

MAY 2025

# NEWSLETTER



We're happy to share the latest issue of the ACJS Corrections Section newsletter. We begin with an update from our new Section Chair, Dr. Lisa Carter. Congratulations to our Section award winners! A big thank you to our outgoing executive board members, Drs. Adam Matz, Renee Lamphere, and Christina Mancini for their service to the Section. We also welcome our two new Executive Counselors: Drs. Nic Cabbage and Dragana Derlic, as well as our new Vice Chair, Dr. Stacy Haynes. At the meeting, we heard from the Second Chance Center, Inc. You can learn more about their work in this issue. Thank you to our other contributors for making this issue engaging for our members!

If you would like to send a corrections-focused teaching note, research note, work in the field, student spotlight, or other materials, please email Stuti Kokkalera at [sxk078@shsu.edu](mailto:sxk078@shsu.edu). The notes can range from 500 to 2,000 words including references. We look forward to hearing from you!

– ***Newsletter Committee (Stuti Kokkalera, Dragana Derlic, and Stacy Haynes)***

## IN THIS ISSUE

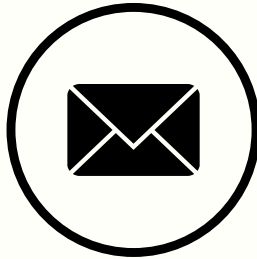
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# Message from the Chair

*By Dr. Lisa Carter, Florida Southern College*



Hello fellow members of the Corrections Section! I am excited to write my first letter as the section's chair and report to you on the exciting news from this past conference in Denver, CO at the Sheraton Hotel. We have a lot to brag about and people to acknowledge!

At our business meeting/awards ceremony we paid farewell and gave our thanks to three Corrections Section board members. Dr. Renee Lamphere (UNC-Pembroke) and Dr. Christina Mancini (Virginia Commonwealth University) both served the section as Executive Counselors. Dr. Adam Matz (University of North Dakota) left the board after nine years of service. He first joined the board as an executive counselor then took on the chair positions (vice, current, and past). Many thanks to Adam for his years of excellent service and support.

I would like to welcome our new board members. Those joining the board in the Executive Counselors positions are Dr. Nic Cabage (St. Edwards University) and Dragana Derlic (Georgia Southern University). Dr. Stacy Haynes (Mississippi State University) will rejoin the board, this time as the vice-chair (she previously served as the section's Secretary/Treasurer). Congratulations to you all! I look forward to working together.

During the annual awards ceremony several awards are presented to recognize major contributions to the Section and our discipline. Editorial staff from Corrections: Policy, Practice, and Research (CPPR) awarded the 2025 Paper of the Year to Luke Muentner (RTI International), Mariann Howland (Institute of Child Development, University of Minnesota), Valerie Clark (Minnesota Department of Corrections), Grant Duwe (Minnesota Department of Corrections), and Rebecca Shlafer (Division of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health, University of Minnesota) for their article titled "Understanding the Needs and Programmatic Interests of Incarcerated Parents: Findings from a Prison Needs Assessment".

# Message from the Chair Cont.

*By Dr. Lisa Carter*

Adam Matz (Corrections Section Awards Committee Chair) presented the Corrections Section Outstanding Member of the Year Award to co-recipients Dr. Stuti S. Kokkalera (Sam Houston State University) and Dr. Ryan Labrecque (RTI International). The Kelly Cheeseman Student Travel Award was granted to Jaylyn Magana (M.A. student at Sam Houston State University) and Sydney Ingel (Ph.D. student at George Mason University).

The Section periodically confers the John Howard Award to recognize an individual who has made significant scholarly and practical contributions to the field of corrections. On a personal note, this year's award recipient has had a tremendous impact on my career path and accomplishments as my professor and mentor during my time as a master's student at Eastern Kentucky University. Dr. Adam Matz presented the John Howard Award to Dr. James B. Wells in recognition of his effort and commitment to corrections. Congratulations Dr. Wells!

After a short break in the business matters, celebrations, and some indulgence in refreshments (thanks to Peter's efforts), the Section welcomed Khalil Halim, Executive Director and Candice Sporphase-White, Deputy Executive Director from Second Chance Center, Inc. Khalil and Candice presented about the numerous services provided by the center to assist formerly incarcerated people gain housing, employment, and access to other support networks in the Denver and Aurora areas. I must say how impressed I was to learn of their passion and dedication to their work of supporting folks who are transitioning from incarceration to building homes in their communities. You can read more about their work and the SCC in this issue.

As a closing reminder, I would like to ask you to consider joining or renewing your membership in the ACJS Corrections Section. As another reminder, student membership is free, so please encourage your students to join the section and invite them to upcoming meetings. Thank you!

Every good wish,  
Lisa

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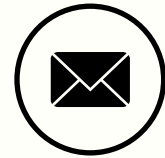


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Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences  
Corrections Section

# ACJS Corrections Section: How It All Began

*By Drs. Rosemary Gido and Mary K. Stohr*



The Corrections Section was founded in 1995 by Rosemary Gido and Mary K. Stohr (we had met about four years earlier at a national jail leaders and academics conference that had been arranged by G. Larry Mays [New Mexico State University] and Joel A. Thompson [Appalachian State University] and funded by the National Institute of Corrections). We were also both among the many founders of the Minorities and Women's Section of ACJS and modeled the Corrections Section Constitution after that constitution. We, along with Craig Hemmens and Faith Lutze, were early leaders of the section. We wanted to establish a section where academics and practitioners could meet and discuss the most emergent corrections-related topics. To that end, within a few years we created the Corrections Section newsletter, *Corrections Now*, which much like the current newsletter featured both articles on correctional topics and research, section information and news items about members.

In an early edition of the *Corrections Now* Newsletter, there was an article about an innovative Seattle jail manager who instead of proposing a jail expansion in the late 1990s when it was so common, gathered together the main stakeholders in the community that had an effect on jail populations (e.g. prosecuting attorney, judge, police chief, defense attorney, etc.) for a monthly dinner/meeting to talk about how they could reduce the jail population and avert the building of a new jail. The effect of this practice (which we were told continued for over a year) was the postponement of the new jail for another few years through the diversion of minor offenders to community services.



# How It All Began Cont.

*By Drs. Rosemary Gido and Mary K. Stohr*

The ACJS Corrections Section annual meetings over the years have drawn on both correctional practitioners and academics in the discipline for notable talks and presentations on a wide variety of correctional program and policy models and evaluations. For instance, one meeting focused on Dr. Ken Kerle, the noted expert on jails, at his retirement as Editor of the American Jails Association magazine, *American Jails*. Ken had spent his long career trying to bridge the worlds of academe and practitioners for the betterment of jail operations. Ken traveled this country several times over both establishing and touting the need for adherence to jail standards. It is not surprising that Ken was the first person to be awarded the section's highest award, the John Howard Award (whose namesake you probably know, though a rich man, spent his life trying to reform European jails and died, appropriately enough, of gaol fever [typhus]). At this meeting Rosemary, in a wig playing a young woman who had been a protester in D.C. in the 1970s, recounted Ken's many accomplishments after which several people in the audience stood up and followed Mary's lead as we sang Bette Midler's "Wind Beneath My Wings" and flapped our arms as if they were wings in a humorous tribute to Ken's reformist influence over all of us. Also memorable at that meeting was a large celebratory cake in the shape of a jail.

In a Philadelphia Corrections Section meeting, Ann Schwartzman, the Director of The Philadelphia Prison Society provided an overview of the work of the United States' "oldest prison reform organization." This presentation documented the many reforms of, and innovations in, corrections that emanated from the Philadelphia Prison Society, including the creation and stewardship of The Prison Journal (which has long been affiliated with the Corrections Section of ACJS).

Another important contribution of the section has been the development of panels and roundtables highlighting important and innovative research in correctional theory, policy, and practice. In 1996, at the Las Vegas conference, the noted social historian of prison architecture, Norman Johnston, provided a lively presentation on the history of Eastern State Penitentiary, complete with slides on a projector.

# How It All Began Cont.

*By Drs. Rosemary Gido and Mary K. Stohr*

The Corrections Section used to have all of its meetings relatively early on Friday mornings of the ACJS conference. We would host a breakfast that drew members for section business and the spotlighting of local people doing great work to improve correctional operations and the lives of those incarcerated or supervised in and by them. Though we no longer host Friday breakfast meetings, we do continue at our meetings to educate ourselves (and donate as a section to) to local people and organizations who are trying to change the corrections world for the greater good.

