

# ANZSOC Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 1 March 2008

## From the desk of the President

In the lull between the 2007 conference and gearing up for activities in 2008, I can highlight key activities and decisions of 2007 and what we can look forward to in 2008.

### *ANZSOC's role in the university Research Quality Framework (RQF)*

The Society took part in several major RQF activities during 2007, responding to Department of Education,



Science, and Training (DEST) requests. Whilst the RQF is not now to be implemented, with the federal election in November 2007, the Society's work will continue to be of significance in the future national quality framework.

First, I was asked to send Society representatives to a July 2007 meeting in Canberra to address the panel specific requirements for Panel 11, one of thirteen disciplinary panels identified by DEST. Panel 11 includes criminology and law. Society members attending were Mark Brown, Rod Broadhurst, and Mark Israel. Although DEST expected peak body representatives to attend the meeting, it offered no support for airfares or accommodation.

Second, in August, I was asked to nominate major international scholars and end users to be part of Panel 11. Consulting with many members in criminology and law, I contacted 18 people, nine of whom put themselves forward for nomination. I was pleased to learn that one of the Society's nominees, David Solomon, was selected by DEST.

(cont'd p.2)

## Criminology bibliometrics: how do we rank our journals?

by Kathleen Daly

A round robin process of ranking journals and publishers took place during September to November 2007, part of the DEST's Research Quality Framework (RQF). ANZSOC members participated, with Mark Brown coordinating the task, and I worked with him. The report is available on the ANZSOC website. The review raised several concerns. The most highly ranked journals and publishers were not based in Australia, and the rankings seemed to reflect a bias towards mainstream, often quantitative and non-critical, publishing outlets. Further, the rankings did not adequately recognise cross-disciplinary or novel work.

Although the RQF exercise is no longer operative in the Rudd government, it is likely that bibliometrics will figure in any future similar exercise. Thus, we wanted to make the rankings available to everyone now. I want to express my appreciation to all those who participated in this first effort to construct Australian criminology bibliometrics, and especially to Mark for coordinating the activity. Excerpts from the report follow.

*DEST required journals and publishers to be ranked into four quality tiers. Key to this was a percentage system whereby each tier would comprise a set proportion of the total number of journals and publishers. The tiers were as follows: A\* (top 5%; or more than about 5 to 6 journals, or 3 publishers), A (next 15%, no more than 15 journals, or 9 publishers), B (next 30%, no more than 25 journals, or 18 publishers) and C (remaining 50%). They also provided guidelines for the ranking process. First, an expert panel was to be established to produce a first "rough cut" ranking. Second, that ranking was to be*

(cont'd p.3)

### Contents

President's Report	1, 2	Postgrad and Early Career Activities	10
Criminology Biometrics	1, 3	Profiling Early Career Researchers	11
ANZSOC Awards	2	Editorial Report ANZJournal of Criminology	12
Reflections on 2007 ANZSOC Conference	4	The Stockholm Prize	12
The Presidential Lecture and Panel	6	What's happening in Criminology?	13
Secretary's Report	8	Conferences	15
ANZSOC Conference 2008	8	ANZSOC Committee of Management	16
Member Profile - Sharon Pickering	9	ANZSOC Contact details	16

## President's Report (cont'd from p.1)

Third, I was asked in September to assist DEST in developing criminology bibliometrics. I appointed Mark Brown to coordinate this activity, and many Society members participated (see story). The considerable effort by me and other Society members is not in vain because elements of the RQF will likely feature in the government's proposed Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) framework.

### Membership fees

The Committee of Management agreed that membership fees must be increased incrementally, beginning with the renewal in 2007. This decision was reviewed and ratified at the 2007 AGM in Adelaide. A review of the costs of the journal, together with services such as student conferences, the Newsletter, sponsorship of prizes, and other activities, shows that unless we increase fees, we will lose significant revenue each year. Further information on membership fee increases for 2008 will be provided to members.

### The Journal

A significant development in 2007 was the re-negotiation of our contract with Australian Academic Press (AAP) to publish the journal. Paul Mazerolle and I received proposals from other potential publishers, one of which was quite attractive. In time and after several meetings, AAP made a strong counter offer, which we accepted. The new contract adds to the journal's revenue stream and strengthens the journal's standing. The journal's reputation continues to grow in submissions, stature, and citations (see story by the Journal Editor).

### Our students

The Postgraduate Student conference, held a day before the start of the Adelaide conference was a great success (see story). A report on the conference is available at the ANZSOC website, and I thank Nadine McKillop, PG representative, for her contribution. Plans are underway for a similar activity on Tuesday, 25 November 2008, the day before the 2008 Canberra Conference. Over the past several years, there have been student-led conferences in Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane, many of them supported by ANZSOC. A benefit of a pre-ANZSOC conference postgraduate activity is that it brings together students who live in other areas, where the student base is too low to support a major postgraduate activity.

Mentors, supervisors, and others working with postgraduate and early career researchers must play an active role in nominating individuals for the New Scholar Prize and the Student Paper Prize. Please take a moment to review the eligibility criteria at the ANZSOC website and be pro-active in the nomination process.

### Conference firsts: from Adelaide to Canberra

The 2007 conference was a first, in being the first ANZSOC conference was held in Adelaide. There were many highlights at the conference (see story), but for me, two things stand out. First, all the plenaries had great vitality and intellectual coherence. I was especially pleased to hear the first Presidential

Speaker, Mark Finnane's address, and the panel discussion following (see story and pictures). Second, it was delightful to work with co-convenors Rick Sarre and Andrew Goldsmith in bringing a greater Society presence to the conference.

The 2008 conference is also a first: the first to be held in Canberra. Mark your calendars for 26-28 November, with a program of social activities the day after, on Saturday, 29 November. First Vice-President and a conference organiser, Russell Smith, has been mentioning hot air balloon trips as one social activity. How appropriate for Australia's capital city, even with a change in government.

Kathleen Daly, President, ANZSOC



The Chief Justice of South Australia, John Doyle CJ, addresses the 2007 Conference Dinner at the Adelaide Town Hall

## ANZSOC Awards 2008

**Student Paper Prize:** Sole author, member of the Society or resident of Australia or New Zealand, 8,000 words maximum (including references), submitted for examination between 1 November 2006 and 31 October 2007 as part of an undergraduate, Honours, or Masters coursework program. Candidates nominated by their faculty advisor.

**New Scholar Prize:** Sole author, member of the Society or resident of Australia or New Zealand, refereed journal publication, appeared in print or electronically for online publications between 1 November 2006 and 31 October 2007. Candidates may self-nominate.

**Allen Austin Bartholomew Award:** Article published in Vol. 40 (2007) *ANZJCrIm*.

Deadline for nominations: Friday 16 May 2008, submitted by email to the ANZSOC Secretary, [damon.muller@anu.edu.au](mailto:damon.muller@anu.edu.au).

See the Society's website at [www.anzsoc.org](http://www.anzsoc.org) for details of eligibility and entry: [www.anzsoc.org](http://www.anzsoc.org).

## Bibliometrics (cont'd from p.1)

sent to the discipline for comment, feedback and, if necessary, claims for re-ranking of some journals. Finally, the project coordinator with assistance from the expert panel would review discipline feedback and produce the final bibliometric.

