

for the record



News from the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies at the University of Central Florida

2009 / Volume 6



The Mock Trial Team at UCF has been one of the most competitive and successful organizations on campus in recent years, and 2009 was no exception. Here, the 2009–1010 team members gather in the health and public affairs' courtyard.

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message from the chair

UCF has taken upon itself an obligation to be a good citizen to Central Florida communities. There is a sense that as a publicly supported institution of higher education with exceptional intellectual and research capacity we have an obligation to make the communities that sustain us better economically, culturally, safer and more just. The Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies has a long and distinguished history of community engagement in service of local public safety, and our ongoing activity is the focus of this note.

Mike Reynolds continues to work with the Center for Law Enforcement Technology, Training and Research (LETTR) and the **Orange County Sheriff's Office (OCSO)**. Mike has worked tirelessly to promote the development of systems that make possible the sharing of crime information across police departments in Florida. This led to the creation of the Florida Integrated Network for Data Exchange and Retrieval (FINDER), a platform that allows over 150 police departments in Florida to share investigative information. FINDER has demonstrated the efficacy of information-sharing, with hundreds of arrests made across its history. Mike also realized that the efficacy of information-sharing is dependent on the ability of people to get data into the system and the capacity to transform those data into information. Accordingly, he has provided student assistance to the OCSO to help with data entry and analysis. This program assures both the continued development of analytical talent and a work force capable of enacting this technology.

A year and a half ago, **Ray Surette** developed a research partnership with the **Orange County Corrections Division (OCCD)** that led to the placement of a doctoral-level research

assistant, **Allison Maze**, at the 33rd Street correctional facility. Her work is directed by a committee composed of corrections personnel and criminal justice faculty members. To date, this group has completed one study of inmate perceptions of sentencing and their interactions with the media, and it is completing a grant application for the creation and testing of a media-targeted curriculum to be delivered in a correctional setting. Allison also has been involved in grant efforts with other UCF department faculty members and OCCD internal data-analysis efforts. This partnership benefits both parties by providing the OCCD information that may help it be more effective and faculty members access to information essential to their research efforts.

Ray also is engaged in an evaluation with the **Orlando Police Department** of the impact of "Innovative Response to Improve Safety" (IRIS) public space camera-surveillance projects in the Parramore neighborhood. The evaluation will explore citizen and police attitudes about camera surveillance and include a time-series analysis of the impact on crime. This project will provide information on the crime-prevention utility of these cameras and perceptions of their intrusiveness.

Building on the OCCD experience, **Hugh Potter** has placed two graduate interns in the **Seminole County Sheriff's Office** to evaluate its juvenile justice interventions. The question posed by Sheriff Eslinger and his deputies is which of their programs are providing the most effective rehabilitation of juveniles. This project will provide graduate interns experience in developing information to support decision-making as well as provide the sheriff with a complete look at his



Robert Langworthy, Ph.D.
Chair and Professor

programming. Hugh is also working with other counties in the region (presently Osceola, Orange, Seminole and Volusia) to develop a jails research consortium. It is hoped that this consortium will develop both regional- and county-specific research concerns that the UCF criminal justice faculty and students will be in a position to address.

One final project warrants a mention. When Jerry Demings was elected Orange County sheriff, his administration undertook a review of OCSO functioning with an eye toward action: support things that were working and fix things that weren't. Patrol-officer deployment surfaced as something that might benefit from closer examination. **Bob Ford** and **Ross Wolf** noted this concern and offered their expertise to help the OCSO reconsider patrol-officer deployment across the sheriff's jurisdiction. Their report to the sheriff is nearing completion and will provide the first review of OCSO patrol deployment in recent memory.

UCF is a state-funded university. Accordingly, the public (particularly neighboring communities) has an absolute right to expect that the intellectual, research and scholarly talents of the university be brought to bear on local quality of life. The Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies fully embraces this notion and will continue to bring its talents to bear on public safety and justice issues that impact the quality of life in Central Florida communities.

On the Cover

2009–2010 trial team members (left to right): Front row – Lisa Soros, Jackie Evans, Desiree Staeffler-Marchbanks, Elizabeth Bejerano, Christian Bonet (Capt. 869), Matthew Bernstein; Back row – Brandon Dark, Chris Springer, Michael Koeltzow, Robert Zahradnik-Mitchell, Erica Emas (Capt. 868), Austin Miniard, John Tolley, Victor Demesmin, Daniel Davis, Michael Garcia, Juan Garcia-Pardo. Photo by Dr. Carlos Ruiz



news and events

Partnership with Russia Continues to Grow

In 2009, UCF's Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies continued its ongoing partnership with Russia's Volgograd Law Academy and explored potential partnerships with other Russian academic institutions.

In mid-April, the department hosted a group of Russian VIPs visiting Orlando that included General Vladimir Tretyakov, president of the Volgograd Law Academy. Also, for the first time, representatives from the Moscow University of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, including Provost and General Sergey Zhevlakovich, participated.

During their weeklong stay, the visitors went to The Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Valencia Criminal Justice Training Center, Orange County Sheriff's Office and Ocoee Police Department.

"General Tretyakov was very impressed with UCF, Orlando and Florida, as well as the numerous police agencies they visited," said Associate Professor Mike Reynolds, who coordinated their stay. "They were especially impressed with the Ocoee PD visit since they have a difficult time understanding our de-centralized system of government. General Zhevlakovich has been tasked with improving Russian police support and interaction with cities throughout Russia."

In early May, Reynolds and Ross Wolf, assistant professor of criminal justice, traveled to Moscow to meet with General Zhevlakovich and his assistant, Colonel Svetlana Derbicheva, to establish formal agreements as well as research and educational goals.

In July, a group of 16 UCF students traveled to Moscow and Volgograd as participants in the department's annual study abroad program in Russia. "We were guests of honor at the Volgograd Law Academy graduation ceremony, attended by many high-level officials from the local area and Moscow," said

Reynolds, who coordinates the study abroad program. "I was asked to speak to the graduating students on behalf of our university and students. It was quite a ceremony."

In October, Reynolds accompanied college Dean Mike Frumkin on a visit to Russia, where they met representatives from three academic institutions to discuss the development and expansion of education, research, and student and faculty exchange programs.

"We had a great series of meetings with administrators and faculty from the Volgograd Law Academy, Volgograd



Mike Reynolds (left) and Mike Frumkin (second from left) visited the Volgograd Law Academy's museum in October.

Academy of Public Administration and Social Work Program at the Volgograd State Medical University," Frumkin said. "Our hope is to expand our relationship with the law academy and develop new ones in public administration and social work, eventually linking all three to develop an interdisciplinary approach to international collaboration."



The UCF-hosted visit of Russian VIPs was covered as a feature story on the home page of the Moscow University of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia's Web site.



(Left to right) Ross Wolf, Instructor Irina Astakhova, Mike Reynolds, Sergeant Holly Bryan, General Vladimir Tretyakov, Colonel Svetlana Derbicheva and General Sergey Zhevlakovich at the Orange County Sheriff's office.

Reynolds Named Honorary Faculty Member

In 2009, the Volgograd Law Academy named Associate Professor Mike Reynolds an honorary faculty member — one of only three in the history of the academy, which was founded in 1967. "I was very humbled by the honor," Reynolds said, particularly so when he learned it required approval of a committee of 50 faculty members. "The academy is recognizing our strong, on-going partnership, which has provided the opportunity for 125 UCF students to visit there, two groups of their students to come here, faculty exchange and ongoing, productive research collaboration."



news and events

In Memoriam

The Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies felt the great loss of three members of its community.



Staff Sgt. Jason S. Dahlke (B.S. Criminal Justice '04) was killed Aug. 29, 2009, in combat in Afghanistan. A Jacksonville native, he was assigned to the 1st Battalion,

75th Ranger Regiment, based at Hunter Army Airfield, Ga. It was Jason's sixth deployment since his enlistment in May 2004. He is survived by his wife, Nikole. In an online memorial (see: jasondahlke.com/), Jason is remembered for his "adventure," "eagerness to help" and "drive for success." Photo retrieved from jasondahlke.com.



