Chair's Message

Season's Greetings!

As many of you know, I can hardly contain my enthusiasm when I talk about the Justice Studies Department. The old Police School has grown to become a premiere leader in educating students who aspire to become professionals in justice-related fields. Our curriculum is ahead of others, drawing from multiple elements of today's complex enterprise of equipping communities to thrive. The department's five pillars—Criminal Justice, Criminology, Legal Studies, Human Rights, and Forensic Science—establish technical competence and thorough understanding of issues facing professionals in law enforcement, practice of law, corrections, probation, policy making, advocacy, and social services.

Staying ahead of the curve, the department recently implemented 2 new degrees, MS Criminology-Concentration in Global Criminology (online program), BS Justice Studies - Concentration in Criminology. 1 new certificate, Collaborative Response to Family Violence, and a new undergraduate requirement, for Justice Studies and Forensic Science majors to complete an international experience, receiving credit for coursework completed abroad.

Looking ahead, work is now being done to prepare 2 new majors in digital evidence and legal studies, and for accreditation of the Forensic Science Program by the Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC).

The department is excited that 5 new tenure track faculty members joined the team this year. Along with these faculty, several new lecturers are on board, bringing their expertise and professional experiences to the classroom to benefit current students.

I must also boast that the students are exceptional. Their commitment to justice is evident in their classroom success, performance in internships, and in their contributions to the community. Our student groups champion the cause of justice and earn recognition as they do so.

As 2017 comes to a close, Justice Studies is strong. Looking ahead to the new year, our future is bright.

Happy Holidays!
James Lee
Professor and Chair
Ann Lucas Lecture

This year’s Ann Lucas Lecture featured Dr. Patrisia Macias-Rojas who discussed her book From Deportation to Prisons: The Politics of Immigration Enforcement in Post-Civil Rights America. Accompanying her was a panel of our very own faculty including Erika Adams, Ph.D., John Halushka, Ph.D., and Sang Kil, Ph.D., who all gave critical feedback and their unique perspectives on the issue of mass incarceration and immigration. There were many students who attended to hear Dr. Patrisia Macias-Rojas and asked intriguing questions following the lecture. This was a great opportunity for the students to gain vital knowledge about the impending issues of criminalizing immigration and the human rights violations the United States faces with the imprisonment of thousands of immigrants.

Showcase 4.0

Continuing its newest tradition, the department held its 4th annual Justice Studies Showcase, Thursday, November 9, at the San José Police Officers’ Association Hall. This year’s theme: Alumni Lighting the Way. The program began with a bagpipe performance by the San José Police Emerald Society. Students from the department tabled with games for the participants to play so alumni and department friends could mingle and view the department’s past and present accomplishments. Several auction items were sold by the entertaining SFPD Inspector/professional auctioneer, Lenny Broberg. Featured items: a Seascape Beach House in Aptos, a Huey Helicopter Ride, Paradise Village Mexico Trip, Perspective Sketches by Gil Zamora, and an Air Museum and Spirits Tasting.

Jess B. Guy ’70, ’89 and Melissa Mondragon ’09 provided reflections on the department’s influence toward their success. Former Department Analyst, Molly E. Marquez, was honoured with the Janet L. Hagemann Award for Outstanding Contributions. Rosa Vega was named Distinguished Alumna.

Beyond the Books

Each semester selected practitioners speak to students regarding how they obtained their career, what their job consists of, and any advice to students interested in that field. In addition to the panel and Q&A, there was an opportunity for students to meet the presenters. This semester the theme was “After the Crime” and there were speakers from the Santa Clara County Coroner’s Office, San José Police Department Homicide Unit, and a Forensic Artist. This was a great informational event, and it provided an opportunity for students to make contacts for possible employment and/or internships.

