

Texas Association of Criminal Justice Educators
CONFERENCE PROGRAM
November 3-5, 2021

Conference Theme
Defining and Shattering the Glass
Ceiling:
Embracing Inclusion in Criminal
Justice Education



Executive Committee

President – Dr. Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

Vice President – Dr. Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Secretary/Treasurer – Dr. David Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

Conference Planning Committee Chair – Dr. Paul Reynolds (UNT Dallas)

**General
Business
Meeting**

**November 5
1:30 p.m.**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Lorenzo M. Boyd, Ph.D
University of New Haven

Biography

Dr. Lorenzo M. Boyd is a nationally recognized expert in police-community relations and an authority on urban policing. Dr. Boyd currently serves as the Stewart Professor of Criminal Justice and Community Policing at the University of New Haven. He formerly served as the university's Vice President for Diversity & Inclusion and former Director of the Center for Advanced Policing. His 14-year service as a deputy sheriff in Boston informs his 20-year career in higher education. He effectively translates research and theory into practice, making him a sought-after consultant, trainer, and speaker for departments and communities across the country.

Dr. Boyd conducts professional development training with a central focus on building levels of empathy, lived experience, and cultural competence among police personnel. He works with police leaders around the country to determine training needs and develops interactive professional development sessions that include real-life scenarios and role play.

Dr. Boyd regularly appears on local, regional, national, and international media outlets to discuss policing in the aftermath of high-profile cases. Dr. Boyd is the former president of the Academy of Criminal Justice Science and a life member of National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives. He earned his doctorate from Northeastern University. He also holds a master's and bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts.

Education

Ph.D. Northeastern University
M.A. University of Massachusetts Boston
B.A. University of Massachusetts

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Shelly Clevenger
Sam Houston State University

Biography

Dr. Shelly Clevenger is Chair and an Associate Professor of the first Victim Studies Department in the nation at Sam Houston State University. She has authored peer-reviewed journal publications and books on the connection between sexual assault, intimate partner abuse and cyber victimization. Dr. Clevenger presented her research on cybervictimizations at the United Nations Women in 2016 and a U.S. Congressional Briefing in 2018. Dr. Clevenger is also the recipient of the 2017 Feminist Criminology Article of the Year Award and the 2018 American Society of Criminology, Division on Women and Crime New Scholar Award. She has three books, *The Virtual Enemy: The Intersection between Intimate Partner Abuse, Technology, and Cybercrime*, *Teaching Criminological Theory, and Understanding Victimology; An Active Learning Approach*, which was the 2019 American Society of Criminology, Division of Victimology, Bob Jerin Book of the Year Award winner. She has a fourth book to be published with Dr. Jordana Navarro by University of California Press in 2021, *Gendering Criminology; Crime and Justice Today* and a fifth book *Understanding Sex Offenses* with Dr. Karen Holt. She has been recognized for her teaching nationally by the American Society of Criminology, Division of Victimology, Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award and the American Society of Criminology, Division of Critical Criminology and Social Justice, Teacher of the Year Award. Dr. Clevenger also is very proud to be the 2020 recipient of the American Society of Criminology, Division on Women and Crime, Inconvenient Woman of the Year Award for her activism and work to help victims.

Education

Ph.D. Indiana University of Pennsylvania
M.A. Indiana University of Pennsylvania
B.A. Indiana University of Pennsylvania

ZOOM Room Links

We are excited that you are joining us for this conference. The events are linked to five primary ZOOM rooms that are being provided by our institutional sponsor.

Each ZOOM room is assigned a primary host that will be administratively in charge of sessions assigned to the ZOOM room. Additionally, each session will also have a Chair assigned that will introduce the speakers and facilitate the session.

Sessions will require a zoom link and password to attend. **Please see your invitation for the conference links and password.**

Please use the provided TACJE conference Zoom background that will be sent with your invitation email or no background at all. This will help maintain a unified and professional appearance during the sessions.

Please keep your microphones muted unless called on by the Chair or Host administer.

Please turn your silence or turn off your cell phones while in a session.

Please be professional and respectful to presenters and conference participants.

Participants may be removed from a session if they fail to comply with these rules.

NOTE: Links to Zoom Rooms are with your conference invitation and WELCOME email.

If you have any problems email: tacjeconference2021@gmail.com

HOSTS

Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University) jared.dmello@tamiu.edu

Laly Palau (Texas A&M International University) Laly_palau@yahoo.com

Christine A. Nix (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor) christine.nix@umhb.edu