An "expert panel" was selected which, after a number of declined invitations due to work commitments and suchlike, comprised the following: Chris Cunneen (UNSW), Kathy Daly & Paul Mazerolle (Griffith), Mark Brown (Melbourne), Mark Finnane (Griffith, publishers only), Peter Grabosky (ANU), Mark Israel & Andrew Goldsmith (Flinders), Toni Makkai (AIC), Jude McCulloch (Monash), and Pat O'Malley (Sydney)

DEST stipulated that the ranking should be of criminology and criminal justice research outlets, not of those outlets in which Australian criminologists may regularly publish; and the ranking is of "quality," not of importance (e.g., "it is important that we promote Australian outlets"), influence (e.g., "it is read by 10,000 probation officers"), or venerability (e.g., "it is the oldest journal in criminology").

The list of journals circulated to the expert panel also contained information provided by the Research Evaluation and Policy Project (REPP) from the ANU, the journal's ISI impact factor, and UQ rankings (these was supplied by DEST). To these we added the recently released University of Maryland rankings. This information was provided to assist the expert group, and we assumed that DEST would have an eye to it when reviewing the final set of rankings.

Rankings provided by the expert panel were then collated by Mark Brown to form the "first cut" ranking. During this process it was decided that although it was possible to rank publishers in four categories, it was not meaningful nor useful to adopt DEST's stringent percentage criteria for the number of publishers in each category.

The expert panel's journal ranking was circulated widely to criminology department heads or program leaders for comment (numbering over 20 people), including a pro forma to be completed for cases where their group wished a journal to be considered for re-ranking. Two important points were emphasised. First, it was noted that this sort of process would always generate different opinions about journals' relative standing. However, what was required was a sense of whether or not things looked broadly right, that certain journals had not been egregiously under or over rated. Second, it was pointed out that DEST's intention was for this exercise to serve as a basis for future development, so that over time we might see changes in these rankings.

The creation of this first Criminology Bibliometric has been an informative, although at times challenging, process. Based on the responses of the expert panel and the wider discipline, most people are satisfied with the results and the process has gone smoothly. The resulting metric provides insight how Australian criminologists view the journal outlets in which we publish our work.

## Journal rankings

*Note:* DEST sent the Society 143 journals to rank, to which we added five. The list of 148 was circulated, and four more were added by members of the expert panel, for a total of 152. A total of 112 journals were ranked, and an additional 12 were proposed to move to other disciplinary groups. Some 28 journals were unknown by the members of the expert panel and could not be ranked.

Criminology draws on many disciplines. Other disciplinary areas (such as psychology, history, law, politics, Indigenous studies, etc.) will have developed their own rankings, and Society members need to consult with the respective learned societies.

## Publisher rankings

See the full Report for the publisher rankings.

## Reference

Brown, Mark and Kathleen Daly (2007) *Report on Criminology Bibliometrics Development*. Australian & New Zealand Society of Criminology Report: available at [www.anzsoc.org](http://www.anzsoc.org)

### Rank A\* (N=6)

British Journal of Criminology  
Crime and Justice: A Review of Research  
Criminology  
Law and Society Review  
Punishment and Society  
Theoretical Criminology

### Rank A (N=15)

Advances in Criminological Theory  
Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology  
Crime & Delinquency  
Criminal Justice  
Criminal Justice and Behavior  
Criminology & Criminal Justice: an international journal  
Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology  
Journal of Law and Society  
Journal of Quantitative Criminology  
Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency  
Justice Quarterly  
Law and Policy  
Law and Social Inquiry  
Policing and Society  
Social and Legal Studies

### Rank B (N=24)

Acta Criminologica  
Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice  
Crime Law and Social Change  
Crime Media Culture  
Crime Prevention and Community Safety  
Criminology and Public Policy  
Critical Criminology  
Current Issues in Criminal Justice  
European Journal of Criminology  
Feminist Criminology  
Homicide Studies: an interdisciplinary & international journal  
Howard Journal of Criminal Justice  
International Journal of the Sociology of Law  
International Review of Victimology  
Journal of Criminal Justice  
Journal of Experimental Criminology  
Law and Contemporary Problems  
Police Practice and Research: an international journal  
Police Quarterly  
Policing: a journal of policy and practice (Oxford)  
Social Justice: a journal of crime, conflict, and world order  
Trends and Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice  
Violence Against Women  
Youth Justice

See the full Report for C ranked journals (N=67) and those proposed to move to another disciplinary area.

## Reflections on Building Bridges: the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual ANZSOC Conference

From Joy Wundersitz, Kathleen Daly, and Marietta Martinovic

The 20th Annual Conference was attended by over 260 delegates from not only Australia and New Zealand but from the USA, UK, Canada, India, Malaysia, Nepal, France, Taiwan, Poland, and South Africa.

The conference provided many highlights including the keynote address provided by Professor John Braithwaite who spoke on peace building in the Asian-Pacific region, the Ray Whitrod Oration, delivered by AFP Commissioner Mick Keelty, and the address by South Australia's Chief Justice, The Hon John Doyle AC at the conference dinner.

As with all ANZSOC conferences, the program itself was very concentrated. Almost 200 papers were presented, with topics ranging from the more conventional ones (such as drugs and crime, ethnicity and crime, and juvenile justice) through to the emerging issues of peace building and terrorism. Twenty-eight papers (national and international) went through a refereeing process and were accepted for inclusion in a special 2007/08 web-based issue of the Flinders Journal of Law Reform.

Conference delegates also enjoyed a welcome reception at the newly opened Hawke Building at the University of South Australia, the conference dinner and dance, held in the gracious setting of the Adelaide Town Hall, and an informal drinks and nibbles session after the Ray Whitrod Oration.

The Organising Committee would like to thank all those who attended the conference and who provided generous sponsorship, the professional conference organisers and university professional staff. We wish the Australian Institute of Criminology, who are hosting the 21st ANZSOC conference in Canberra later this year, all the best in that enterprise.

Joy Wundersitz



Joy Wundersitz and the Organising Committee: Rick Sarre, Andrew Goldsmith, Nichole Hunter, Marinella Marmo and Sue King – seen here breathing more easily at the concluding Ice Cream Social.

The 2007 ANZSOC conference in Adelaide was truly historical: it was the Society's 20<sup>th</sup> conference in a year in which the Society was celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding. It was the first time the conference was held in Adelaide. The Local Organizing Committee members (Rick Sarre and Andrew Goldsmith, co-convenors, and Sue King, Joy Wundersitz, Nichole Hunter, and Marinella Marmo) were drawn from the University of South Australia, Flinders University, and the Department of Justice.

Elliott Johnston, National Commissioner for the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, spoke at the Welcome Reception. The Reception marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1967 Referendum to include Aboriginal people in the federal census and to give the Commonwealth power to make laws regarding Aboriginal people; and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Bringing Them Home Report* on the stolen generations.

The conference had several firsts. It had the first ANZSOC-sponsored Presidential Speaker, who was Mark Finnane. He marked the Society's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary by giving us a sense of its early years and the aspirations of its founders. This was followed by a panel discussion, with some early founders (Duncan Chappell and David Biles) reminiscing on a more activist criminology in the late 1960s (see story and photo). Another first was a pre-conference PG conference, organized and run by PG students and held at Flinders, which provided students the opportunity to present and discuss their work in a supportive and friendly environment. Dean Wilson, Lyn Hinds, Mark Israel, and Nadine McKillop deserve special mention for their efforts in planning and running the conference.