The Corrections Section has served as a place for academics and practitioners who care about corrections to meet, support, and learn from one another. Numerous corrections scholars and practitioners have held leadership positions in the Section and have devoted countless hours to its continuance. Their work has provided a home for people interested in the role corrections plays in the criminal justice system for thirty years.

**Rosemary Gido, Ph.D.** is Professor Emerita, Indiana University of Pennsylvania Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice and Editor of *The Prison Journal*. As Director of the Office of Policy for the New York State Commission of Correction, she directed the first national study on inmates with HIV/AIDS in a state prison system, leading to significant policy changes in their treatment and access to medication. Specializing in jail system overcrowding, she worked with 7 PA county jails in developing intermediate punishment plans for funding to address jail space issues. With over 40 years of college and university teaching experience, she has been recognized for her teaching excellence and mentorship of graduate and undergraduate students in the US and training and teaching of Garda Police College cadets in Ireland. A 39-year member of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, she co-founded the Minorities and Women's Section and the Corrections Section, receiving the prestigious John Howard Award. The author of *Turnstile Justice: Issues in American Corrections* and *Women's Mental Health Issues across the Criminal Justice System*, she has been the Editor of *The Prison Journal* for the last 25 years. Since 2019, Dr. Gido has focused on the issue of poverty in PA and is currently developing a measure of cumulative disadvantage in PA's 100 poorest school districts. The research has led to her scholarship endowments for the Misericordia University program for Women and Children and the PA State Higher Education Foundation Rosemary Gido Scholarships for Rural Girls.

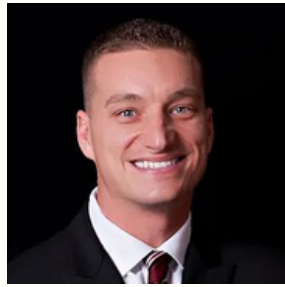
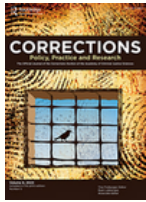
**Mary K. Stohr, Ph.D.**, has been a member of the faculty in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Washington State University since fall of 2013. She earned her PhD in Political Science, with specializations in Criminal Justice and Public Administration, from Washington State University in 1990. Previously she worked at Missouri State, Boise State and at New Mexico State Universities for a total of 23 years. She served a term as chair at BSU. Before academe she worked in an adult male prison in Washington state as a correctional officer (for less than a year) and as a correctional counselor (for about two years). Stohr has published over 110 academic works of one sort or another, including seven books and almost sixty journal articles, in the areas of correctional organizations and operation, correctional personnel, inmate needs and assessment, implementation of cannabis legalization, green criminal justice, program evaluation, gender, and victimization. She is a past two-term treasurer for the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, received the Academy's Founders Award in 2009, and the Academy's Fellow Award in 2018, is a co-founder of the Corrections Section of ACJS, a founding member of the Minorities and Women's Section of ACJS and served as ACJS's Executive Director for five years.



# A Note from the Editors of CPPR

*By Drs. Ryan Labrecque, Jeff Bouffard & Luke*

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As the current Editor, Associate Editor, and Managing Editor of *Corrections: Policy, Practice and Research* (CPPR), we remain dedicated to promoting methodologically rigorous scholarship on criminal sentencing, institutional confinement, community corrections, treatment interventions, alternative sanctions, and reentry. Our mission with CPPR is to advance correctional policy, practice, and research through the publication of empirical studies that are quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-method in design and that contribute theoretical and practical evidence-based insights to the field.

We were pleased to present the 2024 CPPR Article of the Year award to Drs. Luke Muentner, Mariann Howland, Valerie Clark, Grant Duwe, and Rebecca Shlafer at the 62nd annual meeting of ACJS in Denver, CO for their article, entitled: "Understanding the Needs and Programmatic Interests of Incarcerated Parents: Findings from a Prison Needs Assessment," published in Volume 9, Issue 3. This article sheds light on the unique needs of incarcerated parents and provides valuable direction for developing responsive programming. Congratulations to the authors and thank you to the CPPR editorial board members for their thoughtful input during the selection process!

We continue to welcome innovative research and are currently exploring topics for a future special issue. If you have an idea for timely, policy-relevant topics or are interested in serving as a guest editor, please contact Dr. Labrecque at [rlabrecque@rti.org](mailto:rlabrecque@rti.org). We especially encourage recommendations that drive innovation and respond to complex realities faced by those working in and impacted by the correctional system.

If your research aligns with CPPR's aims and scope, we invite you to submit your work via the journal's online submission portal. CPPR accepts full articles (up to 25 double-spaced pages) and research briefs (up to 15 double-spaced pages). We look forward to continuing to serve as a source of impactful, evidence-based scholarship in the field of corrections.

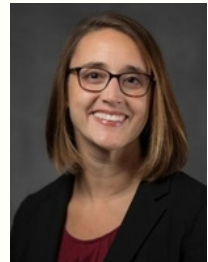


# Congratulations to our award winners!

**Corrections: Policy, Practice, and Research (CPPR) Paper of the Year Award 2025**

**Winners: Luke Muentner, Mariann Howland, Valerie Clark, Grant Duwe & Rebecca Schlafer**

**Article: "Understanding the needs and programmatic interests of incarcerated parents: Findings from a prison needs assessment"**



## ABSTRACT

Incarcerated people – including those who are parents – have a diverse set of criminogenic needs and responsivity issues, raising questions about how best to support them in prison. Using a sample of 2,120 adults in state prison, this study examined self-reported needs and programs of interest, assessed how these varied by parenting status and between mothers and fathers, and considered predictors of individuals' interest in parenting services. Participants most frequently reported needs related to negative peer influences, substance use, and housing; meanwhile employment and education programs received the most interest. Parents were more likely than non-parents to express needs regarding family relationships; mothers self-identified substance use and mental health treatment, whereas fathers more often called for employment programming. Being younger, a mother, or a parent of color, as well as having younger children and contact during prison, were associated with increased odds of expressing interest in parenting programs. These findings inform decisions around prison programming that better fits individuals' self-identified needs.

**Q KEYWORDS:** Needs assessment prison parent programming services





# Congratulations to our award winners!

## Outstanding Member Award

Winner: Stuti S. Kokkalera, Sam Houston State University



Dr. Adam Matz and Dr. Stuti S. Kokkalera

## Outstanding Member Award

Winner: Ryan Labrecque, RTI International



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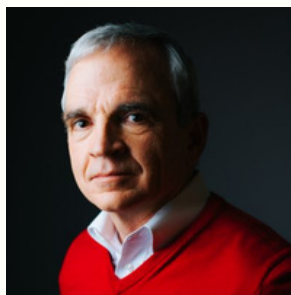




# Congratulations to our award winners!

## John Howard Award

**Winner: Dr. James Wells, Eastern Kentucky University**



January 16, 2025

Dear Dr. Peter Wood:

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for the prestigious John Howard Award recently bestowed upon me by the Corrections Section of the ACJS. Receiving this recognition is a tremendous honor and serves as a testament to the significant and sustained contributions made by so many of us in the field of corrections.

I sincerely regret that I cannot be present in person to accept this award. I retired from Eastern Kentucky University on January 1, 2024, to focus my energy and resources on an investigative memoir I have authored, which is set to be released on Father's Day weekend 2025. Unfortunately, my schedule in March does not allow me to attend.

This award holds particular significance, personal and professional, mainly because of my experiences as a corrections officer at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, commonly known as "Lucasville," in the early 1980s. At that time, I was in my early twenties and in urgent need of additional income to support my wife and newborn child during a severe recession. The custody workforce was all white, rural, and ill-equipped for the job. There was no training academy; we only received a week of classroom instruction and a few hours of practice with outdated weapons at the range. It was not surprising that I encountered situations that shocked my conscience, and I often felt powerless to make a difference. This experience led me to pursue an academic career, starting with an associate, bachelor's, and master's degree in criminal justice and a Ph.D. in Research, Measurement, and Statistics. Throughout my professional life as a correctional consultant and professor, I have tried to make amends for my experiences at Lucasville. I like to think that the numerous scholarly studies and grants I initiated or collaborated on to improve the safety and environments of correctional institutions have been small acts of contrition for what I could not accomplish during my time at Lucasville.