Tretha Harris (Strayer University) tretha.harris@gmail.com

David A. Rembert (Prairie View A&M University) darembert@pvamu.edu

Brittany Hood (Texas A&M International University) brittany.hood@tamiu.edu

Schedule of Events at a Glance

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

8:00 a.m. – 8:20 a.m. CST	Welcome from TACJE Location: ZOOM Room 1
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CST	Registration
8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. CST	Panel Session: Understudied Populations: Seniors and LGBTQ+ Location: ZOOM Room 2
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. CST	Roundtable: Scholars of Color in Criminal Justice Location: ZOOM Room 1
	Panel Session: Parenting, Prison & Pups (PPP) and Animal-Assisted Therapy (AAT) Location: ZOOM Room 2
	Panel Session: Race and Ethnicity Location: ZOOM Room 3
12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST	Keynote Address by Lorenzo Boyd: The Future of Criminal Justice, Post-George Floyd Location: ZOOM Room 1
1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. CST	Roundtable: Re-envisioning Introduction to Criminal Justice: Adapting to the Multimodal Learner Location: ZOOM Room 2
	Roundtable: Women in Law Enforcement Location: ZOOM Room 3
	Panel Session: Gangs Location: ZOOM Room 1
3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. CST	Roundtable: A Conversation with the Brothers in Arms: Harris County Sheriff's Office Jail Location: ZOOM Room 2

Roundtable: The Ideal Criminal Justice Professor

Location: ZOOM Room 3

Panel Session: Corrections I

Location: ZOOM Room 4

4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. CST

Roundtable: Advice for New Doctoral Students

Location: ZOOM Room 1

Roundtable: Advice for New Faculty

Location: ZOOM Room 2

Schedule of Events at a Glance

Thursday, November 4, 2021

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CST

Registration

8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. CST

Panel Session: Policing I

Location: ZOOM Room 2

Panel Session: Drugs and Media

Location: ZOOM Room 3

Roundtable: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Location: ZOOM Room 4

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. CST

Roundtable: Women of Color in Criminal Justice

Location: ZOOM Room 1

Panel Session: Body Worn Cameras

Location: ZOOM Room 3

Roundtable: The Role of Social Justice Education in a University Criminal Justice Degree Program

Locations: ZOOM Room 4

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST

Keynote Address by Shelly Clevenger:
Fostering Empathy in Students Through Civic Engagement

	Location: ZOOM Room 1
1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. CST	Panel Session: Courts/Sentencing Location: ZOOM Room 2
	Roundtable: Underutilization Funded Freshmen Research Awards in Criminal Justice Education at a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) Location: ZOOM Room 3
	Panel Session: Policing II Location: ZOOM Room 4
3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. CST	Roundtable: The Advantages of a Structured Internship for Criminal Justice Graduate Students Location: ZOOM Room 1
	Roundtable: Open Educational Resources Location: ZOOM Room 2
	Roundtable: Pedagogies for Aliterate College Students Location: ZOOM Room 3
4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. CST	Roundtable: Doctoral Programs Meet and Greet Location: ZOOM Room 1

Friday, November 5, 2021

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CST	Registration
8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. CST	Roundtable: Unintended Victims of Crime (UVC): Victimization of Offenders' Families Location: ZOOM Room 3
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. CST	Roundtable: Private Prisons and Mass Incarceration in Mississippi: Is there a Problem? Location: Zoom Room 1

Panel Session: Reforming Criminal
Justice

Location: ZOOM Room 2

Roundtable: Institutional Review Board

Location: ZOOM Room 3

Panel Session: New Perspectives on CJ
Education

Location: ZOOM Room 4

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST

Roundtable: Criminal Justice Editors

Location: ZOOM Room 1

1:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Presidential Address & TACJE Business
Meeting

Location: ZOOM Room 1

Detailed Schedule of Events: Wednesday, November 3

8:00 a.m. – 8:20 a.m. CST

Welcome from TACJE

Location: **ZOOM Room 1**
Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. CST

PANEL SESSION

Understudied Populations: Seniors and LGBTQ+

Location: **ZOOM Room 2**
Chair Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Presentation 1: Support or Discrimination? LGBTQI Individuals in Higher Education: State of the Literature and Research Agenda

Christopher Salvatore (Montclair State University)

Abstract

Historically, members of the LGBTQI community have faced lower salaries, workplace hostility, and an invisible workload across a variety of occupations. Higher education, an industry with a significant problem of workplace harassment and bullying, has been a mixed arena for members of the LGBTQI. On the surface, higher education is a seemingly liberal occupation, where open recruitment of minorities and historically underrepresented persons is a mission for many colleges and universities. However, if we delve beneath the surface what do we find members of the LGBTQI community experience working in higher education? The presentation presents the current state of the literature and key findings from prior research, as well as presents a research agenda to address the treatment of LGBTQI in higher education.

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. CST

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 1**
Chair Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Scholars of Color in Criminal Justice

Discussant: Heather Alaniz (Sam Houston State University)

Discussant: Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Discussant: Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

Discussant: David Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

PANEL SESSION

Parenting, Prison & Pups (PPP) and Animal-Assisted Therapy (AAT)

Location: **ZOOM Room 2**

Chair Laly Palau (Texas A&M International University)

Presentation 1: Your Dog as a Therapeutic Partner, not a Therapeutic Tool: Ethical Considerations for AAT in the Correctional Setting

George Day (Stephen F. Austin State University)

Kimberly Collica-Cox (Pace University)