Ross Homel accepting the Bartholomew Award from Kathleen Daly, Adelaide Town Hall, 25 September

At the conference dinner, it was a pleasure to give the Bartholomew Prize for best paper published in the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology* in 2006, to Ross Homel, for his paper with Alan France on youth pathways into and out of crime (see picture). It was also a pleasure to announce that Lyn Hinds received the New Scholar award, although she could not be present to receive it.

The dinner was set in the historic Town Hall, with its extraordinary pipe organ dominating the stage. We didn't get to hear the organ, but there was a terrific band, which brought criminologists to the dance floor for several hours.



I organized a panel, 'What's in a name?' to spark discussion about the Society's identity. Specifically, I asked, what is it that the Society does, or that is part of the conference or the journal, that is, or should be, about things Australian or New Zealand? The participants included Janet Chan, John Pratt, Cindy Smith, and Paul Mazerolle. Spirited discussion ensued on Janet Chan's argument that we didn't need to have Australian or New Zealand in our name!

Many participants would say that the best part of the conference is at the end, when all those buckets of ice cream come rolling out. The Ice Cream Social, which began in 2002 when the Key Centre and the School of CCJ hosted the conference in Brisbane, has now become a fixture. Sponsored by the American Society of Criminology, the Ice Cream Social keeps people through the last session, brings out participants' children and other family members, and ends the conference on a wonderfully warm buzz.

**Kathleen Daly, Griffith University**



ANZSOC officers and committee members, taking a break from the conference dinner, Adelaide Town Hall, 25 September 2007. L to R first row: Rick Sarre, Rebecca Wickes, Kathy Daly, Russell Smith, Roberta Julian, Mike Rowe; second row: Matthew Willis, Gail Mason, Bronwyn Naylor; third row: Frank Morgan and Paul Mazerolle

I have presented at many international criminology conferences but this was the first ANZSOC Conference I had attended. It was by far the most thoughtfully organised event, with great plenary speakers, excellent centrally-located venues, terrific food and wine, a very entertaining conference dinner and dance - and we were even given a free ticket to a criminological movie.

Two of my students, Ms Liana Benini who completed a BA (Criminal Justice) (Honours) and Ms Tarmi A'Vard who is currently doing a Master of Arts (Applied Criminology) at RMIT University accompanied me to Adelaide to present their research at the Postgraduate Criminology Student Conference. Whilst they were somewhat apprehensive about presenting in front of their peers the conference organisers ensured that the students felt at ease. A day before their presentation they met the other students at a dinner. The Student Conference was held at Flinders University where a number of prominent criminologists respectfully led the discussions and where refreshments were provided for the day. Both students believed that the entire experience was really valuable - they felt empowered, and truly a part of a 'bigger research picture'. Both were inspired to undertake further study and attend future ANZSOC conferences. Well done to the organisers in Adelaide!

**Marietta Martinovic, RMIT University**



Marietta Martinovic and Liana Benini outside the Adelaide Convention Centre

### Postgraduate students and supervisors

The ANZSOC sponsors a scheme of two research seminars per year, at \$500 each, to support post-graduate activities in Australia and New Zealand. (See QUT story below.)

Applications are granted on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to the condition that every application needs to be costed and two subsidies cannot be granted to the same institution in the same year.

Applications should be directed to the ANZSOC Secretary, Damon Muller

**Phone:** +61 2 6125 8595 **or Email:** [damon.muller@anu.edu.au](mailto:damon.muller@anu.edu.au)

## The first ANZSOC Presidential Lecture and Panel discussion

The inaugural Presidential Address was given by Professor Mark Finnane at the 2007 ANZSOC conference. He spoke of the historical context of the Society in his presentation entitled 'Promoting the theory and practice of criminology: the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology and its founding moment'. Mark Finnane's paper is to be published in the ANZJCrIm later in 2008.

A Panel of criminologists responded to his address. The panelists were, left to right: Mark Israel, Lizzy Stanley, Kate Warner, David Biles, and Duncan Chappell.



### Some Panel comments

*David Biles - Looking Forward and Looking Back*

Mark Finnane's brilliant paper has made me look back over the forty years since this Society was formed in Melbourne in October 1967. It also brought home to me the fallibility of human memory, as I had completely forgotten that Duncan Chappell was present at the inaugural meeting of the Society. I apologise to Duncan for that. In the light of that lapse I recognise that anything else I say about that period may also be suspect.

The most obvious change between 1967 and 2007 is the number of people calling themselves criminologists. My guess is that in 1967 no more than ten or a dozen people in the whole of Australia would have recorded their occupation as 'criminologist' in their census forms. My second guess is that, in 2007, probably between 200 and 300 people would be happy to record their occupation as criminologist.

In those early days criminology was brash, argumentative, and always controversial. Duncan Chappell was in Sydney on television at least every second night with something provocative to say, and Paul Wilson in Brisbane on television every single night being equally confident about the need for reforms in the criminal justice system. At the same time I was in Melbourne limping along behind these two media stars, only appearing on television about once a fortnight. We might not have always been right in our views, but the three of us, and others who later joined the media circus, undoubtedly made a contribution to the public debate on difficult and

controversial issues; and sometimes this may have prompted changes to government policies.

In stark contrast, it seems to me that criminology today has lost something. It is certainly more professional, more productive and more sophisticated, but it is also more cautious, less abrasive and less challenging. It has also become extremely shy about making public comment. I learned just this morning that the Australian Institute of Criminology is now required to refer all media enquiries to the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department before it makes comment! Criminology has become respectable, comfortable and safe.

This may be because many criminologists now are employed by government agencies, and many in university positions are recipients of government research grants or have links with criminal justice agencies. Perhaps that is a good thing, as their knowledge and research findings can have a direct input into the formulation of relevant policy. But who is left to try to influence the views of the man in the street? I would note that there is currently a proposal for the Society itself to make formal media comments on issues of public interest.

As has been mentioned by Mark, our Society was established largely as a home for the Journal, which Allen Bartholomew edited. His twelve-year editorship was a very personal enterprise and he can be criticised on many grounds. It is worth remembering, however, that without his enthusiasm and diligence we may not have had a Society, or the widely respected journal we have now, for another 20 years.

Finally, a comment about the international influences on the creation of the Society and the AIC as mentioned by Mark. There can be no doubt that the United Nations, and a number of individual scholars, were influential. I have the impression, however, that in the 1960s and 70s we had more distinguished international scholars visit Australia than happens today. I may well be wrong, but I can recall several annual general meetings of the Society which included a public lecture by an international celebrity as an attraction for members to attend the meeting. Alas, it seems that the days of the public lecture have well and truly been lost as a means of communication and, more importantly, as a source of inspiration.