2017 Distinguished Alumna

Rosa Vega

Hired by the Santa Clara County Medical Examiner-Coroner’s Office in 2005, Distinguished Alumna, Rosa Vega, has performed thousands of death investigations including homicides, accidents, suicides and child deaths. Recently, she was promoted to Chief Investigator. As such, Rosa supervises a team of 8 investigators who respond to roughly 1000 deaths annually at which they determine cause of death, positive identification, and take possession of personal property and evidence found on scene. Despite the arduous task of management, she continues to perform death investigations because that is truly her passion. Rosa aspires to teach and hopes to one day become faculty in SJSU’s Justice Studies Department.
**ALPHA PHI SIGMA**

The theme for APS this year was "Crime Prevention". APS has worked to raise awareness for a population in need by holding events, and undertaking projects to inform the community about the different approaches to staying safe. Through fundraising efforts, APS has been able to help homeless community members in the San José area. This year, they raised money to create 144 care packages for the homeless community around San José State University. They also partnered with a local organization to hand out sleeping bags and other essentials.

**CHI PI SIGMA**

In 2017, ΧΠΣ participated in a variety of activities. Some of the notable social events were the JS Spring 2017 Confidence Challenge, Friendsgiving, the Spring Luau and Fall Tailgate. They also participated in a variety of volunteering and career panels with Fresh Lifelines for Youth and Next Door solutions for domestic violence. Chi Pi Sigma also participated in the Beyond the Books event hosted by the JS Task Force, and it hosted its very own Career Panel which included San José Police Officers, Santa Clara Probation, and Watsonville Police Detectives. The group also conducted its pledge process, and has welcomed several new members to their family this year.

**FORENSIC SCIENCE STUDENTS**

This year, the Forensic Science Students had an array of events for both bonding and educational experiences. FSS went to a shooting range, off campus, to give members some experience handling firearms. In addition, they enjoyed movie night and a night at the Billiards to bring members together. On the more educational side, the Forensic Science students hosted guest speakers, including Jeremiah Garrido, who presented information about Forensic Biology, and Rosa Vega, who taught about Death Investigations.

**JUSTICE STUDIES TASK FORCE**

Founded in the fall of 2009, the Justice Studies Task Force was created to promote camaraderie and collaboration between the student groups in the Justice Studies Department. The Task Force is composed of two members of each of the Justice Studies student groups, faculty, and recent Justice Studies alumni. The Task Force organizes the annual Confidence Challenge, a field day event in which teams compete against one another in a version of the physical agility test for law enforcement. In addition, they plan the Fall Convocation for graduating students.

Want to Donate to Justice Studies? Go to: www.sjsu.edu/justicestudies/alumni/giving-js
**Record Clearance Project**

RCP assists people with criminal convictions who cannot afford an attorney, enabling them to pursue their legal rights to a full, productive future. In the past year, the SJSU Record Clearance Project has held 32 LiveScan fingerprinting events where 254 clients were fingerprinted, 80% of whom qualified for a free RAP sheet based on income. Getting a RAP sheet is the first step in starting the expungement process. RCP also helped 11 clients with state prison cases apply for Certificates of Rehabilitation, and 6 clients with conviction histories apply for professional licenses. Most importantly the RCP has trained 66 students in expungement law, granting them hands-on experience working with clients.

**International Experience**

Initiated by the College of Applied Sciences and Arts (CASA), the department has adopted a graduation requirement for students to participate in an international educational experience. The requirement took effect Fall 2016. This new requirement encourages students to gain the wonderful experience of learning in a different culture and country. To help fulfill this requirement, CASA has many International programs in various countries. This year there are faculty-led programs to Greece, Italy, South Korea, and Spain. There are programs to fit every student’s needs, including semester-long, year long, and even summer-long study abroad programs, along with financial assistance so that every student has access to the amazing opportunity to explore and broaden their outlook on the world.

**Themis**

Themis is a professional-quality, peer-reviewed academic journal, publishing SJSU student research in justice studies and forensic science. The journal features student research papers and book reviews. Themis seeks original submissions from undergraduate and graduate students at SJSU. Students from any major may submit, but papers are topically related to justice, injustice, human rights, criminal justice, criminology, law, law enforcement, philosophy of law, criminal or forensic psychology, neuroscience, or any of the forensic sciences.

