Founder of MSU Forensic Science Program Mourned

Recently, the School, MSU and the world lost one of the giants of criminal investigation and forensic science. Ralph Turner, the founder of the forensic science program at MSU passed away while working at his home. Ralph was one of those rare individuals that one is privileged to know, who touched countless lives throughout the world and spent his entire life improving the human condition.

Ralph started the forensic science program at MSU in 1946 and turned it into the largest, most prestigious program of its type in the United States. He was also one of the founders of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and its first secretary. The AAFS is now the largest forensic science society in the world.

Ralph made many contributions to the fields of blood and breath alcohol analysis, performing some of the earliest reliable studies on alcohol measurement. He was also a recognized leading expert in the field of firearms analysis, being one of seven experts who was called upon to examine evidence in the Robert Kennedy assassination. His influence was also felt worldwide. He served as a consultant to the Vietnamese government and spent several years in Taiwan as a researcher and consultant. Graduates from his program now serve in important positions throughout the world.

Professor Lou Radelet used to characterize Ralph as the last great renaissance man. Vince Hoffman called him "the most educated man I ever met." For many of us in the School, he was mentor, colleague and friend. His loss is keenly felt - he was a rare individual who affected so many people in positive ways.

Jay Siegel, Ph.D.

Perry Johnson Honored

The Criminal Justice Alumni Association and the School of Criminal Justice co-hosted their Second Annual Honors Reception at Kellogg Center, Thursday, September 22, 1994. Honored at that time was a long-time friend, supporter, and alum of the School, Perry Johnson.

Perry was this year's recipient of the School of Criminal Justice Award for Exceptional Service. Selection is made from candidates who have distinguished themselves by obtaining the highest level of professional accomplishment, and who possess the highest standards of integrity and character to positively reflect and enhance the prestige of the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University.
Director's Message by Morry Morash

Having just recently returned from a sabbatical—spent primarily in Korea, but with side trips to China and Hong Kong—I can bring news of the strong ties that alumni throughout the world have to the School of Criminal Justice, and the leadership role that Michigan State University plays in many different countries. Our formal linkage agreements with the Criminal Police College in Shenyang, China, and through the College of Social Science with Chongnam University in Korea, have made it possible for Michigan State University faculty to share ideas with international scholars and students. We continue to attract a large number of international scholars and students. This year finds classes enriched by the presence of incoming students from Singapore and Korea. The net result of our strong international thrust is that all of our students grow to understand the influence of culture on crime and its control, and to take a global perspective on such issues as organized criminal activity, security management, and the victimization of women.

Of course, much of our work takes place in East Lansing, and our faculty continue to play a vital role in offering technical assistance through the National Center for Community Policing and through various contracts and educational services that meet needs in juvenile justice, corrections, and private security. Under the leadership of President Peter McPherson, the School will engage in a process of planning and improvement that will fine tune the directions that we are taking in the justice field, and that will identify areas for improvement and innovation. As we engage in this process, we will solicit advice from a variety of groups; and we certainly welcome advice from alumni and friends.

The School will remain vital and progressive in the field of criminal justice. This is in keeping with the School's earliest years. We also can share in memories of professors who have been active in bringing knowledge to the field through teaching and training. Unfortunately, in the last few years, we have lost several of the people who have led the School. These include Professors Ralph Turner, Louis Radelet, Robert Trojanowicz, and Zolton Ferency. In this Alumni Newsletter, you will find descriptions of the endowed that our founders' and leaders' families have established to support student scholarships.

I would encourage you to contribute to one or more of these important endowments—as they represent these faculty members' strong commitment to students, and the School's continued emphasis on the nexus of teaching, linkage to practice, and research.
When Ralph Turner died suddenly on May 22, 1994, at the age of 76, the BSI and the Greek Interpreters of East Lansing lost a stalwart member; and the field of criminology lost one of its true Renaissance scholars.

