



## Issue 2

Welcome to the second issue of *Crime and Grits*, the official newsletter of the Southern Criminal Justice Association (SCJA). This issue highlights important events and information related to the SCJA, and we have plenty of them.

In this issue, you can get prepared for the upcoming election (opens today!) and the Nashville conference, meet the new editors of *Justice Quarterly* who are proud SCJA members, and reminisce about the fun we had in Baltimore and Atlanta. Plus, check out the limited time discounts on membership.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Crime and Grits* and share it with your networks. If you have news, information, or suggestions for the next issue, please email [CrimeandGrits@gmail.com](mailto:CrimeandGrits@gmail.com).

## SCJA Reception Recap at ASC!

SCJA never misses the chance to host our family and friends, so of course we held a reception when the Annual Meeting of ASC returned to the South in 2018. On the evening of Wednesday, November 14, SCJA members and friends met at the Atlanta Braves All-Star Grill for barbeque, drinks, and fun. We would like to thank all who attended the event and look forward to seeing you in Nashville this fall!



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## Meet Your SCJA Officers and Board of Directors

### **President**

John Stogner, PhD  
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

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## **This Edition of *Crime and Grits* was brought to you by:**

Julie Baldwin, American University  
Erin Castro, University of Florida  
Abigail Novak, University of Florida  
John Stogner, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

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## Spotlight: New Co-Editors of *Justice Quarterly*

Please join us in congratulating SCJA members Dr. Marv Krohn and Dr. Mike Leiber for being elected as the new co-editors for *Justice Quarterly* (JQ)! One of the premier journals in the field of criminal justice and criminology, JQ has amassed an impressive reputation for scholarship under the tutelage of Dr. Kurlycheck and has risen in rank to achieve an impact factor of 2.456. Eager to continue this trend of excellence, Dr. Krohn and Dr. Leiber are the perfect pair to propel this journal forward in becoming a leader in “theoretical, empirical, and interpretive studies related to criminal justice.”

As the outgoing President of SCJA, Dr. Krohn has been an active member in the association since 2011 and has served in a variety of roles, including as 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and member of the Award Committee. Dr. Krohn has published over 100 articles and received over 3 million dollars in grants during his 40 year career. In honor of his dedication to scholarship excellence, he has also been the recipient of the Michael J. Hindelang award, the title of American Society of Criminology Fellow, and honoree in the Florida State University College of Criminal Justice.



Dr. Leiber has also been an active member of SCJA for several years and is the current Chair of the Department of Criminology at the University of South Florida. He has received several awards for his scholarly contributions, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Division on People of Color in Crime, the Distinguished Research Alumni Award at the University of Albany, and the Becky Tatum Excellence Award from the Division of the Minorities and Women Section. Dr. Leiber has also served as the editor for the *Journal of Crime & Justice* since 2010 and has reviewed manuscripts for over 24 journals related to criminal justice.

We are proud to spotlight the contributions of active SCJA members in the field and look forward to seeing JQ continue to rise in prestige under their guidance. Congratulations!

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# SCJA Executive Board Candidates

## Dr. James Hawdon



James Hawdon is a Professor, Director of the Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention, and Associate Chair of the Department of Sociology at Virginia Tech. From his graduate work and PhD from the University of Virginia, twelve years on the faculty at Clemson University, and longtime service at Virginia Tech, his career has been rooted in our Southern region. He has served his institutions in various leadership and significant positions, including Director of Graduate Studies at both Clemson and Virginia Tech, Founding Director of the Survey Research Lab at Clemson University, and Director of the Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention at Virginia Tech. He is a member of several editorial boards including SCJA's *American Journal of Criminal Justice*. He is currently chairing the Bruce Smith, Sr. Award Selection Committee and is serving as an

Executive Counselor for the Drugs & Alcohol Section of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. He is the Official Liaison for Department of Sociology at Virginia Tech and The Board of Directors of SCJA, a member of the Advisory Council for the *Resolution Virginia* (formerly *Virginia Associate for Community Conflict Research*, and a member of the Virginia Governor's *Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*. His teaching and research interests include mass violence, online extremism, drugs and crime, and policing.