Deborah "Debbie" Phillis (B.A. Legal Studies '84) passed away on June 14, 2009, after a bout of pneumonia. Debbie was a founding member of the Criminal

Justice and Legal Studies Alumni Chapter, and she founded the Public Affairs Scholarship. Debbie became the legal studies program adviser after her move to Orlando from the UCF Brevard campus about five years ago. She is remembered fondly by students and staff members for her dedication and willingness to help. Debbie also was a longtime donor to the UCF Alumni Association and UCF Golden Knights Club. She is greatly missed by the UCF community as well, and is remembered as a true UCF Knights Fan. Several online memorials to Debbie have been created: tiny.cc/DebbiePhillis, www.cohpa.ucf.edu/DebbiePhillis.shtml.



Robert "Bob" Kirby passed away on June 17, 2009 following a heart attack. He was an adjunct instructor for the legal studies program who brought a wealth of knowledge

and experience to the classroom. He was also an attorney in private practice, specializing in estate planning. Previously, he served as a uniformed attorney in the U.S. Army for 26 years, retiring at the rank of colonel. He is survived by his wife, Pam Kirby, the college's associate dean for undergraduate studies, and their daughter Lisa. Bob is remembered by family and friends as a "caring and sustaining professional" and an "inspiration" to many (see: tiny.cc/BobKirby).



In the Media

Throughout the year, media outlets turned to the faculty for their expert commentary. Highlights include the following:

Print

NYTimes.com, 3/1/09: "Legislation to Overhaul Rockefeller Drug Laws Moves Ahead Swiftly" quotes Associate Professor Pamala Griset on Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller's 1970s-era drug laws.

The Wall Street Journal, 3/26/09: "More Cities Target Teens with Daytime Curfews" quotes Professor Ken Adam on curfews for minors.

The Cincinnati Enquirer, 10/3/09: "Doctor's Trial First of Three" quotes Associate Professor Stephen T. Holmes on criminal behavior patterns in twins.

Orlando Sentinel, 10/31/09: In "Sumter Prison Has Most Sex Misconduct" Professor Roberto Hugh Potter shares his thoughts on the increase in reports of sexual misconduct at the Sumter County prison.

Time.com, 11/10/09: In "Lethal Injection" Professor Robert Bohm provides a historical perspective on the use of injected drugs as a form of capital punishment.

Broadcast

Fox 35 Orlando television, 2/11/09: Professor Ken Adams was interviewed about hate groups in Central Florida.

Fox 35 Orlando television, 3/5/09: Assistant Professor Ross Wolf discussed the serving of a search warrant during investigations of a local murder case.

WDBO radio, 8/3/09: Assistant Professor Ross Wolf explained how the Florida Department of Law Enforcement will investigate a shooting by a local police officer.



research

Holmes, Department are Among Top-Producers of Books

10

According to a study* published in 2009, Stephen T. Holmes, associate professor of criminal justice, ranked 12th among the nation's top-producing authors of books on criminal justice, and UCF ranked 10th among the nation's top-producing institutions of books on criminal justice.

Researchers at Sam Houston State University analyzed the productivity of authors and institutions based on 586 books displayed at the 2006 annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. The books included collections of original research, textbooks, brief-format textbooks, collections of reprinted articles and student workbooks.

The authors report that their study is the first to assess scholarly productivity based on criminal justice books. Previous assessments focused on peer-review, institutional affiliation in journals, and citation analysis in both journals and textbooks.

* Oliver, W. M., et al. (2009). Book 'em Dano: The scholarly productivity of institutions and their faculty in criminal justice books. *Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice*, 6(1):59-78.

Research News

New Project to Evaluate Seminole County's Juvenile Justice Programs

In 2009, a team led by Research Director R. Hugh Potter secured \$36,000 in funding from the Seminole County Sheriff's Office to evaluate the organization's juvenile justice interventions. The SCSO's interventions include a range of programs, from primary prevention for those without juvenile justice adjudications to advanced intervention for those with multiple adjudications. "Sheriff Donald Eslinger and the other officers are interested in determining which of their programs provide the most effective rehabilitation of juveniles referred to their programs," Potter explained.

The grant will support two UCF criminal justice graduate students working as research interns at the SCSO's offices

in Sanford, Fla. With the SCSO staff, the interns will develop data collection strategies from existing records, collect and code the data in a manner that maintains confidentiality, and assist with the analysis and final report preparation.

"This is an excellent opportunity for the students to experience the research and evaluation process from beginning to end, as well as to get a modest compensation," Potter said. "We hope this is the beginning of research collaboration with SCSO that allows our students and faculty to engage in studies requested and valued by community partners. Along with similar programs in other counties, we look forward to expanding our departmental service to the Central Florida justice system and providing more opportunities for meaningful research experiences to our students."

Research Spotlight: Brandon Applegate

Associate Professor Brandon Applegate has made significant contributions to our understanding of jails.

Brandon Applegate's interest in jails began early in his career at UCF. As a new faculty member in 1996, he joined a team of colleagues evaluating the Orange County Jail in Orlando, and he became hooked.

"During the project, I dug into the literature and found that relatively few people had studied jails," he recalled. "There was a lot of opportunity to contribute."

He has done exactly that, according to department chair Robert Langworthy: "Brandon is now a foremost scholar in this important and neglected area."

Applegate thinks the neglect was due in part to the diversity of jails. "Research on one jail doesn't necessarily apply to other jails," he explained. "And most jails are very small. It's hard to get enough inmates to study when the jail only houses 30 people."

He recognized that the Orange County Jail provided an unusual setting for research. "It's fairly large, with about 3,500 inmates. At one point it was up around 4,500 to 4,700. So you can get large samples of inmates or officers for quantitative analysis," he said.

After the evaluation project, Applegate seized the opportunity to work further with the jail. In the late 1990s, he led a study on the impact of the jail's "new generation" direct-supervision housing on inmate recidivism. In a subsequent study, he and several colleagues and students investigated the influences of overcrowding at the jail.

With time, Applegate incorporated his interest in opinion work, developed as a doctoral student at the University of Cincinnati. "I started looking at how

(cont. on p.6)

research

Contracts and Grants

January 2009 – December 2009

Nehemiah Educational and Economic Development, Inc.

HIV Prevention for Criminal Justice-Involved Individuals, \$65,735

Roberto Hugh Potter, Subcontract PI
1/1/09-12/31/09

Orange County Corrections

2009 UCF Student Support for the Orange County Corrections Division, \$14,623

Raymond Surette, PI
1/1/09-12/31/09

In-House Award

Measuring the Deterrent Effect of Police Less-lethal Weapons to Gain Compliance, \$7,500

Ross Wolf, PI
5/1/09-4/30/10

Seminole County Sheriff's Office

Evaluation of the Juvenile Justice Programs of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, \$36,000

Roberto Hugh Potter, PI
10/1/09-9/30/10

Orange County Sheriff's Office

2009–2010 UCF Student Support for the Orange County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigation Division, \$58,167

K. Michael Reynolds, PI
11/1/09-10/31/10

Center for Law Enforcement Technology, Training and Research, Inc.

2010 Support for the Center for Law Enforcement Technology, Training and Research, \$25,471

K. Michael Reynolds, PI
12/1/09-11/30/10

Research Spotlight: Brandon Applegate *(cont. from p. 5)*

people's perceptions of their work situation affect the way the jail operates," he said. In one study, he and colleague Gene Paoline used survey results to compare the perceptions of officers working in the jail's traditional and new generation facilities.

"The rigor of Brandon's survey work is well known and trusted," Langworthy said. "In particular, his work with factorial surveys has demonstrated the utility of this survey methodology."

Applegate clearly enjoys research. "I like the ability to take a vague idea and clarify it, figure out how to address it empirically, pull the data together and write something that makes sense," he shared. He likens it to something else he enjoys: home-improvement projects. "When I have a finished product, I think, 'wow,' this really came together."

Currently, he is investigating Orange County Jail inmates' perceptions of the severity of different types of criminal sanctions. "I've found that inmates don't view the severity of sanctions as a continuum, with probation at one end, prison at the other and intermediate sanctions lining up in between," he said, adding that other researchers have reported similar findings. "Typically, we've assumed that any amount of time on

probation would be viewed as less severe than spending time in prison. But some would prefer to do a year in prison than three years on probation."