From when he started the forensic science laboratory for the Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department in 1939 until after his retirement from the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University in 1981, Ralph established an international reputation, especially in the fields of firearms and alcohol studies. He was one of the founders of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, was one of seven national experts consulted on firearms evidence in the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy, and taught and consulted extensively in Vietnam, Thailand, China, and England as well as across the United States. It was typical of Ralph’s modesty that few of his fellow Greek interpreters knew the true extent of his professional attainments—for instance, that the 1953 Petey Mason novel, The Case of the Green-Eyed Sister, had been dedicated to him in recognition of his expertise.

Ralph became active in the GI’s in 1971 and was able to draw upon his knowledge of criminology when the action staged the kidnapping of "Melvin" Don Yates in 1978. ("He had a real sich stuffed into his back pocket," Don recalls). He received his BSI investiture in 1983 and was instrumental in resurrecting the GI’s from a several-years-long hiatus last year. He was one of the GI’s most frequently in attendance at the annual dinner and regaled the stay-at-homes with his witty and perceptive descriptions of doings in the Big Apple—most recently at our spring, 1994, meeting.

We shall not look upon his like again.

SCHOOL ACCLAMATIONS


- June P. White, Training Program Coordinator for the School of Criminal Justice, has been invited to co-chair the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police Training and Education Committee. Ms. White has been active with the MACP for some time, serving as a member of the Training and Education Committee prior to this appointment.

- The New England Community Policing Crime Prevention Partnership (NECPP) issued the first annual "Community Policing Leadership Award" to the late Robert C. Trojanowicz. Dr. Trojanowicz was Director of the National Center for Community Policing (NCCP) and Professor of Urban Affairs Programs and the School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University. Professor Trojanowicz’s son, Eric Trojanowicz, accepted the award on June 23, 1994, at St. Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire.

- Dr. Trojanowicz conducted research with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and published the results in Community Policing: A Survey of Police Departments in the United States. Copies are available through the National Center for Community Policing, School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University.


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I have been given the honor of continuing to serve as President of your Alumni Board via my election to the office at the Board’s Spring meeting. I hope that during my term our Alumni Association can grow and continue to be an active supporter of the School of Criminal Justice.

The most recent Board Meeting began to bring into focus the ways in which we can help each other. The easiest, of course, is to lend financial assistance. The best way to do that is to donate to any of the endowment funds currently in place. I am happy to report that the Radelet fund has reached its goal. There are two more that could use your assistance, the Trojanowicz and Ferency endowments. Both of these are in memory of two of the pillars of our school, Dr. Robert Trojanowicz and Zolon Ferency. If you, like me, had the privilege of being taught by these two men, show support by sending a cash donation now. It is amazing how fast a bunch of $20 donations can add up.

There are many nonfinancial ways you can help the School. At the end of January, the School’s students will host a career fair for criminal justice agencies which offers students the opportunity to learn about the various positions in the system, make contact with prospective employers, and participate in mock job interviews. Your participation in this event as a professional and alumni of MSU would be a valuable addition to the program.

You may also want to make yourself available to the School as a guest speaker. Criminal Justice classes are always looking for guest speakers and who better than a graduate of the program who now has the expertise and real world experience students are striving for themselves?

You can obtain details on either of these two means of assistance by calling the School of Criminal Justice Office at (517) 355-2197.

Let me think that the Alumni Association is all work and no play. I should report that the golf outing and barbecue was an excellent event and very enjoyable. The School staff is to be commended for their work, and I look forward to seeing more of you next year. It makes a great excuse to get together with some alumni from your area and come back to MSU for some great golf and reminiscing with fellow alumni. You might even find time to visit a few old haunts after the outing.

I wish all of you well and hope you take the time to join the Alumni Association. Your membership and designation as a CJ alumnus help the Alumni Association and School continue this newsletter and our other efforts.

Christopher E. Smith

Christopher E. Smith earned degrees at Harvard University, the University of Bristol (England), the University of Tennessee College of Law, and the University of Connecticut. Prior to coming to MSU this fall, he taught at the University of Akron and the University of Connecticut.

He has published seven books and forty articles on such topics as court reform, constitutional law, and prisoners’ rights. He is currently completing work on several books, including an analysis of federal court reform, an introductory criminal justice textbook, and an evaluation of the Rehnquist Court’s decisions on constitutional rights.