## Dr. Veronyka James



Dr. Veronyka James is an assistant professor in Criminology/ Criminal Justice at Shenandoah University. She received her Ph.D. in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Her research interests are sexual assault victimization and reporting, perceptions of the police, media and crime, and "senseless" violence (e.g. serial killers and mass shooters). She was also a recipient of a 2015 and 2016 SAGE Junior Faculty Professional Development Award. Over the years, she has served as Secretary of the ACJS Police Section, as well as Executive Counselor of both the ACJS Victimology Section, and Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Section. She has also served for SCJA as a member of the Student Awards Committee.



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### **Dr. Sherri Jenkins Keenan**



Dr. Sheri Jenkins Keenan is the Coordinator of The Center for Community Criminology & Research and a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice at The University of Memphis. She holds a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice, masters and bachelor degrees in Criminal Justice, and a bachelor degree in Sociology. Dr. Keenan has 14 years of experience in law enforcement and corrections. Her research interests focus on policing special populations with an emphasis on juveniles: delinquency, mental illness, gangs, threat groups, and juvenile justice program evaluation. Dr. Keenan's publications deal with such areas as K12 tracking, school violence, zero tolerance policies, nature and extent of mental health moving through the juvenile justice system, juvenile drug courts, transfer/waiver, bullying/cyber-bullying, gang violence, and rational choice theory.

Dr. Keenan has an accomplished grant record. She is a member of several state, regional, and national professional organizations, serves on numerous local advisory committees and boards, and is a state certified ACE trainer. Dr. Keenan is a LIFETIME member of SCJA.

### **Dr. Hyeyoung Lim**



Dr. Hyeyoung Lim earned her PhD at Sam Houston State University in 2008, and she currently serves as a tenured associate professor of the Department of Criminal Justice, University of Alabama at Birmingham. She doesn't have a previous position at SCJA but has worked for other associations including the Korean Society of Criminology in America (hereafter KOSCA) and the Division of Policing at the American Society of Criminology. Her primary research interest includes police decision-making, use of force, policy and program evaluation, and police-community relation. A recent developed line of research focuses on information and cyber security and interpersonal violence against children and youth, working with the National Forensic Service in Republic of Korea. As a life-time member of ACJS and one who got great impression of the regional association, she is more than willing to serve as the

Director-at-large at SCJA. Dr. Lim will enlarge the diversity of SCJA and dedicate her time and effort to the association without reservation.

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### Dr. Gavin Lee



Gavin Lee is an Assistant Professor of Criminology at the University of West Georgia. He has served SCJA in several capacities, including the Outstanding Undergraduate Award selection committee, the Audit Committee, the Elections Committee, and a prior term as Director-at-Large. His research interests include capital punishment, serial murder, and corrections. His work has been published in the *American Journal of Criminal Justice*; the *International Journal of Crime, Criminal Justice and Law*; the *Southwestern Journal of Criminology*; *The Pursuit: The Journal of the Criminal Justice Association of Georgia*, and *Corrections: Policy, Practice and Research*. He also co-edited *The Routledge Handbook on Capital Punishment* with Robert Bohm and has written several chapters in encyclopedias and other edited works.

### Dr. Catherine Marcum



Dr. Catherine D. Marcum joined the Department of Government and Justice Studies in 2012 and is currently the Assistant Chair. She earned a Ph.D. in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Her areas of teaching and research focus on correctional issues, cybercrime, and victimization, and very much enjoys working with students on research. She has published over 50 peer-reviewed journal articles and 10 books in her fields. Dr. Marcum received the Southern Criminal Justice Association Educator of the Year in 2015 and is currently the editor of the journal, *Corrections: Policy, Practice and Research*. She is an active volunteer for the Girl Scouts of America, Hardin Park School and other community organizations.

