

# SOCIOLOGY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY DEPARTMENT



## WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

October 2018

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 news-letter. Please consider what we believe distinguishes us from other types of similar academic institutions and programs.

- We provide outstanding internship opportunities; we have revised our majors to encourage students to choose a minor or double major,
- We have developed collaborations with the University's Chemistry Department (Forensic Chemistry track), and Business School (Forensic Accounting track), and Business 5yr BS/MS program.
- Nationally and internationally known faculty with experience in the criminal justice profession.
- We have an active Criminal Justice Student Club that regularly brings in speakers, coordinates off-campus trips, and engages in community service.
- We are one of only nine criminal justice undergraduate programs in the United States to obtain certification from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS).
- Our Center for the Analysis & Prevention of Crime (CAPoC) combines faculty expertise, practitioner insight, and student learning to enhance the technological and analytical capabilities of students, police officers, and other criminal justice agencies in the regional community.
- 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 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 [james.roberts@scranton.edu](mailto:james.roberts@scranton.edu).

Yours in Justice,  
James Roberts, 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.

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## THE CENTER FOR THE ANALYSIS AND PREVENTION OF CRIME (CAPOC)

**Student Research in Action:** Do children in foster care have a higher reunification rate with their parents if different social service agencies cooperate and create a coordinated intervention response? Do arts programs help at risk youth develop pro-social behavior? Seniors David Rakauskas and Caroline Landon are working with the Center for the Analysis and Prevention of Crime (CAPoC), the Office of Youth and Family Services, Scranton Counseling Center, and Dr. Loreen Wolfer to answer these very questions. They are using their research and statistical skills to contribute to the evaluations of both of these programs which, if shown to be effective, can potentially have profound effects on the lives of children who face social and behavioral challenges.

Additionally, senior Emily Bluhm is serving as a liaison between CAPoC, the Scranton Police Department and working with several other student analysts to examine calls that generate a disproportionate demand throughout the city in order to better allocate police resources.

## Students, Faculty, and Police are Improving Criminal Justice in the University of Scranton Community



On May 8, students, who worked on the project through the University's Center for the Analysis and Prevention of Crime, presented an analysis they completed on burglaries in Scranton at a congressional briefing in Washington, D.C. The Capitol Hill briefing was held in collaboration with New American Colleges & Universities, The University of Scranton Office of Community Relations and was hosted by House Representative Matt Cartwright.

Congrats to Emily Bluhm, Liz Scott Caroline Landon, John Sember and Madeline Grant on their accomplishments. Thanks to Chief Graziano, Julie Schumacher Cohen, and Drs. Onat and Jenkins for their support.

### STUDENT PROFILE



In the Spring 2018 semester, I attended Trinity College Dublin and studied crime and youth in Irish society. It was very interesting to be able to learn about these topics from a different perspective – due to the unique history of Ireland and its compactness when compared to the United States. I also started an internship at The Institute for Public Policy and Economic Development for Fall 2018, in which I am currently updating research and data from a previous study. I would not have been able to immerse myself in these opportunities without my background in sociology and criminology. I love being able to utilize the skills and apply the concepts I have learned in my classes here at the University of Scranton, especially in research methods, statistics, and crime analysis, to analyze data both formally, for example in my internship, and informally, as during my experiences studying abroad.

Shauna Leahy '19

### FACULTY

The University of Scranton awarded seven professors 2018 Faculty Development Summer Grants, which are intended to promote scholarship and curriculum development efforts by faculty members. **Meghan Rich, Ph.D.**, associate professor of sociology, criminal justice and criminology, will research "The New Company Town: Port Covington Development and the Reimagining of Baltimore."

**Dr. Meghan Rich** led a two-day workshop for the Office of Community Based Learning on June 4-5, 2018. This workshop gave university faculty the opportunity to discuss, explore, and share resources on Community-Based Learning (CBL) and Community-Based Research (CBR). Our department was well represented at the workshop: **Dr. Loreen Wolfer** and **Dr. Ismail Onat** were two of 21 university faculty that participated; additionally, Dr. Wolfer served as a speaker at the workshop.

**Ismail Onat, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of sociology, criminal justice and criminology, recently published the results of his research "Risk Terrains of Illicit Drug Activities in Durham Region, Ontario" in Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice—a leading outlet for criminal justice scholars.

**Atty. Jason Shrive '06**, Scranton, was recently hired as a full-time, tenure track assistant professor in the Sociology, Criminal Justice and Criminology Department at The University of Scranton, commencing Fall 2018 Semester, having previously served as an adjunct professor from 2016-2018. Shrive is also serving as the University's Mock Trial Team faculty advisor. He is teaching Criminal Law, The American Court System and Principles of Evidence this fall semester. Jason has invited guest speakers to his classes from the legal community with a wealth of expertise to share with his students including: Court Administrators; members of the State and Federal Bench; Criminal Defense Attorneys, Prosecutors and members of law enforcement. In addition to teaching, at the University, Atty. Shrive maintains a private law practice, where he focuses primarily on Criminal Defense.

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

- Kelsey Andrews
- Jason Palauskas
- Halle Whyte

The following students were inducted into *Alpha Kappa Delta*, the International Sociology Honor Society:

- Shauna Leahy
- Angela Coen

#### Internship Opportunities

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

#### 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
- Private defense attorneys