Greetings and welcome to Hobart! I will finish my presidency at this Hobart conference, after four very enjoyable years at the helm. I look forward especially to visiting the Governor (our very own Kate Warner AM) and looking at the MONA exhibits, although I am bit of a traditionalist when it comes to art, and I am not quite sure how to prepare for David Walsh’s personal, presumably provocative, proclivities.

It has been ten years since we were last here for an annual conference, at the casino as I recall. With apologies for the corny allegory, I am glad that the University of Tasmania has rolled the dice and welcomed us to their fair city once again.

My first duty in this column is to record my profound thanks to the conference team from the University of Tasmania. They will be mentioned in other writings by me in the conference booklet, but I did want to draw particular attention to Rob White’s contribution on the ANZSOC committee for this past year as the Conference Convenor. Rob is a class act. Many will not know that he was an employee of the same institution (the SA College of Advanced Education) where (and when) I began my academic career over three decades ago.

Congratulations to all the winners of awards and prizes. They are featured in this (or the next) newsletter. Notifying prize-winners is always one of the most rewarding tasks of presidency. You can never get that wrong. One of the legacies of my presidency has been the significant increase in the amount of prize-money, which makes it easier for winners to attend the annual conference and to be recognised. In fact, we are in a very buoyant financial phase of our association’s life, thanks to some very good leadership from my predecessors. It is never a burden leading an organisation where the finances are readily available if you wish to try a variety of new things.

As I leave this office I want to offer sincere thanks to my two current Vice Presidents, Antje Deckert (New Zealand VP) and Tara McGee (Australian VP). Both are wonderfully talented women, and both have been of immense support to me.

Antje has a penchant for attention to detail. She writes in her second language better than 99% of native English speakers. Not content with German and English communication skills, Antje communicates in Māori as well.

Tara is incredibly sound in her research writing, and calm under pressure, not always a demonstrable trait when it comes to criminologists. Her connections with Cambridge University, too, have been fruitful and appreciated.

The photograph above was taken at the Asian Criminological Society (ACS) conference in Beijing last June. With me, from left, are my good friends Professor Mingyue (Helen) Su, from the College for Criminal Law Science at Beijing Normal University, Professor Henry Pontell, from John Jay College, New York City (formerly, and for a very long time, at the University of California, Irvine) and Professor Jianhong Liu (University of Macau) who is currently President of the ACS and editor-in-chief of the Asian Journal of Criminology. The conference was well organised, and conference-goers were well-fed, mentally and physically. The ACS comes to Australia next July (10-13, 2017, in Cairns) co-convened with the biennial QUT crime and justice conference. That promises to be a marvellous joint event.

I also had the good fortune, en route to Beijing, to represent us (along with Li Eriksson) at the Stockholm Criminology Symposium. I would encourage any ANZSOC members to attend this conference. The level of academic work presented is...
outstanding, and if the ABBA tribute band returns next year for the prize-giving dinner, it will be worth the expense just for that show. For the record, the winners of this year’s prize were Travis Hirschi, Cathy Spatz Widom and Per-Olof Wikström. The three were awarded the prize in recognition of their joint advances in knowledge about how parents and peers shape successes, or failures, in preventing adult violence and crime.

As I am sure you are all aware, 2017 is our 50th anniversary year. The Journal turns 50 in 2018, and the planning continues apace to recognise these milestones. The ANZSOC 50th anniversary planning sub-committee of Russell Smith (now our honorary historian), Kathy Daly, Philip Stenning, Antje Deckert, Tara McGee, Cassandra Cross, Li Eriksson and I continue planning a range of projects. The most significant is an edited volume on developments in Australian and New Zealand criminology over the past half century, to be published by Palgrave in 2017. Antje’s work in pulling that together administratively and conceptually has been wonderful.

I am particularly grateful to Li Eriksson for editing this edition of PacifiCrim, too, while Asher Flynn continues maternity leave nurturing future criminologist Henry, born in May this year.

I want to acknowledge also in this column the changing of the guard regarding the editorship of our journal. As you may know, one of the joint editors since December 2012 (Philip Stenning) indicated that he would be standing down as an editor from September this year, one year into the extension of a new three year contract. The committee decided that it was appropriate to re-advertise the position, either for a single individual or another team, and three highly competitive bids were registered. I have previously announced that, after careful consideration, the Committee chose Andrew Goldsmith and Mark Halsey from Flinders University to be the new editors from October 2016 for three years.

I want to pay tribute to the significant contribution to the journal’s last four years from the team of Anna Stewart and Philip Stenning, along with managing editor Fiona Saunders, all at Griffith University. The Journal continues to play an essential part in the life of criminology in this region, in no small part due to their diligence, dedication and expertise. Our relationship with Sage Publishers continues long and strong because of the high regard they have had for Anna and Philip’s editorial capacities and know-how.

Finally, let me reflect on the past four years by saying how much I have enjoyed the high level of support of the (growing) membership, and the expertise of the three secretaries and two treasurers that have served me (and us) well during that time. I will say more about them in my Annual Report, but the potentially retiring secretary, Kate Sweeney and the retiring treasurer, Tim Hart have both been superb in their roles. As they may both finish up at this conference, I thank them especially. Indeed, I thank all the members of the Committee of Management most sincerely for their willingness to serve for the betterment of criminological pursuits in their various jurisdictions.

It is apt, as I finish, to paraphrase a certain Prime Minister in saying that there has never been a more exciting time than now to be a criminologist in Australia and New Zealand.

Rick Sarre
President, ANZSOC 2012-2016

Hello! It’s conference time again and I am very excited to see our members (and prospective members) in Hobart at the ANZSOC conference, and also encourage all our members to come to the Annual General Meeting to be held during the conference.

If anyone is wanting to renew their membership, or join ANZSOC during the conference, please do not hesitate to come and see me, and we can sort it all out.

I would like to congratulate all our award winners from this year, congratulations on your success. If you would like to nominate for an award next year, please look out for more information in the new year. For most awards, nominations will close in April.

I hope that everyone enjoys the conference and also has a chance to enjoy some of beautiful Tasmania.

Kate Sweeney
ANZSOC Secretary
secretary@anzsoc.org

Welcome to the 2016 conference issue of PacifiCrim. As you will have noticed, I am back in the newsletter editorial role for this issue, taking over from Asher Flynn who is on maternity leave caring for her gorgeous baby boy. Asher has worked her editorial magic in the last couple of years, producing a series of highly informative and interesting newsletters.

In this issue of PacifiCrim we have invited the ANZSOC award recipients to tell us more about themselves and their research. In this issue we also cover the life and passing of Col Bevan, celebrate the 15th birthday of TILES, and provide some snapshots of current research by ANZSOC members.

This will (again) be my last newsletter. I would like to thank Rick Sarre and everyone on the Committee of Management for their support. It has been a pleasure working with you in this role once again. I would also like to express my thanks to all of the contributors to PacifiCrim. It is because of you that PacifiCrim is such an excellent source of news, discussion and promotion of the criminological discipline in Australia and New Zealand.

