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CJ Times (Newsletter)

Criminal Justice Department

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Fall 2011

## CJ Times Volume 6, Issue 1

Department of Criminal Justice

Sacred Heart University, [criminaljustice@sacredheart.edu](mailto:criminaljustice@sacredheart.edu)

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# CJ Times

Volume 6, Issue 1

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## *Message from the Chair*

The MACJ is now in its fifth year of operation. We have graduated 35 students since its inception. We graduated 9 students in December 2011. The Program continues to grow and draw students from our university as well as other universities across the country. The student body is increasingly more diverse

making the classroom and online experiences more interesting and exciting. Students include professionals working in the field of criminal justice and those aspiring to be working professionals.

There have been many interesting developments during this semester which you will read about in this newsletter. We

have a Facebook page and a blog. Please remember to check them for department news and updates.



Dr. Pearl Jacobs

## **John Douglas Profiles Sacred Heart**

Former FBI Special Agent, John Douglas spoke to the university community. As one of the first criminal profilers, Douglas has interviewed some of the country's most notorious criminals, including David Berkowitz (Son of Sam), Charles Manson, Ted Bundy, and Dennis Rader (BTK). Since retiring, he has worked as a consultant on many well-publicized investigations, such as the West Memphis Three and the Jon Benet Ramsey cases. Faculty and students



were invited to dinner with Douglas where they were able to get books signed, ask questions and gain a

deeper insight into the world of criminal profiling. The presentation was open to the public and well attended. The lecture covered many of Douglas' notable accomplishments and included anecdotes and rhetorical questions to keep the audience engaged. Those who attended, learned a great deal about the world of criminal profiling.

### Past Graduates: Aida Kalapo



Since graduating from the masters program in 2008, Aida Kalapo has been working as a research associate for an executive recruiting firm. She assists clients with placement in investment and banking institutions. Aida commented that "the masters degree helped her get recognized above the rest of the competition" and attributes being "a better facilitator, administrator, and communicator to the program." She thoroughly enjoyed the research

methods course. What she learned in that course now helps her to identify clients and candidates and pair them up more efficiently. Knowing how to conduct research is imperative for her field. She finds herself utilizing information from all of her classes on a day to day basis. Her message to any undergraduate student is to "recognize the importance of your education and continue it for a higher degree with special courses. Even though it

seems like hard work at the time, it pays off with success later in life."

**"Recognize now the importance of hard work and education, for it pays off in success later"**

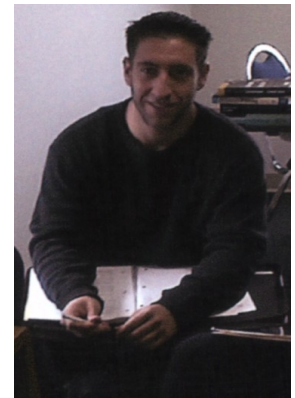
**-A. Kalapo**

### Past Graduates: Nicholas Lambusta

Nicholas Lambusta, a graduate of the MACJ in 2008, is currently working for Progressive Auto Insurance company as a claim consultant. He hopes to be moving to the investigative bureau. Mr. Lambusta has also taken the New York Police Department exam and is waiting to be called back to complete more tasks in the pre-hiring process. He would love to be hired by

the NYPD and hopes to be part of the upcoming class, projected at 1800 cadets in January of 2012. As for the Masters he obtained in criminal justice, he said that "it was a great decision and he gained a lot of experience." He went on to say that the "courses were realistic" because the professors have so much experience themselves. He said the "information is extremely

helpful in real world scenarios" and has helped him in his career so far.



### Current Student Outlooks: Christopher Lee



Applying to the MACJ program here at SHU gave me a chance to explore many opportunities within the field of Criminal Justice. Although I knew that this is the field I wanted to pursue a career in, I wasn't sure exactly which route I wanted to go. With only two months until completion, I have firmly

decided that I want to pursue a career in law enforcement. Starting local and possibly working my way to the federal level would be ideal. Having a Master's in Criminal Justice from SHU will help me progress and will be beneficial when it comes to promotional opportunities. After I put in my

years of service and retire, I hope to come back and share my knowledge and wisdom as a professor. I'm sure there will be plenty of students that will be in the same boat as I currently am, and it's my hope that I can help them pursue their ultimate goals as well.

