

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, SOCIOLOGY, AND CRIMINOLOGY NEWSLETTER



WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

OCTOBER 2015

Welcome to the University of Scranton and our Sociology, Criminal Justice & Criminology Department!

We are very glad that you are considering the University of Scranton and our Department as a possible choice to continue your education. While you are in this very important process, we would like to tell you a little about the current accomplishments of those affiliated with our Department. Hence this brief newsletter. Before reading on, please consider some of what we believe distinguishes us from other types of similar academic institutions and programs.

- We are a Catholic and Jesuit University that is based on a 450 year-old intellectual tradition that strives for excellence and cares for each and every student,
- We provide opportunities for outstanding internship opportunities; We have revised our majors to encourage students to take minor or double major,
- We have developed collaborations with the Chemistry Dept. (Forensic Chemistry track), Business (Forensic Accounting track), Business (5yr BS/MS program), Counseling (MS program in Rehabilitation counseling with a concentration in criminal justice counseling),
- We have faculty that are nationally and internationally known in their fields and with experience in the criminal justice profession.

We have an active Criminal Justice Student Club i.e., brings speakers to campus, off-campus trips, conferences, etc.

We hope your brief stay on campus is a positive experience. If I can be of assistance in any way please feel free to contact me at harry.dammer@scranton.edu.

Yours in Justice,

Harry R. Dammer, Ph.D, Professor and Chair

Criminal Justice

A degree in criminal justice at the University of Scranton can prepare you for a career in federal, state, and local law enforcement, community and institutional corrections or for advanced study in law, criminology, and public administration.

Sociology

Sociology majors also have a strong background in writing, critical thinking, theory, and research.

These skills, along with the understanding of the nuances of human interaction, are essential to a number of different occupations in areas such as: research, administration, public health, human services, business, counseling, corrections, law, politics, and public relations.

Visit our website below:
<http://www.scranton.edu/academics/cas/soc-cj/index.shtml>

URBAN SOCIOLOGY COURSE OFFERED IN SPRING 2016!

An urban sociology course, SOC 331, will be offered this Spring (T/R 2:30-3:45) as a part of the new service-learning requirement for Sociology majors. It is open to all majors and minors. This course may be particularly interesting to Criminal Justice majors as we consider urban social problems, including crime and violence, throughout the semester. The course will also allow students to understand and investigate how cities were historically formed and how they continue to change over time. Topics covered include: sociological urban theory, race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, immigrant groups, suburbanization, and deindustrialization. We will also work with United Neighborhood Centers on service projects during the course of our class.

Beginning in fall 2015, Sociology majors who enter our university will now have to complete 3 credits of a Sociology service-learning. This addition to the curriculum is due to a departmental recognition that service-learning is an integral part of student comprehension of sociological theory, research, and practice. Through student service experiences in local organizations, students will gain an understanding of how sociological research can be applied in social institutions and of possible employment and research opportunities post-graduation.



The University of Scranton's Mock Trial Team

This is the inaugural year for The University of Scranton's Mock Trial team. We participated in a friendly scrimmage with Elizabethtown College at Elizabethtown. Elizabethtown College has had an established Mock Trial Program for about 20 years and, to our surprise, Scranton's Mock Trial teams were victorious in all four cases. The case, *Midlands v. Avery Bancroft and Chase Covington*, is a criminal case about bribery, entrapment, and casinos. Our team is comprised of University students, including criminal justice majors. For this scrimmage our team was split in two to play the role of prosecution, the State of Midlands, and defense for Chase Covington. The members of the team are Arianna Berardi (So.), Christopher Kollar (Jr.), Colin Moretti (Jr.), Kara Osborne (Jr.), Lauren Pluchinsky (Jr.), Matthew Lasewicz (Jr.), Michael Joyce (Jr.), Natalie Rossi (So.), Sarah Currie (Jr.), Sergio Ayala (Fr.), and Sophie West (Jr.), coached by University of Scranton alumni Sid Prejean Esq. and Melissa Wright Esq.

From Scranton to the Governor's Mansion

By Gage Frank

Mid-June 2014: I've just finished my time at the University of Scranton, and my phone rings from an unknown number. Something inside me says to answer. A month later I'm fully employed working for as a Field Organizer for the Governor's reelection campaign.

I spent every day building a network of volunteers and college interns aimed at motivating voters in Bridgeport, CT. Like Scranton, it is a deindustrialized city facing challenging socioeconomic hurdles. It was the perfect place to motivate the unmotivated to believe in the power of their vote – a freedom people die for to this very day. I attended BBQs and parties at the Governor's Mansion and met the people who run my state government. I also worked alongside my Congressmen, and State Representatives and State Senators on their reelection bids. I really saw how a grassroots field operation succeeds and the real faces behind it.

Aside from all the awesome turnout and adrenaline-inducing hysteria on Election Day (when I woke up at 4AM to distribute door hangers), the moment where I knew I won was when I got my grandmother a seat on the stage right behind where President Obama was making his speech, as he returned to Bridgeport to rally the votes for Gov. Malloy. Here she is a single mother and graduate-educated finance guru, who came here with 100 Guyana Dollars sitting behind the first African-American President on national television. The four of us: Mr. Obama, Grandma, Mom & me couldn't have made it to that room without the opportunities paved for us to achieve our dreams – for that I am eternally grateful.

RECENT FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Faculty highlights since our last newsletter:

- The Criminal Justice Program is in the process of applying for national certification through the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS). If successful, we will be among the first ten in the country to achieve such an honorable distinction.
- *Dr. Meghan Rich* published an article titled *Art Districts Without Artists* and made two presentations to national academies in Chicago, IL. Her presentations were on urban neighborhood revitalization, social inclusion, and social capital.
- *Atty. Joseph Cimini* received the Alan Sweeney Award by the Lackawanna Historical Society in recognition of his unwavering dedication to the interpretation of local history.
- *Dr. Harry Dammer* was appointed to the Joint State Government Commission Subcommittee to study the Death Penalty in Pennsylvania.
- *Professor David Friedrichs* has published two book chapters on white collar crime and the crimes of the powerful. He has also presented three papers at conferences in Hong Kong, Brisbane, and Washington, D.C. on crimes of globalization and the politics of crime. He'll be giving an invited lecture in NYC on victimology.
- *Dr. Michael J. Jenkins* published his second book entitled *Labor Unions, Management Innovation, and Organizational Change in Police Departments*. He also gave an invited lecture on Policing Post-Ferguson at the Vera Institute of Justice in NYC and has published two articles on community policing and police-researcher partnerships.

The following 14 students were inducted into *Alpha Phi Sigma*, the National CJ Honor Society:

Laura Hopkins
Dylan H. Lang
Daniel P. Lyle
Nicholas J. Philbin
Samantha R. Avignone
Diana E. Barany
Noelle Marie Brando
Brian W. Burns
Timothy P. DiVietri
Angela Kelley
Kristen Ann Kispert
Amanda T. Palardy
Amanda Nicole Savoca
Leeza N. Tirado

RECENT INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- U.S. Marshals
- DEA
- Retreat (PA State Prison)
- Scranton City Police
- Bergen County Sheriff's Department
- U.S. Secret Service
- Office of Local Judges
- County Probation (Juvenile and Adult)
- Numerous Law Firms
- FBI Summer Program
- J.P. Morgan

WHERE ARE OUR ALUMNI?

- U.S. Secret Service
- U.S. Marshals Service
- FBI—Counterterrorism
- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- Private security analysts
- Local & state police and corrections departments
- Federal corrections
- Public defenders office