Li Eriksson
Acting PacifiCrim Editor
l.ekrsson@griffith.edu.au
Farewell from the Editors of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology

In October we handed over the editorship of the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology* to our successors, Professors Andrew Goldsmith and Mark Halsey at Flinders University. Our four years as co-editors of the Journal have been a great experience, introducing us to dozens of contributors and reviewers whom we would likely not have encountered otherwise, and widening our understanding of criminology.

At the beginning of our editorship we set out a number of objectives, including enhancing the international profile of the Journal and its contributing authors, especially in Africa, South America and Asia. To assist us in this regard, we appointed an International Advisory Board, with members from all five continents, and we gratefully acknowledge the support of the members of this board. Another objective was to increase the number of submissions from New Zealand, and to assist us with this we appointed Elizabeth Stanley, Victoria University of Wellington, as one of our two Associate Editors, and James Oleson, Auckland University, as our Book Review Editor, and we are grateful to them for helping to promote the Journal in New Zealand.

Our Associate Editors, Elizabeth Stanley and Rick Brown, have been very helpful in taking on editorial responsibility for submissions by colleagues of ours at Griffith University. We would also like to thank Dr. Michael Townsley, our Statistical Adviser, and Professor Rick Sarre, our inaugural Legal Correspondent. We have had great support from the members of our Editorial Board, in terms of reviewing submissions for us, promoting the Journal, and advising us of ways to improve it and increase its readership.

Finally, we wish to acknowledge the tremendous support we have received from our Managing Editor, Fiona Saunders, without whom the task of editing the Journal would have been impossible.

With the support of this great team we have been able to ‘grow’ the Journal. We have moved to four hard copy issues per year (beginning this year), and introduced Online First. These two developments have allowed us to significantly increase the Journal’s published output, and shorten the time from submission to (online) publication.

So as we ‘bow out’, we take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all the members of this team and the legion of reviewers from around the world who have given us freely of their time to advise contributors how they can improve their papers and help us choose the submissions that have merited publication in the Journal. We also express our great thanks to both the editorial staff at Sage and ANZSOC’s Committee of Management, led by its President Rick Sarre, for their support.

We wish Andrew and Mark and their editorial team the very best as Editors, especially as the Journal approaches its 50th anniversary in 2018.
Obituary—Colin Russell Bevan OAM: 1921–2016

An Interesting and Varied Life in Australian Criminology

Colin Bevan, better known as Col Bevan, was born in 1921. In his early years he grew up in relative poverty in Brisbane but drew strength from his mother who in his own words exhibited ‘fierce dedication, self-sacrifice, and Irish stubborn refusal to be thwarted by circumstances’. He was educated at Catholic schools but was never an adherent of the Catholic faith or other Christian churches. His high school years were spent with the Christian Brothers at St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace where he was a competent scholar and enthusiastic sportsman.

Col completed matriculation but family circumstances ruled out university studies and so he opted for teacher training. On graduating he was appointed to a two-teacher school in North Queensland; the start of an 18-year career in teaching with 10 years as head teacher. During this time he studied as an external student and eventually completed a Bachelor of Arts degree. When time came for a change, he moved to Brisbane undertaking vocational guidance work with Queensland’s Department of Education and evening study for a post-graduate degree in education.

In 1959 the Queensland Government legislated to establish an Adult Probation and Parole Service within the Justice Department. When initial recruitment failed to find a satisfactory applicant for the Chief Probation and Parole Officer Col was encouraged to apply, and he was appointed to the position. Development of the service was both demanding and interesting for the new chief. It included investigation of established probation and parole services in Victoria and New South Wales and provision of the service to all levels of Queensland’s courts.

Beyond his home state Col took an active role in the Australian Crime Prevention, Correction and After-Care Council (later renamed the Australian Crime Prevention Council). He attended all of the Council’s biennial conferences from its inception; was elected as Queensland’s representative on the National Executive, and was vice-president for six years. In 1966 he was appointed Australia’s representative at the United Nations Regional Seminar on Probation and Parole, held in Tokyo. He had been nominated by the Council’s president, Mr Justice McClemens. Col’s report on the seminar for the federal minister was significant in providing commentary on the appropriateness of Tokyo’s UNAFEI as a model for a projected Commonwealth-funded criminology institute.

By the mid-1970s Col Bevan was ready for another change in his career; by that time he was opposed to the direction of the administration of his department and his marriage had ended. Out of the blue he was encouraged to apply for the position of Assistant Director (Training) at the recently established Australian Institute of Criminology in Canberra. He applied and was appointed from September 1975. He re-married in 1977. Col introduced a gradual but definite change to the objectives of the Institute’s training division, directing its energies to the needs of practitioners in the criminal justice and related professional fields. By the time he retired in November 1985 he had organised over 100 conferences and seminars for the Institute. In the words of the Institute’s Director at the time Professor Richard Harding: “He had earned the deep gratitude and respect of criminal justice practitioners and [work] colleagues.”

Col and his wife Carol retired to Queensland. Sadly, some years later they suffered a grievous loss through the death of their son Russell in a trial bike accident. On Australia Day 2016 Col was awarded a medal of the Order of Australia ‘for service to crime prevention education, and to the community.’ Col Bevan died on 30 April 2016 at the age of 95.

John Myrtle
Former Principal Librarian
JV Barry Library, Australian Institute of Criminology
The Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies (TILES) Turns 15

Next year, TILES turns 15, having been established in 2002. We wish to pay tribute to this milestone, and to recognise the work of Roberta Julian who was its Director at its inception. In 2006, Professor Jenny Fleming was appointed as a Senior Research Fellow at TILES. She was later appointed as Director of the Institute in 2009, and held this position for two years until the end of 2011. In 2012, Roberta again took up the position of Director.

TILES was the first research institute in Australia that was established through a partnership between a university and an Australian police organisation. It continues to undertake specific research tasks for Tasmania Police and other law enforcement agencies, and competes for nationally competitive research grants. It seconds researchers from Tasmania Police to assist with its research.

The Institute’s research currently focuses on Forensic Studies, Policing Vulnerable Populations, Drug and Alcohol Law Enforcement, Interagency Collaboration, Policing and the Media, and Risk Assessment.

I also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge Roberta’s significant eight-year contribution to the ANZSOC Committee of Management. We first met at the Hobart conference in 2006. Roberta was a member of the Organising Committee of that excellent symposium. She then joined the Committee of Management in 2007 as the Tasmanian representative, and continued in that role until November 2015, when Jeremy Prichard assumed that mantle. I have always very much appreciated her wise counsel and hard work, especially as chair of the Student and Early Career Researcher sub-committee.

Roberta’s research interests include exploring the role of ethnicity and immigrant or refugee background in the construction of social identities, social interaction and social inequality, and a critical analysis of the role of forensic science in the criminal justice system.

Her research on immigrants and refugees has looked at post-war Dutch immigrants and Hmong refugees from Laos, with a focus on variation in adaptive strategies, diversity in settlement patterns and heterogeneity in national and transnational communities/diaspora.