Dr. Smith is happy to return to his “home state” after studying and working elsewhere for many years. He grew up in Kalamazoo and graduated from Kalamazoo Central High School. He is married and has two children. Currently he is teaching Criminal Law Process.
Under the provisions of the School of Criminal Justice Alumni Association (ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS) one-third of the Board’s fifteen members are elected in the spring of each year. This past spring saw the election of five fresh faces for three-year terms and the appointment of six to fill out the remaining term of a vacancy created by the resignation of John Conley.

Evangelina Medrano is currently employed with the State of Michigan Department of Corrections Internal Affairs. Before that she was with the Lansing School District’s Public Safety Department.

Louise Steiman is a legislative counsel with the House Republican Programs and Research Section. Prior to that she was an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney with Clinton County, Michigan.

Jerry Guibord is president of his own company, Risk and Prevention Management, Inc. Prior to that he was Manager of the Personnel Services Department of Loral Aeronetronic, Jerry, his wife and family live in Newport Beach, California.

Robert Rabe resides in Los Angeles, California, where he is an Associate Attorney with the Law Office of Zoran K. Basich.

Robert Engel is Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Emmet County, Michigan. Prior to that he was Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Sanilac County, Michigan.

Michael Watz is a partner with the law firm of Cummins, McClure, Davis & Ach, P.C. He and his wife and four children reside in Northville, Michigan.

If any of our alumni are interested in running for the CJ Alumni Board, now is the time to make that interest known. Send a resume and brief introduction to the Board secretary, Armilla Simon, School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University, 560 Baker Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824-1118. Questions can be directed to either Armilla or Audrey Martin, Alumni Liaison, 517-355-2322.

Michigan Justice Statistics Center

The School of Criminal Justice has been designated, through executive order from the Governor of Michigan, to be the location for the newly created Michigan Justice Statistics Center. Professor Tim Byrum has been appointed director.

The principal role of this center will be to conduct state oriented policy research in criminal justice through the analysis of existing state level criminal justice data.

Justice Centers are usually located in state government agencies. There are only five other states in the US that have these centers located in universities. MSU’s is the only center in the Midwest.

Career Night

This year’s School of Criminal Justice Career Night co-sponsored with the American Criminal Justice Association and Alpha Phi Sigma will take place Tuesday evening, January 31, 1995 from 6pm - 9pm at Kellogg Center. To reserve a booth contact ACJA President, Todd Smith (517) 355-6243.

Friend-Raiser 1995

On that same date from 8 am - 5 pm the School will be conducting its annual Friend Raiser and Internship Agency Appreciation Luncheon. A full day’s program of workshops and keynote speakers is planned for students, internship agency supervisors and faculty/internship staff. Also scheduled for that day are the very popular mock interviews conducted by alumni for the benefit of students who would like to sharpen their employment interview techniques.

Electronic BBS Update

The Electronic Bulletin Board System has undergone many changes over the summer to enhance its capabilities. Users are now able to access the system via the Internet using Telnet and the host name “cobbms.msu.edu”. Access via modem is available by dialing (517) 432-3200 for 2400 baud or more (517) 355-4500 for modems under 2400 baud. The host name at the “MSU net” prompt is “cobbms.msu.edu”.

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A good time was had by all at this year's Honors Reception. Former School of Criminal Justice Alumni Association Director Perry Johnson ('55 and '77) was honored as the recipient of this year's Criminal Justice Alumni Award for Exceptional Service. Perry served on the Criminal Justice Alumni Association board from 1988-1994, serving as its vice president from 1989-1991.

His professional accomplishments include seventeen years with the Department of Corrections until he became its director in 1972. As director of the Michigan Department of Corrections, Perry was nationally recognized as an innovative leader in dealing with prison crowding, the development of a scientific offender risk/security classification system, the implementation of one of the nation's largest prisoner halfway house programs, and as a pioneer in electronically-monitored house arrest for felony prisoners.