### Dr. Barbara Sims



Throughout my 28+ years of experience in higher education, I have had the pleasure of serving on various committees and in leadership positions associated with the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, the Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences, and the PA Association of Criminal Justice. In 2012, I relocated to Mars Hill, NC where I now serve as Chair and Professor of CJ at Mars Hill University. I am looking forward to having an opportunity to bringing my years of experience to the Executive Board of SCJA and hope you will consider voting for me for this position. Please feel free to reach out to me with your questions at [bsims@mhu.edu](mailto:bsims@mhu.edu).

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### **Dr. Lisa Carter**



Dr. Lisa Carter has been an extremely active member of the criminology/criminal justice community for over 15 years. She has been an active member of SCJA for multiple years, constantly bringing students with her for presentations and participation in the conference. In addition, she has been an active member of ACJS for over 10 years, serving on multiple committees, including as Executive Counselor of the Corrections section. Dr. Carter is currently chair of the Department of Criminology at Florida Southern College. She has a strong emphasis on service and engaged learning for her students.

### **Dr. Tosha Wilson-Davis**



Tosha Wilson-Davis currently holds the Justice Studies Department Chair/Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice position with Georgia Military College's Online Campus and has held this position since July 1, 2017. She has over nine years of experience in higher education including teaching, course development and administration. In addition, Tosha recently founded and started her own business, Penciled IN Resume Writing and Career Services, LLC., which specializes in professional resume writing for college students, recent grads and those employees looking to make a career move into higher education. She previously spent six years with the federal government serving as a Contract Specialist with the Department of Defense (DOD) and the General Services Administration (GSA). In addition, Tosha holds several professional certifications to include Level I Government

Contracting certification, Level I Program Management certification, and Online Teaching Certification from Georgia Military College and Upper Iowa University. Also, she belongs to several professional organizations including the Southern Criminal Justice Association (SCJA), American Criminal Justice Association/Lambda Alpha Epsilon (ACJA/LAE), Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society, American Society of Public Administration (ASPA), Pi Alpha Alpha National Public Administration Honor Society, and Alpha Kappa Delta National Sociology Honor Society. Lastly, Tosha was a first-generation high school and college graduate which fueled her passion to move away from her career with the federal government and into her current full-time teaching position. She has earned a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Criminal Justice, a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Sociology both from Augusta State University (December 2004) and a Master of Public Administration with a Government Contracting concentration from Troy University (December 2009). She did not stop there and completed a second graduate degree, a Master of Science in Criminal Justice from Troy University on July 25, 2014. In her spare time, Tosha enjoys writing, traveling, playing frisbee with her Australian Shepherd Coffee, and spending time with her husband, Kenneth.



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## AJCJ Article Spotlight: Online First

Rhys Hester's article, "Prior Record and Recidivism Risk," is currently available online first in the *American Journal of Criminal Justice*. Hester uses survival analysis and area under the curve analysis to examine the predictive efficacy of the Pennsylvania Prior Record Score (PRS) in offenders sentenced in Pennsylvania and followed-up for 3 years after release ( $n = 130,758$ ). The study indicates that some of the Pennsylvania PRS categories fail to accurately distinguish among offenders based on their likelihood of recidivism. Further, some of the key score components that increase the PRS (and the punishment imposed) have marginal effects on the predictive efficacy of the score, often only increasing the prediction accuracy by a single percentage point. By re-engineering the PRS categories and sub-components, this jurisdiction could recommend less punishment in some cases without any apparent increase in risk to public safety.

## Limited Time Offer on SCJA Memberships!

A yellow lightning bolt graphic with a circular logo at its base. The logo features a map of Florida and the text "SOUTHERN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSOCIATION".

**Flash Membership Sale!**

Limited time only... Save money with longer commitments to avoid lapses in your membership!

For a limited time, Lifetime memberships are only \$450.... 3-year memberships are only \$125\*.... Student non-member registration now includes a membership for only \$20 total!!!

\* If you already have a membership, 3 years will be added to your current expiration date.



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# 2019 Conference: SCJA in Music City!



September 10-13 in the DoubleTree by Hilton in downtown Nashville, Tennessee.

Enjoy networking, numerous receptions, student opportunities, and special panels!