The focus of her research in forensic criminology is on topics such as the knowledge and awareness of forensic science among actors in the criminal justice system (e.g. police, lawyers, judges), the professionalisation of crime scene examiners, the communication of forensic science to a non-scientific public (e.g. police, juries), collaboration between forensic scientists and others in the criminal justice system, cognitive bias and its impact on forensic analyses and forensic investigation, the admissibility of expert scientific evidence in courts of law, and the role of forensic science in miscarriages of justice.

TILES will continue to excel with Roberta at the helm. I wish her and TILES well for the future.

Rick Sarre
ANZSOC President
Greetings everyone. I am delighted that you have all come here tonight to see Janet receive her prize and hear her deliver her oration.

This prize is awarded each year by ANZSOC to a person (or persons) who, in the opinion of the Committee of Management, has demonstrated an outstanding, significant and sustained contribution to Australian or New Zealand criminology in one or more of the following areas: teaching and scholarship, advancing international appreciation of criminology through research and publications, or involvement in criminology in public life. The award is thus made in recognition of the lifetime contribution to criminology of the recipients. Both Janet and Kathy are well qualified to be recognised in all of those categories.

We recognised Kathy last November in Adelaide at the annual conference. We recognise Janet tonight. Janet is currently Professor at the UNSW Law School, Associate Director of the Australian Centre for Cyber Security, and Project Leader at the Data to Decisions Cooperative Research Centre. Janet was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia in 2002. She is internationally recognised for her contributions to policing research, especially her work on police culture and socialisation, police reform, and the use of information technology in policing.

I first met Janet when she was a Research Associate at the Centre of Criminology, University of Toronto, some 35 years ago. She moved to Australia not long after that, and has since held various positions here, including Research Director of the NSW Judicial Commission, Director of the Sydney Institute of Criminology, Head of the School of Social Science and Policy, and Associate Dean (Research) of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at UNSW. She was President of the UNSW Academic Board from 2008 to 2011. She was part-time Commissioner of the NSW Law Reform Commission (2001-2005) and a member of the NSW Crime Prevention Council (2002-2005). To this impressive list I add Associate Editor of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology, an Australian Reader for the Australian Research Council (ARC), and an expert member of the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) Research Evaluation Committee, upon which our academic lives now very much depend.

I have no doubt that you will agree with the judges that Janet is a very worthy recipient of the Distinguished Criminologist Award for 2015. Please join me in congratulating her tonight.

Rick Sarre
ANZSOC President

The Distinguished Criminologist Award

The ANZSOC Distinguished Criminologist Award is presented each year to an individual who, in the opinion of the judges, has demonstrated outstanding, significant and sustained contribution to Australian or New Zealand criminology in one or more of the following areas: teaching and scholarship, advancing international appreciation of criminology through research and publications, or involvement in criminology in public life. The award is thus made in recognition of the lifetime contribution to criminology of the recipient.

Up to two individual awards can be presented each year.

The winner(s) of the Award are presented with a plaque at the dinner of the Society's annual conference or otherwise as arranged at the convenience of the recipient(s). Each distinguished criminologist will also be awarded the honorary title Fellow of ANZSOC in accordance with the rules of the association.

Check the ANZSOC website (www.anzsoc.org) for further information!
Populism and Criminal Justice Policy: An Australian Case Study of Non-Punitive Responses to Alcohol-Related Violence

Editor’s Note: The recipient of this year’s Allen Austin Bartholomew Award is Julia Quilter for her article ‘Populism and criminal justice policy: An Australian case study of non-punitive responses to alcohol-related violence’, published in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology.

The original motivation for this article was the atypical way that the government, police, media and wider community responded to the tragic death of Thomas Kelly in Kings Cross in July 2012. Kelly was killed as the result of a random, unprovoked and drunken ‘one punch’ assault. This event had all the hallmarks of the crimes that have often triggered a punitive knee-jerk response, reflecting the ‘law and order’ paradigm that Russell Hogg and David Brown so powerfully exposed in Rethinking Law and Order (Pluto Press, 1998). However, at least initially, we did not see the familiar calls for harsher retribution, new offences or additional police powers. Rather, as discussed in the article, what unfolded in 2012-2013 was a progressive campaign centred on the need to take meaningful steps to prevent so-called ‘alcohol-fuelled violence’. In the article, I employed the work of Ernesto Laclau, Margaret Canovan and Russell Hogg to suggest that these events illustrated that populism is not an inherently punitive force, but can produce constructive, even progressive, outcomes. The campaign that followed Kelly’s death was driven by the emotions of sadness, sympathy and grief, but also anger, revulsion and outrage. Often at such moments a polarising and demonising discourse dominates, but in this instance, these emotions operated to unify the people against the common ‘enemy’ of ‘alcohol-fuelled violence’.

The Government’s response to this campaign was nuanced and multi-faceted, with an emphasis on management of the risks associated with alcohol consumption in high volume entertainment precincts. Although there was a flurry of law-making, very few of the several Acts passed by the NSW Parliament in this period had a punitive ‘law and order’ character.

The story changed very dramatically following the sentencing of Kelly’s killer, Kieran Loveridge, for manslaughter in November 2013. The sentence was widely perceived to be inadequate (‘four years for a life’). The judiciary was criticised for being ‘out-of-touch’ (a familiar law and order trope), and the political and media rhetoric quickly took a more punitive turn. In January 2014, the Premier recalled MPs early from the summer recess, and in a single sitting day, Parliament passed what are now known colloquially as the ‘Lock Out’ laws (including time restrictions on entry to licensed precincts. Although there was a flurry of law-making, very few of the several Acts passed by the NSW Parliament in this period had a punitive ‘law and order’ character.

One of the distinctive and problematic features of the ‘One Punch’ law introduced in NSW was the inscription in criminal law of a simple causal relationship between a person’s alcohol and drug consumption and the violence which s/he perpetrates. This approach is at odds with the scientific and social-scientific literature which suggests that alcohol is more appropriately regarded as a ‘conditional’ cause, ‘risk’ factor, or one of multiple factors that might be implicated in the production of violence.

This aspect of my ‘One Punch’ research opened up wider questions about how the effects of alcohol and/or other drugs are treated by the criminal law and criminal justice system in Australia. In 2015-2016, with the support of an AIC Criminology Research Grant, I led an interdisciplinary research team that undertook important foundational work exploring how criminal law statutes and courts attach significance to ‘intoxication’. We analysed more than 500 statutory provisions and over 300 appellate decisions from all Australian jurisdictions. To date, we have found that the criminal law attaches significance to a person’s intoxication for a variety of purposes, with different underlying rationales regarding the nature of alcohol and drug effects. For example, intoxication may enliven police powers, constitute a key component of offence definitions, operate as an aggravating factor, or impact on the determination of sentence. We have found that the meaning of ‘intoxication’ is often unclear. Intoxication is often assessed on the basis of highly subjective or ‘common sense’ criteria – in contexts as diverse as ‘on the street’ public order policing and sexual assault trial assessments of victim credibility. This has the potential to produce injustice in the form of overly punitive treatment of offenders, but also the potential to fail to adequately protect victims of violence.