Applegate and other researchers also have found that African-American inmates do not consider prison to be as severe a punishment as white inmates do. In his current work on inmates' perceptions, he suggests eight possible explanations for this difference. "Maybe [the African-American inmates] came from a disadvantaged neighborhood where staying there to complete community-based sanctions is less appealing than prison," he speculated. "Or maybe they've known lots of people who have been to prison and consider it just a part of life." He anticipates exploring these and other ideas in an upcoming publication.

This spring, Applegate will launch a new study at the Orange County Jail with graduate student Chris Petrozza. The jail's officers will be receiving verbal judo training and the research team will investigate the effect of training on the officers' interactions with inmates. The results of the study should help inform jails considering this type of training.

Petrozza is one of many students to benefit from Applegate's mentoring. In his 14 years at UCF, the faculty researcher has chaired or served on 18 dissertation and thesis committees, guiding research on topics such as improving the comprehension of sentencing instructions, transferring juveniles to the adult court and the public tolerance of anti-crime technology.

Under Applegate's guidance, Alicia Sitren conducted research for her dissertation on the deterrent effects of



Applegate in his office at UCF



academic programs

personal and vicarious experiences with punishment and punishment avoidance among convicted adult offenders.

“Dr. Applegate is very meticulous and thorough with research design and statistics. I learned so much from his research and writing styles,” said Sitren, who is now an assistant professor of criminal justice at the University of North Florida. “There is no doubt in my mind that his influence is directly responsible for my academic success today.”

Since 2006, Applegate has published eight peer-reviewed articles with Sitren — a reflection of successful mentoring and prolific scholarship, both of which characterize his academic career.

In addition to contributing to the jail literature, Applegate has published on a variety of other topics, including religion and corrections, public views on punishment and rehabilitation of offenders, juvenile justice, decision-making among criminal justice professionals, and offenders’ perceptions of their sanctions. “Rather than focus on one or two issues, I’ve been inclined to focus on what seems interesting,” he said. “If a possibility to do something interesting comes up, I do it.”

In fact, according to a November 2008 article in the *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, he ranked first in scholarly output in “elite” publications among executive board members of criminal justice and criminology learned societies. (Applegate served as president of the Southern Criminal Justice Association from 2006 to 2007.)

“Brandon has made a considerable effort to develop intellectual networks that sustain the flow of interesting questions and keep him at the edge of research, both theoretically and methodologically,” Langworthy said. “He works hard to answer questions that intrigue him.”

Program News

Undergraduate Criminal Justice

- The program experienced enormous growth of new students in fall 2009.
- Criminal justice was ranked ninth among UCF’s top 10 majors.
- Mark Winton’s “Criminal Justice Dimensions of Genocide” course was approved to become a permanent course offering.
- The department Web site was revamped and now includes more information for students and alumni, including a current job listing with excellent opportunities.
- The Lockheed Martin; Missiles and Fire Control unit worked with the program coordinator to recruit a student for a prestigious position working with the U.S. Department of Defense.

Undergraduate Legal Studies

- The program experienced huge growth.
- Seven Orange County judges are now teaching as adjuncts. The program expects to hire new full-time faculty members in the near future.
- The program held a semi-annual Legal Studies Advisory Board meeting in October to plan for the enormous growth and the program’s future.
- Several faculty members sit on the

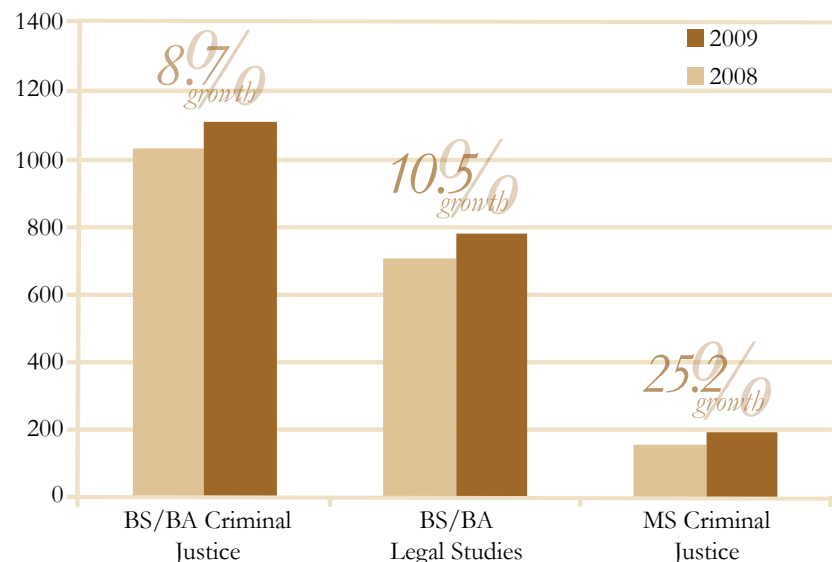
Graduate Criminal Justice

- Criminal justice master’s degree program applications went up 127% and admissions increased by 92%.
- The Public Affairs doctoral program admitted a second class of Criminal Justice Track students.
- The 2009 Provost Fellowships were used to recruit outstanding students from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Georgia Institute of Technology.
- Feedback on the master’s degree program tracks has been very positive. The new tracks are successfully guiding students on to the next step in their career plan, either to a doctoral program or into management positions in the field.

Pre-Law Advisory Committee, which created a new Office of Pre-professional Advising and is prepared to advise law school bound students.

- Instructor Kathy Cook organized the Certified Florida Paralegal workshop through the Department of Continuing Education. Several faculty members and regional experts taught the material and administered the certification exam.

Recent Enrollment Growth



academic programs



Karen Cain

Women Discuss Careers in Law Enforcement

Marie Verret started working for the Orlando Police Department 15 years ago. At first she was an assistant who took reports for officers. Today, she is a homicide detective and the department's only woman in this role.

Her success is a result of years of hard work — and opportunities. After graduating from the police academy, Verret spent four years as a patrol officer, followed by eight years as an undercover officer. She then pursued an opening for a detective. "I've not experienced racial or gender discrimination," she said. "If you're qualified, you'll get it."

Verret's career reflects several themes that emerged in a Fall 2009 panel discussion among seven women working in law enforcement during the course, "Police and Society": career growth is available to females in this male-dominated profession and law enforcement offers opportunities to move around within the profession.

Listening to the panelists were more than 100 criminal justice majors. "I really enjoy giving our students a chance to pose questions about law enforcement directly to current practitioners," said Assistant Professor Ross Wolf. "Students often come away with a different perspective of policing from what they had previously, and their gender biases are often shattered."

Several of the panelists said they think being a women helps in their interactions with male criminals. As a patrol officer with the Orange County Sheriff's Office, Sarah Keefer always showed respect toward a man when she arrested him. "I had no problems," she said. "There wasn't an alpha male issue."

Keefer has since earned a master's degree in criminal justice at UCF and is now a property crime detective with the sheriff's office. Her boyfriend also works in law enforcement, and they appreciate being able to go to one another for advice. [Both were recently accepted to the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va.]

Shelli Walters has worked in law enforcement for 23 years, the last 20 of which she has been at the Altamonte Springs Police Department, where she is currently commander. She also has been married for the past two decades, and she said her line of work does present challenges.

"My husband doesn't like that I spend my days with men," noted Walters, who as commander oversees 50 people. "But I've explained that I have a bond [with male officers], not a relationship, and he has accepted it."

The 2009 "Women in Law Enforcement" panelists were (pictured above, left to right):

1. Commander Shelli Walters, Altamonte Springs Police Department
2. Detective Marie Verret, Orlando Police Department
3. Sergeant Cindy Haley, Orlando Police Department
4. Detective Debra Healy, Seminole County Sheriff's Office
5. Deputy Cheryl Newberry, Orange County Sheriff's Office
6. Officer Amber Silvia, UCF Police Department
7. Detective Sarah Keefer, Orange County Sheriff's Office

Just a few years ago, Cheryl Newberry was a student in Wolf's "Police and Society" course, where she also heard women in law enforcement talk about their careers. The experience helped convince her to enter the profession, and today she is a patrol officer with the Orange County Sheriff's Office. "I love it," she said. "Every day I put on my uniform, I have a smile on my face."