I am also greatly honored to be added to the list of those awarded this prestigious honor. Ken Kerle, the first recipient of the John Howard award, was editor of American Jails Magazine and published my very first article in its Volume 1, Issue 1, way back in 1987 when I was working on my MS degree in Criminal Justice.

Thus, the John Howard Award means a great deal to me. It represents the culmination of my efforts to make amends and to have some positive impact in the field.

I deeply appreciate the support and guidance that ACJS and its Corrections Section provide to professionals in our field. I especially want to thank Dr. Lisa Carter for my original nomination for the award and Dr. Adam Matz and Renee Lamphere for supporting the nomination.

Thank you once again for this incredible honor.

Sincerely,

James B. Wells, A.A., B.A., MS, Ph.D., M.F.A.  
Professor of Criminology & Criminal Justice  
School of Justice Studies (ret.)



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# Congratulations to our award winners!

**Kelly Cheeseman Student Travel Award**

**Winner: Jaylyn Magana, MA Student, Sam Houston State University**

**Presentation: "Heart of the Crisis: Organizational Injustice amid Severe Staffing Shortages in U.S. Prisons and Jails"**



Dr. Adam Matz and Jaylyn Magana





# Congratulations to our award winners!

**Kelly Cheeseman Student Travel Award**

**Winner: Sydney Ingel, PhD Student, George Mason University**

**Presentation: "Using Routine Activities Theory to Explain  
Carceral Violence"**



Dr. Adam Matz and Sydney Ingel

# Thank you to our outgoing executive Board Members



Dr. Adam Matz



Dr. Christina Mancini



Dr. Renee Lamphere

## The Executive Board



*From L to R: Lisa Carter, Dragana Derlic, Peter Wood, Jeff Bryson, Stuti Kokkalera, Nic Cabbage, & Adam Matz  
(Not pictured: Stacy Haynes)*



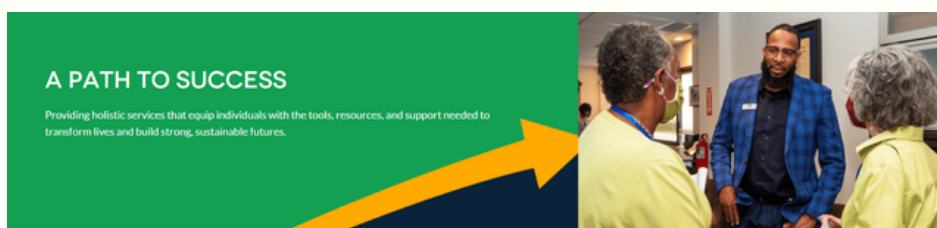
# An Interview with Second Chance Center, Inc.



*The ACJS Corrections Section hosted Second Chance Center, Inc. at the 2025 annual business meeting. Stuti Kokkalera followed up with **Candice Sporhase-White**, Deputy Executive Director, and **Khalil Halim**, Executive Director at SCC. The following is an edited interview with Candice and Khalil.*

**Stuti:** Thank you again for doing the interview with me. It would be great to start with how long you've been at the Second Chance Center, and why you wanted to join or be a part of this organization.

**Candice:** I joined Second Chance Center almost 5 years ago. I originally joined the organization to build out workforce programming that led to what we refer to as sustainable mortgage paying careers. What we were seeing is that justice impacted individuals oftentimes were stuck in entry level positions, and that was not sustainable for long term change. I recognized an opportunity through a partnership that I have with the city and county of Denver, and we began to build out ordinances that required any contractors on city and county of Denver construction sites to hire from a targeted, demographic and under-served neighborhoods who were most impacted by those construction projects— veterans and justice impacted individuals. In addition to the passing and requirement of those ordinances, our department of economic development and opportunity was also willing to put some teeth in those ordinances. The first step in that was to ensure that a percentage of those hired from the targeted demographics had a pathway to an employer sponsored registered apprenticeship program. That is how we bridge the gap from those entry level positions into registered apprenticeships that have sustainable wages and opportunities for entrepreneurship and continued career growth without strapping individuals with a lot of student loan, debt, and other things.



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# An Interview with SCC Cont.

And then we went a step further. Each day that a contractor is not meeting the requirements underneath that ordinance, there is a fine. So what that did was not just require contractors to engage but made them rethink fair chance hiring practices and build relationships with Second Chance Center and other reentry agencies to build a pipeline of qualified individuals for those registered apprenticeship programs. We saw such success with that program! We use that model to expand to other industry segments where we have the greatest labor market gaps in our state. And quickly, it was reinforced for us that as important as workforce is, we must take a holistic approach to supporting the clients that we serve. And so, Khalil asked me to lead a team to build out supportive service programming that complemented the workforce programming and acted as an on-ramp oftentimes to individuals who otherwise would not engage, consider engagement with behavioral health services. This involves building wellness into all of our programs and really being innovative to give our client partners multiple different ways to engage in programming outside of just the workforce component, to make sure that when individuals are placed into employment, that we are also setting them up to be successful in their career trajectory and other areas of their lives.

**Khalil:** Second Chance Center is really close to my heart. One, I'm one of the founding board members of Second Chance Center. Let me back up even further. I'm part of the population. I am a criminal justice involved individual myself. There was no such thing as Second Chance Center when I came home, and the founder when he was thinking about starting the organization, he came and talked to me about initially writing a book called *"Never Going Back: 7 Steps to Not Returning to Incarceration"*, which long story short, led to the creation of Second Chance Center. When he created the organization, he asked me to step on to his board as one of the Founder Board members, and I did. As far as providing services, we worked on what we knew were needed in the community for men and women returning home from incarceration. At that time, I was a deputy executive director at another nonprofit organization. I was at the organization for 12 years, where I had served as deputy executive director for 10 of those 12 and eventually he asked me to come off as he started looking at transitioning from executive director to founder, and then to retirement. He asked me to come off the board, to come on as a director of care management as he worked through his transition process and then step into the role of executive director.

# An Interview with SCC Cont.

At this point, probably about 65% to 70% of our staff are criminal justice involved. We know that these services and the programming that we provide really help to assist a person to transition to normal and regular life. So, anything that we can do to assist in that process, to try to help folks gain the clarity they need, the skills that they need, the counseling that they need. All of the things they need that really just sets them up for success, and to not return to incarceration. That's what we want to provide, and it's something that's rewarding for most of us.

**Stuti:** How would you describe the Second Chance Center? Is it primarily a workforce agency? Is it more holistic?

**Khalil:** For the most part, it is holistic. We try to provide services that we think will be helpful. We try to provide the services that we think would be the most impactful. We know we can't be everything for everybody. But we try to provide the services that we feel are the most impactful, such as behavioral health, counseling, substance, abuse, workforce up-skilling, re-skilling, peer mentoring, case management, and housing.

**Candice:** The Second Chance Center is, first and foremost, a reentry organization that is led by individuals with lived experience and takes a holistic approach to partner with the individuals that we serve. We refer to that as role modeling possibilities, and in taking a trauma informed, holistic approach to partnering with these individuals, we reject the power dynamic that typically exists between provider and recipient. We help individuals develop an individualized plan for their successful reentry. We are a rapidly growing and evolving organization that has expanded, been innovative and that was born out of necessity. What I mean by that is that we continue to recognize that organizations like Second Chance Center need to step in and be part of the solution in areas like permanent supportive housing workforce housing, as in, become a part of the solution around the significant labor market shortages that we're seeing in our state. If we don't step in and help bridge those gaps, that can result in unmet needs that lend to increased crime, increased recidivism, and reductions in community safety.



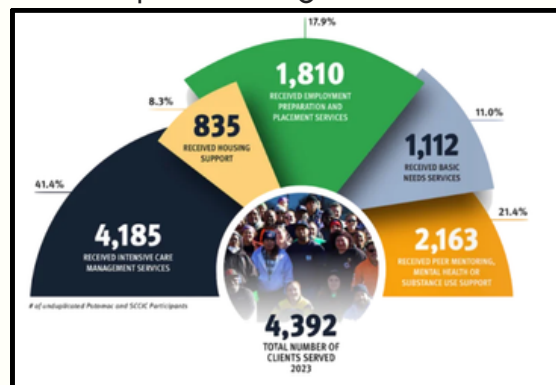
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# An Interview with SCC Cont.