He has published numerous articles on corrections-related issues. He is immediate past-president of the American Correctional Association and an Honorary Life Member of the Michigan Corrections Association. He is also a past president of the Association of State Correctional Administrators.

Also honored at this year's reception were:

Matthew Sincic: Each year the Criminal Justice Alumni Association honors one student for his/her combined academic and overall accomplishments while a student at Michigan State University. This year's recipient is Matthew Sincic. Matthew spent this past summer with Professor David Carter participating in the Comparative Criminal Justice Program in London and Cambridge.

Maureen Allen: Maureen is this year's recipient of the Diane DiPonio Scholarship. This endowed scholarship is given each year to a woman pursuing a career in law enforcement. Maureen is a member of Alpha Phi
Art Brandstatter: Art was unable to attend this year’s reception, but his wife, Mary, was present and will share with him our warm thoughts and congratulations. Art will be inducted into the MSU Athletics Hall of Fame at Kellogg Center on October 14, 1994. He was All-American fullback in 1936, director of the School of Criminal Justice from 1946-76.

In addition to giving the School an opportunity to honor its outstanding students and alumni, the reception gives faculty and students opportunity to meet and network with alumni and practitioners in the field. Guests this year included two additional icons in the correctional field, Robert Brown Jr. (’58) and Henry Risley (’68, ’70).

LeVente von Heydrich: LeVente is this year’s recipient of the Ruth erford Scholarship. This endowed scholarship is open to any criminal justice student pursuing a career in criminal justice. LeVente is a transfer student from Lansing Community College. He is also a recent immigrant to the United States. He has lived in Austria and Hungary.

Roger Donaldson: Roger’s scholarship is not an endowment. It is awarded directly by the Livonia Heart Fund and is the direct result of volunteer work done by Women Police of Michigan. Roger has been part of that volunteer effort for the past two years - putting back into his community as he receives benefits from his community.

Sigma, the School’s Honors Fraternity and the American Criminal Justice Association. When not studying, she is a volunteer with the campus Lot Watch program.

Maureen Allen, recipient of the DiPaniis Scholarship, and Merry Morash.
AN INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

The Criminal Justice internship program is an integral component and extension of the academic offerings of MSU's School of Criminal Justice. It is designed to enhance the student's total academic experience through a planned program of observation, study, and participation in a selected criminal justice agency. It is viewed as a "capstone" to the student's academic experience.

The following is excerpted from the final paper required as part of the internship program. It has been edited for inclusion here.

Five months ago I stepped off an airplane in a country where hardly anyone speaks English, 10,000 miles from home, disoriented from jet-lag and totally unsure as to whether or not I was crazy for going to Hong Kong on an internship.

During the first months of my stay I encountered many instances of culture shock. Hong Kong is an English colony and the English language has been taught in the school system for over a hundred years. I have grown very accustomed to Chinese, Thai, India and other types of Asian foods. Some dishes I have found to be very good and will, in fact, miss the Asian cuisine when I return to the States.

While in Thailand I had to develop my language skills. For all practical purposes I was forced, one could say, into learning Thai. I was one of only two people in the office or neighborhood who spoke English, therefore I had to learn the basics of Thai in order to live. Granted, I wasn't in danger of dying, but to a person who had spent his entire life in small town America, being unable to converse with anyone was a major shock.

In some ways I felt like an explorer. I was the first blue-eyed foreign (whiteskin) most of the neighbors and office staff had ever seen. People would come up to me and stare at my eyes. I had many ask me if everything I saw looked blue.

I have met many people, done many things and seen many things that I will never forget. My chance to live and work out here in Asia has been a great learning experience. Looking back at my internship goals now, I find that all but two were not met. However, I still have the opportunity to achieve those during the remainder of my stay in Asia this summer. I believe that I have, in fact, surpassed what I had originally set out to accomplish and learn from my internship.

Jason Neuner

NOTE: Jason did a spring 1994 internship with Post & Associates, a professional consulting organization that specializes in providing business information, the management of security programs and management services for the security profession and multinational clients. The School of Criminal Justice is eternally grateful to all agencies that share their expertise and resources to provide internship opportunities for students.