Newberry's sentiment was a shared one. When a student asked the panelists how many would go into law enforcement again knowing what they know now, all seven raised their hand.



Internship News

The department continued to offer extensive internship opportunities for undergraduates. New in 2009 were opportunities in the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs, Ninth Judicial Circuit Public Defender's Office, the Nature Conservancy, the Federal Trade Commission and many more. Some of these positions have led to full-time employment upon completion of the student's bachelor's degree.

Listed below are the organizations that offered service-learning experiences to the department's students in 2009:

Criminal Justice

Altamonte Springs Police Department
Broward County Sheriff's Office,
Ft. Lauderdale
Collier County Sheriff's Office
CourtWatch
Florida Department of Children and
Families
Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission
Florida Office of the Attorney General,
Daytona Office, Appeals Division
Florida Office of the Attorney General,
Office of Statewide Prosecution
Florida State Attorney General's Office,
Victim Services
Girls and Boys Town, Oviedo
Hillsborough Animal Control
Hollywood (Florida) Police Department
Juvenile Justice Centers
Knight Library Security
Lake County Sheriff's Office
Lockheed Martin Security
Longwood Police Department
Mothers Against Drunk Driving
Mentoring and Monitoring Youth of
America
Ninth Judicial Circuit Public Defender
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, Department of Law
Enforcement
Ocoee Police Department
Orange County Court Administration
Orange County Medical Examiner's Office

Seminars Open to the Public

Each year, the department holds seminars on a variety of topics in criminal justice for students and community members. Each all-day seminar this year was held on the UCF Orlando campus. The topics listed below were offered in 2009.

Less Lethal Weapons: Benefits and Liabilities, Jan. 31

- Featuring guest lecturer Charles Mesloh

Critical Incident Stress Debriefing, April 18

- Featuring educator and motivational speaker Mike Steele

Sex and Drugs: Policing "Victimless" Crimes, June 29 to July 1

- Featuring lectures by a variety of academicians, federal law enforcement officers, local police officers and professionals who are experts in the field

Police Internal Affairs: Myths and Realities, July 23

- Featuring Captain Chuck Adkins of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, Charlotte, NC

Osceola County Sheriff's Office,
Forensics Unit
Orange County Sheriff's Office, Law
Enforcement Officer Training Corps
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Pasco County Sheriff's Office
Florida Probation and Parole Office,
Palm Bay
Seminole County Probation
Seminole County Sheriff's Office
State of Florida Fire Marshal's Office
U.S. Customs and Border Protection,
Jacksonville
U.S. Department of Homeland Security,
ICE, Orlando and Merritt Island
U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs Police
U.S. Marshal's Service
U.S. Pretrial Services
U.S. Postal Inspection Service,
Miami and Orlando
Valor Security, Orlando
Washington Center (Washington, D.C.)

Forensic Firearms and Cartridge Identification, July 24

- Featuring retired Orlando Police Department Crime Scene Investigator and recognized judicial expert Robb Walker

Criminal Street Gangs, Sept. 12

- Featuring Special Agent Brent Harrison, Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Electronic Control Weapons, Oct. 24

- Featuring Lt. Paul "Spike" Hopkins and Capt. David Ogden of the Orange County Sheriff's Office

Criminal justice seminars are offered through UCF Continuing Education. An option to earn course credit is available for matriculated students. For further information, contact Assistant Professor Ross Wolf at rwolf@mail.ucf.edu.

Winter Garden Police Department
Winter Park Police Department

Legal Studies

Many private law offices
Clerks of the Court
Court Mediation Services
Federal Trade Commission
Florida Attorney General's Office
Florida Department of Business and
Professional Regulation
Florida Legislature
Hilton Grand Vacations
Judges' offices
Nature Conservancy
Orange County Clerk of the Court
Orange County Juvenile Court Magistrate
State Attorneys' offices
UCF Department of Technology Transfer
UCF General Counsel
UCF Student Legal Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

scholarship

Faculty Publications

Hayden, S. & **Adams, K.** (2009). Phenomenological and existential approaches to crime and corrections. In D. Polizzi & M. Braswell (Eds.), *Transforming corrections: Humanistic approaches to corrections and offender treatment*. Durham, N.C.: Carolina Academic Press.

Applegate, B. K., Davis, R. K., & Cullen, F. T. (2009). Reconsidering child saving: The extent and correlates of public support for excluding youths from the juvenile court. *Crime & Delinquency*, 55(1), 51.

Applegate, B. K., Cable, C. R., & Sitren, A. H. (2009). Academia's most wanted: The characteristics of desirable academic job candidates in criminology and criminal justice. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, 20(1), 20-39.

Smith, H. P., **Applegate, B. K.**, Sitren, A. H., & Springer, N. F. (2009). The limits of individual control? Perceived officer power and probationer compliance. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 37, 241-47.

Sitren, A. H., Smith, H. P., **Applegate, B. K.**, & Gould, L. A. (2009). Jail visitation: An assessment of organizational policy and information availability. *Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice*, 5(3), 207-220.

Applegate, B. K., Fariello, N., Sitren, A. H., & Smith, H. P. (2009). From the inside: The meaning of probation to probationers. *Criminal Justice Review*, 34(1), 80-95.

Springer, N. F., **Applegate, B. K.**, Smith, H. P., & Sitren, A. H. (2009). Exploring the determinants of probationers' perceptions of their supervising officers. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 48(3), 210-227.

Cullen, F. T., Unnever, J. D., Blevins K. R., Pealer, J. A., Santana, S. A., Fisher, B. S. & **Applegate, B. K.** (2009). The myth of public support for capital punishment. In J. Wood & T. Gannon (Eds.). *Public opinion and criminal justice*. Devon, UK: Willan Publishing.

1 Bast, C. M., & Hawkins, M. (2010). *Foundations of legal research and writing* (4th ed.). Clifton Park, N.Y.: Delmar Cengage Learning. (Published in 2009)

Bast, C. M. & Samuels, L. B. (2009). Legal studies scholarship: Setting the standard for excellence. *Journal of Legal Studies Education*, 26, 263.

Maria T. Lopez & **Carol M. Bast**, *The Difficulties in Prosecuting Stalking Cases*, 45 Criminal Law Bulletin 3. (Jan./Feb. 2009).

Bast, C. M. (2008). Editor's corner: Where we have been and where we are going. *Journal of Legal Studies in Business*, 14, vii-ix. (Published in 2009).

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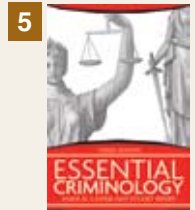
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Pamala Griset,

associate professor of criminal justice, is the author of the first chapter in a final report published Jan. 30, 2009 by the New York State Commission on Sentencing Reform. Her chapter focuses on the history of sentencing in New York. She recommended that the state simplify its sentencing scheme "to make it more fair, transparent and comprehensible to practitioners, judges, victims and defendants."

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*Doctoral Program in Public Affairs student

faculty and staff

Honors

Brandon Applegate, associate professor of criminal justice, was appointed to the editorial board of the *Justice Quarterly*. He began three terms of service on the editorial board in early 2010. (See photo on page 6.)

Carol Bast, associate professor of legal studies, was awarded the 2009 Excellence in Professional Service Award by the College of Health and Public Affairs. The award is given to honor faculty members who demonstrate a record of excellence in service to the University of Central Florida and professional service. **Bast** also completed her first publication as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Legal Studies in Business*.



Judge David Gray Ross, executive-in-residence, was invited to be a part of the meeting at the Dependency Court Improvement Summit of the Florida Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges at the Portofino Hotel at Universal Orlando in August 2009. **Ross** was also invited to give the ceremony address at the UCF Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society ceremony honoring National Award winners, new inductees and new chapter officers. During the ceremony he was also inducted as a new faculty member for the society.