My research on the manner in which the criminal law defines and attaches significance to alcohol and drug effects is ongoing. In addition, the paper I will present at the 2016 ANZSOC Conference considers the laws, practices and tests that are currently used to detect and punish ‘drug driving’.

Julia Quilter is an Associate Professor in the School of Law and a member of the Legal Intersections Research Centre at the University of Wollongong. The AIC Criminology Research Grant-funded project referred to in this article was completed in collaboration with Professor Luke McNamara (UNSW), Dr Kate Seear (Monash University) and Professor Robin Room (La Trobe University).
Criminology and the Case for the Decriminalisation of Sex Work

Sex work is almost invariably regarded as a highly gendered activity that needs to be eliminated or at least severely restricted by the criminal law. Broadly, legal policy makers take one of two approaches to sex work; that it should be abolished or that it should be severely restricted. Abolitionist approaches, such as those taken in some American states, criminalise both the act of sex working and everything associated with sex work such as location, premises, clients, advertising and soliciting. Restrictive approaches are taken in countries like the UK and most of Australia where the act of sex work itself is not criminalised, but most if not all activities associated with sex work are criminalised.

And yet criminology has shown only passing interest in sex work. It wasn’t always the case. The pioneers of criminology, including Lombroso, were very interested in sex work and their early voyeuristic preoccupation with the sex worker provided a blueprint for subsequent readings of female pathology and, later, female victimisation.

Only recently have criminologists turned their attention to policy and critically examined the idea that sex work is inherently problematic. Yet, even here, the outputs have been modest, with most research of this type pre-occupied with examining sex work and sex workers as ‘vectors of disease’, whilst making little or no reference to underlying structural factors such as the criminalisation of sex work. When considering male sex work, for example, which is the focus of our own research (see www.aboutmaleescorting.com), it is notable that same-sex sexual acts, which are inherent in male sex work, are criminalised in roughly half of UN member states.

True, female deviance – and we do think of women when we think of sex workers – has largely been framed in terms of health. The old adage that women are framed mad and men as bad, holds true when we consider responses to sex work. It is often forgotten that very specific penal regimes existed historically for prostitute women, including lock hospitals and Magdalene asylums. The failure of criminology to appreciate public health measures as systems of social control and the additional tendency to view sex work as a welfare problem, only adds to the ambivalence of criminology towards sex work.

The notion that sex work is a health or welfare problem owes much to the elaborate mythologies that researchers have erected around sex work. Think of sex work and images of street workers and survival sex come to mind. But street work at best comprises no more than ten per cent of sex work in most countries. And increasingly clients are seeking escort services via the internet. Moreover, the widespread adoption of new telecommunication technologies, combined with legislative reforms to legalise and decriminalise sex work in some jurisdictions, has resulted in a decline of street work in its old haunts, in places such as Australia. Indeed, the last two decades have seen considerable change to the structure and organisation of sex work worldwide, but policy has been slow to respond. The very notion of prostitution as the world’s oldest profession, while highlighting persistence over time and space, ultimately operates to obscure the constantly shifting meanings attached to sex work and its diverse contexts. And, yet, new ideas and regulatory regimes associated with sex work have emerged in recent decades.

A criticism of criminology and other social sciences is that after two centuries of activity so few laws, or even what Durkheim referred to as ‘social facts’, have emerged. What’s more, many of the ‘big ideas’ seem to emerge in the global north and are filtered down to the rest of the globe, to be adopted and applied uncritically to contextually diverse phenomena. Restorative justice is something of an exception here, and has recently been acknowledged and celebrated as a fine example of what has been termed ‘southern criminology’. There are other examples, notably here, the decriminalisation of sex work. The global beacons of this policy are New South Wales and New Zealand. That decriminalisation ‘works’ is one of those too rare facts that we have in criminology. All the research points in one direction, so the rest of the world should be adopting it, right? No. In fact, 2016 almost saw decriminalisation reformed in NSW and the adoption of a regulatory system based on licensing and policing of sex workers by the state.

The situation can be compared to climate science: the research speaks loudly, but denial, drawing on a mix of morality and misconceived ideology, persists and the ‘science’ has not translated into much needed reforms. In 2015 Amnesty International declared its support for decriminalisation, citing state obligations to respect, protect and fulfill the human rights of sex workers. Significantly, sex workers have advocated for decriminalisation since the emergence of sex worker rights movements during the early 1970s, and more recently, researchers are coming on board with policy recommendations favouring reversing the agenda of stigmatisation and criminalisation for both sex workers and clients.

One of the difficulties with decriminalisation is that it is not easy to define. Criminalisation, which sells itself on an impossible dream of eradication, has a relatively easy pitch. While many countries criminalise the selling and purchase of sexual services, prostitution has never been illegal in Australasian jurisdictions, only activities associated with sex work, such as soliciting, pimping and keeping premises used for sex work. Another fact is that the law has been ineffective in eliminating sex work. At best it might be considered to have symbolic impute, as a deterrent, but there is no hard evidence to indicate that the incidence of sex work increases in the absence of criminalisation. Legalisation, also seems straightforward, and often gets confused with decriminalisation. So, what does decriminalisation mean for sex work?

In the simplest sense, it is the recognition of sex work as a legitimate occupation, as opposed to an identity. In this system there are no special laws aimed solely at the regulation of sex workers or related activities. Instead, sex workers are subject to the same laws that regulate other businesses, such as tax laws, occupational health and safety regulations, zoning regulations and employment laws. In this system sex workers are entitled to the full protection of the law and human rights. They can organise into collectives, such as unions, if desired. All this is premised on the definition of sex work as activity that involves consensual sexual exchanges between adults for some form of remuneration. Sex work and sex workers are still of course subject to the criminal law in the same manner as all citizens of the state and are therefore protected from exploitation and violence by the same laws that protect non-sex workers from exploitation and violence.

Legalisation, in contrast to decriminalisation, involves state regulation of the sex industry. In places, such as the US state of
Nevada and parts of the Netherlands, this can mean increased police surveillance, forced health evaluations, higher taxes and financial penalties for sex workers. The law can also force sex workers to work in unsafe, often isolated, locations, making them more vulnerable to violence. Closer to home, in Queensland, where (indoor) prostitution was legalised in 1993, conditions for street workers deteriorated, with increased policing and incidents of violence against street workers, which often go unreported as sex workers by reporting such crimes are themselves admitting to criminal activity. In licensed brothels, workers have often been young, casual and non-unionised, with little negotiating power against brothel operators. Workers are not subject to normal work entitlements, but subject to penalties for indiscretions, such as lateness to work. They are also subject to compulsory health examinations and controls not typical of other industries.