Abstract

Although benefits of animal assisted therapy for people are well established, the ethical considerations for the welfare and safety of the non-human animals involved are not. Without national standards, therapy animal organizations are forced to create their own guidelines, creating in-consistencies within the field. Based on interviews conducted with therapy teams who have worked with Parenting, Prison & Pups (PPP), a parenting program provided to incarcerated jailed-women that is integrated with the use of animal-assisted therapy (AAT), this article explores the extent of ethics training offered for AAT teams and will examine how agencies and handlers promote and ensure the safety of canine partners, especially in the correctional setting. The research suggests that specific protocols put forth by individual AAT organizations, which can provide for a national model, can afford for the safety and comfortability of canine partners, especially in a corrections environment, but implies that in order to maintain consistency and increase therapy team professionalism, national standards are a necessity. Guidelines are specifically essential for mental health professionals, who lack guidelines from their own accrediting bodies, and may incorporate therapy partners into their work settings, without proper supervision.

PANEL SESSION

Race and Ethnicity

Location: **ZOOM Room 3**

Rachel Simon (Texas A&M International University)

Presentation 1: Disability and Slavery in the Antebellum South

Ellen C. Wertlieb (SUNY Schenectady County Community College)

Edward W. Greenberg (Independent Researcher)

Abstract

This presentation explores the treatment of enslaved individuals who had disabilities in light of such key mediators as economics, social-political factors, and scientific racism. Case examples that highlight attitudes and treatment are taken from slave narratives, antebellum-period documents as well as contemporary research articles and books. Formal and informal mechanisms used to control/maintain order as defined in the

Southern slave society will be discussed through significant court cases, slave narratives, and uncovered archival material.

Presentation 2: Public Support for “Black Lives Matter”: Preliminary Findings

Ben Brown (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
Mario Davila (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
Deborah Hartley (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

Abstract

The present study provides analyses of public opinion about the “Black Lives Matter” movement. The data were gathered from surveys administered to a nationally representative sample. Concordant with the large body of extant research on public perceptions of the police which has consistently shown that age and race/ethnicity impact attitudes toward the police, with younger persons and racial/ethnic minorities having more negative attitudes toward the police than older persons and Whites, preliminary analyses of the present data indicate that younger persons and racial/ethnic minorities are more likely than older persons and Whites to have favorable views of the “Black Lives Matter” movement. These findings suggest that, rather than impacting attitudes toward the police among the entire populace, to date the “Black Lives Matter” movement has served primarily as an instrument for expressing and publicizing discontent with the police among the demographic groups which have long been dissatisfied with the police.

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Future of Criminal Justice, Post-George Floyd

Keynote Speaker: Lorenzo Boyd (University of New Haven)
Location: **ZOOM Room 1**
Introduction by Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. CST

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 2**
Chair Laly Palau (Texas A&M International University)

Re-envisioning Introduction to Criminal Justice: Adapting to the Multimodal Learner

Chair/Discussant: Beth Pelz (University of Houston-Downtown)
Discussant: Michael Cavanaugh (University of Houston-Downtown)
Discussant: Judith Harris (University of Houston-Downtown)

Discussant: Whitney Threadcraft (University of Houston-Downtown)

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 3**
Chair Brittany Hood (Texas A&M International University)

Women in Law Enforcement

Chair/Discussant: Gloria Okere (Texas Southern University)
Discussant: LaSheria Nance-Bush (Texas Southern University)

PANEL SESSION

Gangs
Location: **ZOOM Room 1**
Chair David Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

Presentation 1: Explaining Racial/Ethnic Differences in Psychopathy's Relationship with Youth Gang Membership Among Males

Justin J. Joseph (University of North Alabama)
David Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

Abstract

Recent investigations show that adolescent gang membership is increasing nationwide. No study has investigated racial differences as it relates to psychopathy and gang membership. Using the Pathway to Desistance Study database, this study highlights the importance of investigating juvenile psychopathy in youth gang membership across races and implementing intensive multilevel treatment programs tailored to gang members' emotional, cognitive, and behavioral needs.

Presentation 2: Reworking Anti-Gang Policies: Towards a More Effective Approach

Rachel Simon (Texas A&M International University)

Abstract:

Gang enhancement policies and laws are used throughout the United States to impose harsher sentences on criminals that are charged with gang-related crimes. While each state has their own set of rules and regulations there are country-wide discrepancies that play a major role in the use of the laws and policies. The purpose of this study is to investigate how gang enhancement policies are established and operationalized, along with how effective they are at gang abatement. It is important to understand the current standings of these laws and policies to get an idea of if they are useful in preventing recidivism and where we need to improve these laws and policies to make them more effective. This paper will provide a survey of gang abatement strategies from across the

United States. Policy implications and recommendations for program reform will also be discussed.

Presentation 3: Post-Traumatic Street Disorder: Mental Health Problems among Former Gang Members

Bryan Bubolz (Northern Michigan University)

Abstract

Gangs are a problem for urban areas across the country as members engage in higher levels of criminal behavior relative to non-members. Given their increased level of criminal involvement it is important to understand the obstacles gang members encounter when they ultimately decide to leave the gang. Relying on life history interviews with a sample of 30 self-identified former gang members, this paper examines mental health problems in the aftermath of gang involvement that is related to trauma and violence. Specifically, numerous study participants described how they were in a constant state of paranoia, had re-occurring violent nightmares, and symptoms similar to post traumatic stress disorder in the time following gang exit.