If you or your agency is interested in providing such an opportunity for either graduate or undergraduate (senior level) Criminal Justice students, I can be reached at (517) 432-3197.
The School of Criminal Justice is committed to providing leadership, promoting excellence, stimulating research, pursuing innovation, and building partnerships with public and private justice agencies at the state, national, and international level. To that end, the School’s international activities are burgeoning with many faculty involved in a myriad of countries outside the United States of America. Others are developing initiatives such as research, and new projects stretch our personal and professional growth into the international arena.

Three overseas study programs provide opportunities beyond a possible internship for criminal justice students (undergraduate and graduate) to gain experience with counterparts overseas.

Comparative Criminal Justice Program in London and Cambridge. This course is offered summers of even numbered years. It provides students with a unique opportunity to study the British criminal justice system firsthand. Classes, field trips and guest lecturers cover the courts and the law, metropolitan and constabulary law enforcement, and juvenile and adult corrections.

Australia: Its People, Government, Justice Systems and Public Policymakers. Open to all majors, this spring semester interdisciplinary program offers an exceptional opportunity to study firsthand the people, government and justice systems and public policies of Australia.

Hawaii: Multicultural Relations in Polynesia. MSU offers this program every summer in cooperation with the University of Hawaii in Honolulu and Hilo, Hawaii. The course is a multidisciplinary approach to diversity and social change in a multiethnic community. Additionally, students from other countries are coming to MSU for undergraduate and graduate studies. This year the School has graduate students from Singapore, Korea and Taiwan. Last year masters candidates from Indonesia, Korea and Taiwan graduated and returned to their homeland. These international students have qualified for overseas study because of their personal interests and success on competitive tests in their countries. All their expenses are paid by the sending country.

On another front, I had the opportunity this past summer to visit East and Southeast Asia (South Korea, Hong Kong, Mainland China, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan and Singapore). This was in response to requests by industrial security alumni whose companies are expanding rapidly into these countries. The success of the survey conducted was enhanced by contacts the School has with alumni in the areas visited. The survey team met with local and regional security directors for U.S. companies and obtained a great deal of information as well as making contact with many security people in the area.

If alumni would like the information we gleaned, please contact any of the following: Professors Mahesh Nalla, Ken Christian or Merry Morash, Director.

Lifelong Education Award

The College of Social Science recently received the Vice Provost’s (University Outreach) Lifelong Education Award. The award was presented to the College in recognition of the College’s Interdisciplinary Studies evening degree program for outstanding support for reentry adult students.”

One criterion cited for receiving this award was past leadership in off-campus and evening full-degree programs that provide access for older and working adults. One piece of the College’s effort is the School’s commitment to offer a masters program in criminal justice, to be offered in Grand Rapids and the Detroit area, using distance education technology. The target date is spring semester, 1995.

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GOLF OUTING

With an overall focus on connecting faculty, alumni and students, to enhance the academic experience for criminal justice students, the School’s Second Annual Golf Outing was held Friday, September 23, 1994. It was a beautiful day to network!

Immediate past Criminal Justice Alumni Board director Ted Verrill did his part to support the effort by bringing a ready-made foursome. He also walked away with the trophy and free golf for two at Ledge Meadows for “Longest Putt.”

The winning foursome included: James Wood, Bob Wood, Monty Story and Brett Story. As part of first prize, each player received 18 holes of golf on the West Course at Forest Akers. Bret also received a trophy and golf for two at Timber Ridge for “Closest to the Pin.”

Jim Wood received 18 holes of golf for two at Branson Bay and a trophy for “Longest Drive.”

Evergreen Grill donated dinner for two and Marion Oaks donated 18 holes of golf for two. These prizes were given to non-winners as names were drawn randomly from a hat.

Three recent graduates returned to “catch up” on the latest. Jason Allen is now Officer Allen with the St. Clair Shores Police Department. David Kiddle has been with the Grand Rapids Police Department for the last year and a half. Cathy Koenig is awaiting a wrap up on some final details before she starts her new job in a Dearborn lab while she waits for a position opening in a criminal justice forensic lab.