Lee Ross, associate professor of criminal justice, received the Outstanding Faculty Award at the 13th Annual Tribute to Black Men: Pharaohs of the New Millennium. The award was presented at a reception hosted by The Black Female Development Circle, Inc. In addition, **Ross** was appointed to the inaugural editorial board for a new journal entitled *Race and Justice: An International Journal*. This journal will be published by SAGE Publications.



Mark Lanier, associate professor of criminal justice, was appointed to the editorial board for the journal *Acta Criminologica*. This is the journal of the Criminological and Victimological Society of Southern Africa.



Irene Pons, instructor of legal studies, was invited to become a member of American Inns of Court. This prestigious group was founded to promote the highest level of practice and professionalism among its members and the legal system. Pons was asked to become an associate member based on her devotion, expertise and potential in the area of family law.



Roberto Hugh Potter, professor of criminal justice and director of research, was appointed to the editorial boards of the *American Journal of Criminal Justice* and the newly established journal, *Correctional Health Today*.



Ross Wolf, assistant professor of criminal justice, was awarded a 2009 COHPA Research Faculty Fellowship. 2009-2010 is the inaugural year of a one-year program to promote the professional development of faculty researchers. Ross and nine other faculty researchers will complete a training program, receive mentoring and submit a grant proposal to a federal funding agency by the end of the academic year. His research topic is "The Deterrent Effect of Less-Lethal Weapons to Gain Compliance."



New Hires

Beth Plaisted joined the department in August 2009 as the legal studies program adviser. She has been working in academic advising at UCF for the past eight years, and comes to the department from the COHPA Graduate Office where she was the coordinator of advising services. Beth has a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in leadership studies from UCF.



* Bast, L. Ross, Lanier, Potter, Wolf, and Plaisted portraits by Thomas Alan Smilie



students

Student Organizations

Alpha Psi Sigma

Alpha Psi Sigma, the National Criminal Justice Honor Society, recognizes academic excellence demonstrated by undergraduate and graduate students. In spring 2009, APS members participated in UCF Relay for Life events and focused on recruitment activities. At regular meetings, the members discussed topics such as research, graduate school and careers in the criminal justice field. The culminating event for the year featured a guest speaker and pizza party for the members. Detective Hussey, of the Orange County Sheriff's Office, gave a great presentation at this December meeting. The APS leadership, inspired by this successful event, is currently planning more guest speakers for the spring term.

Lambda Alpha Epsilon

Lambda Alpha Epsilon at UCF is a subordinate chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association, a national co-ed professional fraternity dedicated to those employed in and pursuing a career in the criminal justice field. The organization's goal is to close the gap between students and criminal justice professionals. The organization provides students access to professionals from across the spectrum of the criminal justice field through weekly guest speakers and hands-on demonstrations. Members also benefit from access to information about internships, job openings and scholarships.

The UCF chapter started the 09-10 academic year strong with a recruiting drive that resulted in the largest induction class to date. The large fall membership class now accounts for the bulk of the membership. Membership is now over 100 strong.

In September, 21 members traveled to the regional competition at Eastern Kentucky University. UCF Lambda Alpha Epsilon members brought home 20 awards from all categories of competition (academic



Left: The 8th annual Amy Kuritar Lohrmann charity auction. Middle: Fall 2009 Lambda Alpha Epsilon class. Right: LAE President Katy Nolander with Mr. and Mrs. Kuritar at the charity auction for the scholarship named in their daughter's honor.



testing, mock crime scene investigation, firearms and physical agility). Members also participated in over 350 hours of community service and donated 60 boxes full of school supplies, toys, hygiene products and more to Operation Christmas Child. In November, the chapter hosted the 8th annual Amy Kuritar Lohrmann charity auction in the HPA I atrium. The activity included a dinner and silent auction of donated baskets. The main event was a live auction with over 50 large-ticket items. UCF Police Chief Richard Beary also spoke briefly to raise awareness about domestic violence. The event raised close to \$5,000, which goes to support the Amy Kuritar Lohrmann Memorial Endowed Scholarship in memory of the UCF graduate and former LAE member. The chapter is currently planning the annual Criminal Justice Career Fair and national conference, the first to be hosted by the UCF chapter.

Trial Team

The Mock Trial Team at UCF has been one of the most competitive and successful organizations on campus in recent years. 2009 was no exception, and the team is poised to surpass the outstanding accomplishments of years past.

In spring 2009, the UCF trial team hosted the American Mock Trial Association East Coast Regional Mock Trial Tournament at the Seminole County Justice Center. Twenty-two teams from throughout Florida and Georgia competed. One of UCF's teams finished second, and a second team finished third at this tournament. The third team finished fourth at the Southeast

Regional Tournament hosted by the

(cont. on p. 14)



Left: Trial team members at the East Coast Regional Mock Trial Tournament in February 2009. Right: Trial Team members Juan Garcia-Pardo, Jordan Ostroff (2008-2009 Trial Team President), and Erica Emas (far right) at the East Coast Regional Mock Trial Tournament. Circuit Court Judge Kevin Emas (second from right) served as a judge at the tournament.



students

Student Organizations *(cont. from p. 13)*

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill a few weeks prior to the Central Florida tournament. Due to these excellent records, all three UCF teams earned bids to the Opening Round Championship Series Tournament hosted by Furman University in Greenville, SC. UCF was one of only five universities in the country to have the distinction of having three teams qualify for the National Tournament including Penn State, UCLA, Duke and Harvard. In addition, at the East Coast regional tournament UCF trial team members

Erica Emas, Justin McConnell, Jordan Ostoff, Brandon Sark and Michael Garcia, won five of 10 All-Regional Outstanding Attorney awards. Stephen O'Neal also earned an All-Regional Outstanding Witness award.

In fall 2009, the trial team expanded to include a fourth competing team,

allowing more of UCF's best and brightest an opportunity to compete with one of the best mock trial programs in the nation.

In the fall 2009 tournaments, the trial team earned five top-10 finishes, four outstanding witness awards and five outstanding attorney awards. Several of the teams were able to travel to four different out-of-state tournaments to earn these commendations. At the Carolina Classic Invitational, at Elon University in Greensboro, NC, Erica Emas was recognized as Best Attorney and Elizabeth Bejarano was recognized as an Outstanding Witness. At the Classic City Invitational, at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA, Christian Bonet was recognized as Best Attorney, and Austin Miniard and Matt Bernstein were

named Outstanding Witness. Juan Garcia-Pardo and Erica Emas both took home Best Attorney awards from the Crimson Classic at Harvard University, in Cambridge, MA. At the MTSU Invitational, at Middle Tennessee State University in Murphreesboro, TN, Christian Bonet was named Best Attorney and Austin Miniard was recognized as an Outstanding Witness.

In spring 2010, the trial team will attend an unheard-of three invitational tournaments.

The trial team also was selected to host 24 teams at one of the 23 regional tournaments — "The Nation Law Firm Mock Trial Regional Tournament at UCF" in February. Finishing eighth in this year's regional tournament would ensure

the team's place at the national competition.

Trial team President Michael Koeltzow expressed great thanks to Mark Nation and The Nation Law Firm for its continued support of the UCF community. The team also received support from Judge Jose Rodriguez, attorney Hernando Garcia of Barry University Law School and the UCF Student Government Association.

Phi Alpha Delta

Members of UCF's pre-law chapter of Phi Alpha Delta, the international law fraternity, participate in activities that inform them about the law school application process, law schools and law careers. In spring 2009, PAD members participated in several social events in

between regular professional meetings. Several members were able to attend the state conference in March 2009 at the University of Florida. In April, the group split

into two teams and held its second annual Field Day at UCF Lake Claire Recreational Facility (pictured above). In the fall 2009, PAD members heard presentations by admissions representatives at several Florida law schools. Members also gave their time in support of their philanthropy, Adopt-A-Road, and participated in a team-building ropes course.



Honors

Legal studies student **Michelle Murphy** was awarded the Order of Pegasus for 2009. The Order of Pegasus is the highest award



attainable by a student at UCF. Students are nominated during their senior year by a committee of university leaders. Murphy founded the Student Sustainability Alliance to aid in the development of environmentally responsible student services. She plans to attend law school and specialize in environmental law after her graduation.