Presentation 4: From Centralized Gangs to Decentralized Factions: Chicago's History of Gangs in Public Housing

John Adams (Cook County Juvenile Detention Center)
Travis L. Smith (Columbia Southern University)

Abstract

The city of Chicago, Illinois has a rich history of mafia and street gang violence. During the late 1960's, the creation of the Chicago Housing Authority and low-income house (aka, the Projects) gave rise to street gangs and violence associated with territorial disputes and gang affiliation. Eventually, the gangs began to faction into subsets which were not always aligned which created more territorial disputes and violence within these low-income housing areas.

3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. CST

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 2**
Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

A Conversation with the Brothers in Arms: Harris County Sheriff's Office Jail Chair/Discussant: Judith Harris (University of Houston-Downtown)

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 3**

Chair David Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

The Ideal Criminal Justice Professor

Chair/Discussant: Melody Threadcraft (Jarvis Christian College)

Discussant: Janna Johnson (Jarvis Christian College)

Discussant: Nashabra Morgan (Jarvis Christian College)

Discussant: Kymberly Wimberly (University of Texas School of Medicine)

Discussant: Brittnee McCleveland (Jarvis Christian College)

Discussant: Kimberly Favors (Jarvis Christian College)

Discussant: Tiffanie Nelson Franklin (Jarvis Christian College)

Discussant: Kirk Rhoads (Jarvis Christian College)

Discussant: David Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

PANEL SESSION

Corrections I

Location: **ZOOM Room 4**

Chair Laly Palau (Texas A&M International University)

Presentation 1: Couple Connectedness in Corrections: Attachment, Childhood Parental Stability, and Dyadic Adjustment in Romantic Relationships with an Incarcerated Partner

Eman Tadros (Governors State University)

Alexis Gregorash (Governors State University)

Abstract

Attachment styles within dyadic relationships affect multiple levels of the family structure that include: the relationship itself, ability to adjust to and navigate change as a couple, as well as the implications it has on children. Utilizing a structural family therapy lens and data from the Multi-site Family Study on Incarceration, Parenting, and Partnering [MSF-IP], Actor-Partner Interdependence Modeling was used to address the correlation between dyadic adjustment and attachment between couples, as well as addressing factors of race on this correlation. Results yielded that higher rates of attachment were associated with better dyadic adjustment, especially if one partner had a higher rate of attachment.

Presentation 2: The Impact of PTSD and Depression on Romantic Attachment Within Incarcerated Romantic Relationships

Eman Tadros (Governors State University)

Alyssa Vlach (Governors State University)

Jasmine Sipla (Governors State University)

Abstract

In 2018, nearly 1.5 million people were incarcerated in jails or prisons. In 2018, black males were 5.8 times more likely to be than white males. Every aspect of incarcerated individuals' lives is immensely impacted by the criminal justice system, this includes their romantic relationships. The purpose of this study is to examine if PTSD and depression impact romantic attachment. Our independent variables PTSD and depression used the 4-point Primary Care PTSD Scale (PC-PTSD) and The Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D). The dependent variable of romantic attachment consisted of four questions regarding close relationships. Our results showed that race, PTSD, and depression are all significant predictors of romantic attachment within incarcerated males and their non-incarcerated romantic partners. Clinical implications and future directions for incarcerated men and their non-incarcerated romantic partners were discussed.

4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. CST

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 1**

Chair Laly Palau (Texas A&M International University)

Advice for New Doctoral Students

Discussant: Kelsey Kramer (Sam Houston State University)

Discussant: Marilyn Ee (Sam Houston State University)

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 2**

Chair Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

Advice for New Faculty

Discussant: Kate Houston (Texas A&M International University)

Discussant: Charlotte Wilinsky (Holyoke Community College)

Discussant: John Navarro (Sam Houston State University)

Discussant: Emily Homer (Texas A&M University-Commerce)

Detailed Schedule of Events: Thursday, November 4

8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. CST

PANEL SESSION

Policing I

Location: **ZOOM Room 2**

Chair Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Presentation 1: How Do You Feel: How Compassion Fatigue Affects Police Attitudes Toward Addiction

Laurie Becker (University of Massachusetts-Lowell)

Abstract

A great deal of research has found the majority of police officers to be compassionate toward individuals who are suffering from addiction. However, recent research suggests that this compassion may wane as officers increasingly come into contact with this population. It has been further suggested that this “compassion fatigue” causes a decrease in empathy toward those suffering from addiction as well as a decrease in officers wanting to help these individuals. This study aims to further study this idea. Specifically, this study surveys police officers from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut who have varying degrees of exposure to addiction on their attitudes toward addiction, treatment, recovery, and police response.