In addition, we have become a builder and developer ourselves. We are in construction on a 128 unit ground up project that Khalil and I have been engaged with from redevelopment through where we are now, and we will open that to residents in November of 2025. Khalil would tell you when he and Hassan had this idea of supporting people, by no means did they think that Second Chance Center would be the developer of a \$51 million apartment development. I think what sets Second Chance Center apart is the innovation, the ability to build really strong partners-- partnerships that allow us to almost become a one stop shop for those individuals that engage with us. We can coordinate those services much more effectively than sometimes what you see in in other in other parts of the country.

**Stuti:** As an organization, you probably get requests to come and talk about the Second Chance Center to different audiences. Why did you think it was important talk to the Corrections Section members?

**Candice:** We have advocated for and have seen significant impact in building bridges between criminal justice agencies, for instance, informing and engaging with the State Department of Corrections, with the police, and with the sheriff. A portion of what we do is we lend voice to those that we serve and when we engage inside facility to provide pre-release planning and support for individuals, it significantly increases their ability to successfully reintegrate, and break generational cycles of incarceration. We believe that we have a responsibility to inform those that are engaged in this work to share what we are doing because we need more coordinated reentry across the country. It's also an excellent opportunity for us to learn. We were excited, and after we gave the presentation, for instance, we were approached by a few members with really great ideas around how we can utilize research and evaluation tools, and they were happy to engage with us. We benefit greatly from making connections and it helps us to grow and evolve.



# An Interview with SCC Cont.

**Khalil:** We feel the formula that we use, that of role modeling possibilities led by criminal justice involved individuals is a model that works, and we would like to get out and put that thought in other people's minds, so they can be more informed as to how to do the work themselves. The more people we can help, the more we might be able to put a dent in this thing called recidivism. We believe we can continue to have an impact and grow our model.

**Stuti:** Are there any potential collaborations or partnerships that you would like to see for Second Chance Center outside of the ones that you've built? For instance, with researchers, with academics, or with students? What type of possibilities do you envision for the organization?

**Candice:** I don't know how soon it would be for us to take advantage of additional federal funding. We have worked very hard over the last several years to build the infrastructure, to ensure that not only would we be able to submit a really thoughtful proposal, but then we had the infrastructure to manage a federal grant and ensure compliance. We have one federal grant right now, and it is a multi-year grant that we are about 18 months into, and it is going quite well. But we utilized a third party consulting company that assisted us with the grant writing, which included engagement with academia and utilization of research, as well as supported us through the implementation of the program, design, and evaluation. When we do that type of proposal building through a consulting firm, there is a significant cost that we incur. I think for me, the ability to engage with researchers at the academic level and build a mutually beneficial relationship would be effective especially where there is a benefit to them in terms of the work they are doing with us. And in turn, we can utilize that data to help inform future proposals to better evaluate the work that we are doing.

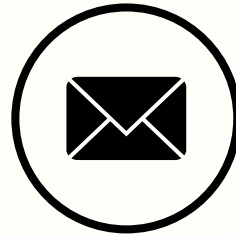
**Stuti:** Do you provide internships for credit or service learning projects for college students?

**Candice:** We have worked with Metropolitan State University of Denver in the past. We provide internship opportunities for credit and we have several interns that have chosen Second Chance Center post-graduation. We have some in leadership roles now that started as interns. So yes, we love to have interns, and we are always open to in person and remote internship opportunities.

# Graduate Student Corner

## *A Review of the Fair Sentencing Act*

*By: Jaylyn Magana, MA Student, Department of  
Criminal Justice & Criminology, Sam Houston  
State University*



Marginalized communities have long experienced the burden of inequitable sentencing practices, facing devastating consequences due to policies prioritizing harsh penalties. From the onset of the War on Drugs (Bagley, 1988; Gotsch, 2011; Tonry, 1994) to the ongoing over-policing of communities of color, these practices have significantly contributed to mass incarceration and exacerbated racial disparities in the United States (Pettit & Guterrez, 2018). The Fair Sentencing Act (FSA) of 2010 marked a small but notable shift in this historical pattern. The FSA reduced the notorious 100-to-1 sentencing ratio to 18-to-1, addressing only part of the racial disparities that have long plagued the criminal justice system. While this change represented an important step forward, it only scratched the surface of broader issues in sentencing reform. The enactment of the FSA sparked a renewed conversation on criminal justice and drug policy in the United States. This research note provides brief historical context behind previous sentencing policies, shedding light on their lasting impact on both communities and those currently incarcerated. Additionally, it outlines key changes brought by the enactment of the FSA, alongside its broader implications on the criminal justice system.



# Graduate Student Corner Cont.

## **Historical Context: The Rise of the Crack Cocaine, Racially Discriminatory Policy and A Landmark in Drug Sentencing**

The 1980s marked the rise of crack cocaine, a cheaper and more potent form of cocaine that swamped urban and low-income communities nationwide (Fellner, 2000, 2009). Media portrayal sensationalized crack cocaine, associating it with crime, poverty, and racial stereotypes, rather than addressing it as a public health issue. This narrative fueled public fear and led to harsher sentencing practices, disproportionately targeting Black and Brown communities (Netherland & Hansen, 2016; Reinerman & Levine, 2004).

The War on Drugs emerged as a central policy initiative, aimed at combating rising drug use and distribution in the United States (Olaya & Angel, 2014). Despite drug use being reported as relatively consistent across racial groups (Mauer, 2009), these policies resulted in the criminalization of minor drug-related offenses, contributing to the over-policing of communities of color and mass incarceration (Bagley, 1998; Gottschalk, 2022; Tonry, 1994). In the same period, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 became the landmark legislation that solidified the racialized approach to drug sentencing in the United States. This law introduced a 100-to-1 sentencing disparity between crack and powder cocaine. A person convicted of possessing 500 grams of powder cocaine would receive the same five-year mandatory minimum sentence as someone convicted of possessing only 5 grams of crack cocaine (United States Sentencing Commission [USSC], 1997).

Lawmakers justified this disparity by claiming that crack cocaine was more addictive and dangerous than powder cocaine (Graham, 2011; Palamar, 2015). However, critics quickly pointed out that the law was racially biased and unjust (Barton, 2017; Hubbard, 2008; Spade, 1996), emphasizing that there was no significant difference in the harm caused by the two substances (Smart, 1991). The damage created by the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 contributed to the calls for reform, eventually leading to the passage of the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010.

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# Graduate Student Corner Cont.

## The Fair Sentencing Act of 2010: What Changed?

The Fair Sentencing Act of 2010, signed into law by President Barack Obama, represented a long-awaited response of growing concerns regarding the inherent inequalities of the War on Drugs and its impact on communities of color. The FSA was introduced after years of research by the U.S. Sentencing Commission, which has reported on the troubling 100-to-1 sentencing disparity and its racially discriminatory effects (USSC, 1995, 1997, 2002, 2007, 2016). The FSA sought to reduce this disparity and create a more just system surrounding drug sentencing.

### The Key Changes in the FSA

- *Reduction of the 100-1 Ratio:* The law reduced the crack-to-powder cocaine sentencing disparity from 100:1 to 18:1. Under the new law, it now takes 28 grams of crack cocaine to trigger a 5-year mandatory minimum sentence, whereas the previous threshold was 5 grams (U.S. Department of Justice [DOJ], 2011)
- *Elimination of Mandatory Minimum for Simple Possession:* The FSA eliminated the mandatory minimum sentence for simple possession, which previously subjected individuals with as little as 5 grams of crack cocaine to a mandatory five-year sentence (DOJ, 2011).
- *Retroactive Application:* While the FSA itself was not retroactive, the U.S. Sentencing Commission voted to make the new sentencing guidelines retroactive, allowing over 12,000 incarcerated individuals to petition for a sentence reduction (USSC, 2011).



# Graduate Student Corner Cont.

## **Evaluation: How Effective Was the FSA?**

While the new law marked a substantial advancement towards equity, the enduring disparity in penalties between crack and powder cocaine persisted (Graham, 2011; Wallace, 2014). The decision by the FSA not to apply its original provisions retroactively condemned many people who has been sentenced under the previous law to long, disproportionate sentences, thus continuing the racial and systemic inequalities within the criminal justice system. While estimates suggested that the FSA would reduce federal prison populations by around 3,800 incarcerated residents, its impact on incarceration rates was more limited than expected (Gotsch, 2011; Shannon, 2015).