## Question and Answers with Christopher Lee

### *Why did you choose the Thesis route over doing the Comprehensive Exam?*

I spent a year and a half firmly believing that I would be completing my Master's requirement with the Comprehensive Examination. It wasn't until my Research Methods class that I began to change my mind. At the end of the research class and hearing what Dr. McCabe had to say about the thesis option, my interest suddenly changed focus and I chose to do a thesis.

Why the sudden change of heart? Well, for one thing, the thesis allows you to go at your own pace to complete the assignment. While it is a lot of work, you have the entire semester to space it out (and also receive 3 credits). With the comp exam, you are given three questions and have only two weeks to write 30 pages; it also doesn't count for credit. While this played a role in my decision, it wasn't the deciding factor.

The beauty of the thesis option is that you can virtually write about anything you want. The comp exam, on the other hand, gives you three specific questions that have to be answered. The key to the thesis is to find something that you're interested in. If you find something that you're truly passionate about, then it doesn't seem like that much work. Not only is it easier, but quite enjoyable! Having this freedom to research pretty much whatever I wanted played a large role in my decision to complete the thesis.

Looking back, I wouldn't change a thing. It's been a great experience and I feel that I'm taking away much more from this experience than I would have with the comp exam. Not only do I feel a great sense of pride in the work I've done, but could also use this for future research. This would be the advice I would share with anyone trying to decide between the thesis route and the comprehensive exam.

## Criminal Justice Honor Society:

Alpha Phi Sigma is the National Criminal Justice Honor Society for undergraduate and graduate students. Gamma Omega Delta is the Sacred Heart University Chapter. Professor Morris is the academic advisor for the Chapter and has had the honor of inducting members in each year of the programs existence. We would like to congratulate the following MACJ students:

Deana Santoro-Dillon  
Ellen Stewart  
Jennifer Darrow  
Ashley Whitworth

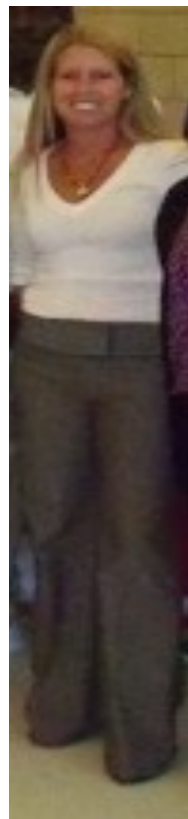
For more information visit:  
[www.alphaphisigma.org](http://www.alphaphisigma.org)



## Jennifer Darrow, MACJ Student, to Present In NY

Jennifer Darrow will be presenting her paper "Vocational Training Within Correctional Institutions" at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences annual meeting being held March 13-17, 2012 in New York City. Jennifer's research discovered that nearly one million prisoners within the United States re-enter into society every year. Approxi-

mately 67% of those re-entering society will recidivate. Jennifer will present her view that vocational training programs such as HVAC, Culinary, Automotive Repair, along with educational programs have a positive effect on the re-entering prisoners.



"In this field it is hard to change the world; however, having the ability to positively impact one person's life is enough for me."

-A. SanMarco

## Brandon Bueswald, MACJ Student, to Present In NY

Brandon Boeswald presentation will examine the prevalence of nonverbal communication portrayed throughout the interrogation of David Russell Williams, a convicted murderer, rapist, and former Colonel in the Canadian Forces. Specifically, he will focus on the fluctuations in speech and body language of Williams throughout the interrogation. Emphasis will

be placed on the non-verbal elements contained in the speech of Williams including the voice quality, tone, emotion and speaking style. These mannerisms will be analyzed using theoretical approaches to sign systems developed by Bakker, Blumer, and Wiley. Sign systems are dependent on the use of codes that are comprised of individual sounds or letters that

humans use to form words, the body movements they make to show attitude or emotion, and even something as general as the clothes they wear. Therefore, using the video footage released to the public and analyzing the usage non-verbal communication, he will be able to construct a personal viewpoint on the emotional state of Russell Williams during the interrogation.