**MS Criminology**

**Global Criminology Online Program**

The Department of Justice Studies at San José State University offers an online Master of Science degree in Criminology with a Concentration in Global Criminology. The degree program was designed to adapt to the ever-changing environment of the justice and legal systems, and the discipline of criminology. It uniquely combines advanced study of contemporary international crime and the various responses to crime around the globe with analytic and research techniques used by advanced scholars. It provides an international comparative curriculum that develops analytical skills, understanding of legal concepts, theoretical competency, and abilities to apply criminology in practical ways. It aims to equip graduates with a truly global outlook on crime and criminal justice, a commitment to international justice, and professional competencies to apply practices from around the globe to meet the particular needs of their communities.
Scholarship Winners

Below are some this year's winners of the department's prestigious scholarships made possible by donors.

A. Reed & Virginia McLaughlin Endowment Scholarship
Kenya Thomas
"After completion of my Master's in Forensic Sciences, I plan to have gained enough lab experience to become a Forensic Firearms Examiner."

A. Reed & Virginia McLaughlin Endowment Scholarship
Eric Yu
"I will be moving to Scotland this fall to pursue my Master's degree in Forensic Science. My plan is to work as a Forensic DNA analyst to gain more experience before going back to school to earn a PhD."

Jeffrey Fontana Memorial Scholarship
Curtis Tran
"I will pursue a career as a police officer for San José PD. I am interested in being a detective but I would be happy with just being a regular cop helping people in my community."

Kristofer Boaz Claspill Memorial Scholarship
Stan Bielous
"I hope to pursue a master's degree in Medico-legal Death Investigation. My ultimate career goal is to become a homicide investigation detective."

Theresa Edel Memorial Scholarship
Emily Wheeler
"I plan to apply to a variety of local, state, and federal jobs in the criminal justice system where I can apply my knowledge of Justice and Forensic studies."

Jeffrey Fontana Memorial Scholarship
Lilia Barragan
"Work in a crime lab as a forensic scientist or become a police officer and move up to become a detective."

Paula Stone Hubbell Memorial Scholarship
Janelle Nguyen
"I plan on furthering my education in Justice Studies so that one day I can earn a PhD and become a professor to teach in the Criminal Justice field."

Daniel P. Lomio Memorial Scholarship
Nadia Webster
"I hope to someday run a nonprofit organization that educates school children about sexual abuse/rape, and helps women and children who have suffered from this heinous act."

Paula Stone Hubbell Memorial Scholarship
Melinda Lo
"I hope to enroll in a dual JD/Ph.D. law program and be able to work in the Legal field in the future."

Introducing the new Shelby B. Brewer Scholarship. Shelby Blair Brewer, BS '00 spent her career in juvenile justice; she was highly respected by colleagues for her hard work and knowledge. After a brain tumor took her life, June 12, 2016, at age 37, her family created a scholarship as a lasting tribute to her passion for serving at-risk youth.
New Faculty

Shawna Bolton received her Ph.D. in Forensic Science from the University of Wolverhampton, (United Kingdom) in 2015. She is currently an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Forensic Science program. Her research includes Investigating the Postmortem Molecular Biology of Cartilage and its Potential Applications.

Erica Adams received her Ph.D. in Criminology, Law and Justice from the University of Illinois, Chicago in 2010. She is currently an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the the Human Rights program. She specializes in Crime and Deviance in the Caribbean; Outcome of Policies Regarding Policing and Incarceration in the United States; Race, Gender, Inequality, and the Law.

Sam Ghatak received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2014. He is an Assistant Professor currently working to generate an International Security program. His field of study is International Security, Conflict Processes, Terrorism, Insurgency, Civil War, Politics of Developing Nations, Government and Politics of India, and Politics of South Asia.

John Halushka received his Ph.D. in Sociology from New York University with a specialization in Criminology and Law and Society in 2017. He is an Assistant Professor. His main focus and interests have been with mass incarceration and the prison system. He is a member of the American Sociological Association, Eastern Sociological Association, and the American Society of Criminology.

Claudio Vera Sanchez received his Ph.D. in Criminal Justice with an emphasis in Policing of Latino Youth from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2008. Before joining the Department of Justice Studies this year, he was a research assistant for the University of Illinois Hot Spot Policing Project. Claudio Vera Sanchez is a member of the American Society of Criminology and Psi-Beta Psychology Honor Society. He is an Associate Professor.

Thank you to our donors
As we look back on all we have accomplished this year, we wish to acknowledge the following individuals and organizations who have generously supported the Justice Studies Department.

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