The U.S. Sentencing Commission's report to Congress (2016) highlighted that the number of individuals sentenced to crack cocaine related offenses dropped, with a significant reduction in sentences between 2010 and 2014. Additionally, one study found that the average sentence length for females decreased after the FSA (Wells, 2022). However, Bjerk (2017) has argued that reduction in sentence lengths followed changes in the structure and implementation of U.S. sentencing guidelines that encouraged lenient sentencing practices, not by the FSA itself.

Public opinion of the FSA was decidedly mixed. Some saw the law as a step forward, but others felt that it didn't go far enough (see Alarcon, 2011; Carlsen, 2010; Gotsch, 2011; Hyser, 2012; Vagins, 2006), particularly because it did not apply retroactively to those already incarcerated under the old laws (Gee, 2014; Parks, 2012). Additionally, resistance at the state and local level, where harsher sentencing practices continued, undermined the law's effectiveness in addressing disparities (Zunkel & Siegler, 2020).



# Graduate Student Corner Cont.

## Broader Implications of the FSA

Beyond its impact on sentencing, the FSA played a pivotal role in spurring a border national conversation about criminal justice reform. The FSA contributed to the Obama administration's criminal justice reform initiatives, such as the clemency program, which granted pardons to those convicted of non-violent drug offenses who had already served lengthy sentences (DOJ, 2015; Garunay, 2015). The FSA set the stage for further legislative change, such as the First Step Act of 2018, which was built on the FSA's objectives by attempting to rectify similar sentencing disparities involving other drug offenses and creating better prospects for early release for individuals convicted of non-violent offenses (James, 2019; *Terry v. United States*, 2021; Nellis & Komar, 2023).

## Conclusion

The Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 represented a crucial step forward in the ongoing struggle to confront the racial disparities in the U.S. criminal justice system. However, it was only a partial remedy to a broader issue. While the reduction in the crack-to-powder cocaine disparity from 100:1 to 18:1 and the elimination of mandatory minimum sentences for simple possessions were significant improvements, the limitations of the law made it clear that more work remains. The FSA has paved for further reforms, such as the First Step Act of 2018, but the fight for comprehensive sentencing reform and racial justice is far from over. Continued efforts to eliminate mandatory minimums, reduce mass incarceration, and dismantle racial biases in sentencing are essential to achieve equity in the criminal justice system.

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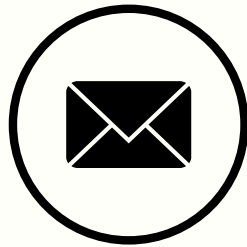
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# Teaching Note

## *Impactful Final Projects: Using the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program as an Example*

*By: Chad Posick, Ph.D., Georgia Southern University*



The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program is a unique course that brings together students who are enrolled in secondary education programs and those who are currently incarcerated. While Inside-Out classes vary in their content and topic, many incorporate structured readings, classroom activities, and final projects (Allred, 2009). Semester projects enable students to come together to brainstorm, construct, and deliver meaningful material that can be directly actionable. In this note, I provide helpful tips in developing final projects that are impactful for people and communities.

I have found that five key points can contribute to the success and effectiveness of final project material particularly within the correctional setting. These include:

1. Brainstorming ideas for a final project before the class (e.g., what are anticipated needs, barriers to implementation, buy-in from the class).
2. Discussing ideas for the project with the Warden and other facility leaders to ensure that the project is feasible.
3. Keeping the project in mind as the class progresses to identify useful revisions to the plan learned through interactions with students, staff, and other stakeholders.
4. Identifying external stakeholders and outlets for the project deliverables (e.g., newspapers, lawmakers, journals).
5. Following-up! See if there are questions, comments, or concerns related to the class deliverables and what may need to be done to make the project deliverables actionable.

# Teaching Note Cont.

I have used teaching assistants in classes throughout my time teaching inside out. These are often former students, but not always. They are passionate about the class and assist in all parts of the final project. In 2017, an undergraduate teaching assistant and I developed a local plan, which was later described in publication focusing on policies to assist in reentry (Posick & Shutley, 2018). Each group received a topic, included personal experiences from incarcerated individuals, and incorporated best practices from the literature. Similarly, in a class led by Dr. Andrea Corradi, groups provided recommendations to the Senate Office of Policy and Legislative Analysis which were incorporated into the official state report on recommendations to improve prison conditions in the state of Georgia.

A final recent contribution that stemmed from an Inside-Out class is the book Imprisoned Minds: Lost Boys, Trapped Men, and Solutions from Within the Prison by Eric Maloney and Kevin Wright (2024). This book using case studies from six men to illustrate the complexities and challenges of the mindset, both free and incarcerated, that entraps men in a cycle of violence and incarceration. I used this book in my Spring 2025 Inside-Out course and our final project will set the foundation for a program similar to the IMPACTS project described in the book at our facility in Georgia.

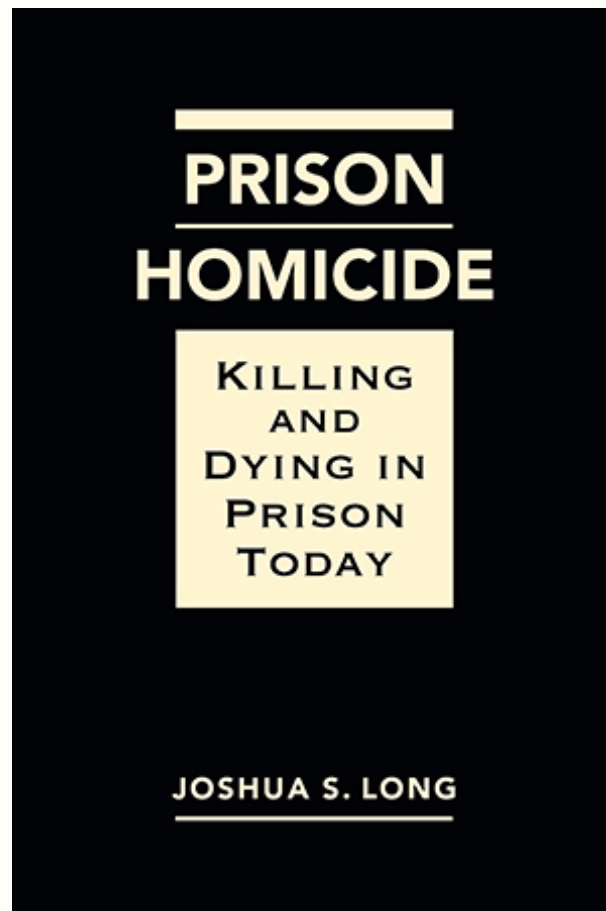
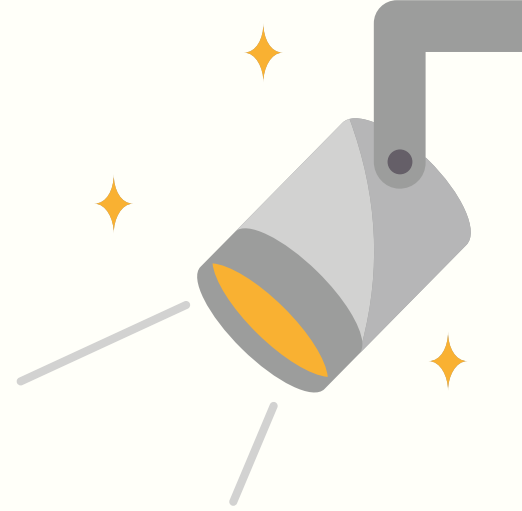
Through a truly collaborative final project, impacts can be made within and beyond the prison walls while simultaneously highlighting the voices of those associated with the criminal justice system including correctional staff and those who are incarcerated. Collaborate projects also capitalize on the expertise of faculty to ensure that project deliverables follow best correctional practices (MacKenzie, 2000). Using time efficiently and effectively in class can result in transformative projects with great potential.