### Graduate Assistant: Avrahami Levitan

My name is Avrahami Levitan. I have been a Graduate Assistant here in the Criminal Justice program for a year and a half. I have gained a tremendous amount from the MACJ program in building skills in research and writing. My college experience has been empowering and enhanced by the support I was lucky enough to have from family and faculty. If you are looking for a program which is intriguing and

fulfilling this is the program for you.



"SHU gave me the chance to explore more opportunities in the criminal justice field."

-C. Lee

### Graduate Assistant: David Peterson

My name is David Peterson and I will complete my MACJ in Spring of 2012. My educational background includes a Bachelors in sociology, criminal justice, and Masters in both education and therapeutic recreation. My experience includes working for the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Prisons for ten years. Currently however, I am

employed with the Education and Recreation Department and the aspiration of one day becoming the Education Supervisor. I am pursuing my MACJ because I would like to gain a better understanding of how to be a manager in the Criminal Justice Field.



### Graduate Assistant: Matt Powers

My name is Matt Powers and I am from Wakefield, Mass. I graduated from Sacred Heart University in 2011 with an undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice. I enjoyed my time here so much that I decided to return here for my graduate level educa-

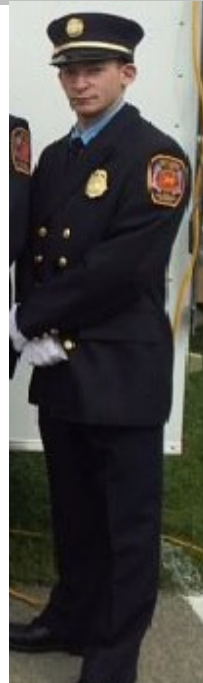
tion. My plan is to complete the Masters in Criminal Justice by May 2012. In the near future I hope to join a police force back in Massachusetts and eventually find myself working for the federal government as an agent for the DEA or FBI.



## Graduate Assistant: Anthony SanMarco

My name is Anthony SanMarco and I am from East Fishkill, New York. I completed my undergraduate schooling at Seton Hall University in criminal justice. I decided to continue my education here at Sacred Heart because I feel it will help me later on in my career paths. I have been taking many police and firefighter exams hoping to land a

job with the NYPD or FDNY. I am a lieutenant in a volunteer fire department, which I have been apart of for 7 years. The fire department fits hand in hand with the policing and criminal justice background in being able to help the public. It is a great feeling and I hope to continue that for some time in a very successful career.



**"The classes are realistic and the information is extremely helpful in real world scenarios"**

**-N. Lambusta**

## Graduate Assistant: Ashley Whitworth

My name is Ashley Whitworth and I'm from Granby, CT. I did my undergrad at Elmira College in Elmira, NY, majoring in psychology and criminal justice with a minor in human services. With my degree from Sacred Heart I'd like to pursue a career with the FBI, specifically in the Crimes

Against Children Division. I'll be applying for police jobs in the state soon and can't wait to get into the field.



This issue of the CJ Times is brought to you by:  
Anthony SanMarco, Ashley Whitworth, and Matt Powers (Graduate Assistants)

Editorial Assistance by: Dr. Pearl Jacobs, Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice

## MACJ Courses Offerings:

### Spring 2012:

- CJ-401 Crime Causation and Deviance
- CJ-402 Administration and Management of the CJ System
- CJ-404 Administration of Correctional Systems
- CJ-405 Criminal Law
- CJ-406 Methods of Research and Statistical Analysis
- CJ-506 Victimology
- CJ-507 Organizational Procedures
- CJ-698 Comprehensive Examination

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## Department Of Criminal Justice

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