"UCF was one of only five universities in the country to have the distinction of having three teams qualify for the National Tournament including Penn State, UCLA, Duke and Harvard."



Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama on the Resume

In spring 2009, Reid Pearson spent three months interning in the Diplomatic Security branch of the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. He worked with special agents checking for threats against VIPs such as Colin Powell, John Kerry and Dick Cheney. While supporting security efforts during the inauguration parade he was within 15 feet of President Barack Obama and the first lady. He also helped with security measures when Hillary Clinton assumed her role as secretary of state.

Pearson, who graduated in May 2009 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, also learned about identity theft and other crimes while working with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service in Orlando. He plans to work for the federal government. "Thanks to the good experiences at UCF, I have a bunch of doors open to me," Reid said. "I just have to figure out which one I'm going to take."



Reid Pearson (second from right) completed an internship in Washington, D.C.

Scholarship Recipients

Altamonte Springs Police Department/Altamonte Rotary Club Detective Barry Pruette Scholarship
2009 Recipient: Donald Shafar



(Left to right) Faculty member Ross Wolf, ASPD Cmdr. Shelli Walters and ASPD Chief Robert Merchant awarding Donald Shafar the 2009 ASPD/Altamonte Rotary Club Detective Barry Pruette Scholarship

Alumni Fellows Scholarship - Junior
2009 Recipient: Lauren Rehm

Amy Kuritar Lohrmann Memorial Endowed Scholarship
2009 Recipient: Tabitha Rogers

Central Florida Paralegal Association Scholarship
2009 Recipients:
Sarah Golden
Ashley Williams

Criminal Justice Memorial Scholarship
2009 Recipient: Lauren Catenacci

Debbie Phillis Law Enforcement Scholarship
2009 Recipient: Angeline Low

First American Title Insurance Company Scholarship
2009 Recipients:
Angela Lowrey
Alyssa Williams

George DeSalvia Memorial Scholarship
2009 Recipients:
Alixandra Burks
Shannon Grant

Margaret M. Samet Scholarship
2009 Recipient: Andrew Proia

Provost's Graduate Fellowship
2009 Recipients:
Amy Byrne
Jayme Holmes

Ralph E. Gomory Scholarship for Quality Online Education
2009 Recipient: Scott Vogel

UCF Graduate McNair Fellowship
2009 Recipient: Alexandra Bojorquez

UCF Graduate RAMP Fellowship
2009 Recipient: Kimberly Burke

alumni

Class Notes

If you would like us to include your information in the next issues of For the Record, visit www.cohpa.ucf.edu/alumni and click on "Stay Connected."

(Note: Degrees in bold text below were earned at UCF. Graduates are listed under year of the first degree in the department.)

1973

Roger W. Martindill, B.A. in criminal justice, retired after serving as a special agent with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for 34 years. While employed with the FDLE, he served on many high-profile investigations, flew both airplanes and helicopters, and was a flight instructor. His degree from UCF was his "most life-changing accomplishment" for it provided "professional and academic knowledge that helped me throughout my career." For 25 years, he also served in the Naval Reserve, where his degree helped him obtain promotions and assignments.

1974

Robert W. Gleichauf, B.A. in criminal justice, is currently employed with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, where he previously worked from 1974 to 2005. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard Port Security Unit for 34 years and was an instructor at Palm Beach Community College's School of Criminal Justice for 15 years. In 2001, he earned his Master of Public Administration from Troy State University.

Stanton V. Parsons, B.A. in criminal justice, is retired from the U.S. Navy, where he served as a naval aviator aboard aircraft carriers. He flew the Grunman EA-6B Prowler, EA-6A "Electric" Intruder and A-6E Intruder. During an interim period, he worked at the FBI's Milwaukee Division as a special agent involved in foreign counterintelligence and domestic and international counterterrorism. Since 2002, he has been employed at the Orlando Regional

Communications Center for the Florida Highway Patrol.

1975

Cynthia J. Olson, B.A. in criminal justice, M.A. in school guidance counseling and mental health counseling (dual-degree) ('94), is a retired school guidance counselor. She currently resides in Satellite Beach, Fla., where she is a fine art jeweler specializing in sea glass. To view her work, visit www.artgalleryofviera.com/.

1976

Patricia Merrell Gibson, B.S. in allied legal services, worked as a paralegal immediately after graduating. In 1981, she earned a law degree with honors from the University of Florida's Law School. She was admitted to the Florida Bar the same year and went on to hand personal injury lawsuits, primarily in the medical negligence field. She has taught at Continuing Legal Education Seminars and spoken at Stetson Law School. She semi-retired in 2000, but maintains her law license and has since earned certification as a civil court mediator. "Now my only occasional client is the SPCA of Central Florida, where I was on the Board of Directors for a number of years and was president for two years."



Connie L. Patrick, B.A. in criminal justice, is director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, a bureau of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. She oversees

the interagency training of federal law enforcement personnel at FLETC sites in all 50 states and U.S. territories. More than 50,000 students graduate from FLETC training programs each year. The FLETC is based in Glynco, Ga.

1978

Barry W. Hepner, B.A. in allied legal services, is a criminal defense attorney in private practice in Orlando. He also serves as an adjunct faculty member in the College of Health and Public Affairs at

UCF. In addition, he is a glass artist and glassblower.

1981

Kenneth Cox, B.A. and M.S. ('01) in criminal justice, has been a sworn deputy with the Orange County Sheriff's Office for 27 years. He has been promoted through the ranks, from deputy first class to corporal, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, division chief and now chief deputy of the Administrative Service Bureau. He has been married to his wife, Jamie, for 23 years. Their son, Kyle, is a freshman at UCF majoring in molecular biology and a member of the UCF soccer team.

Emily Ambrose George, B.A. in allied legal services, has worked in the paralegal field for 12 years, specializing in estate planning and probate, with limited practice in securities fraud litigation and personal injury. For the past six years, she has worked at the Jeffrey P. Coleman, P.A., law firm.

Bill R. Lee, Jr., B.A. in criminal justice, M.P.A. ('95), is director of the Center for Public Safety at Seminole State College of Florida. He retired as captain from the Seminole County Sheriff's Office. In 2001, he graduated from the FBI Academy.

1984

Harrell L. Henson III, B.A. in allied legal services, is director of risk management for Westover Communications, Inc.

1985



Jeffrey B. Stonebreaker, B.S. and M.S. ('06) in Criminal Justice, is a lieutenant in the Orange County Sheriff's Office, where he oversees detectives assigned to property, economic and organized crime activities.

1986

Sue (Arnold) Cavanaugh, B.A. in legal studies, has worked as a legal assistant for 23 years. For the past 14 years, she has been with the Joseph



S. Brockington Law Firm in Charleston, S.C. She completed an A.S. in business administration from the Community College of the Air Force in 1991, and she earned CLA national certification in 1997. She retired from the U.S. Air Force Reserves in 1992 and is a veteran of the first Gulf War. Cavanaugh discusses the legal assistant profession in a Q&A published in the November 2009 issue of *Carolina Paralegal News* (see <http://tinyurl.com/ygqc54m>).

1989

Charles Brown, B.A. in criminal justice, Graduate Certificate in Police Leadership ('05), M.S. in criminal justice ('07), is chief of police for the Ocoee Police Department. In 2006, he completed the Command Officers Development Training at the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville, and he participated in the department's summer study abroad program in Russia.

Mark Phillips, B.A. in criminal justice, earned a master's degree in human resources development and is employed as the human resources director for TriQuint Semiconductor, Inc., in Hillsboro, Ore.

1991

Melissa Vander Weide, B.A. in legal studies, is a paralegal in the bankruptcy and creditor's rights group with Broad and Cassel Attorneys at Law. She earned Advanced Paralegal Certification through the National Association of Legal Assistants. In addition, she is the chair of the National Association of Legal Assistants' Advanced Paralegal Certification Board for 2009–2010.

1996

Janine Finkelstein-Pfersching, B.A. in legal studies, is a paralegal with Steinberg, Fineo, Berger and Fischoff, P.C., a law firm with offices in New York and New Jersey. She married her husband, Tom, in 2001, and they have two boys, Michael and Tyler. "My beautiful family" is her greatest achievement, she wrote.