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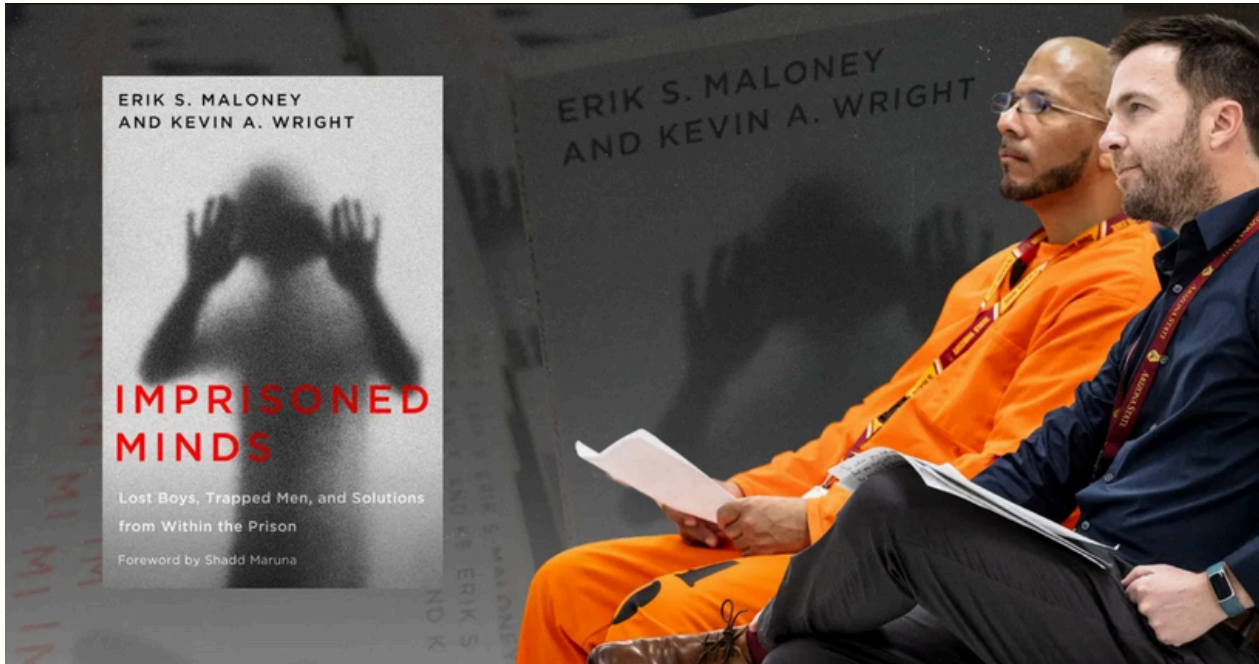
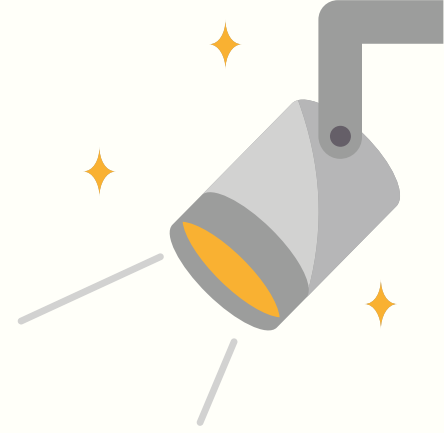


# Research Spotlight



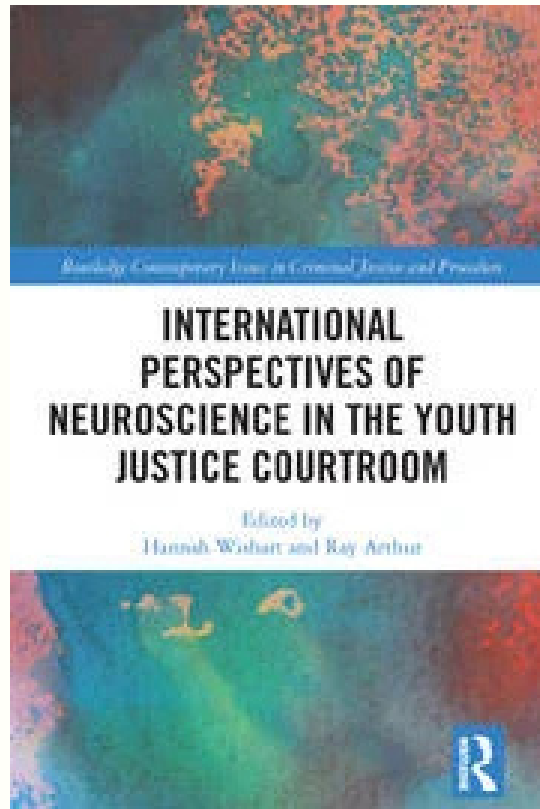
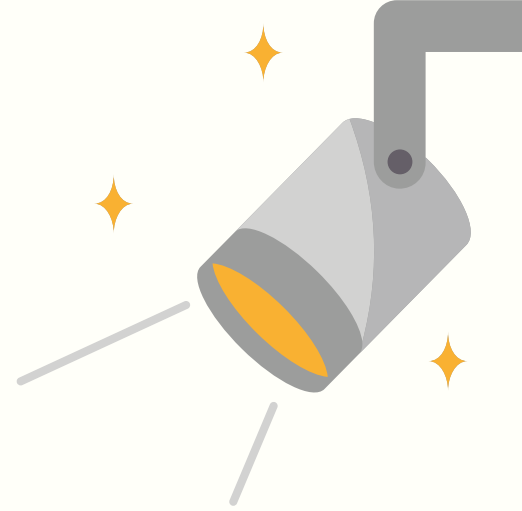
The media frequently hype the notion that US prisons, overcrowded and understaffed, are deadly places. Are they correct? How many people actually die in prison, and from what causes? Who are the victims? The perpetrators? How reliable are the available data? Joshua Long addresses these questions in his rich, in-depth study of killing and dying in carceral settings. Incorporating numerous case studies and interviews of prisoners, correctional officers, and family members, his analysis illuminates the scope, nature, and patterns of prison homicides.

# Research Spotlight



In Imprisoned Minds, Erik Maloney tells the stories of men in prison that few people ever hear. Six gripping, first-person narratives of incarcerated men form his imprisoned mind concept: the men's unimaginable childhood trauma and neglect set them on a pathway for prison or death. Maloney interviews his fellow prisoners with candor and savviness. He can do this because he is in prison alongside them—incarcerated for life at the age of twenty-one. Joined by a correctional scholar, Maloney presents a unique and informed perspective that blends lived experience with academic knowledge. A trauma-informed corrections can empower men to acknowledge and repair the harms of their past to regain control over their minds and their futures. Maloney has broken free from the mindset—and others can, too. *Imprisoned Minds* reminds us of the humanity of the nearly two million people behind bars in the United States and encourages solutions from within that can break the cycle of intergenerational incarceration.

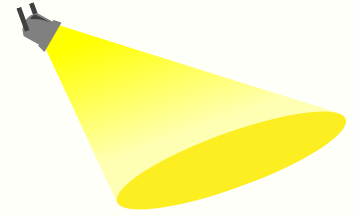
# Research Spotlight



This collection presents international viewpoints on interdisciplinary problems that fall under the new and emerging field of neurojustice. The chapters critically explore a wide range of legal problems in youth justice for children and young persons through a neuroscientific lens. This comparative view is informed by analyses from academics and legal practitioners based in England and Wales, Ireland, the United States, and New Zealand. The work brings together a range of perspectives to discuss the use and relevance of neuroscience in the youth justice courtroom and how neuroscience is currently benefiting and impacting children and young persons in international youth justice trials. The book makes a valuable contribution to the existing literature in this field by offering a thorough examination of the intersection between these disciplines for children and young individuals at different stages of the trial process, including unfitness to plead, sentencing, and mens rea. It will appeal to students, academics and practitioners worldwide working in the areas of criminal law, neurolaw, neuroethics, juvenile law, and comparative law.

# Research Spotlight

## Peer-Reviewed Articles



Auten, A. R., Hoskins, K. M., & Morash, M. (2025). An intersectional analysis of agentic efforts individuals under community supervision describe to improve their lives. *Crime & Delinquency*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287251316526>

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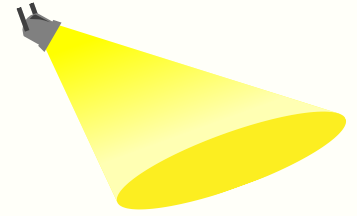
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- Featured on: "The Society Pages" by the Council on Contemporary Families
- Part of Special Issue "Intersections of Crime and Health: Structural Inequalities, Spatial Dynamics, and Policy"

# Research Spotlight

## Peer-Reviewed Articles



Holmstrom, A. J., Morash, M., & Witwer, A. R. (2025). The roles of verbal person-centeredness, race, and sex in evaluations of emotional support messages parole and probation clients receive from agents.