So, what is holding back sex industry reform? Recent punitive trends in some countries may be put down to the increased visibility and accessibility of sex work provided by advances in telecommunication technology. Historic concerns around sex work were grounded in the moral view that the commercialisation of sex is degrading and damaging also persist. While the dichotomy between erotic and commercial life has remained, recent concerns include the idea of sex work as inherent victimisation and the notion that reform equates with increased oppression of children and women. There are claims that decriminalisation increases the overall volume of sex work activity and leads to more trafficking and child prostitution. There is no evidence that this has been the case in NSW or NZ. More broadly, while trafficking may have increased in some regions along with general increases in migration, such as Eastern Europe, there is no data to support increases in Australasia.

Of course, the real problem here lies in the conflation of trafficking with sex work and competing definitions of what trafficking might be. An historic tendency of research to focus on street work, which is more likely to involve survival sex and violent exploitation, has also muddied the waters. Further, some research has cherry-picked data for worst cases of exploitation and generalises these to all sex work and sex worker experiences. This perpetuates the idea that sex workers are inherent victims and sex work as not freely chosen. It is better to frame concepts of trafficking and forced prostitution as exploitation. Exploitation is experienced by other occupational groups, and is not exclusive to sex work. Indeed, decriminalisation has the aim of reducing exploitation and other industry harms by ensuring the human rights of sex workers are recognised.

Decriminalisation is best conceptualised in terms of a ‘harm reduction’ approach. Research indicates that decriminalisation delivers better public health outcomes, improved working conditions, safety and well-being, while not increasing the volume of the sex industry. Amnesty International (2016) states “The primary and secondary evidence gathered by Amnesty International demonstrates that criminalization and penalization of sex work have a foreseeably negative impact on a range of human rights.” In contrast, where sex work is criminalised, sex workers and clients have been shown to be at increased risk of harm and violence. What’s more, stigma and corrupt law enforcement means that abuses to sex workers and clients are often not prevented or acted upon in places where sex work is criminalised.

Policy denial is built on myths around sex work, some of which are perpetuated in research. Notably, there needs to be recognition that sex workers are not a homogenous population, something our own research on male sex work has emphasised. The experiences of sex workers and clients are diverse and any generalisation or simplistic policy calling for abolition requires caution. In terms of method, it is impossible to gain a random sample of sex workers, as the size of the population is unknown. Clients are an even harder population group to locate and sample, largely because of the stigma associated with sex work, yet they are randomly represented in all age and ethnicity groups of the population. Where prostitution is criminalised and stigmatised the problem of gaining representative samples is the more difficult. Further, defining who is a sex worker is fraught with complexity.

With more certainty we can say that most sex worker organisations advocate decriminalisation. From this, it does not seem a huge step to ensure the meaningful participation of sex workers in research affecting them and their participation in the development of legislation and policy that responds to recent changes to the structure and organisation of sex work, as well as recognises human rights. It also points to the important role academia has to play in promoting the removal of repressive laws around sex work, much like the laws that criminalised same-sex relations.

John Scott, Queensland University of Technology
Cameron Cox, CEO, Sex Workers Outreach Project Inc.
Vitor Minichiello, Queensland University of Technology

John and Victor will be launching a website on male escorting (www.aboutmaleescorting.com) at the 29th Annual ANSOC Conference in Hobart. In addition, a panel that includes sex workers and sex work organisations will be held to discuss legislative reform in the Australian sex industry.

Here is a link to a Q&A on Amnesty International’s Policy to Protect the Human Right of Sex Workers: https://www.amnesty.org/en/qa-policy-to-protect-the-human-rights-of-sex-workers/

References
Sharon Pickering presented the Fay Gale Lecture 2016, hosted by the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia (ASSA) in conjunction with Monash University, at the State Library of Victoria. Introduced by ASSA Fellow Kathleen Daly (Griffith University), Sharon’s topic was gender and border deaths, “Invisible and dying: Women crossing borders in South East Asia”. Founder and Director of the Border Crossing Observatory at Monash University, Sharon is the first criminologist to give this high-profile national lecture.

Sharon called attention to the increasing movement of women in our region, with South East Asia as a point of transit for onward travel. She emphasised women’s unique vulnerabilities as irregular migrants. These include exposure to and experiences of gender-based sexual violence during their journeys, and gendered experiences of traveling by boat such as being placed in less hygienic and less safe holding compartments than men, having to share food and water rations with children, and having limited abilities to swim if the boat should capsize. Death by drowning occurs more often for women than men.

Sharon gave evidence on the scale of the problem. During a recent two-year period (2014-15), an estimated 18,800 adults and children died in transit from the Bay of Bengal. Women are typically 15 percent of adult departures, but they are 2.5 times more likely to die than men in maritime incidents. Thus, during the period, an estimated 7,050 adult women died.

In her lecture, Sharon argued for the importance of counting and accounting for border deaths in our region. Her research seeks to identify safer migration pathways for all migrants and to spark government debate and policy on reducing deaths at the border.

Working with Leanne Weber (also at Monash University), Sharon established the Australian Border Deaths Database, which is envisioned as the leading research platform on border deaths in South East Asia.

The Fay Gale Lecture was established to honour the late Professor Fay Gale AO, an eminent geographer, with research interests in Indigenous studies and youth justice. Fay championed women’s advancement in academia, was the first woman to be appointed Professor at the University of Adelaide, the first woman to be a Vice-Chancellor for a ‘Group of Eight’ university (University of Western Australia), and the first female president of ASSA. Established by ASSA in 2010 to support a distinguished female social scientist, the Fay Gale Lecture is given twice in the year awarded. Sharon’s lecture was given in Melbourne (9 August) and Adelaide (18 August). The Melbourne lecture was video-recorded and is available at the Border Crossing Observatory’s website: <www.borderobservatory.org>.

Rebecca Powell
Manager, Border Crossing Observatory, Monash University
Sexual violence and exploitation is a significant and serious ongoing social problem. With the evolution of advanced technologies, we are witnessing new and persistent challenges emerging in how we can best respond, prevent and address the significant harms caused by sexual violence, alongside modern mechanisms and outlets for ‘achieving justice’ for victim-survivors. Despite the introduction of a variety of wide-ranging law reforms and extensive public awareness and education campaigns, dissatisfaction with the criminal justice system in responding to sexual violence and disillusionment with ongoing, misguided social attitudes towards individuals experiencing these harms, has not abated.

On Wednesday 6 April 2016, the Monash Criminological Horizons Annual Public Lecture reflected on these very important issues and the challenges inherent to sexual violence and exploitation in a contemporary, technology-facilitated world. The panel – Sexual Violence: New and Persistent Challenges – was held at the Village Roadshow Theatrette, Victoria State Library before a packed crowd of over 200 researchers, students, members of various academic institutions, legal practitioners, police, government department representatives and victim advocacy and support workers. The event, organised by ANZSOC member and Monash Criminology Senior Lecturer, Dr Asher Flynn, dealt with the topics of ‘revenge pornography’ (the non-consensual distribution of intimate and sexual images); online justice forums for victim-survivors of sexual violence; sexual harassment in the workplace; challenges in investigating and prosecuting sexual violence offences; confronting the myths of sexual violence that persist within the community; and restorative justice processes for sexual violence victim-survivors.

