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CJ Times (Newsletter)

Criminal Justice Department

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Fall 2010

## CJ Times Volume 4, Issue 1

Department of Criminal Justice

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

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# The CJ Times

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1



FALL 2010

## *Message From the Chair*

The MACJ is now in its fourth year of operation. We are proud to say that we have graduated 25 students since its inception. We expect to graduate 3 students in December 2010. The program continues to attract students eager to learn about the criminal justice system in order to make a meaningful contribution to our world. We have prepared this newsletter to provide an update on our program. We have a Facebook page and blog prepared by Robert Fasano, one of our graduate assistants. Please remember to check them for department news and updates.

Dr. Pearl Jacobs



## *Congratulations Alpha Phi Sigma Inductees*

Melissa Craffey

Marie Muskus

Robert Fasano

Linda Scavone

Brian Fitzgerald

Brian Taylor

Nicole Gerosa

Winsome Thomas-Riley

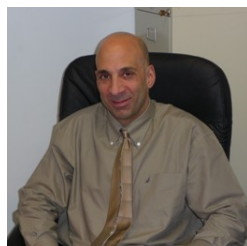
Marcie Johnson

Laura Wilson

Jennifer Locantro

**The Awards Ceremony will be held  
April 20, 2011 from 5pm-7pm in  
the Pitt Center Boardroom!**

## *Welcome New Professor Anthony Papa*



Anthony J. Papa is a new professor in the Department of Criminal Justice. Professor Papa teaches courses in Criminal Justice in both the undergraduate and graduate programs. Prior to his academic career, Professor Papa completed twenty years of service with the New York City Police Department. While being an active member of the department he began classes for a Juris Doctorate at the New York Law School. He retired as a Lieutenant in the Warrant Bureau in the Bronx and has been a practicing attorney engaged in insurance defense. Contact Professor Papa for his office hours at (203)-365-4891 or at [papaa29@sacredheart.edu](mailto:papaa29@sacredheart.edu) or stop by his office at HC Suite 219.

## *Student Reflections*

### **Tiffany Teixeira, MACJ Graduate May 2010**



Tiffany had this to say about the MACJ program at SHU:

“I honestly believe that each class I took at Sacred Heart provided me with knowledge that is helping me in my career today. I never thought I would have much use for the Research Methods and Statistics class, but I was wrong. It has enabled me to research things and provide analysis. There are a wide variety of classes and the faculty is understanding, especially in regards to individuals working full time and still trying to fit classes into their schedules. The fact that this program allows people to take classes as independent studies and that a professor is available for one on one assistance, makes this program great. At this point in time, there is a lot of growth potential and opportunity with the Public Defenders Division, from Investigator I, I could move up to Investigator II, III, or a capital punishment investigator, chief investigator, etc. The fact that I spent some time studying within the specialization of National Security allows me to one day explore the option of applying for a Federal Agency. Immigration has always been a passion of mine, and with a Masters I feel that I am appropriately qualified to one day either apply for an ICE position or explore other options within the Immigration branch.”

Tiffany is currently employed by the State of Connecticut, Division of Public Defenders Services as a Criminal Investigator I.

### **Thomas Sullivan, MACJ Graduate May 2010**

“It was a personal decision that I wanted to pursue and focus on gaining a CJ degree because I wanted to fulfill my goal of becoming a leader in a law enforcement career. I wanted to successfully complete my Masters because it would provide me with opportunities that a BS could not. I really liked the way the courses were set up, taking three courses a semester really worked for me. All the courses are offered at a convenient time of day and are set up for people with jobs, this made it an easier decision to apply to the program. The classes are a perfect professor to student ratio, allowing the students to express opinion and be heard. A really great aspect was getting the opinions of people who work in probation, corrections, and law enforcement. Their point of view on class topics was an excellent addition to the classroom experience.