Presentation 2: An Exploratory Analysis of the Relationship Between Punitiveness and Perceptions of the Police Among Hispanic Criminal Justice Majors

Yudu Li (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

Fei Luo (Texas A&M International University)

Ben Brown (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

Abstract

While there is a large body of literature on public perceptions of the police, most research has concentrated on how perceptions of the police may be correlated with demographic variables (e.g., age, race/ethnicity), situational factors (e.g., fear of crime, neighborhood conditions), and contact with the police. The present study contributes to the extant literature via analyses of the effects punitiveness may have on attitudes toward the police. Additionally, to date few studies of perceptions of the police have been conducted in majority-minority locales. Because the data analyzed in the present study were gathered from students at a Hispanic-Serving Institute in a region with a predominantly Hispanic populace, the present study contributes to the meager body of literature on perceptions of the police within majority-minority locales. Structural Equation Modeling indicates punitiveness significantly impacts attitudes toward the

police and that punitiveness may be shaped by factors such as socioeconomic status and political affiliation.

Presentation 3: Less than Lethal Weapons: The Effectiveness in Detaining Suspects and Saving Lives

James Doyal (St. Edward's University)
Matthew Carter (St. Edward's University Alumni)

Abstract

This paper looks at three different types of less than lethal weapons that are mostly used by departments around the country. We looked at raw data, interpreted that data, and brought in examples from around the country to show the negative magnitude of these certain weapons and which one we believe works best at detaining a subject without causing severe injury.

PANEL SESSION

Drugs and Media

Location: **ZOOM Room 3**

Chair Brittany Hood (Texas A&M International University)

Presentation 1: Psilocybin, Psilocybin Mushrooms, and the Mass Media

Colin Wark (Texas A&M University – Kingsville)

Abstract

The results of a Google News search were analyzed to determine the extent to which mass media articles incorrectly refer to (synthetic) psilocybin as “mushrooms” or something similar (e.g., “shrooms”) when discussing clinical studies of the drug. The author identified 112 articles that discussed clinical studies of psilocybin. Of these, twelve articles mislabeled psilocybin when discussing the clinical studies of the drug. Several of these twelve articles were published in major, internationally known magazines and newspapers in the United Kingdom and the United States. This discrepancy is explained theoretically using the work of Gamson and Modigliani (1989) and Ogburn (1922). The results point to a widespread conflation of psilocybin with mushrooms in the mass media. A similar phenomenon occurs in mass media articles discussing various illicit drugs. These drugs and their effects are often mislabeled in the mass media. The mass media’s treatment of MDMA and supposed “MDMA overdoses” are good examples of this.

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 4**

Chair Laly Palau (Texas A&M International University)

DEI in Action: Minority Recruitment and Retention at PWIs

Chair/Discussant: Danny Pirtle (University of Tennessee at Martin)

Abstract

In his 2014 speech at the College Opportunity summit, President Obama noted, “We find an increasing divergence between those who have the skills that today’s jobs require and those who don’t.” The president indicated that higher education is no longer a luxury; it is a necessity for individuals and for the health of our economy. The overall demographic of this nation’s population is ever changing. In fact, the most recent U.S. Census reports that an overwhelming percentage of people identify as multiracial. The Multiracial population has changed since 2010. It was measured at nine million people in 2010 and is now 33.8 million people in 2020, a 276% increase.

Universities across the country are seeing the importance of implementing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion policies and practices, especially as it pertains to minority recruitment and retention, namely because of the major shifts in this country’s demographic, but also to reflect the true value of being prepared to work and live in a global world and economy. As such, university leadership are becoming more intentional in their efforts to make their campuses more diverse by focusing efforts on creating a community that welcomes and supports diverse individuals and ideas. DEI efforts have led many universities to hire diversity officers, create oversight in hiring practices to ensure diverse pools of applicants, as well as initiate policies and practices to provide supports for minority students.

This roundtable discussion will work to discuss and provide research on “what works” in minority recruitment and retention at Predominately White Institutions. Panelists will discuss DEI goals and objectives of their university, while discussing promising practices used to address issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. CST

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 1**

Chair Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Women of Color in Criminal Justice

Discussant: Frances Bernat (Texas A&M International University)

Discussant: Kimberly Dodson (University of Houston-Clear Lake)

Discussant: Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Discussant: Jennifer Wyatt Bourgeois (Lone Star College – CyFair)

Discussant: Nikki Smith (Grand Rapids Community College)

PANEL SESSION

Body Worn Cameras

Location: **ZOOM Room 3**

Chair/Discussant: Brittany Hood (Texas A&M International University)

Presentation 1: Officers Perceptions of Body Worn Cameras Impacting a Southern Police Agency

Heather Alaniz (Sam Houston State University)

Fei Luo (Texas A&M International University)

Abstract

This study utilized semi-structured interviews with 11 officers who were employed with a law enforcement agency in a midsize city adjacent to the U.S.-Mexico border. Through interviews, narratives are analyzed using critical frameworks that authentically unearths the lived realities of participants. Themes reveal that for officers, having to wear body-worn cameras (BWCs) daily while policing the community provides protection from unwarranted citizen complaints. These officers face dire consequences around the use of body-worn cameras due to the plight of recent cases which involved the misuse of excessive use of force, where individuals lost their lives at the hands of police around the country.