*Kate Warner - looking back: a somewhat self-indulgent and personal memoir.*

I came to criminology gently through Criminal Law and Sentencing. Forty years ago, at the 'founding moment' of the Society, I was a teenage 'hoon's' Sheila (noting the Attorney General's comments about Adelaide 'hoons'). I was also an 18 year-old second-year law student in an old-fashioned straight law, black-letter law degree at the University of Tasmania that offered no optional subjects. As a part-time tutor in the Law Faculty in the 1970s I enrolled in an LLM and chose as my topic 'the use of psychiatric reports in sentencing', my interest in sentencing having been aroused by a stint as a judge's associate.

One of my examiners was Norval Morris, who I was later to meet when he came to Tasmania and gave a

public lecture in 1982 based on his book *Madness and the Criminal Law*. During his visit I drove him Risdon Prison. Much to my dismay and despite his protests the Prison Governor refused to let me accompany them on a tour on the grounds that being a woman I might create a disciplinary event.

By 1981 I was teaching criminal law and criminology at the University and I had become interested in victims of rape and sex offences law reform. A defining moment was attending an AIC national conference on rape law reform in May 1980, organised by Jocelyne Scutt, later published as Scutt (ed) (1980) *Rape Law Reform*, AIC. In my undergraduate criminal law studies I had accepted the focus on fairness to the accused and given no thought to the victim. To now hear rape myths exploded, and to appreciate the ordeal a rape victim had to go through in a rape trial had a lasting impact on me. This was a time when rape was defined as carnal knowledge without consent with 'a woman not his wife'; when police were still trained to be sceptical about the authenticity of rape complaints, and when cross-examination of a victim about sex with other men was admissible as being relevant to the victim's credibility, because if a woman was not chaste she was not truthful.

Criminology in the late 1970s-early 1980s was the study of criminals who 'happened mainly to be men'. The male criminal was being studied, without any interest in his maleness. As Naffine was later to put it in *Feminism and Criminology* (1997, Allen & Unwin), 'the male question was ignored'. Gender was only relevant when female criminals were discussed. One of the criminological discussions about female offenders at the time was the attempt to explain the rising rate in female crime from the 1960s onwards. Freda Adler argued that women's emancipation was responsible for the rise, an argument that Kerry Carrington revisited in an article last year in our journal: 'Does Feminism Spoil Girls?'

So I came to criminology gently through Criminal Law and Sentencing. I'm not much of a criminologist, but I have been inspired by so many of you, and my work in law reform, criminal law and sentencing has been enormously enriched by my exposure to this discipline.

#### *Lizzy Stanley - Looking forward to a more engaged criminology*

Forty years ago, the society was established to be a scholarly group that was 'not simply a hand servant of government'. As a number of criminologists (such as Dave Whyte, Steve Tombs and Reece Walters) have recently observed, this kind of independence is now under pressure.

University knowledge is increasingly market-led and commodified. For instance, in May 2007, New Zealand's Tertiary Education Minister (and Deputy Prime Minister) Michael Cullen spelt out that in return for governmental financial support, universities would be expected to attend to the specific needs of business, industry and government. In this context, opportunities to obtain funding that is free from strings, imposed boundaries or controls may well become even more difficult.

Of course, we have also moved into the realm of research assessment. The PBRF in NZ, the RQF in

Australia and the RAE in the UK each have the task of classifying and categorizing research outputs. Research 'success' depends on often unclear decisions about quality - Is the work in the right journal? Has the academic connected with other quality academics? Have they attracted external funding? ...and so on.

Against this backdrop, the independence of criminologists - for instance, to engage in community based work or campaigning, or to choose to undertake work that might not find an already established audience - may well be compromised. Certainly, from conversations I have had with younger, emerging academics in the UK, it seems that many are taking strategic decisions to avoid work that does not count towards their RAE ranking. For many, career development is trumps.

So, what of our future? How can we retain and nourish critical or engaged independent work? It is vital that we continue to defend our autonomy and independence; that we create more encouraging spaces for emerging academics so that they feel supported in doing critical work. Given that we live and work in societies marked by crime and justice narratives that are punitive and discriminatory, it is also vital that we persist in our attempts to make changes and to intervene in whatever ways we can - in law-making, policy-making, practice-making or discourse-making.

As someone who arrived in NZ from the UK just a few years ago, I have been heartened by the influence of human rights and international relations on the history and growth of antipodean criminology. Of course, some human rights ideas have not always been happily accepted - as Mark Finnane details, Norval Morris viewed an International Court of Human Rights as a utopian institution. How things change! While, for now, we might gloss over some of the debates on the ICC's foundations and implementation, this example highlights a key point for me - that we should continue to explore utopian visions, to mark out where we want to go. I hope that criminology in this region might in the future take a stand, might be imaginative and transformative...and perhaps be a little more outrageous.



At the conclusion of the Session, a group photo was taken, which included Mark Finnane and Kathy Daly: left to right: *back row*: David Biles, Mark Israel, Mark Finnane. *front row*: Lizzy Stanley, Kathy Daly, Kate Warner, Duncan Chappell

## Secretary's Report

The most significant event in ANZSOC's calendar is the annual (semi-annual in some years) conference, which this year was held at the Adelaide Convention Centre in Adelaide. Whilst the conference was a successful event (see stories) it was also important for the society as the venue for the Annual General Meeting. The AGM is required to be held within five months of the end of the financial year, so it is very handy when the AGM can be held in conjunction with the conference.

As a result of this convenient conjunction, the AGM was held on the 25th of September, 2007, and was well attended, with 38 members and non-members present. One important item of business was the election of new members to the Committee of Management. A number of the existing members re-nominated; a number of new faces are now also included. In particular, I would like to welcome Gail Mason (NSW representative), Rebecca Wickes (Qld representative), Michael Rowe (2nd Vice President), and Nadine McKillop (Postgraduate representative). Interested readers can see the minutes on the ANZSOC web site, [www.anzsoc.com.au](http://www.anzsoc.com.au).

The new representatives demonstrate that the ANZSOC Committee of Management is far from being a 'closed shop'. If you feel you have something to offer the society, please consider nominating for a position when they again become vacant. Nomination forms are circulated with the AGM agenda each year.

The next AGM will again be held in conjunction with the society's conference in Canberra from 25-28 November, which is being hosted by the Australian Institute of Criminology. Put it in your diary, and make every effort to attend.

In other news, members now have the option to receive an electronic, tree-friendly, copy of the journal, thanks to our publisher Australian Academic Press. This is a particularly cost-effective option for overseas members. When new members join the society we attempt to furnish them with back issues of the journal they have missed. However where there is an insufficient back issues available, electronic access to the journal may be provided instead. If you join particularly late in the subscription year your membership will be forward-dated to the next subscription year. As always - if you have any questions regarding membership or your journal subscription, please let me know.

Damon Muller, Secretary, ANZSOC

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### ANZSOC Conference 2008 - Criminology: Linking, theory, policy and practice

For the first time in the history of the Society, the annual conference will be held in Canberra. The 21st conference will be held from Wednesday 26 to Friday 28 November 2008 at the National Convention Centre, Canberra. It will be preceded by a graduate student conference on Tuesday 25 November to be held at the Australian Institute of Criminology, and for those wishing to experience another side of Canberra, a program of social activities will follow the conference on Saturday 29 November.

The academic theme of the conference, which derives from its location in the nation's capital, is 'Linking theory, policy and practice'. The conference will be arranged around a number of streams with each of the themes of 'Theory', 'Policy' and 'Practice' being represented in each stream. The aim is to explore ways in which these themes can be linked in the context of each subject-specific stream.