When Tom was asked about influential courses or professors he had this to say: “I knew Jim McCabe was going to make a lasting impression on this program from the get go. I look up to Jim, because he gives many students the belief that they can someday be successful, earn a PhD and teach. I would also like to thank the program for pushing me and believing in me to succeed.”

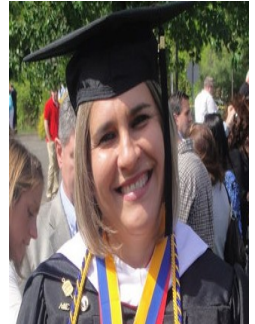


Tom is currently working as an Investigator for the Derby Public Defenders Office with aspirations of becoming employed by either the Rhode Island State Police or the New York Police Department, both of which he is currently in the processing of applying.

## *Continued Reflections*

**Liliane Clark, MACJ Graduate May 2010**

Liliane worked as a licensed Psychologist in Brazil for twelve years prior to moving to the United States. "In my country the justice field is a big joke. It does not work at all and it looks like they are living at least two centuries ago. I started taking classes at SHU to see whether the school was a good option for me or not. I found that the CJ department had excellent professors who were not only good at teaching but had a great deal of experience in the field. My thesis provided me with a level of knowledge I had never imagined I could have achieved. My only regret is that Sacred Heart does not offer a PhD program in Criminal Justice. You can bet, I would be applying for it."



## *Sacred Heart University MACJ 2010 Fall Thesis*

**Laura Wilson Fall 2010 Thesis Candidate**

Did you happen to notice the new blue colored shirts members of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) were wearing when you last went through central screening in a U.S. airport? This is the questions I am striving to answer in my thesis. According to Congressman Larry Kissell this uniform change cost tax payers over \$12 million dollars. That is a hefty chunk of money for a uniform change that I believe went unnoticed. It has been said that the royal blue color has a calming effect on people making it easier for Transportation Security Officers to identify suspicious passengers. Also discussed is the idea of police uniforms and why certain colors are chosen for uniforms. Is the benefit more for the person wearing the uniform or those perceiving them?

## *Annual Criminal Justice Sciences Meeting Presentation*

**Nicole Gerosa, 2010 ACJS Presenter**

Nicole will be presenting a paper entitled Chemical Dependency: The Crisis of Addiction. The presentation will focus on the fact that alcohol is the number one abused substance in the United States and how this abuse contributes to a majority of assaults and murders drug use, suicides, and accidents related to drug use. Check out the MACJ Spring Newsletter for more detail and discussion about the annual meeting!

The 2011 Annual Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Meeting will be held in Toronto, March 1-5, at the Sheraton Centre. The Focus on the 2011 meeting is the strengthening of American/ Canadian Justice Connections.



## *What Our Current Students are Doing*

Bonnie Killis enrolled in the MACJ program to pursue an interest in Forensic Science by focusing on strengthening the criminal justice aspect of forensic science after graduating with a BS in biology from Sacred Heart University in May 2010.

Chris Lee chose MACJ in order to provide him with a solid foundation of all facets of the criminal justice field. Lee hopes the knowledge he learns from the program will be useful in his goal of becoming a law enforcement official.

Brian Taylor is currently a Supervisor with the U.S. Marshals Service in Bridgeport. He is enrolled in the program to expand his academic education, so he can advance at his current career and hopefully help in his post law enforcement career.

Marci Johnson enrolled in the program as a precursor to obtaining a job in the criminal justice field. Johnson chose the MACJ program here at SHU since it had the attractive option of completing a thesis or comprehensive exam in order to graduate.

Melissa Craffey chose MACJ in order to learn more about criminal justice and the law itself before attending law schools. Craffey studied history, French, and political science as an undergrad and has always had an interest in law school. She chose to attend the program at SHU due to the attraction of the concentrations in management and national security.

## *MACJ*



*Check out the Blogger*



Check us out on Facebook @

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Master-of-Arts-in-Criminal-Justice-at-Sacred-Heart-University/126974050687749?v=info>

And..... Our BLOG!