Presentation 2: Modern Technology in the Police Force: Effectiveness of Body Cameras

Noah Armstrong Dillard University

Abstract

This paper assesses the effectiveness of body cameras. We can see that body cameras on police officers began to be implemented in most police forces around 2014. But we still see police brutality as a common issue and theme in our country every summer. This forces us to take a deeper look and collect data on whether modern technology is effective and is a resourceful solution to stop the unaccounted instances of police violence. This paper brings up alternative perspectives, for instance, the idea that modern technology is being used to manipulate and control the narrative of police brutality. Which is why we look at how effective these body cameras are if we still see the same thing occurring on the body cameras. Through the research methodology, I will conduct interviews to discover how law enforcement officials feel about the usage of body cameras and if they are truly effective or not. I also will interview regular civilians to see if they feel a sense of more security and trust in our law enforcement because of the usage of body cameras and modern technology.

Presentation 3: Black and “Blue” Lives: Assessing the Impact of Police and Political Trust on Support for Black Lives Matter

Kimberly D. Dodson (University of Houston-Clear Lake)
Heather Alaniz (Sam Houston State University)

Abstract

The acquittal of George Zimmerman for the murder of Trayvon Martin was the impetus for establishing Black Lives Matter. Their mission is to eradicate white supremacy and build a power structure to address violence against Black communities committed by vigilantes and the state. Blacks in comparison to whites have lower levels of both political and police trust. To date, researchers have not investigated the relationship between political and police trust and support for the Black Lives Matter Movement. This study fills a gap in the literature by assessing the impact of political and police trust on support for Black Lives Matter. The findings indicate greater levels of political and police trust are related to less support for Black Lives Matter. Policy implications of the study are discussed.

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 4**
Laly Palau (Texas A&M International University)

The Role of Social Justice Education in a University Criminal Justice Degree Program

Discussant: Fernando Munoz (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
Discussant: Michael Steinmetz (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
Discussant: Robert Michael Magee (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Fostering Empathy in Students Through Civic Engagement

Keynote Speaker: Shelly Clevenger (Sam Houston State University)
Location: **ZOOM Room 1**
Introduction by Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. CST

PANEL SESSION

Courts/Sentencing
Location: **ZOOM Room 2**
Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Presentation 1: Parental Involvement, Family Structure, and Delinquency

Quincy Janisse (St. Edward's University)

Abstract

Research Question: Does parental involvement and family structure affect delinquency? Independent Variable: Parental involvement and family Structure. Dependent Variable: Delinquency. Theory: The data we are analyzing and question we pose has much to do with the Social Bond theory of criminology. Fundamentally, social bond theory is a framework that criminologists and sociologists use to explain why a person would decide to engage in criminal behavior. This theory suggests that "offending behavior is caused by weakened or broken social bonds with law-abiding people and institutions. Social bonds consist of four elements (attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief) and the presence of each element facilitates law-abiding behavior." We intend to examine this from the lens of family and parental involvement to assess correlation or trends in data through our research project. Data & Methods: Using secondary data from monitoring the future. My findings are currently prospective and in progress. This will be updated within the abstract prior to the presentation.

Presentation 2: Arrests, Fatality Crashes, Before and After Missouri V. McNeely Law in Texas

Ashraf Mozayani (Texas Southern University)
Quincy V Whitaker (Texas Southern University)

Abstract

Background: Before Missouri vs. McNeely (2013), police in Texas could obtain blood from impaired drivers without a warrant. In McNeely, the Court ruled that police must obtain a warrant. District Attorney's in Texas issued a mandate requiring officers to obtain a warrant in all impaired cases.

Objective: This article analysis McNeely to determine a relationship between impairment arrests and fatality crashes in Texas before and after the ruling.

Results: Texas District Attorneys began requiring officers to obtain a search warrant before collecting blood evidence from impaired drivers after the McNeely ruling.

Limitations: The design of data collected for this study has limitations; length of time evaluated. Over the ten-year period technology for gathering data improved.

Conclusion: Impairment arrests declined in Texas after it became mandatory to obtain a warrant for blood evidence.

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 3**
Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

Underutilization Funded Freshmen Research Awards in Criminal Justice Education at a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)

Discussant: Karla Martinez De Leon (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
Discussant: Robert Michael Magee (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

PANEL SESSION

Policing II
Location: **ZOOM Room 4**
Laly Palau (Texas A&M International University)

Presentation 1: Micropolitan vs Metropolitan: An examination of city size and police funding in Texas

William Casey Heath (Tarleton University)

Abstract

The current investigation seeks to understand if similarities or differences in police funding exist between metropolitan and micropolitan cities in Texas. Little is known about the micropolitan cities and police funding for micro cities. Therefore, the general assumption is that metropolitan and micropolitan cities operate similarly. However, the sizes of the cities vary significantly, where metropolitan cities generally comprise cities with populations over 50,000, and micropolitan cities comprise populations between 10,000 and 49,999. In addition, most research focuses on the enormous cities or the rural towns regarding police funding. Therefore, the investigation attempts to address the wide gap of literature involving police expenditures and the size of the city.