It is proposed that the streams will cover indigenous issues, women and the criminal justice system (including questions of human rights and trafficking), financial and technology-enabled crime (particularly focussing on global developments in crime control and regulation), and victimology.

A number of Special Panels will also be used to explore particular topics of interest including the effects of technology on young people, evidence-based criminal justice, and a lunchtime panel session that will explore the future trends of criminological research. Depending on the nature of topics proposed by presenters, further streams may be added.

A call for papers will be published and details of keynote speakers available from April 2008. Further information is available at [www.anzsoc.org/conferences/2008](http://www.anzsoc.org/conferences/2008).

The ANZSOC Newsletter profiles people currently influencing Australian and New Zealand criminology. The Editor and Communications Sub-Committee welcome suggestions for subjects for future issues.

## Member Profile: Sharon Pickering

*Leanne Weber profiles Sharon Pickering, Associate Professor at Monash University*

Sharon Pickering was always destined to stand out from the crowd, whether because of the sheer originality and impact of her criminological work, her penchant for colourful pashmina scarves, or her occasional displays (according to a reliable source) of 'very big hair' at ANZSOC conferences.

Sharon comes from a long line of energetic and strong minded women. Coming from regional Victoria, she gained early inspiration from the family matriarchs who saw in the CWA an opportunity for real public engagement that went beyond the baking of pumpkin scones. Sharon graduated from Australia's first fully fledged criminology degree at Melbourne University, and cites Christine Alder, Ken Polk, Rob White, Arie Frieberg and Penny Green as 'profound influences' on her professional life. Having initially contemplated a career in engineering, Sharon was attracted to criminology because, in her words, criminologists 'spoke in complete sentences, did not need to draw diagrams to make a point and seemed to be concerned with pressing social questions'.

Although she comes from a long line of 'can-do' women who could doubtless turn their hand to anything, I find it difficult to picture the young Sharon as an engineering student, hanging out in 'lecture theatres full of flannel check shirts'. No-one who has seen her in full flight, passionately espousing the importance of community engagement to a conference full of counter terrorism police, could doubt Sharon's capacity to breach the most impregnable of male bastions. But what is more difficult to square with that early career choice is the deep human insight and rich literary quality that later became the hallmark of her criminological writing.

Sharon has already created a legacy that defies her relative youth. Guided by a critical perspective and feminist politics, she has charted the experiences of women and policing in Northern Ireland, the struggles of women for human rights in South East Asia, the criminalization of refugees in Australia, state expressions of sovereignty through border control, and the challenges of counter terrorism policing in plural societies. Uniting this body of work has been the determination to confront the 'extreme powers of the state', in doing which Sharon has set a standard for combining the roles of academic and activist.

In addition to this programme of highly original research, Sharon has applied her considerable energy to her former role as book editor of the ANZ journal,

taken on high level challenges in university administration, and continued to grow as an innovative teacher. Her career has been truly global in its reach, producing an entourage of similarly enthusiastic graduate students and a network of close colleagues stretching from Northcote to North London and Northern Arizona, who speak in hushed tones of Sharon's 'legendary research skills' and her terrier-like persistence in pursuit of research data.

But Sharon's enormous energy has extended well beyond the boundaries of her own career to provide intellectual leadership to others at a transnational level. Sharon has teamed with Jude McCulloch at Monash University to develop a dynamic environment for graduate students and to facilitate transnational collaboration as co-convenors of the Prato Roundtable Series on Transnational Crime at the Monash campus in Italy. Word has it that an invitation to Prato is becoming one of the hottest tickets in Australian critical criminology.



Somewhere amid this flurry of professional activity, Sharon has found the time to form a family consisting of Tom, Wesley and Amelia. Through all this she has barely missed a beat. Wesley and Amelia are destined to grow up knowing their

way around a conference hotel, possessing a healthy balance of frequent flyer points, and having a keen awareness of the advantages they possess in being able to accumulate them.

One American colleague tells the tale of taking Sharon to visit the Grand Canyon and encountering one of the rare cloudy days when the spectacular sight was shrouded in fog. Sharon reportedly walked to the edge, peered into the abyss, and proclaimed that she'd always suspected the whole thing was just a Hollywood movie set. This is a telling image of Sharon; walking fearlessly to the edge, looking into the depths, and always seeking a fresh, and irreverent, interpretation.

As a sometime collaborator with Sharon, and a beneficiary of her generosity and support, working with Sharon has never been dull, it will always be rewarding, and it is sometimes nothing short of inspirational. And I don't doubt that the best is yet to come.

*I would like to thank the friends and colleagues who demonstrated their admiration for Sharon Pickering and her work by contributing their observations and anecdotes to assist in the writing of this tribute.*

*Leanne Weber, Senior Lecturer, University of New South Wales*

## Postgraduate and Early-Career Researcher Activities

### The ANZSOC Student and Early Career Researcher Sub-Committee

ANZSOC wants to encourage and support postgraduate criminology students. The subcommittee addressing this group is composed of Roberta Julian (Uni of Tas - Chair), Gail Mason (Un of Sydney), Nadine McKillop (Griffith University), and Rebecca Wickes (Uni of Qld). For further information about the activities of the ANZSOC Postgraduate Subcommittee please contact Dr Roberta Julian at [roberta.julian@utas.edu.au](mailto:roberta.julian@utas.edu.au)

### Reflections on the first annual ANZSOC Postgraduate Research Conference

I presented my research, 'Moving Up the Ranks: An examination of gender differences in the Queensland Police Service', at the ANZSOC Postgraduate Conference in Adelaide in September 2007. Having only recently finished my honours year, I was a little nervous about presenting my work in a public forum for the first time, but found I had nothing to worry about.

My fellow postgraduate students and I presented our research in an environment which can only be described as a 'room full of friends', who showed interest by asking relevant questions and offering praise. We met over lunch as well, and developed networks with students from all over Australia.

My nerves eased with my presentation done, and I looked forward to the official opening of the 2007 annual ANZSOC conference.

Walking around the Adelaide Convention Centre, I was awed to see researchers whose work I had read and cited as an undergraduate and honours student. It was even more inspiring to listen to the amazing research being presented. With seven concurrent sessions I found myself wishing that I could be in two and even three places at once.

As well as attending presentations and staffing the ANZSOC information table, I did manage a few tourist type activities. I bought lots of Haigh's Chocolate and visited Oliver, Horatio, Truffles, and Augusta, the golden pigs in Adelaide's Rundall mall.

The first ANZSOC Postgraduate Conference and the 2007 ANZSOC Conference were really exciting events and I'm looking forward to meeting up with new friends and colleagues at the 2008 ANZSOC Conference in Canberra.

Denise Foster, Faculty of Law  
Queensland University of Technology

### QUT Crime, Law and Society Postgraduate Research Conference

Queensland University of Technology School of Justice hosted its first interdisciplinary gathering of postgraduate students, criminal justice professionals, and academics in November 2007. Dr. Mark Lauchs and Dr. Angela Dwyer, who had recently completed

their own PhDs, gave plenary speeches discussing strategies for the successful completion of postgraduate research. Dr. Alan McAlpine provided practical tips on seeking employment and achieving other professional goals after completing postgraduate research.