[http://sacredheartuniversity.typepad.com/master\\_of\\_arts\\_in\\_crimina/](http://sacredheartuniversity.typepad.com/master_of_arts_in_crimina/)

**Name:** Rob Fasano

**Class of:** 2009 BA in Psychology, 2011 MACJ

**Degree:** 2011, Master of Arts in Criminal Justice student and Graduate Assistant for the Department

**Hometown:** Brooklyn, NY

**Extracurricular Activities:** Grad Assistant for the MACJ program; Intern at Chartwells; love to travel; used to live in Australia; loves to read, be outdoors, hike, swim, mountain bike, hang out with friends, and play rugby. I enjoy life.





Professor Papa, Professor Kirven, Dr. Jacobs, Professor Grant, Dr. Morris, & Dr. McCabe - CJ Faculty  
Rob Fasano, Laura Wilson, Nicole Gerosa, Avrami Levitan - Graduate Assistants



# Fun Facts!

## Student Breakdown:

Graduated 9 Male  
15 Female

Current 20 Male  
24 Female

## Spring Course Offerings:

- CJ401 Crime Causation & Deviance
- CJ402 Administration & Management of the Criminal Justice System
- CJ404 OL Administration of Correctional Systems
- CJ405 OL Criminal Law
- CJ506 OL Victimology
- CJ507 Organizational Procedures
- CJ698 Comprehensive Exam
- CJ650 Thesis

## Criminal Justice Career Opportunities:

Federal Bureau of Investigation; National Criminal Justice Reference Service; National Center for State Courts; The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics; The Police Officers Internet Directory; Crime Prevention Coalition of America; Bureau of Justice Statistics; U.S. Department of Justice; National Archive of Criminal Justice Data; Justice Research and Statistics Association; ACLU Criminal Justice; National Institute of Corrections; Justice Technology Information Network; United States Sentencing Commission; Federal Bureau of Prisons; Federal Judicial Center; National Fraud Information Center; The Corrections Connection; Fugitive Watch Web Sight; National Criminal Justice Honor Society; Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences; American Society of Criminology

# Alpha Phi Sigma

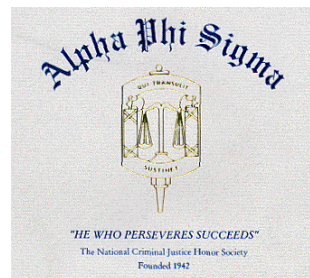
Alpha Phi Sigma is the National Criminal Justice Honor Society. The chapter here at SHU is known as Gamma Omega Delta. The application deadline for the Spring Semester is February 4, 2011. The Graduate requirements include a minimum 3.4 GPA on a 4.0 scale in graduate criminal justice courses. The student also must have completed a minimum of 4 courses within the

criminal justice graduate curriculum at the time of the application. Watch for the application instruction e-mails sent by Dr. Morris!

Gamma Omega Delta  
SHU Chapter officers:

President: Erin Weinman  
Vice President: Brian Taylor  
Secretary: Stephanie Valentino  
Treasurer: Winesome Thomas  
-Riley

Membership qualifications and information about the National Honor Society are available at [www.alphaphisigma.org](http://www.alphaphisigma.org)



# Criminal Justice Club

## Criminal Justice Club

Consists of all students interested in the field of criminal justice, both majors and non-majors. Club members create a program for the semester. They invite experts in the field to speak to the members and they visit criminal justice sites. Students may also participate in professional criminal justice conferences.

**Written by:** Robert Fasano, Nicole Gerosa, Avrami Levitan & Laura Wilson, Graduate Assistants for MACJ

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

AΦΣ





Twins! Dr. McCabe and Avrami ↓

Dr. Jacobs and Maggie giving thanks! →



*MACJ*



Our beloved Maggie McCranor, the MACJ Academic Program Assistant ↑

Marci Johnson & Hayaana Marine, MACJ students ←