I am sure I speak not only for my fellow committee members but also the wider student constituency when I express my appreciation and gratitude to the Executive Committee for their continued support of the Student Section and our initiatives.

As I reflect on our accomplishments thus far and look toward the full schedule of events we have planned for this year's conference, the main themes emerging from the cabinet continue to be growth and communication. Beginning last year, we developed and continue to add to our student list-serve. Additionally, we also have seen a substantial growth in our Campus Representative Program; there are currently 35 programs with AP-LS student representatives across the United States and Canada. Our user-friendly and resource-rich website has helped to drum up much enthusiasm among students and has fostered increased involvement, communication, and collaboration among our student members. This site is an incredibly useful tool and is constantly being updated. As such, we encourage you to visit it often (www.aplsstudentsection.com).

Many of our initiatives will be actualized at the annual conference in San Antonio. This year there are many student-centered programming options to enhance your conference experience. Beginning on Thursday morning, the Mentoring Committee will be hosting a brief symposium designed to help students navigate and get the most of their conference experience. Thursday afternoon kicks off the first session in a three-part student and early career professional development series co-sponsored by the Student Section, Teaching Training and Careers Committee, and Mentoring Committee. The first session will focus on developing and improving CVs and personal statements, and the remaining two workshops, on Friday and Saturday, will address the academic hiring process and the academic interviewing process. Friday night will be our 2nd Annual Student Section Social, whereby students will have the opportunity to network with other students over light refreshments and desserts. Like last year, we will have a student section "booth" where students can stop by and obtain the conference "survival guide", sign up for the list-serve and Campus Representative Program, purchase a stylish AP-LS Student Section t-shirt (this year's primary fundraiser), and meet the 2008-2009 officers. Finally and perhaps most exciting, the Student Section will be sponsoring three awards of \$100 each to the most original undergraduate and graduate student posters and best overall student poster displayed at this year's conference.

We look forward to an informative and exciting conference and will continue to provide you with resources and opportunities to aid in your personal growth and professional development. See you in Texas!

Be Well,

Gianni Pirelli
Student Chair & Doctoral Candidate, The Graduate Center at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY)

