Greetings!

As most, if not all, readers of our newsletter are aware, Michigan State University is the nation's pioneering Land-Grant university. One hundred-sixty years ago the focus was on connecting scientific research to key agricultural issues. Today, MSU stands as a "World-Grant" university linking research to the pressing issues facing Michigan communities and communities across the globe. As is apparent in this E-Newsletter, this also describes the mission of the School of Criminal Justice. Our faculty and students are engaged in cutting-edge research and the translation of that research to address pressing problems. Examples of current projects focused within the U.S. include police integrity and use of force, community supervision of probationers and parolees, homicide and violence, gangs, and the organization of public safety resources in an era of tight budgets. True to the World-Grant mission, our research occurs across the globe. Just looking at publications and new projects launched in the last few months reveals research and engagement in Australia, Croatia, India, Namibia, South Korea, Ukraine, as well as two projects in Puerto Rico. Perhaps most emblematic of the School's influence and reach is Mahesh Nalla's newly
Whether it is work in Detroit, Flint, or Lansing, or in remote areas of the world, when it comes to criminal justice and criminological research, this School is likely to be involved.

MSU Students & Inmates Study Crime, Justice and Social Issues

Students from Michigan State University and Cooper Street Correctional Facility spent the Fall semester studying together in a classroom setting as peers to address crime, justice, and related social issues. The class, Examining Social Issues Through the Prism of Prison, taught by Dr. Cobbina, Assistant Professor, challenged preconceived beliefs about crime and justice. Every Monday evening, Dr. Cobbina took 12 "outside" (undergraduate) students to Cooper Street, a male minimum security prison, to study alongside 12 "inside" (incarcerated) students to engage in a collaborative dialogue and examination of issues of social significance. Both sets of students developed a greater understanding of social issues as a result of their interaction.

The course was beneficial for all the students, as it allowed "outside" students to go behind prison bars to reconsider what they have come to know about crime and justice while also providing an opportunity for "inside" students to place their life experiences in a larger framework. According to Dr. Cobbina, "the contact that occurs behind prison walls, the depth of the discussion about crime and justice, the collaborative nature of the engagement, and the consideration of issues from the inside out, makes the course unique".

Scott Westerman Experiences a Day of High Tech Law Enforcement Training with Chuck Solty & Bruce Sokolove

Chuck Solty, '84, Bruce Sokolove, '70 and Scott Westerman, MSUAA Executive Director spent the day together at the Suburban Law Enforcement Training
Academy in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. They spent the morning with Bruce in the classroom and Scott spent the afternoon in heavy weapons training on the outdoor range at the Will County Sheriff's firearms training facility in Joliet, Illinois. Chuck and Bruce came to the same conclusion -- Scott would have done the School of Criminal Justice proud if his career path had taken him into law enforcement!

The Suburban Law Enforcement Training Academy housed in the Homeland Security Education Center is the only high tech training center of its kind outside of the U.S. Military.

Doctoral Student Mohammed Ali Receives International Studies & Programs Award

Doctoral student Mohammed Ali is the recipient of the Michigan State University 2013 Gill-Chin Lim Award for Outstanding Dissertation in Global Studies. Dr. Merry Morash nominated Mohammed for this prestigious award.

The award is named after the late Dr. Gill-Chin Lim, MSU Professor of Geography and Urban Planning and former Dean of International Studies and Programs. One graduate each year is recognized for their outstanding doctoral dissertation focused on global studies.

Witch Hunts in India Brutally Target Women

Dr. Soma Chaudhuri spent seven months studying witch hunts in her native India and is featured in a documentary entitled A Curse in the Family that aired on Aljazeera English, 101 East. Her research shows that Witch Hunts are fueled by tribal workers' belief in the existence of witches and the desperate need of this poor and illiterate population to make sense of rampant diseases in villages that have no
doctors or medical facilities. Dr. Chaudhuri explains that in 2003, at a tea plantation in Jalpaiguri, five women were tied up, tortured and killed after being falsely accused of witchcraft in the death of a male villager who had suffered from a stomach illness.

Sameer Hinduja is the Recipient of the CSSAA Outstanding Alumni Award

Dr. Sameer Hinduja is the recipient of the CSSAA Outstanding Alumni Award. Sameer is an Associate Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida Atlantic University and Co-Director of the Cyberbullying Research Center. He works nationally and internationally with the public and private sector to reduce online victimization and its real-world consequences. The Outstanding Alumni Award will be presented during the College of Social Science Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 4, 2013 at the Breslin Student Events Center.

SCJAA Board Update: Paul Sparks

I am honored to be your new Alumni Board President; thank you to our Past President Mike Thompson, for his service. In support of President Simon's vision to better prepare MSU graduates for employment in today's workforce environment, your SCJAA board continues working toward the initiative of assisting our School to integrate a MCOLES approved pre-service training option into the undergraduate program. This option would be similar to existing programs in Michigan and will help graduates be more competitive for law enforcement positions nationally. Preliminary discussions toward the possibility of developing this initiative are planned with the Mid-Michigan Police Academy and the School.