David Smyrko, an avid supporter of last year’s outing, has been super busy as Foundation liaison to Mayor Dennis Archer’s Office. Although he could not join us on the green, he continues to support the Louis A. Radelet Endowed Scholarship Fund - which is the beneficiary for dollars raised through the golf outing effort. This year’s efforts, including checks such as David’s made directly to the Scholarship fund, helped put the Radelet endowment over the $20,000 minimum.
What Happens to Your Alumni Dues...

It is IMPORTANT that you designate a constituent association (Criminal Justice) on all your membership applications. Otherwise the entire amount of your dues will be retained by the MSU Alumni Association. By marking your application for Criminal Justice, $10 of the dues is forwarded to the Criminal Justice Alumni Association.

Alumni Membership Application
Please return this application with your remittance to MSU Alumni Association, East Lansing, MI 48824. Make checks payable to Michigan State University.

If JOINT MEMBERSHIP, please include:

Spouse's first Name
Former Name (if applicable)
Spouse an MSU graduate? Year

Applicant First Name
Former Name (if applicable): Yr. Graduated
City State Zip
Home Phone No.
Business Phone No.

Payment Plan
1. Annual Membership - $30.00
   - Check enclosed
   - Bill me through: 
     - Visa 
     - Master Card
   Card Number Exp. Date

II. I wish to become a Life Member of the MSU Alumni Association. (Price for individual or joint membership - $500)
   - Check for entire $500 enclosed
   - Bill me for the entire amount through:
     - Visa 
     - Master Card
   Card Number Exp. Date

III. Life membership installment plan
   $100 per year for the next 5 years ($500)
   - Enclosed is my check for $100
   - Bill me the first installment of $100 in:
     - Visa 
     - Master Card
   Card Number Exp. Date

Your $30 membership dues include membership in a regional club and in up to two constituent associations. If no constituent association(s) is chosen, the money will be allocated to the MSU Alumni Association programs.

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Congratulations to the Alumni Board and the Louis A. Radelet Scholarship Fund committee. The Board’s endowed scholarship in Professor Radelet’s name has reached the $20,000 minimum needed to make funds available to criminal justice students. Chaired by former Board member, David Smydra, committee members include Rich Davis, Richard Letts, Joseph Radelet, Karen Schrock and Michael Hidalgo.

The School is currently working with the families of Ralph Turner, Robert Trojanowicz and Michael Ferency to establish three additional criminal justice endowed scholarships. Jay Siegel, professor and assistant director of the School is chairing the Ralph Turner Development committee. Committee chairs/members are being sought for the Michael Ferency and Robert C. Trojanowicz committees. The University requires that the $20,000 be raised within a five year time frame.

Interested friends or alumni should contact Audrey Martin (517) 355-9648.

Seminars and Training Programs

The unique collection of resources and expertise at MSU makes it a natural for designing seminars and training programs to address contemporary conditions for working professionals in the field. Numerous areas of current interest provide the focus for seminars and training programs customized to suit the priorities of organizations:

- Cultural Diversity: A Criminal Justice Perspective
- Sex Crimes Investigations
- Computer Related Crimes
- Traumatic Trainer
- Supervision & Management Issues
- Conflict Approach and Resolution
- Community Policing Workshops
- Forensic Pathology

Jewell Flajolet Retires

A long time friend and resource to students and alumni named as of August this year. Jewell Flajolet, Assistant to the Director, began her career at Michigan State University in 1984. She was, however, familiar with the campus prior to that, having received her Masters of Arts in Reading Instruction from MSU in 1986. During that time she taught at the university level as a graduate assistant.

Jewell worked for a while in the Bresnan Library. She was an undergraduate advisor for several years before becoming Assistant to the Director for Bob Trojanowicz. She continued in that position when Merry Morash became Director. At the time of her retirement, she was also the graduate advisor for masters and Ph.D. students.

Jewell and her husband, Mike, plan on spending more time at their northern Michigan cottage and “working in the yard.” The School faculty and staff wish them both the best of health and happiness.