The panel was facilitated by the thought-provoking and always entertaining, TV and radio broadcaster, and social connector and satirist, Libbi Gorr who opened the discussion with a reflection of the often cumbersome nature of the law and the difficulties it faces in keeping up with technological advancements. Libbi described the event as ‘an illumination into human nature, all that is good and all that is bad’.

Following a brief welcome from Dr Asher Flynn, the event commenced with a keynote presentation from La Trobe University Senior Lecturer, Dr Nicola Henry, who shared some important insights into the five main challenges surrounding the non-consensual distribution of intimate images (‘revenge pornography’) uncovered to date in her Criminology Research Council funded project Responding to Revenge Pornography (with ANZSOC members, Drs Asher Flynn & Anastasia Powell). In particular, Dr Henry emphasised the need for further research in this area to inform any types of responses introduced – whether they be in the form of education, legislation or increased resources (or hopefully a combination of all of these). ANZSOC member and RMIT University Research Fellow, Dr Anastasia Powell then moved the discussion onto the potential benefits of technology and online justice forums as a way to redress the limitations of the criminal justice system, which so often fails to provide any sense of justice to victim-survivors. Overviewing the divergent justice needs of victim-survivors, Dr Powell demonstrated how online justice forums can provide an opportunity for victim-survivors to share experiences, gain support and contribute to reducing the likelihood of others experiencing harms; outcomes often at odds with the traditional prosecution process.

The third keynote speaker, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers’ Legal Associate, Kelly Thomas, drew on her experiences representing victim-survivors of workplace sexual harassment to highlight its seriousness and the harrowing ordeals women go through—something she noted no industry or organisation is exempt from. Using case studies, Ms Thomas highlighted the many challenges and traumas victim-survivors face, particularly in relation to shame and stigma, but also showed some of the positive changes emerging more recently in response to legal challenges and the actions of “some very brave women”. Following this, Patrick Tidmarsh from the Victoria Police, Specialist Management Unit, Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigation Team, used a series of case studies to highlight the persistent challenges victim-survivors face in the legal process revolving around blame—whether that is blame being attributed to them for what happened to them; blame for not responding in the way society ‘wants’ them to respond; or blame for not remembering every minor detail accurately. Drawing on the Whole Story Investigation Framework, Mr Tidmarsh highlighted the importance of society and criminal justice authorities shifting their focus from the victim-survivor, to instead, being focused on the perpetrator, the perpetrator’s actions and the perpetrator’s harmful behaviour. The final keynote was presented by the South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault’s (SECASA), Carolyn Worth, who discussed the emergence of the current SECASA restorative justice trial project in Victoria. In demonstrating the positives and challenges of this trial, Ms Worth emphasised the importance of restorative justice processes remaining victim-driven and independent of the criminal justice process, if they are to retain any sense of justice for victim-survivors.

An insightful, rousing and sometimes challenging question time followed the presentations, as the audience reflected on the key issues raised and queried how we can best respond and prevent the significant harms caused by sexual violence and address ongoing, misguided social attitudes towards those experiencing these harms. The poignant and compelling comments of Dr Powell in response to these queries was followed by momentous audience applause, as she highlighted the importance of “addressing the myths, stereotypes and treatment of women in our own backyard” as the first step in responding to sexual violence and exploitation in our community.

Asher Flynn, Monash University
Bianca Fileborn is Awarded the New Scholar Prize

Bianca Fileborn is this year’s recipient of the New Scholar Prize for her article ‘Doing gender, doing safety? Young adults’ production of safety on a night out’ published in Gender, Place and Culture (see abstract). Bianca is currently a Research Officer at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society, La Trobe University. Her doctoral research, which this paper draws on, explored young adults’ perceptions and experiences of unwanted sexual attention in licensed venues, and was conducted at the University of Melbourne. Her research interests are concerned with the intersections of space, culture, identity and violence.

Abstract

This article explores the ways in which young adults produce a sense of safety in pubs and clubs. Despite considerable anxiety around issues pertaining to safety and violence in the night-time economy, there is little consideration of how young adults themselves feel about their safety on a night out, or how they achieve a sense of safety in a seemingly ‘risky’ social space. Drawing on mixed-methods research conducted in Melbourne, Australia, in this article I consider the strategies that young adults use to feel safe on a night out. I argue that feeling ‘safe’ is something that is actively produced through the use of these strategies, as well as providing an avenue for ‘doing’ gender.
Maija Helminen: Comparative Research on Civil Society Organisations

Australia and New Zealand lie on nearly the opposite side of the world from Scandinavia. Indeed, if one were to drill down from Sydney through the earth’s crust, mantle, and core, one would emerge into the North Atlantic; if one were to drill from Copenhagen, one would emerge into the Southern Ocean, off New Zealand’s southeastern coasts.

Yet, despite being so far away, Scandinavia is of great interest to many criminologists from Australia and New Zealand. For the last eleven years, the Stockholm Prize in Criminology (frequently characterised as ‘the Nobel Prize of Criminology’) has been conferred upon eminent criminologists; typically, a handful of ANZSOC members present papers to the associated Stockholm Criminology Symposium. And Nordic prisons, such as Halden in Norway, are world-renowned for their progressive approach to punishment. In their 2013 book, Contrasts in Punishment, John Pratt and Anna Eriksson compared Scandinavian penal regimes and Anglophone prison excess.

Comparative research of this kind might also permit criminologists to better understand the role of civil society organisations (CSOs) in criminal justice. Under-researched by criminologists, CSOs encompass non-governmental organisations, charities, trusts, foundations, advocacy groups, and national and international associations. Interest in this kind of research prompted Maija Helminen, a PhD student, to travel from Finland to New Zealand in early 2016. Before enrolling in the Faculty of Law at the University of Turku, Maija earned her MSc in Administrative Sciences from the University of Eastern Finland and her MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Edinburgh. Familiar with Alice Mills’ research on CSOs, Maija spent three months as a visiting scholar at the University of Auckland. She is planning a joint project with Alice: a comparative article on CSOs in criminal justice in Finland and New Zealand, whose strengths, influences, and positions in their respective societies differ substantially.

Why are CSOs important within criminal justice?
I think the advantages that CSOs have while working with offenders or people in risk of offending – namely because they are civil society organisations, not public or private sector organisations – are not well understood. The interviewees in my study have been better able to build trustful relationships with ex-offenders than public sector agents and they usually are prepared to work with their clients for long periods of time – even for a person’s lifetime, if needed. CSOs have important roles as representatives of marginalised groups in society and in raising awareness of different social problems that otherwise may not catch attention. Such missions and roles are unique to CSOs as they do not derive from a responsibility to fulfill a public duty or to make profit for the shareholders.

What is your research focus?
My PhD dissertation examines the roles of CSOs in criminal justice. I’m looking especially at CSOs that work with offenders and victims as well as influencing criminal policy. The study is mainly comparative, and the main data are interviews with representatives of CSOs across a selection of Nordic countries (Finland, Sweden, Norway) and Scotland.