Presentation 2: Exploring the Relationship between COVID-19 Mandate Compliance and Enforcement

Angelique M. Blackburn (Texas A&M International University)
Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

Abstract

The COVID-19 global pandemic resulted in widespread changes to social interactions and the way individuals interact with the criminal justice agency. Using data collected approximately one year after the local onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, this paper provides an exploratory analysis of the relationship between compliance with measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, views about government enforcement of measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and proximal distancing from COVID-19. A high degree of compliance with measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 was observed

overall. Compliance was not associated with beliefs about government enforcement or any analyzed demographics except for age, suggesting that what is occurring on the macro-level (agencies and decision-makers) is not always reflective of what is happening on the micro-level (individuals and citizens). Although at the macro-level, our primarily Texan sample would be predicted to be non-compliant based on local policy, our research suggests that on a granular level, this population was highly compliant. This work suggests a data-driven approach to citizen interactions should inform policy implications and recommendations for law enforcement.

3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. CST

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 1**

Chair Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

The Advantages of a Structured Internship for Criminal Justice Graduate Students

Discussant: Merary De La Fuente (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

Discussant: Robert Michael Magee (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 2**

Chair Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Open Educational Resources

Discussant: Emily Homer (Texas A&M University-Commerce)

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 3**

Chair David Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

Pedagogies for Aliterate College Students

Discussant: David Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

Discussant: Melody Threadcraft (Jarvis Christian College)

Discussant: Justin J. Joseph (University of North Alabama)

4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. CST

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 1**

Chair Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

Doctoral Programs Meet and Greet

John Worrall (University of Texas at Dallas)

Rhonda Dobbs (Tarleton State University)

Donna Vandiver (Texas State University)

Stuti Kokkalera (Sam Houston State University)

Detailed Schedule of Events: Friday, November 5

8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. CST

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 3**
David Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

Unintended Victims of Crime (UVC): Victimization of Offenders' Families

Discussant: Christine Nix (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor)

Discussant: Amy Eichler (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor)

Discussant: Kerry Ann Zamore-Byrd (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor)

Discussant: Michelle Richter (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor)

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. CST

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 1**
David A. Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

Private Prisons and Mass Incarceration in Mississippi: Is there a Problem?

Discussant: Rochelle McGee-Cobbs (Mississippi Valley State University)

Discussant: Sherill Morris-Francis (Mississippi Valley State University)

Discussant: Oko Elechi (Mississippi Valley State University)

Discussant: Alaba Oludare (Mississippi Valley State University)

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to examine the prison system in Mississippi in relation to mass incarceration and the use of private prisons. Mississippi and other states' prison facilities are faced with the issue of overcrowding and have thus contracted with private prisons to house inmates. The provided reasons for contracting out prison services to private operators are to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of prison services and also to advance the Anglo-American political and economic values of private entrepreneurs actively engaging in the provision of needed services in the society. However, critics of prison privatization raise issues with the cost effectiveness and efficiency rationale for prison privatization. This study reviews these arguments and also the underlying reasons for mass incarceration in Mississippi.

PANEL SESSION

Reforming Criminal Justice

Location: **ZOOM Room 2**

Chair Laly Palau (Texas A&M International University)

Presentation 1: Racial and Ethnic Disparities at Arrest: Major and Minor Contributors in Sebastian County, Arkansas, 2016-2019

Dennis Williams (University of Arkansas – Fort Smith)

Paul Kroutter (University of Arkansas Fort Smith)

Abstract

This presentation uses four years (2016-2019) of NIBRS data from the Arkansas Crime Information Center to examine racial and ethnic disparities at arrests for adults in Sebastian County, Arkansas. Crimes are categorized as major, minor or transient contributors to the overall racial and ethnic disparity in Sebastian County based on the relative rate index (RRI) for each crime and the percentage of the total arrest for that year.

Presentation 2: Are the police the people, and the people the police?

Martin Alan Greenberg (New York State Association of Auxiliary Police, Inc., Director of Education and Research)

Abstract

Partnership between community members and their local police force is at the heart of any effective strategy aimed at reducing urban crime and insecurity. Ordinary community residents represent a vast, untapped resource in the fight against crime, disorder, and fear. This paper focuses on an in-depth examination of volunteerism primarily at the law enforcement level including numerous examples of current police-sponsored citizen academies, police cadet and junior deputy programs; and citizen-supported neighborhood crime watch programs. The only way to successfully cross the divide between the police and public is to give new meaning to the phrase: "the police are the people, and the people are the police."

Presentation 3: Reformation of Treatment for Mental Criminal Offenders

Johnna D. Isenberg (Middle Tennessee State University)

Abstract

The constant growth of the mental health needs of criminal offenders has rapidly matriculated within the United States for the last several years. Mental illnesses and disorders have become a primary concern for the criminal justice system. From mental health courts to treatment centers, services have been made a part of the criminal case and sentencing process in order to better serve the offender and their needs.