1988



Annette L. S. Root, B.A. in legal studies, was awarded the 2009 Paralegal of the Year Award by the Central Florida Paralegal Association in recognition

of her outstanding contributions to her firm and the legal field as a whole. Root has been a paralegal at the law offices of Neal T. McShane in Orlando

since graduating from UCF. In a four-page letter of recommendation, McShane described the tremendous contributions Root makes to the practice. They include "legal decision-making and judgments at the level of a highly experience trial attorney" and "outstanding legal research skills." She also is "responsible for each and every aspect of running not only a small business but also a law firm." "The excellence of her performance cannot be duplicated," McShane concluded. In addition to working full-time at the law firm, Root is married and the mother of two sons.

Lucile Loveitt, B.A. in legal studies, wrote in early December 2009 that she is unemployed. She resides in Orlando.

David Robison, B.S. in criminal justice, has been a special agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, first in Atlanta and now in Orlando, since 2000. He began his federal law enforcement career with the U.S. Border Patrol in Harlingen, Texas.

1997

James C. Lyon, Jr., B.A. in legal studies, M.P.A. ('02), is chief of police at Northeastern Illinois University, in Chicago.

Jaime Quick, B.A. in legal studies, minor in criminal justice, earned a Juris Doctor from Nova Southeastern University in 2001 and is a general practice attorney at the Quick Law Firm, P.A., in Jupiter, Fla.

Craig Stopyra, B.A. in legal studies, minor in criminal justice, is a documents coordinator with the Orange County Comptroller Clerk's Office of the Board of County Commissioners. He and his wife adopted a boy from China in 2008.

1998

David A. Baker, B.A. in criminal justice and B.A. public administration, M.P.A.

('01), earned a Juris Doctor from Barry University in January 2009 and entered the Florida Bar that April. He has since established the Law Office of David. A. Baker, P.A., in Rockledge, Fla., where he practices in all areas of civil law. He is also a police sergeant with the Cocoa Police Department. In 2004–2005, he served in Afghanistan with the Florida National Guard. In 2005, he retired from the guard as an army first sergeant.

Kathy (Leatherwood) Deane, B.S. in criminal justice, is customer service supervisor with the U.S. Postal Service. She married her husband, Robert, in 1999 and the couple has a four-year-old son, Hayden.

Victor Peronti, M.S. in criminal justice, is a regional medical sales consultant with Adeona Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Raudel Vitier, B.S. and M.S. ('00) in criminal justice, earned a Juris Doctor from Barry University Law School in December 2009. He has worked as a chief investigator for the Office of the Public Defender, Ninth Judicial Court, in Orlando for more than seven years.

1999

Debra Curtis, B.S. in criminal justice, is president and co-owner of LegalOne Partners, Inc., in Orlando, which offers paralegal services. She represented

alumni *(cont. from p. 17)*

College Park in Orlando in the 2009 Mrs. Florida America Pageant and was a top-10 finalist.

Damien Richards, B.S. in legal studies, minor in criminal justice, is an attorney and owner of The Richards Law Group, PLLC, in Ormond Beach, Fla. He earned an M.B.A. from the Rollins College Crummer Graduate School of Business in 2003 and a Juris Doctor from the Stetson University College of Law in 2007.

2000

Randall Fernandez, B.A. in public administration ('95), M.S. in criminal justice, marked 20 years of service in public safety with the City of Apopka in November 2009. He is currently a lieutenant with the Apopka Police Department, serving as supervisor of records, property and evidence, youth services (school resource officers), and accreditation. He has secured hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants, managed grant projects, and developed and supervised many expansion programs

in the city. He is currently writing the department's procedural orders and working to obtain accreditation by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

Aaron Gaskins, B.S. in legal studies, M.S. in criminal justice ('02), is currently employed by Bechtel Power Corporation and works as an employee-concerns specialist at a nuclear power plant in Knoxville, Tenn. He is responsible for investigating Nuclear Regulatory Commission safety, quality, fraud, waste and abuse allegations. Previously, he was employed as an inspector with the U.S. Customs Service and an investigator with the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Whistleblower Protection. Completing his master's degree played a key role early in his career, he wrote. "The door swung wide open for me after that point."

Caroline Hutcheson-Griffin, B.S. in legal studies, minor in criminal justice, is an unemployed security officer.

Robert A. O'Connor, M.S. in criminal justice, is a domestic security investigations/intelligence supervisor with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. He will retire in 2010 after working for the FDLE for 20 years and the Seminole County Sheriff's Office for 11 years. He has three children in college, one of whom is a sophomore at UCF who works part time at the U.S. Secret Service in Orlando. The others are a senior and a freshman at Florida State University.

Belhaim "Frank" Sakuma, Jr., B.A. in legal studies, is manager of the official records and recordings department at the Brevard County Clerk of Courts.

Anthony F. Sos, B.A. in legal studies, earned his Juris Doctor from the University School of Law in 2003 and is currently employed as an attorney with Dellecker, Wilson, King, McKenna & Ruffier, LLP, in Orlando. He was recognized as a Florida Super Lawyer "Rising Star" by Law and Politics in 2009 and one of Florida's "Up and Coming" Legal Elites by Florida Trend in 2007.

2001

Rachel Freeman, B.A. in legal studies, has been employed at Sears for 13 years, eight of which she has worked as a senior paralegal.

Antonio Pagan, B.S. in criminal justice, M.S. in criminal justice ('09), works as an intelligence analyst for the U.S. Navy, where he has received a number of medals and awards for excellence.

Corey V. Sanford, B.S. in criminal justice, wrote in mid-December 2009 that he is unemployed.

Chris Williams, B.S. in legal studies, is an investigative analyst in the Special Investigations Unit at The Hartford insurance company.

2002

Robert Eyman, B.S. in criminal justice, is a captain in the U.S. Army and commander of the 551st Military Police Company. He has served in four combat deployments, two in Afghanistan and



Congratulations to the college's 2009 Professional Achievement Award winner, **Mark Nation (B.A., legal studies, '87)** (left) shown here with college Dean Michael Frumkin. Nation was recognized at UCF's annual Black and Gold Gala on Nov. 12, held at SeaWorld in Orlando. Nation is the founder of the [Nation Law Firm](#).



two in Iraq. He is an honor graduate of the U.S. Army Military Police Captain's Career Course, and he earned an M.A. in business and organizational security management from Webster University.

George Hernandez, B.S. in criminal justice, worked for a major insurance company before becoming an entrepreneur. He is now the owner of two successful SERVPRO franchises that provide cleanup and restoration services. He is also a reserve deputy with the Orange County Sheriff's Office. His son, now in high school, is considering attending UCF as well.

Barbara Sims, B.A. in liberal studies ('99), M.S. in criminal justice ('02), B.A. in psychology ('06), is a professional education and training coordinator with the Domestic Abuse Council, Inc., in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Sheree Stebbins, M.S. in criminal justice, is a Florida Department of Law Enforcement certified law enforcement analyst and an Environmental Criminology Research, Inc., certified geographic profiling analyst.

2003

Leslie Cason, B.A. in criminal justice, works as a diversion investigator with the Drug Enforcement Administration within the U.S. Department of Justice.

Joshua King, M.S. in criminal justice, is employed as an intelligence analyst with the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office in New Jersey. He married UCF alumna Erica Rosenthal in 2008.

Shireka Russel, B.S. in criminal justice, is a senior correctional probation officer with the Florida Department of Corrections.

2004

Connie E. Hendricks, B.A. in criminal justice, is an administrative supervisor at Vanderbilt University and a graduate student at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn. She is working toward a master's degree in professional counseling. In addition, she enjoys

volunteering as a big sister for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee.

Brian Malec, B.S. in legal studies, received his Juris Doctor from the University of Florida College of Law in 2007. He went on to earn his L.L.M. from UF in 2008. Currently, he is a law associate with the firm Dean, Mead, Egerton, Bloodworth, Capouano & Boxarth, P.A., where he practices in the area of estate and succession planning and taxation. Malec played for UCF Men's Soccer from 2000 to 2004.