Three diverse streams of sessions followed. *Courts and the Law* included the construction of lesbian mothers in the Family Court, the cost of court delay in relation to juvenile justice, and the construction of the legal identity. *International Perspectives* included terrorist activity in the Philippines, the Singaporean legal framework for review of government procurement decisions, and the effects of modernisation on crime in Cambodia. In *Violence and Victims* risk factors for stalking violence, and the relationship between self-esteem, victimisation and offending within adolescents, were amongst the topics covered

Many Queensland universities were represented at the conference, including Queensland University of Technology, the University of Queensland, Griffith University, Canterbury College, and the University of Southern Queensland. Professional organisations were also represented, including Legal Aid, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and Court Services from the Department of Communities. This diverse mix provided constructive exposure of postgraduate students and their research projects both to senior academics in the field and to professional organisations.

Feedback from attendees was very positive and we are keen to plan another conference along the same lines in 2008. We would like to thank ANZSOC for its financial support. We also thank Professor Rod Broadhurst, Dr. Angela Dwyer, and Dr. Mark Lauchs from the QUT School of Justice, Amy Henderson, Kim Rasmussen and Melanie Gunn from the QUT Faculty of Law, Dr. Alan McAlpine from QUT Careers and Employment; and all the postgraduate students and delegates who attended.

Denise Foster and Matthew Ball, Postgrad Candidates, QUT School of Justice

### ANNOUNCING: the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ANZSOC Postgraduate and Early Career Research Conference, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2008, AIC Canberra.

Following the successful 2007 ANZSOC Postgraduate and Early Career Research Conference, planning has begun planning for another conference in 2008. This one-day conference will again give postgraduate and early career researchers the opportunity to showcase their research in a supportive, collegial environment. The 2008 ANZSOC Postgraduate and Early Career Research conference will again precede the main ANZSOC conference, held between 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November 2008, in Canberra. Keep checking the ANZSOC website for a call for submission of abstracts for the event.

## Profiling early-career criminology researchers

**Dr. Benoit Leclerc:** Visiting Research Scholar, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith University, and Research Centre Philippe-Pinel Institute of Montreal, Canada

I am a postdoctoral fellow conducting research with Professor Richard Wortley and Associate Professor Stephen Smallbone on crime analysis and situational prevention in child sexual offences at the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice. I won funds to complete my research project from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. I joined both the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance and the Violence Research and Prevention Program led by Professor Paul Mazerolle.

I obtained my PhD degree in 2006 at the School of Criminology, University of Montreal. At the same time I was involved, over three years, in clinical activities at the Philippe-Pinel Institute of Montreal. I was responsible for the assessment of sexual deviance of both adolescent and adult offenders. I also worked as a research assistant in several projects on sexual violence with both adolescent and adult offenders in Montreal, Canada, and lectured in criminology at the University of Montreal.

In 2005, I received a first place award for the best research on sexual offending at the *Congres International Francophone sur l'Aggression Sexuelle* (CIFAS - International French Annual Meeting on Sexual Offending). I have presented my work internationally, and recent articles have appeared in *Crime Prevention Studies*, *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, and *Criminal Justice and Behavior*. The main aim of my research is to better understand crime and offending patterns across the life-course, and to better inform prevention initiatives. My research interests include the process and structure of crime (crime analysis, crime scripts), rational choice and decision-making of offenders, life-course offending patterns, crime prevention, sexual offences, and interpersonal violence. I am enjoying being part of a great team in criminology here at Griffith University.

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[benoitlec@hotmail.com](mailto:benoitlec@hotmail.com)



**Tara Renae McGee,** School of Justice, Queensland University of Technology: My first sabbatical

I recently experienced for the first time one of the greatest pleasures of academic life: a sabbatical.

Since 2005 I have been a Lecturer at the Queensland University of Technology. My research is on developmental and life-course criminology, the field of my doctorate, which I completed with Professors Paul Mazerolle and Jake Najman.

I was encouraged by a colleague in the UK to apply for a British Academy Visiting Fellowship, and went to Cambridge in late 2005 for an interview with Professor Farrington - one of my favourite academics - about research possibilities. Although at times it seemed impossible, the planets aligned (and my thesis was submitted!) and I left for Cambridge in September 2007, with funding from the British Academy, the support of Professor Farrington and the University of Cambridge Institute of Criminology, leave from my university, and a home supplied by Wolfson College.



Professor David Farrington and Tara McGee

Professor Farrington provided me with access to the Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development data to study the phenomenon of adult-onset offending. It is a 'work in progress' but we are interested in those individuals who were first detected by the criminal justice system as adults. More specifically, we are investigating whether their offending can be truly characterised as having an adult onset or whether they had been offending previously without detection by the criminal justice system.

Being in Cambridge provided me with the opportunity to attend research seminars and conferences, and the time and space to think deeply about important criminological research questions. There is also something very different about being in a place like Cambridge, with such a strong sense of history and tradition. Some pretty amazing intellectuals walked the cobblestone paths I was walking: it was impossible not to be inspired to strive for greatness.

Email: [tr.mcgee@qut.edu.au](mailto:tr.mcgee@qut.edu.au)

## Editor's Report: ANZ Journal of Criminology

The past several months at the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology (ANZJC)* have been consumed with two issues that relate to the stature of the journal as well as it and the Society's viability over time, the RQF and the Journal's publisher. The good news is that the Research Quality Framework (RQF) process has prompted the Society to undertake a journal ranking exercise to provide guidance to the federal government overseeing the program. Whilst the RQF in its current form is no longer upon us, the next generation of the RQF appears to be placing increasing emphasis on the use of metrics to assess journal quality. Thus, it is important for the Society to undertake this exercise and the *ANZJC* has been reasonably rated in this process.

It is increasingly apparent that the RQF and its offspring will have an impact on journal submission rates. Prospective authors need to be selective and strategic with their choices, but I believe there are good reasons to consider sending your best work to the *ANZJC*. Our journal has a respectable rating for a regional journal, has forty years of tradition in showcasing criminological research with local and international relevance, and authors can expect a reasonable turnaround to receive editorial feedback on their papers.

The second highlight for the *ANZJC* is our negotiation of a new contract with Australian Academic Press. The Society has had a very productive working relationship with AAP and because of our successes we have been approached by a number of large international publishers. AAP has been very proactive and we have strengthened our partnership in ways that will materially assist the Society as it continues to professionalise in the future.

The next issue of the *ANZJC*, to be released in April 2008, is dedicated to **Current Approaches to Understanding Female Offending**. This collection of papers provides a unique opportunity to examine core aspects of female offending behaviour as well as the current thinking about appropriate interventions to prevent and control female offending. The papers comprising this edition of the journal (41.1) will include the following:

*Female violent offenders: Moral panics or more serious offenders?*

Candace Kruttschnitt, Rosemary Gartner, Jeannette Hussemann

*Battered women charged with homicide: Advancing the interests of Indigenous women*

Julie Stubbs and Julia Tolmie

*Working the code: On girls, gender, and inner city violence*

Nikki Jones

*Understanding women's pathways to jail: Analyzing the lives of incarcerated women*

Sally Simpson, Jennifer L. Castro and Laura Dugan

*Girls, peer violence and restorative justice*

Kathleen Daly

*Temporal, situational and interactional features of women's violent conflicts*

Christopher Mullins and Jody Miller

*Girls' troubles, girls' delinquency, and gender responsive programming: A review*

Meda Chesney-Lind, Merry Morash and Tia Stevens

Finally I want to pass along a special thanks to the authors and reviewers who continue to support the Journal. They certainly make my job easier.