Do you have any findings?
My first findings were published in 2016 in “Nordic and Scottish Civil Society Organisations Working with Offenders and the Effects of Service Delivery: Is Pursuing Mission Impossible Whilst Bidding for Contracts?” in the Howard Journal of Crime and Justice. I studied the effects of service-delivery contracts (in which public sector agents buy services from other agencies) on the work of CSOs that work with offenders in Finland, Norway, Sweden and Scotland. Some of the CSOs reported that they had been unable to respond to the needs of their clients in a meaningful way under the strict terms of the contracts. To get good results, some were pondering the possibility of selecting clients who were already doing better [cherry picking]. Favouring market logics in political decision-making affects CSOs and their clients.

How have you used your time in New Zealand?
My main motivation for coming here was to meet Alice Mills, who has studied the role of CSOs in criminal justice. I haven’t met many other people working with the same questions. I have also taken advantage of the library facilities which are more extensive than at my home university. Criminology is not taught as a degree subject in any of the Finnish universities. I have also given a seminar talk about my PhD and a short lecture for undergraduate students about penal policy in Nordic countries. I have done a bit of travelling in New Zealand. My favourite places have been the Catlins and Raglan – since I grew up inland, I’m fascinated by the beauty of the ocean.

James Oleson
The University of Auckland

In April, Maija conducted informal (and illuminating) focus group discussions with criminologists from the University of Auckland and Auckland University of Technology about pressing criminal justice issues in New Zealand and the most positive or promising developments in criminal justice practice. The key points will be written up (in Finnish) for the Finnish Association for Legal and Social Sciences blog. In response, in April 2016, I interviewed Maija Helminen about her research and her visit to New Zealand:
Shelley Eder: Recipient of the Allan Van Zyl Memorial Prize

Coming to a place like the Northern Territory for the first time for anyone from ‘down south’ will certainly be an eye-opener. For me, one of the first surprises was the fact that Aboriginal languages are still widely spoken up here and so many people speak them as a first language. I’m ashamed to say I didn’t fully realise that that was the case, but I guess many people living in Australia’s cities probably don’t. Surely these languages are a far more valuable part of Australia’s cultural heritage than some old building somewhere.

If you scratch a bit further down into the languages and cultures of Aboriginal people you discover how different our cultures really are. I don’t at all pretend to be an expert, but it was just the other day that I learned the Yolngu word for English law means ‘alien’. In some Aboriginal cultures today, our law is literally like a foreign power.

It’s not just the law itself. As a welfare rights lawyer, I quickly learned how our bureaucracy and administrative practices are woefully inappropriate in remote communities. Letters get sent in English to people with no mail delivery service or who cannot read. Debts get raised on the basis of people not replying to letters. Family payments get made to the wrong people. People can be hundreds of kilometres from their nearest Centrelink office. What would be frustrating to you and me could be such a barrier to a person living in a remote community that they just give up. Some people do just that and simply rely on others in the community for their food and other needs.

Food in remote communities is expensive. Fresh fruit and vegetables exorbitantly so. As with so many things, our legal and welfare system do not accommodate for this. The Newstart Allowance is pretty much the same wherever you live. As with most issues regarding our legal system, it is Aboriginal people that have to accommodate, not the other way around.

Possibly the worst outcome of the system of disadvantage in the Northern Territory is the make-up of our prison population. 84% of the adult inmate population is Aboriginal, and Indigenous people are incarcerated at a rate 14 times higher than non-Indigenous.1 If that wasn’t bad enough, this rate is actually increasing. In light of these appalling statistics, I think it is more important than ever that we ensure our prisons are administered in a way that does not dehumanise our inmates. I am doing my PhD into procedural justice in the prison environment to contribute to the debate about ways in which this system could improve.

‘Law and order’ and ‘tough on crime’ discourses are still very popular in the Northern Territory and ANZSOC members would be surprised at much of the popular reaction to the recent media publicity regarding practices at the Don Dale Youth Detention Centre. Whilst there was a lot of outrage, there was still a large and vocal part of the community who seemed to believe that locking people away and treating them violently is a good way to deal with crime. Education and research is the only way of combatting these misguided attitudes, and I know many ANZSOC members have been working hard for decades towards that aim.

I think I literally jumped for joy when I was notified I had been awarded the Allan Van Zyl Memorial Prize to attend the ANZSOC conference this year. I would not have been able to attend otherwise, and it will be a wonderful opportunity for me to meet people who might share an interest in this area. What did make me reflect was when I looked into Dr Van Zyl’s research interests. In 2001 he was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to research Aboriginal youth justice in Alaska and Western Canada in comparison with the Northern Territory. In his report he stated:

The more I think through some issues in this project, the more I believe that we focus too much on negative aspects and do not seek to replicate and improve on positive assets and the behaviour of most people.

Teaching what works in the first place could alleviate the need to try to turn around offenders at a later point, whether it is by Restorative Justice or the adversarial system.

Supporting Aboriginal traditional systems of justice, which are generally based on modern day Restorative Justice principles, can create alternatives to the custody of offenders in a way that satisfies all parties involved.2

Sadly and unbelievably, since he wrote this report 15 years ago the Indigenous imprisonment rate in this jurisdiction has more than doubled.3 We still don’t recognise Aboriginal traditional systems of justice. Things are getting worse, not better.

If anything positive comes from the recent Don Dale publicity it is hopefully that our politicians may become more willing to listen to Aboriginal people about their concerns and to work with them to take steps to address the long-standing issue of Aboriginal incarceration in the Northern Territory. I am sure readers would agree the time is long overdue that we addressed these issues together with Aboriginal people from a perspective of mutual respect.

Shelley Eder is a part-time lecturer and full-time PhD student at Charles Darwin University. In her previous life she was a welfare rights lawyer at Darwin Community Legal Service. She is interested in social justice and addressing disadvantage through the law and is currently doing her PhD on procedural justice in prison.

References
2 Allan Van Zyl The Custody of Indigenous Youth and Young Men: A Rite of Passage? The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust of Australia 2001
Inside Out Prison Exchange Program Arrives at RMIT in Melbourne

Background

In 2008 I developed an interest in the idea of bringing together students from university to learn with incarcerated people in prisons. So what led me to want to deliver the Inside Out Prison Exchange Program (IOPEP) in Australia? Prior to becoming an academic, I worked as a Community Corrections Officer and realised the unfortunate plight of the people caught up in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) and the complexities involved in trying to break their cycle of offending. I also recognised the importance of criminal justice practitioners advocating for social justice initiatives and having an empathetic understanding toward those in the CJS. When I heard about the IOPEP I realised this would provide a unique opportunity to teach graduates compassion and understanding of this often-maligned group.

To further my interest I undertook IOPEP training at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. IOPEP was developed there by Lori Pompa in 1997. Since that time the program has expanded USA-wide and internationally.

There were some universities that expressed an interest in the development of IOPEP in Australia without success. This is not surprising as development of this program requires significant investment in staff training and preparation as well as collaboration and negotiation between various university and corrections departments.