Registration is just \$50 for members (and far cheaper for students). To submit an abstract go to [www.southerncj.org](http://www.southerncj.org) by July 15<sup>th</sup>. Hotel information is also available via the website. Members may receive the conference rate of \$189 by using “SCJ” as the code. Reserve your room soon—our room block is already 75% full!

See you in Nashville!

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# Join the SCJA Family!

There are numerous benefits to joining the Southern Criminal Justice Association! Among them are:

- Discounted rates at the best regional association conference!
  - We only visit great locations including Nashville (2019), Pensacola Beach (2018), New Orleans (2017), Savannah (2016), and Charleston (2015).
  - SCJA has a welcoming, friendly atmosphere suited for professional fellowship, networking, and research presentations.
  - There are numerous social receptions and activities for faculty and students.
  - Student members are eligible for a variety of financial awards such as the student poster competition and three other annual awards. In addition, the association hosts two networking meals for students to meet with board members and journal editors.
- Plus, members get a subscription to the *American Journal of Criminal Justice* and an electronic subscription to the *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*.

The cost of SCJA membership is a bargain at only \$15 for students and \$50 for faculty members. Three-year memberships are also available for \$140 and lifetime memberships for \$500.... Or save money by purchasing a lifetime or three-year membership during our current flash sale (\$450 for lifetime and \$125 for three-years).

Member states include Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, South Carolina, North Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, but you don't have to be a resident or work in those states to join – we welcome everyone!

Visit [southerncj.org](http://southerncj.org) for more information. To sign up, just lick on the membership tab and register! Paypal, credit card, and even good ole fashioned checks are accepted.

**See you at our annual conference in Nashville September 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>!**

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# A Message from the President:

Members and colleagues,

The SCJA executive board appreciates your support and contributions to our fine association. We realize that our growth and success has been the result of the warm, welcoming, and intellectually stimulating environment you each help create at our conferences and events. We've been steadily working to improve our organization and I'll briefly summarize some of our work below.

First, we've attempted to improve our communication with members over the last year. I appointed an ad-hoc Newsletter committee to provide a cohesive document summarizing our progress and activities every few months. I'm proud of the work that Julie, Erin, Abigail, Rachael, and others have done to keep everyone inform. We've also reinitiated our social media presence. Jonathan Grubb of Georgia Southern University has been providing leadership in that area. We hope you enjoy the updates and member spotlights on those platforms. If you haven't already, follow SCJA on Facebook and @SouthernCJAssociation.

Second, we've been working to improve our operating procedures, documents, and policies. Courtney Crittenden of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga was appointed to lead an internal audit of our policies and functioning. Her team has already identified ways that we as a board might function more effectively and instances where we need to resolve inconsistencies with our established policies and manuals. That committee's final report will be made available to the membership. You'll also see many of their policy recommendations on the 2020 ballot as some of the changes would require a full referendum of the membership. Speaking of ballots, we've got an excellent set of candidates for our 2019 election. Please vote!

Of course, we've also been actively planning your 2019 conference that will be held in Nashville, Tennessee starting on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> and ending Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. Note that our panels are shifted slightly earlier this year with some occurring on Tuesday afternoon and the final panels ending midday on Friday. We hope you'll attend and see all the great things we have planned. Submit your abstracts by July 15<sup>th</sup>, but I'd advise you to book rooms early since our block is filling quickly— we had growth in 2018 and it looks like we'll grow even bigger this year!

On the subject of membership growth, the board voted to run a flash sale on long-term memberships. We hope this will encourage members to select the longer options and avoid lapses in their membership status. So, for a short time only, you can purchase a 3 year membership for \$125 and a lifetime membership for \$450! Look into these so you don't miss any important emails when your membership expires! We also reduced the student non-member conference and membership price by packaging them together. Now a \$20 fee covers both the conference and membership for students.

We appreciate your membership and look forward to seeing you in Nashville!

John Stogner, Southern Criminal Justice Association President



Above: The SCJA President, John Stogner, gets into the spirit of the 2019 Conference in Nashville, TN by impersonating one of country music's greats: the Gentle Giant, Don Williams (we'll continue the theme of costumed pictures started last newsletter started).