Megan Lattz Malec, B.S. in legal studies, is a staff attorney working in domestic relations and civil appeals at the State Attorney's Office for the Ninth Judicial Circuit. She received her Juris Doctor from the Stetson University College of Law in 2007. She married Brian Malec ('04) in 2009 (see above).

Dennis Nichols, B.S. in criminal justice, is a resolution specialist with Sedgwick Claims Management Services. He earned an M.S. in risk management from Florida State University in 2008 and Associate in Risk Management designation from the American Institute for CPCU and Insurance Institute of America in July 2009.

Christa Polczynski Olson, B.S.W. ('04), M.S. in criminal justice, Ph.D. in sociology (focus on crime and deviance), is an assistant professor with Bridgewater State College in Bridgewater, Mass.

2005

David Delrahim, B.S. in legal studies, is an account executive and research attorney with LexisNexis. He earned a Juris Doctor from Stetson University College of Law and is a member of the Florida Bar. In 2008, he received the William F. Blews Pro Bono Service Award. He is engaged to UCF alumni **Ashley Mortimore (B.S. in legal studies, '06)**, who also earned a Juris Doctor from Stetson University College of Law.

Nicholas Jackson, M.S. in criminal justice, is a librarian at Crossroads

Christian Academy in Panama City in the Republic of Panama.

David Margolis, B.S. in legal studies, is an assistant state attorney with the State Attorney's Office for the Ninth Judicial Circuit. He graduated cum laude with a Juris Doctor from the University of Miami in 2008.

2006

Meagen Detro, B.S. in legal studies, is a student at Florida Coastal School of Law and anticipates graduating in May 2010.

Joshua H. Eggnatz, B.S. in legal studies, is an associate attorney with the law firm of Bader, Stillman & Adler, P.L. He graduated magna cum laude from Nova Law School in 2009 and was inducted into the National Order of Barristers for high honors in the art of courtroom advocacy.

Rangel "Ron" Guerrero, B.S. in criminal justice, is a situation unit leader with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, FEMA/Region IV IMAT. He wrote that he has been on a temporary assignment in Atlanta for the past year. "I am part of a team that is the first one out when there's an incident (man-made or natural)." His team covers eight states in the southeastern United States, but it could be deployed anywhere in the nation.

Sarah (Penilla) Keefer, M.S. in criminal justice, has been accepted into the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va. She begins her training there on Feb. 15, 2010.

Leslie R. McClain, B.S. in legal studies, graduated with honors. She is looking for a position related to law while working part-time for the U.S. Postal Service.

Jennifer Ramirez O'Shaughnessy, B.S. in criminal justice, Undergraduate Certificate in Criminal Profiling, Undergraduate Certificate in Crime Scene Investigation, works as a child protection investigator for the Department of Children and Families. She has obtained certification as a child protection investigator as well.

alumni *(cont. from p. 19)*

2007

Jeanine Ann Bindhammer, B.S. in legal studies, works as a paralegal for the Law Office of David A. Baker. She is also completing a Juris Doctor at Barry University School of Law in Orlando.

Justin Chapman, B.S. in legal studies, minor in criminal justice, is a third-year law student at Barry University School of Law, where he is president of the trial team. In addition, he is working as a certified legal intern for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Orlando.

Jesse Rowe, B.S. in legal studies, criminal justice minor, is a paralegal specializing in claimant workers' compensation at Van Dingenen, P.A., and is applying for admission to law school. He is board member for the Central Florida Chapter of the Delta Upsilon International Fraternity Alumni Board.

Jason Sexton, B.A. in legal studies, is currently a third-year law student at Vanderbilt University. After graduation, he will be employed with the Teach for America 2010 Corps.

Celine Naomi Simpson, B.S. in criminal justice, is employed as a crime scene investigator with the Osceola County

Sheriff's Office. She wrote, "I absolutely love my job!!"

Renee Toupin, B.S. in legal studies (specialization in criminal law and individual liberties), has worked at Alpizar Law, L.L.C., since 2007. In addition to working as a receptionist, she requests records and reports and sends certified letters to defendants and insurance companies. She has earned certifications as a Florida Notary Public and Florida Supreme Court Certified County Mediator.

2008

Amanda Blair, B.A. in criminal justice, minor in psychology, is currently a student at Florida State University College of Law and anticipates completing her Juris Doctor in May 2012. She married Frederick Fisher in 2009, and UCF student Rachel Wobig was her maid of honor.

Jacqueline Campbell-Davis, B.S. in criminal justice, is employed as a witness manager with the Florida State Attorney's Office. She has three daughters, all of whom are currently attending college.

Stuart Hindman, B.S. in legal studies, is currently a second-year law student at the University of Maryland School of Law.

Rachel Moore, B.S. in criminal justice, works as an administrative division specialist at the St. John's County Sheriff's Office.

Mary Morelly, B.A. in legal studies, is currently a second-year law student at Barry University School of Law.

JaVonte' LaShae' Mottley, B.A. in legal studies (specialization in criminal law and individual liberties), minor in criminal justice, M.P.A. ('09), wrote that she is considering her next step after working as a graduate research assistant and completing her master's degree in public administration in December 2009. She is looking for a position in public administration and applying to law schools and a doctoral program.

Tatiana Sparks, B.A. in legal studies, minor in criminal justice, is employed as

a juvenile corrections case manager with G4S Government Services.

Joseph Verneer, B.S. in criminal justice, is employed as a federal agent with the Department of Homeland Security. In addition, he is an aviation officer with the New York Army National Guard. He plans to marry his "high school/college UCF alum sweetheart" in February 2010.

Timothy Wood, M.S. in criminal justice, Graduate Certificate in Police Leadership ('07), took an early retirement from the Orange County Sheriff's Office in September. That same month he began a new position with a division of Texas A&M University. He is now an associate dean for a series of new law enforcement programs in the United Arab Emirates.

Sarah Zimmerman, B.S. in criminal justice, recently began working as a criminal intelligence analyst for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's office in Tallahassee.

2009

Renee Washington, B.S. in criminal justice, minor in information technology, certificate in crime analysis and crime mapping,



was hired as a full-time associate industrial security representative at Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control in Ocala, Fla. She is responsible for all aspects of the facility's industrial security program, such as security education projects; physical security of proprietary materials, documents and equipment; and badging and personnel security clearance processing. "... the internships I had while attending UCF were instrumental in preparing me for my career," Washington wrote to Mary Ann Eastep, coordinator of the undergraduate criminal justice program. "[They] were stepping stones to success and I am thankful for the opportunity."

New! Legal Knights & Friends Alumni Chapter

The UCF Alumni Association is pleased to announce its newest group — The Legal Knights & Friends Alumni Chapter. The chapter is looking for alumni and friends (not alumni) in the legal community who want to get involved. To learn more, contact Katie Korkosz at kkorkosz@mail.ucf.edu or 407-823-1600.





report of gifts

Gifts to the Department January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009

The Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies appreciates the generous financial contributions of the following individuals and organizations:

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George DeSalvia Memorial Golf Tournament Raises Money for Student Scholarships

The Fifth Annual George DeSalvia Memorial Golf Tournament took place



Derek DeSalvia (left) with college Dean Michael Frumkin

on Saturday, May 30, 2009, at Orange National Golf Course in Winter Garden, Fla. The DeSalvia family organized the golf tournament for friends and family, and 116 golfers played and supported the cause.

George DeSalvia was an Orlando police officer who was killed in the line of duty on February 3, 2000. He was backing up another officer on a routine traffic stop when the driver jumped out of the car and began firing, hitting George one time in the head and killing him. George left behind three children and a lifetime of memories.

As tragic and painful as this event was, some good has come of it. Not only does this scholarship help a student who is majoring in the field of criminal justice, it also keeps alive George's name, pride and heroism.

The 2009 golf tournament raised \$9,020, which went toward the George DeSalvia Memorial Endowed Scholarship fund in the College of Health and Public Affairs, Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies. The scholarship was awarded for the first time in fall 2009.

For the Record

Volume 6 reports on activities from January through December 2009.

Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies

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