Furthermore, in order to reform mental health services within the criminal justice field, we must identify the discrimination and violations that offenders with mental health needs suffer from. With major concern growing around these scenarios, laws supporting those with mental health illnesses have since been established. By identifying potential discrimination, from start to finish in a trial, we can progressively provide appropriate care and sentencing for the offender and reduce rights violations. This research will evaluate multiple mental health services that are offered to offenders currently, how the criminal justice system directly impacts the offender while they are undergoing their criminal proceeding, and how we can avoid discrimination against offenders with mental health needs during their sentencing. This information is useful to individual's that are actively working towards reforming mental health services and improving the treatment that directly impacts offenders with mental health disorders or illnesses.

ROUNDTABLE

Location: **ZOOM Room 3**
Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University)

Institutional Review Board

Discussant: Rachel Rayburn (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
Discussant: Tania Diaz (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
Discussant: Nohely Lozano, Ph.D. (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)

PANEL SESSION

New Perspectives on CJ Education
Location: **ZOOM Room 4**
Tretha Harris (Strayer University)

Presentation 1: The Place of Faith in Criminal Justice Education

Festus Obi (East Texas Baptist University)

Abstract

The relationship between criminal justice professionals and citizens, especially minorities, at the local and sometimes state levels has been characterized by mistrust and sometimes violent encounters. Various scholars have identified problem-prone officers, cultural incompetence, poor training, and ethical ignorance as some of the causes. Since poor training is a causal factor, this paper posits that integration of faith into criminal justice education will make a great difference. This stems from the fact that various faiths have values and principles that guide their adherents. Therefore, the paper argues that integrating those principles into the training of future criminal justice practitioners will help stem the tides of mistrust and abuse between them and citizens. Equipped with faith values of human dignity, equity, and consideration, criminal justice personnel will be duty-bound to do the right thing. The paper recommends that colleges and universities that are faith-based should integrate their faiths' beliefs and values into

their criminal justice curricula as a way of creating robust ethical foundations for their students who will become our future professionals in the field.

Presentation 2: Differences in Domestic and International Students' Experiences and Perceptions of Graduate School

Shantol McIntosh (Prairie View A&M University)

Abstract

Inclusion in Criminal Justice Education is a topic that has received a lot of attention recently. Many people pursue criminal justice studies because they want to make a difference, whether to assist those in need, promote the greater good, or educate prospective professionals. In Criminal Justice, there is the opportunity to work with crime victims, research effective diversions or alternatives, and policy writing. The purpose of this paper is to identify the similarities and differences between domestic and international graduate students in the Justice Studies/Criminal Justice Department at Prairie View A&M University. This is a preliminary qualitative study using phone interviews among 20 students (ten domestics, and ten internationals). Themes are created to represent the experiences and perceptions of each group concerning research ideas and teaching. Future research ideas and policy implementation is also discussed.

Presentation 3: Teaching Criminal Justice Undergraduates Mental Health: A Course Development

Caroletta Shuler Ivey (Clafin University)

Abstract

The research on mentally ill individuals involved in the criminal justice system is insufficient. Increasingly, individuals within America have been receiving care for their mental illness via the criminal justice system. Throughout the 1990s, mentally ill patients' numbers lowered due to reduced services from psychiatric hospitals. Today, individuals with services are more likely to come from community mental health clinics. Many of these patients become offenders through such crimes as disorderly conduct and drug use. In addition, some law enforcement contact leads to a growing number of mentally ill becoming offenders within the American correctional system. As a result, undergraduate students interested in criminal justice will need to fully understand how those with a mental illness may become a part of the criminal justice system and how to engage best one who is going through psychosis. This descriptive case study describes the development of mental health in a criminal justice course to teach criminal justice majors about the subject matter.

Presentation 4: What's in a Name, Revisited: Comparing DCJ and Ph.D. programs

Barbara J. Cooke (Keiser University)
Frederick W. Turner III (Keiser University)

Abstract

While PhDs remain the most widely accepted of terminal degrees in academia, professional degrees (e.g., DPA, PsyD) have grown in popularity. In the last 10 years, the Doctorate of Criminal Justice (DCJ) has emerged on the scene. Given the number of pracademics in Criminal Justice, this appears to be a potentially popular terminal degree in this field. This presentation presents the preliminary findings of a study replicating Brewer et al.'s (1999) "What's in a name: Comparing DPA and Ph.D. programs," with the intent to compare research and career (academic and professional) preparedness and outcomes between Ph.D. and DCJ graduates.

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST

Round Table

Location: **ZOOM Room 1**
David A. Rembert (Prairie View A&M University)

Criminal Justice Editors

Discussant: Danielle Carkin (Stonehill College), Crime & Delinquency
Discussant: Jaclyn Schildkraut (SUNY Oswego), Journal of Mass Violence Research
Discussant: Sarah Daly (Saint Vincent College), Journal of Mass Violence Research
Discussant: Laura Huey (University of Western Ontario), Police Practice & Research
Discussant: Joshua Beck (Georgia State University) Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice & Criminology

**General
Business
Meeting**

**November 5
1:30 p.m.**