Paul Mazerolle, Griffith University

## The Stockholm Prize in Criminology

The Stockholm Prize in Criminology was awarded for the first time in June 2006 in Stockholm, for 'outstanding achievements in criminological research or for the application of research results by practitioners for the reduction of crime and the advancement of human rights'.

The 2006 winners were John Braithwaite from ANU and Friedrich Lösel from Cambridge University (UK).

The 2008 Stockholm Prize in Criminology will be awarded to David Olds of the University of Colorado (USA) and Jonathan Shepherd of Cardiff University (UK) for their field experiments in policies for crime and injury prevention.

The prize will be awarded on June 17th, 2008. The award ceremony will take place during the international Stockholm Criminology Symposium, which is to be held June 16-18, 2008.



The winners of the Stockholm Prize in Criminology 2007 were Alfred Blumstein and Terrie E. Moffitt (on the picture together with H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden).

[http://www.criminologyprize.com/extra/pod/?module\\_instance=3](http://www.criminologyprize.com/extra/pod/?module_instance=3)

(photo credit to Pernille Tofte)

### Studying Criminology and Criminal Justice in the UK

The University of Oxford's Centre for Criminology offers taught masters courses and a doctoral research programme in criminology and criminal justice.

The Centre considers applications for the MSc programmes and DPhil study between January and May. The Centre currently comprises the following members who are involved in both teaching the MSc programmes and supervising research students:

Professor Andrew Ashworth; Dr. Mary Bosworth, Dr. Ros Burnett, Dr. Benjamin Goold, Dr. Carolyn Hoyle, Dr. Liora Lazarus, Professor Ian Loader, Professor Julian Roberts, Professor Federico Varese and Professor Lucia Zedner.

For details of application procedures and links to college information, visit:

[www.admin.ox.ac.uk/postgraduate/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/postgraduate/)

For further information, please email [ccr@crim.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ccr@crim.ox.ac.uk), telephone: 00 44 (0)1865 274444, or see our website: [www.crim.ox.ac.uk](http://www.crim.ox.ac.uk).

## What is happening in Criminology in Australia and New Zealand?

### Policing and Research in Victoria

#### *Victoria Police collaborative applied research program*

Victoria Police has developed a major applied research program over the past six years, to inform policies and practices with research-based evidence, and to build reflexivity into the conduct of policing. All seventeen projects within the program were initiated by Victoria Police through successful applications to the Australian Research Council's Linkage Grant funding stream. Each is fully collaborative, with police leaders and practitioners working closely with academic researchers on the design, implementation and outcomes of the research.

The program has been built up gradually, but its importance in terms of value for money has required Victoria Police to develop new methods of project governance and reporting. Each research project is championed by one of Victoria Police's corporate committee members, and has a steering committee and a significant 'in-kind' contribution from designated sworn and non-sworn police members.

In all, over the past six years, the program has involved partnerships with no less than nineteen universities, across Australia and abroad, and seventy two researchers, ranging from professors to PhD students, in disciplines including criminology, anthropology, organisational behaviour, forensic science, and applied ethics. Most projects are funded for three to four years although some are of five years duration.

A wide range of practice domains and subjects are being addressed. Human resources and governance are represented by projects on quality part time police work, organisational behaviour and police integrity. A major project called Nexus policing has tackled problem-oriented policing across seven pilot sites, including youth safety, the management of newly-released sex offenders, domestic violence and transit safety. Another project examined the relationship between counter terrorism and the policing of multi-faith communities. More effective responses to crime are addressed in projects on family violence, adult sexual assault, the impact of forensic evidence on criminal investigation outcomes, and the management of the investigation of serious and organised crime. Community policing subjects include policing and the mentally ill, building trust with hard-to-engage communities, and police support for vulnerable victims and witnesses.

The program has generated many challenges. For police, a significant shift in openness and transparency have been required, together with an appreciation of the role of police officers as agents of cultural change, and the use of strong internal accountability mechanisms in disseminating new ways of doing police work. Data access and security, too, have presented significant issues. For academics the primary challenge has been to bring formal research methods and theories into effective and sustained engagement with policing policies and practices, in an organisation that is in a continuous state of reactive

readiness and within which there is a great deal of personnel turnover. There is considerable room for such collaboration if there is strong leadership from within both police and university sites.

The Victoria Police applied research program has depended upon successful collaborative applications to the Australian Research Council. In that sense it has been developed upon a contingent and uncertain platform. Fortunately, the new ARC-funded Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security at Griffith University (CEPS) promises a substantial ongoing research contribution to Australian policing and security.

#### *Nexus Policing- Binding Research to Practice - Conference 26-28 May 2008*

To share the learnings of its research program with national and international police leaders, practitioners, policy makers and academics, Victoria Police, in partnership with the Australian National University, is co-hosting a conference on 26-28 May 2008, at the Melbourne Convention Centre. International key note speakers will include Mr Peter Neyroud, chief executive of the British National Policing Improvement Agency, Professor Martin Innes, director of the South Wales Universities Police Science Institute, Professor Clifford Shearing, head of Criminal Justice, University of Cape Town, Professor Lorraine Mazerolle of the new Australian Centre (CEPS), and Professor David Bayley, at the University at Albany. See [www.nexuspolicing08.com.au/](http://www.nexuspolicing08.com.au/).

David Bradley, Victoria Police Research Fellow, Office of the Chief Commissioner.

### Launching the Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security

The Australian Research Council's Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security (CEPS) was officially launched on 21 February 2008, at Griffith's Queensland College of Art at Southbank. CEPS is based at Griffith University, Queensland, with research partners at the Australian National University, the University of Queensland and Charles Sturt University, and industry partners from state and federal government, police agencies and private industry.

Information about CEPS can be obtained from the Director, Professor Lorraine Mazerolle Tel: + 07 3735 5938: email [l.mazerolle@griffith.edu.au](mailto:l.mazerolle@griffith.edu.au)



(Left to right) Chief Commissioner Christine Nixon (Victoria Police), President and Vice Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor (Griffith University), the Honourable Judith Spence MP, Dr David Falvey (Australian Research Council) and Professor Lorraine Mazerolle (Director - CEPS).



Rick Sarre (ANZSOC member, SA) and Christine Nixon (Victoria Police Chief Commissioner) take time out to smile for the camera. Serendipitously, Duncan Chappell (University of Wollongong) is in the background. (Photo by K Daly)



Professor Lorraine Mazerolle (Director-CEPS)

## SCAMMING CONSUMERS - don't be the next victim

That surprise lottery win in the mail, the email from your bank asking for your personal information, the 'amazing' share offer over the phone—all these can be fronts for SCAMS.

Scams have a devastating financial and emotional impact on Australian consumers. Hundreds of Australians, regardless of background, age and income continue to fall prey to scammers and lose hundreds of millions of dollars every year.