A second ongoing initiative is to honor three of our alum that made the ultimate sacrifice protecting the public. With the generous assistance of Scott Westerman (MSUAA) and the support of Director Ed McGarrell and Dean Marietta Baba, a link on our CJ website is being developed as a "Place of
Honor”. Additionally, plaques will be designed and placed on our campus honoring each of these individuals. Your Board welcomes your comments. Please feel free to email them to me. Remember to renew your MSUAA membership & CJ affiliations each year, and encourage our fellow CJ alum to also do so!

Reducing Gun Violence In America

MSU School of Criminal Justice faculty member April Zeoli was one of more than 20 global leaders in gun policy and violence brought together by Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health to develop a set of comprehensive, research-based policy recommendations to prevent gun violence. Zeoli presented on the use of guns in intimate partner violence and homicide, the effects of existing gun policies on intimate partner homicide, and policy options to reduce intimate partner homicide. An edited book was produced based on the Gun Policy Summit proceedings, to which Zeoli contributed a chapter. The book is now available for purchase.

More Gun Policy Summit Proceedings >>

Forensic Science Faculty & Students Attend the Annual American Academy of Forensic Sciences

Michigan State University forensic science faculty and students attended the 66th annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in Washington D.C., February 18 - 23, 2013. They presented over 15 papers and posters, met up with old friends, and made new ones. They also had the honor of having retired forensic scientist Dick Bisbing ’68, join them for our MSU get-together. Dick worked for the Michigan State Police and the McCrone Institute. As a student at MSU he had the opportunity to study under famed forensic scientist and MSU Forensic Science Program founder Ralph Turner. It was a
welcomed blast from the past that everyone enjoyed.


Nancy Oesch Returns to Campus to Participate in Career Fair

Nancy Oesch, BS ’73, MS ’83, SCJAA Board member and Wall of Fame honoree returned to campus to participate in mock interviews at our annual Career Fair. After the student mock interview session Nancy spent time with Traci Ruiz, ’92, a fellow SCJAA board member and Lansing police officer, patrolling the streets of Lansing.

The School of Criminal Justice offers an annual career fair to students. As a part of this event students can participate in mock interviews with criminal justice professionals. These interviews introduce students to a real-world interview experience and provides them with an opportunity to learn what they might encounter during a typical job interview.

Homicide Spreads Through Cities Like an Infectious Disease

Homicide moves through a city in a process similar to infectious disease, according to a new study by MSU School of Criminal Justice researchers April Zeoli, Jesenia Pizarro, Chris Melde, and Sue Grady (Geography). Using Newark, NJ as a pilot case, the researchers successfully applied public health tracking methods to the city’s 2,366 homicides between 1982 and 2008. They found the killings were not randomly located but instead followed a pattern, evolving from the city's center and moving southward and westward over time. "By using the principles of infectious disease control, we may be able to predict the spread of homicide and reduce the incidence of this crime," said Zeoli.

The study is one of the first to use analytic software from the field of medical geography to track long-term homicide
trends. Zeoli said the method can be done in real time which would allow police to identify emerging hotspots. This study, published in the research journal *Justice Quarterly*, has gained national and international attention from the media, criminal justice organizations, researchers, and community groups. To listen to a segment on the research, click below on NPR Morning Edition.

NPR Morning Edition >>

### Responding to Michigan's Market for Product Counterfeiting

Team members from A-CAPP presented at a policy forum hosted by the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR) earlier this year. The presentation, *Counterfeit Products: Bad for the Economy, Bad for Michigan* was delivered by A-CAPP team members Justin Heinonen, John Spink, and Jeremy Wilson. Derryk Burgess, a criminal investigator with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security also assisted with the presentation.

The speakers discussed characteristics of counterfeiters, with a focus on what type of products are counterfeited, how to recognize a counterfeit product, and how to report suspicious products. Experts also discussed the impact that counterfeiting has on Michigan and the role that policymakers play to combat product counterfeiting.

Learn More >>

### Judicial Administration to Offer Two New Programs: MSU Masters of Science & Court Administration Certificate Program in the Ukraine

The Judicial Administration Program is pleased to announce that a new two-year, thirty credit-hour Master of Science Degree in Judicial Administration is in the final approval stages at Michigan State University. The new degree will be offered completely online. Full and final approval is expected soon and the new degree will be offered beginning Fall 2013.

The School's Judicial Administration Program has also recently entered into a partnership with the Ukrainian State
Judicial Administration (SJA), the Ukrainian National School of Judges (NSJ) and the USAID Fair (Fair, Accountable, Independent, and Responsible) Judiciary Program in the Ukraine to design and implement a pilot court administration certificate program to provide specialized trainings and develop qualification requirements for court administrators.

Visiting Scholar Gorazd Mesko
Addresses Policing in Central & Eastern Europe: Recent Research & Future Challenges

As a part of the Dae Chang Speaker Series, Dr. Gorazd Mesko visited campus and lectured on his research entitled *Policing in Central and Eastern Europe: An Overview of Recent Research and Future Challenges*. Dr. Mesko is Dean of the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security at the University of Maribor, Slovenia. His current research interests include situational action theory and an empirical test of parental control of the youth in Slovenia and legitimacy of policing and criminal justice in new democracies (with Justice Tankebe).

In addition to being a visiting scholar, he along with Dr. Mahesh Nalla are serving as joint doctoral dissertation Chairs for Maja Jere who is working on her Ph.D in Slovenia.