*Communication Quarterly*, 1-26. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01463373.2025.2478836>

Holmstrom, A. J., Morash, M., & Witwer, A. R. (2025). Trait self-efficacy as a moderator of esteem support message effects in the parole/probation agent-client relationship. *Communication Studies*, 1-20.

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Laugalis, V.R., & Kokkalera, S.S. (2025). Predicting parole for emerging adults: Do age, culpability, and rehabilitation matter? *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 97, 102830, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2025.102380>

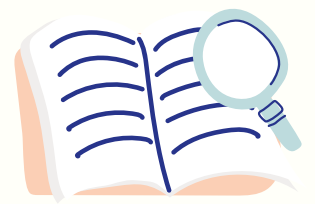
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# Research Spotlight

## *Honors and awards*

*Congrats!*



Dr. Collica-Cox has been recognized on several occasions including

- The President's Award for Outstanding Contribution at Pace University (2025)
- Proclamation From the Westchester County Executive's Office (2025) for professional and personal achievements setting an outstanding example of good citizenry.
- Honored by the Westchester County Department of Correction (WCDOC) during Women's History Month for her unwavering commitment to its core mission and values, and for providing education, healing and hope for hundreds of individuals over the past 28 years.
- Received the Dedicated Service Award from WCDOC for her devotion to helping others has positively impacted the lives of many incarcerated individuals on a state and county level and contributed to the growth and advancement of WCDOC. This award is in recognition of outstanding vision and dedicated service to the individuals in care of the Westchester County Department Of Correction. The efforts put forth in the field of criminal justice have led to groundbreaking initiatives and changed the criminal justice landscape.



# Research Spotlight

*Honors and awards*

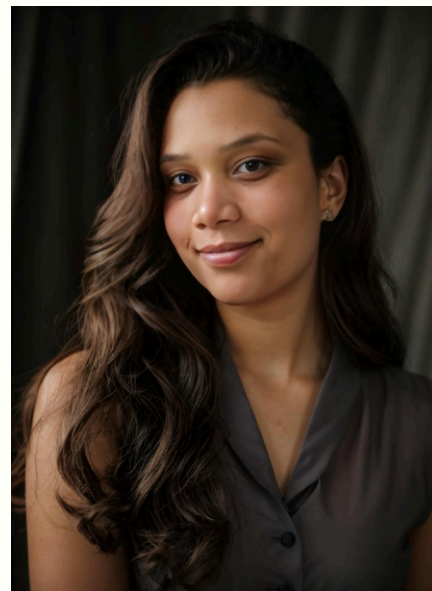


**Dr. Dragana Derlic**

Recipient of the Soar Higher Research Fellowship, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Georgia Southern University

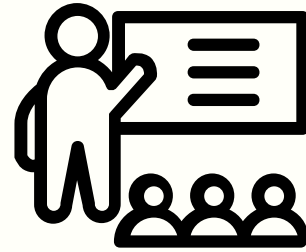
**Dr. Kelly Sieger**

Recipient of the Seeding Improvements in Education and Public Policy Award, UC Davis (2025) which recognized contributions to public policy research and program development in reentry initiatives.



# Research Spotlight

## *Presentation highlights*



### **October 2024:**

- Morash, M. "In a Box: Gender Responsive Reform, Mass Community Supervision, and Neoliberal Policies." A presentation at the Center for Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University. You can watch the talk here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWbq7HltTEE>

### **November 2024:**

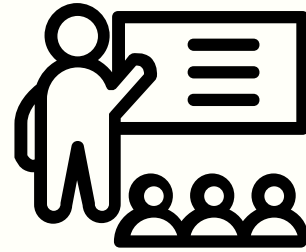
- Collica-Cox, K. "Take a Break: Trauma Sensitive Yoga with Young Jailed Men." Paper presentation for the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS).
- Collica-Cox, K. "Innovative Programming within the Correctional Setting: Non-Invasive Interventions with Impactful Outcomes". Paper presentation for the Northeast Conference on Public Administration (NECoPA), New York, NY.
- Derlic, D., Koza, M., & Kokkalera, S.S. "Exploring Restorative Justice Programs for Young Adults in the United States". Paper presentation at the ASC Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Wood, P. "Roundtable: Developing and Sustaining Productive Research Partnerships with Agencies: Experiences from the Smart Policing Initiative" at the ASC Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Wood, P. "Thematic Panel: Smart Policing Initiative: Place-Based Strategies to Reduce Crime" at the ASC Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

### **January 2025:**

- Collica-Cox, K. "Implementing and Studying Successful Jail-Based Programming: An Overview of Parenting Prison & Pups & AAT". Presentation for Pace students, New York, NY.

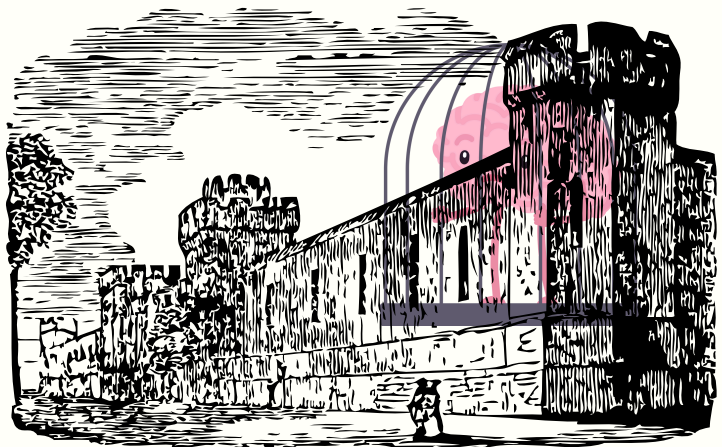
# Research Spotlight

## *Presentation highlights*



### **March 2025**

- Collica-Cox, K. & Day, G. "MAT (Medication-Assisted Treatment) Impact on Mental Health Outcomes". Paper presentation at the ACJS Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- Collica-Cox, K. "Mentoring Women in Corrections: The Next Corrections Executive". Paper presentation at the ACJS Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- Ochoa, J., Garlock, D., Derlic, D., & Kokkalera, S.S. "Understanding Solitary Confinement: Exploring Narratives from Formerly Incarcerated Individuals". Paper presentation at the ACJS Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- Sieger, K. "Community Engagement and Collaboration for Formerly Incarcerated Persons", at UC Davis Equity Summit.
- Sieger, K. "What is Needed to Reduce Recidivism: A Formerly Incarcerated Persons Lived Experience". Paper presentation at the ACJS Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.



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# Corrections Section Business Meeting 2025

Thank you for attending!





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# Community Engagement

On April 4th, students in two courses taught by Dr. Stuti S. Kokkalera at Sam Houston State University (CRIJ2364: Fundamentals of Criminal Law [undergraduate honors section] and CRIJ7336: Seminar in American Corrections [PhD seminar]) organized the "Second Chance Symposium". This event was organized as an Academic Community Engagement (ACE) project in honor of Second Chance Month, a bipartisan recognition of the opportunities and barriers for individuals experiencing reentry post-incarceration.

Flyer for the event



Panel 1 featuring speakers Devon Anderson (Justice Forward) and Robert Gil Jr. (WorkFaith)



Students at the silent auction table



Panel 2 featuring speakers David Garlock (via Zoom), Sydrena Tufts, and Shannon Smith



Students post-the movie screening





# Community Engagement

## EMU College in Prison students present at Undergraduate Symposium

By [Odelia Florusbosch](#)

Apr 9, 2025 8:00 am · Updated Apr 9, 2025 10:16 am



Multiple students from Eastern Michigan University's College in Prison program presented at EMU's 45th annual Undergraduate Symposium on March 28, 2025.

The CiP program allows individuals incarcerated at Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility to earn a bachelor's degree through EMU. The program started in 2023. CiP programs have been shown to reduce the likelihood that an individual will return to prison after being released.



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# Corrections Section Awards

Nominations are due by October 31, 2025!

**Kelly Cheeseman Outstanding Student Travel Award** - In 2011, the Section began awarding the Outstanding Student Travel Award. Students presenting papers at the ACJS annual conference are encouraged to submit their presentations (in PowerPoint format) to the Awards committee for consideration for receipt of the \$500 travel scholarship. This award is offered in loving memory of Dr. Kelly Cheeseman. Dr. Cheeseman was a strong criminal justice advocate, former correctional officer, well-respected academic colleague and friend. To read more about Dr. Cheeseman's life and legacy, click on the article included in the ACJS newsletter, ACJS Today, pp. 14-16.