'Scams are designed to trick you into giving away your money or your personal details' said Louise Sylvan, Chair of the Australasian Consumer Fraud Taskforce, the organisation that is responsible for the recent *Fraud Fortnight* information campaign which ran from 24 February to 9 March 2008.

Fraud Fortnight is an initiative of the Australasian Consumer Fraud Taskforce, which seeks to increase the level of scam awareness in the community, and educate consumers to protect themselves from scams.

The Taskforce is made up of representatives from government agencies and features a diverse range of members from across Australia, including government and non-government agencies, community members, and private sector organisations.

Scams succeed because they look like the real thing. Scammers approach you out of the blue pretending to be legitimate banks or businesses. But genuine

organisations don't contact you out of the blue and ask for passwords or account numbers.

'If this happens; don't respond!' Ms Sylvan said.

Most scams originate from outside Australia: once money is sent overseas it is virtually impossible to recover. Education and prevention strategies are currently the most effective way to deal with scams.

Consumers are encouraged to report scams and report scammers and fakes to the federal government's SCAMwatch website [www.scamwatch.gov.au](http://www.scamwatch.gov.au) or phone 1300 795 995.

Russell Smith, AIC

## New role beckons for AIC Director

Dr Toni Makkai is leaving the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) after 12 years, five of them as Director. Toni is taking up a new role at the ANU in May, as Dean and Professor of the recently formed college of Arts and Social Sciences, the second largest college at the ANU. The college brings together ANU entities such as the Research School of Social Sciences, the Research School of Humanities, the Faculty of Arts and Key Centres including the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research and the Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute.

Toni joined the AIC to do research on drugs and crime and was responsible for establishment of the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) project. Since it was set up in 1999, DUMA has attracted over \$8 million in funding and made a significant contribution to our understanding of drug use amongst offenders, drug markets and treatment histories and key issues such as co-morbidity, drug driving and the use of weapons in crime.

As Director of the AIC, Toni was committed to improving the quality of the AIC's work, building an environment that facilitated a focus on analytical research with strong quantitative elements. Under her leadership the AIC's revenue base has consistently increased, up to \$10 million in 2008/09, positioning the AIC to undertake research on a wide variety of important and policy-relevant topics.

Through Toni's efforts, supported by the staff of the AIC, the Institute enjoys a good working relationship between the AIC and its board of Management, Minister, the Attorney-General's Department and external stakeholders. Toni's replacement at the AIC is yet to be determined.

Matthew Willis, AIC

## Conferences

### April 2008

**Cybercrime: Closer Co-Operation Between Law Enforcement and Internet Service Providers**  
Council of Europe: Strasbourg  
1-2 April 2008  
[wcd.coe.int/](http://wcd.coe.int/)

### May 2008

**Restorative Practice Conference: Victorian Association for Restorative Justice**  
Melbourne, Victoria  
14 May 2008  
[www.varj.asn.au/](http://www.varj.asn.au/)

**Family Violence, Specialist Courts and the Idea of Integration**  
Canberra, ACT  
22-23 May 2008  
[www.victimsupport.act.gov.au](http://www.victimsupport.act.gov.au)

**Nexus Policing- Binding Research to Practice - Conference : Victoria Police and ANU**  
Melbourne, Victoria  
26-28 May 2008  
[www.nexuspolicing08.com.au/](http://www.nexuspolicing08.com.au/)

**Law and Society Association Annual Meeting: Les Territoires du Droit: Placing Law**  
Montreal, Canada  
29 May- 1 June 2008  
[www.lawandsociety.org/ann\\_mtg/am08/call.htm](http://www.lawandsociety.org/ann_mtg/am08/call.htm)

### June 2008

**Annual Symposium - Social Work with Juvenile Offenders: 'Critical Research in Youth Justice: Power, Knowledge, Ethics, Rights'**  
8-14 June 2008  
Dubrovnik, Croatia  
[www.iuc.hr/index.php](http://www.iuc.hr/index.php)

**Australian and New Zealand Critical Criminology Conference**  
Crime and Justice Research Network and ANZ Critical Criminology Network  
Sydney, NSW  
19-20 June 2008  
[www.cjrn.unsw.edu.au/news\\_&\\_events/anz\\_critical\\_criminology\\_conference\\_2008.asp](http://www.cjrn.unsw.edu.au/news_&_events/anz_critical_criminology_conference_2008.asp)

### July 2008

**British Society of Criminology Conference**  
University of Huddersfield  
Huddersfield, Yorkshire, UK  
9-11 July  
[www.bsccconference2008.hud.ac.uk](http://www.bsccconference2008.hud.ac.uk)

**Victims and Mediation Seminar**  
Portuguese Association for Victim Support  
Lisbon, Portugal  
14-15 July  
[www.apav.pt/victimmediation](http://www.apav.pt/victimmediation)

**NZ Police Research Symposium 2008**  
15-16 July, 2008  
Royal New Zealand Police College, Wellington, New Zealand  
Email: [fiona.pou@police.govt.nz](mailto:fiona.pou@police.govt.nz)

**International Crime Science Conference: Science, Crime and Security: Creating sustainable partnerships**  
London, UK  
17-18 July 2008  
[www.crimescience.org/](http://www.crimescience.org/)

**15th World Congress of Criminology**  
Barcelona, Spain  
20-25 July 2008  
<http://spa.american.edu/barcelona.php>

### September 2008

**European Society of Criminology 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: Criminology in the public sphere**  
Edinburgh, Scotland, UK  
2-5 September 2008  
[www.lifelong.ed.ac.uk/eurocrim2008/](http://www.lifelong.ed.ac.uk/eurocrim2008/)

**National Victims of Crime Conference**  
Adelaide, South Australia  
23-24 September  
[www.victimsa.org/files/filecabinet/folder22/1st\\_Call\\_for\\_Abstracts.pdf](http://www.victimsa.org/files/filecabinet/folder22/1st_Call_for_Abstracts.pdf)

### October 2008

**11<sup>th</sup> International Criminal Law Congress: Criminal Justice Today and Tomorrow**  
Sydney, New South Wales  
8-12 October 2008  
[www.icms.com.au/crimlaw/dates.asp](http://www.icms.com.au/crimlaw/dates.asp)

### November 2008

**American Society of Criminology Conference**  
St. Louis, Missouri, USA  
12-15 November  
[www.asc41.com/annualmeeting.htm](http://www.asc41.com/annualmeeting.htm)

**Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology Conference**  
Canberra, ACT  
26-28 November (PG Conference 25 November)  
[www.anzsoc.org/conferences/2008](http://www.anzsoc.org/conferences/2008)

### February 2009

**Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium**  
Sydney, New South Wales  
Abstracts due 30 June 2008  
[www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/)

## ANZSOC Officers

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Toni Makkai and Russell Smith (Australian Institute of Criminology)

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## Note from the Editor

Members are invited to submit stories or notices for inclusion in the *ANZSOC Newsletter*. Every effort will be made to include contributions, but space is limited. Please understand that items may be edited or not included.

The views included in this newsletter are those of contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology Inc.

The Editor would like to thank all contributors to this newsletter and the members of the Communications Sub-Committee, and acknowledges the publication assistance of the Monash University Faculty of Law.

### Committee of Management Members

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