



Western Association of Criminal Justice

Friday, October 13

8:30am-9:30am **REGISTRATION/HOSPITALITY DESK** **Riverfront A**

8:30am **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST** **Riverfront A**

Sponsored by: Boise State University, Department of Criminal Justice

9:00am – 9:45am **EVENT # 14** **Riverfront A**

PAPER PRESENTATIONS: Restorative Justice and Dispute Resolution

Chair: Alison Burke, Southern Oregon University

Restorative Justice, Empathy, And Accountability: Understanding the Cycle of Harmed People Harming People

Alison Burke, Southern Oregon University

With the CJ pendulum swinging from a punitive punishment and retribution model to a more reformatory and rehabilitative one, RJ (restorative justice) programs have been sprouting up around the United States. Instead of asking what law was broken, who broke it, and what punishment is warranted (as the current CJ system does), restorative justice asks who was harmed and how do we repair that harm- to the community, to the victim, and to the offender. Empirical research demonstrates that adversity, such as adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and toxic stress, can have real and measurable impacts on brain development and behavior. Restorative Justice is an inclusive process that utilizes storytelling to tell the trauma and empower the voices of those who harmed and were harmed. To that end, the current research will provide a brief look at a burgeoning restorative justice initiative in Oregon.

Reframing Justice in Higher Education

Victoria Goodson, Eastern Washington University

In addition to being a higher education professional, ADR specialist, Restorative Practices Trainer and Instructor, and change agent for student conduct offices, I'm also advocate for higher education whole-campus ADR (Mediation, Restorative Justice, etc.) implementation. In January 2023, Eastern Washington University's executive leadership team and President approved a 5-Year ADR whole campus proposal. Working within the Student Rights and Responsibilities office, I am collaborating with campus partners on reframing what our office emulates, values, and promotes, changing our Washington Administrative Code to allow for ADR processes as part of the student conduct process, providing professional development opportunities for staff and faculty to learn conflict resolution and management skills, etc.



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9:50am-10:50am

EVENT # 15

Riverfront A

PAPER PRESENTATIONS: Criminal Justice Potpourri

Chair: Jennifer Noble, California State University, Sacramento

Exploring the Benefits of Embedding Financial Literacy into Criminal Justice Courses

Jennifer Noble, California State University, Sacramento

Mercedes Valadez, California State University, Sacramento

Over the past few years, young adults have become increasingly at risk of falling victim to financial scams. College students are targeted for financial aid scams, fake employment opportunities, among other forms of predatory online scams. College courses can serve to provide students with fundamental lifelong skills that they may not have previously developed at home or pre-college, including basic financial literacy skills and knowledge. While economics and finance courses have traditionally served this purpose, this presentation will address how class-based projects in criminal justice courses can serve to build lifelong financial literacy knowledge among undergraduate students in a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI).

Holistic Preservation Assessment: Combining Human Safety, Animal-Well Being, Environmental Awareness, and Wildfire Safety

Matthew DeGarmo, Gonzaga University

The "Holistic Preservation Assessment" is a novel strategy of combining crime prevention through environmental design with the areas of animal well-being, environmental awareness, and wildfire safety. Through service-learning, the project teams college students with historically underserved youth and law enforcement officers to conduct assessments of right-to-rest areas and non-profit organizations (particularly animal shelters). The overall approach will be discussed, along with the current progress of the ongoing project; including completed assessments of Human Society facilities.

They Still Hang Horse Thieves, Don't They?

David Sexton, Great Basin College

A look at modern day cattle rustling and the agricultural police officers, brand inspectors and sheriff deputies that attempt to corral the varmints. Crime scenes focus on the high desert of the Great Basin region of Nevada, Oregon and Idaho. Investigators and suspects play out a cat and mouse game over thousands of miles of dusty back roads, relying on low-tech cattle brands to high tech satellite tracking tags. Annual profits or losses can be in the millions of dollars.

11:00am-11:45am

EVENT # 16

Riverfront A

PAPER PRESENTATIONS: Research on Indigenous Peoples and Colorism

Chair: Vikki Carpenter, Heritage University



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Mapping the Way Home: A Literature Analysis of MMIWG2S

Emilie Christopher, Washington State University

The fairly short history of research in Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW), Girls, and Two-Spirit persons, abbreviated henceforth as MMIWG2S, has broached several facets of the epidemic, though little has occurred about using databases and geographic information systems in locating and identifying these women. Prior literature, while limited, has touched on evaluating the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUS), who has a small virtual branch of the official United States Department of Justice website dedicated to MMIWG2S. Likewise, any research done on MMIWG2S is focused mainly on the United States and Canada, two countries where the issue is most prominent, and most prominently providing research. This study aims to provide a review on 23 pieces of literature surrounding the use of databases and GIS on MMIWG2S in the United States of America and Canada. This review furthermore aims to explore the gap in research surrounding the use of databases and GIS in studying MMIWG2S. Results of this study are pending, though notable trends in the lack of in-depth and widespread MMIWG2S database research have appeared.

Beyond the Linear Model: A Discussion of the Complexities of Colorism in Criminal Justice

Vikki Carpenter, Heritage University

Colorism, coined by Alice Walker (1982), refers to privilege of light skinned individuals within Black communities. Although this definition sparked a create deal of discussion, there is a great deal more to be understood. Using an intersectional lens, the goal of this discussion will be to move beyond the linear understanding, showing the complexities of this phenomenon, while demonstrating its applicability to policy and programs within the criminal justice system.

11:50am

CLOSING REMARKS

Riverfront A

Shaun Gann, 2023-2024 WACJ President