**Outstanding Member Award** - Criteria for nomination for the Outstanding Member award are: 1) membership in and preferably contribution to the ACJS Corrections Section; and 2) significant research and/or scholarship in the field of corrections. Winners will receive a \$200 cash award, a plaque of recognition, and will be honored at the annual Corrections Section Award meeting. Self-nominations are allowed and encouraged.

**John Howard Award** - The John Howard Award is given intermittently, upon significant demand, to recognize an individual who has made significant and sustained contributions to the practice of corrections. The nominee **MUST** have made significant contributions to practice, but also can have made significant contributions in scholarship, teaching, policy, or service. Nominators can make the argument that a nominee's scholarship or work in teaching, policy, or service **DID** make a significant contribution to practice. Nominations are accepted every year and the committee will seriously consider all nominees. However, the awarding of this honor is solely at the Committee's discretion and may not be awarded each year. Nominees should send a description of the nominee's contributions, explaining how the nominee meets or exceeds the criteria, along with a copy of the nominee's CV to the Section Chair.

# Upcoming Conferences



## **The Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association**

Venue: Hyatt Regency Chicago

Dates: May 22-25, 2025

Theme: Politics of the Body at the Crossroads

Program Co-Chairs: Aziza Ahmed (Boston University); Maya Manian (American University); Kimberly Mutcherson (Rutgers University) & Priscilla Ocen (Loyola Marymount University)



## **NEACJS 2025 Annual Conference**

Venue: The Historic Rodd Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada

Dates: June 4-7, 2025

Theme: Cross Border Connections: Improving Criminal Justice Systems



Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences  
Corrections Section

# Upcoming Conferences



The 25th Annual Conference of the European Society of  
Criminology

Venue: The American College of Greece, Athens

Dates: September 3-6, 2025

Theme: Logos of Crime and Punishment



**The Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology**

Venue: Marriott Marquis Washington DC

Dates: November 12-15, 2025

Theme: Criminology, Law and the Democratic Ideal

Program Co-Chairs: TaLisa Carter (American University) & Kevin  
Drakulich (Northeastern University)

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# Upcoming Trainings

"It's so important that people can talk to and understand each other. What Inside-Out is doing is letting people see each other, and really talk. That's the value of education. Bringing young people into prisons for classes means that they really meet each other. They hear each other's stories and see each other as real people. That's so important in creating justice in this world."

— Sister Helen Prejean  
Author of *Dead Man Walking*



## The Inside-Out Center

International Headquarters of The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program®

"If you don't already know about the Inside-Out program, check it out and get involved! It's so important that we end the separation between 'us' and 'them' – those labeled prisoners, criminals, felons. It is this separation and demonization of the 'others' – and our failure to truly see, hear, and engage with those who have been locked up and locked out – that makes it easy for us to remain in deep denial about what we, as a nation, have done. Inside-Out challenges that denial in a powerful way."

— Michelle Alexander  
Author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*

### The Inside-Out Center

513 Gladfelter Hall  
Department of Criminal Justice  
1115 Polett Walk  
Temple University  
Philadelphia, PA 19122

Phone: 215-204-5163  
Email: [insideout@temple.edu](mailto:insideout@temple.edu)  
Web: [insideoutcenter.org](http://insideoutcenter.org)

Lori Pompa  
Founder and Executive Director

More than a program...  
Changing the world...

### The Inside-Out International Training Institute

Inside-Out is a model of transformative education. Its unique pedagogical approach focuses on **change** for everyone involved: college students, prison participants, as well as the educator facilitating the class. Inside-Out has a growing **international network** of educators who are taking this pedagogy forward in their own areas, both in geography and discipline, often bringing a unique insight to the practice of the Inside-Out teaching model.

#### As of Spring 2025:

- **1500+** educators have been trained from **49** states and **15** other countries
- Inside-Out has conducted **96** International Training Institutes
- **100s** of Inside-Out classes are offered every semester around the world each year
- Classes are **offered** by small liberal arts colleges, community colleges, and large research universities
- Courses are **hosted** by county jails, state prisons, and community correctional facilities
- Inside-Out classes include a **range of disciplines**, spanning the humanities, social sciences, law, education, social work, and community health
- More than **65,000** inside and outside students have taken an Inside-Out class so far

Currently, Inside-Out Trainings are being held **virtually**, consisting of 40 hours over a five-day period. A team of **formerly incarcerated coaches** works with two co-facilitators to familiarize the training participants in the various aspects and dimensions of the program.

#### Inside-Out 2025 Training Dates:

All trainings are virtual and synchronous.

- #96: January 6 to January 10
- #97: May 12 to May 16
- #98: June 2 to June 6
- #99: June 23 to June 27
- #100: July 14 to July 18
- #101: August 4 to August 8

For information: [inside-out.trainings@temple.edu](mailto:inside-out.trainings@temple.edu)

## The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program®

Changing the World from the Inside-Out:  
A Global Movement of Transformative Education

Founded in 1997, The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program® was based on the simple hypothesis that incarcerated individuals and college students might **mutually benefit** from studying crime, justice, and related social issues together as peers, through a dialogue of equals.

"Most college courses are lectures and readings which, later on, we are supposed to apply to real-life situations. This class was a real-life situation itself... The students in the class gave it life – we taught each other more than can be read in a book."

(Outside Student)

Over the years, students have said that Inside-Out was not simply another learning experience – it **transformed** the way they viewed themselves and the world. Inside-Out classes deepen the conversation about and our approaches to understanding crime, justice, freedom, inequality, and other issues of social concern.

"There is a power in the collective actions of good people. Inside-Out lets us find the source of that power. We do it. We grow. We change the world one class at a time."

(Inside-Out Instructor)

Inside-Out has become a **movement**, driven by students on both sides of prison walls and educators who design and offer Inside-Out courses in their own subject areas. These students and educators continue to demonstrate Inside-Out as a model of prison-based, post-secondary education that is financially and programmatically sustainable. Inside-Out creates a paradigm shift for participants, encouraging transformation, leadership, and change agency in individuals and, in so doing, serves as an **engine for social change**.

**Inside-Out facilitates dialogue and education across profound social differences.**

The core of the Inside-Out Program is a semester-long academic course, meeting once a week, through which 15-18 "outside" (i.e., undergraduate) students and the same number of "inside" (i.e., incarcerated) students attend class together inside prison. All participants read a variety of texts and write several papers: during class sessions, students discuss issues in small and large groups. In the final month of the course, students work together on a class project.

Through Inside-Out's college classes and other community exchanges, individuals on both sides of prison walls are able to engage in a collaborative, dialogic examination of issues of social significance through the particular lens that is the **"prism of prison."**

"My brain never stopped processing information as each student was able to add a piece to the steadily growing mosaic. For me, this is what a college class is all about. I left class with my mind racing to place all of the pieces discussed into their proper places."

(Inside Student)

Inside-Out brings people together to share learning experiences in which we are continually reminded of our own **humanity** as stereotypes dissolve, layer after layer. In this process, we recognize both differences and similarities in experiences, perspectives, and beliefs.

By sustaining the practice of listening and seeing more deeply, Inside-Out creates a temporary but significant place for us to **invite forth** our own and others' **best selves**, inspiring us to create more such places in the world.

These courses **ignite enthusiasm** for learning – encouraging participants to find their unique voice and to consider how they can make change in the world.

January 2025



Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences  
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# Executive Board



**Chair: Dr. Lisa Carter, Florida Southern College**



**Vice Chair: Dr. Stacy Haynes, Mississippi State University**



**Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Stuti S. Kokkalera, Sam Houston State University**



**Immediate Past Chair: Dr. Peter B. Wood, Eastern Michigan University**

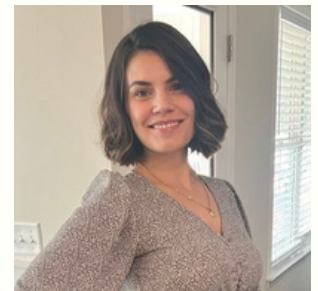
## Executive Counselors



**Dr. Jeff Bryson,  
Bethany College**



**Dr. Nic Cabage, St.  
Edwards University**



**Dr. Dragana Derlic,  
Georgia Southern  
University**