As a lecturer at RMIT University I delivered the first Australian IOPEP at two Victorian prisons, namely the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre (DPFC) and Marngoneet Correctional Centre (MCC) in first semester of 2015, but the planning process was not simple. The planning for the roll-out of this teaching program commenced in 2013 and the stakeholder collaborations occurred for most of 2014. This culminated in careful selection of 30 Justice and Legal studies students (referred to as outside students) and 30 incarcerated individuals (referred to as inside students). The outside student selection process commenced with information sessions and an expression of interest application. Short-listed students were then interviewed via a panel of RMIT and prison personnel. Students were selected based on their life experience, completion of relevant subjects at high level and their suitability to be a part of a challenging learning and teaching environment within a prison. Outside students also needed to understand the controls that would be placed on learning in a prison setting. Hence, they signed a professional conduct, ethics code and confidentiality agreement. Further, a risk management strategy was developed to control for any contingencies that arose related to student safety and inappropriate conduct. Education officers in prisons selected suitable inside students for participation in the IOPEP.

Teaching program for IOPEP

The 16 week long IOPEP had the following objectives:

- To develop a classroom environment where students listen and respect each other;
- To encourage critical thinking and collaborative problem-solving; and
- To empower students to become social change agents.

The teaching program was based on a subject called ‘Comparative CJS.’ Students studied the evolution and operation of CJS, specifically police, courts and corrections in different societies and communities. They compared these to the Australian CJS.

The strength of the IOPEP was that individuals on ‘both sides of prison walls’ were able to engage in collaborative conversations about issues of social significance. The most challenging aspect of successfully delivering an IOPEP is ensuring that two very diverse student groups (incarcerated individuals and university students) are brought together to learn as equals. In addition, within a prison environment, the ‘prison walls’ need to be ‘transcended’ as students need to feel like they are in a ‘university classroom’.

At times communication difficulties between university and prison personnel occurred due to lack of knowledge and understanding of the commitments made to the IOPEP teaching program. This resulted in regular meetings, deliberations, negotiations and compromises related to delivering the teaching program. From a teaching perspective difficulties arose when inside students chose to withdraw from the program. This impacted on the group process and class discussion. Of interest was the entire selected outside student cohort completed the program.

All students were required to undertake university standard assessments. The completion of the IOPEP was celebrated with graduations at each prison (see photo below). The graduation involved students presenting their critical analysis of different aspects of the CJS in various countries, to family, friends and senior personnel from RMIT and Corrections Victoria.

Feedback on the learning experience

In their feedback forms outside students stated they had become more understanding, empathetic and less judgmental toward those in the CJS. In addition, they commented that the IOPEP “gave them the opportunity to see people grow and made them grow as a human being” (Outside students, MCC). This experience empowered outside students to want to make a difference and improve rehabilitation opportunities for offenders in the future, and make the system generally more proactive rather than reactive.

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to social ills such as drug addiction. Outside students gained a first-hand, real-life experience of seeing the ‘human element’ of incarceration, the specific struggles, the complexities and impacts. One student stated: “I saw that criminals are just like us – people. They are part of us and the broader community and together we can make a difference” (Outside student, DPFC).

The vast majority of inside students in their feedback forms discussed the fact that outside students had listened to their opinions and treated them with respect. One inside student, MCC said “The initial sense of ‘otherness’ that we as prisoners always feel quickly disappeared and by the end of only our second class it no longer mattered who was in green (referred to prison dress) and who was not. If you had an opinion or an idea you offered it and it was the validity of those ideas and your contributions that mattered. We were all equals. We were graded equally, we were treated equally and as equals we navigated the horrors of some of the world’s CJS.”

Positive attitudes from outside students gave inside students hope for a better future for themselves. They gained confidence and were inspired to want more from their lives, to expect more from themselves, to try harder and to be braver. Most inside students stated that they wanted to engage in other prison programs and further study. Such positive comments and subsequent actions by inside students are considered likely to lead to lower re-offending rates.

**Evaluation**

The IOPEP was evaluated in a number of ways. These included pre and post test anonymous student surveys, student focus group discussions, and peer review of teaching practice. The results have shown significant benefits to both inside and outside students, some of which have been highlight above.

During the last ten months a Think Tank program has been in operation at DPFC. The Think Tank comprises 20 inside students, outside students and RMIT personnel. Apart from being an advocacy group the Think Tank will provide key information for the training of academics from RMIT and other universities in the delivery of the IOPEP nationally.

Marietta Martinovic
RMIT University

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**Interview with Lorena Rivas, Winner of the Student Paper Prize 2016**

*Congratulations on winning the Student Paper Prize for your paper “Contemporary Perspectives on Crime: Antiquities Trafficking”! How does it feel to receive this award?*

I feel both honoured and privileged that my paper on antiquities trafficking was selected for this prestigious award, and I am also proud that my work was recognised as being of interest. I am also grateful to both of my supervisors, Associate Professor Melissa Bull and Professor Susanne Karstedt, for their guidance during my honours year at Griffith University.

**Tell us more about your paper.**

My paper was submitted as part of the assessment in the Griffith University honours course, Contemporary Perspectives on Crime, which focussed on themes around globalisation and crime. For the written assessment of this course I chose to examine antiquities trafficking, particularly those looted from archaeological sites, and the role of globalisation in this. In my paper I did this by firstly exploring what antiquities trafficking consisted of, including who engages in antiquities trafficking, how these objects are trafficked transnationally, and why antiquities trafficking has become such a prominent international black market. As part of this I examined the looting and trafficking of antiquities from Iraq as a case study to provide a more detailed example of this illicit trade. I then also considered the historical, cultural and security implications of the trafficking of antiquities. These implications ranged from its deleterious impact on society’s understanding of its history and culture to antiquities trafficking being linked to other criminal activity such as weapons trafficking, narcotic smuggling, human trafficking, and terrorist and extremist groups. The paper also briefly explored how antiquities trafficking can be prevented through means of public education, particularly targeting those more likely to purchase illicit antiquities (i.e. museums, galleries and collectors), and greater protection of archaeological sites.

**Tell us about yourself and your studies to date.**

I graduated with a double degree in Psychological Science and Criminology and Criminal Justice in 2014, and then graduated with First Class Honours in Criminology in 2015 at Griffith University. I am now in the first year of my PhD also at Griffith University. My PhD is building upon my honours thesis and will be examining the impact of immigration detention on the overall wellbeing of women detainees.

**What does the future hold for you?**

I am currently working on my PhD and am focusing on that at the moment in order to ensure I get the most out of the experience. I am particularly interested in vulnerable populations such as asylum seekers, victims of trafficking etc. and I would like to pursue these types of themes further in future work and research.
Where Are They Now?
Profiles in Criminological and Socio-Legal Adventures

In 1999, ANZSOC established the Student Paper Prize and the New Scholar Award. Since then, there have been about 25 recipients. This is the third instalment in a series that asks, what have the award winners done since receiving their ANZSOC accolade? What criminological and socio-legal adventures have they had? Where do they live and work today?

In this issue, we meet Student Paper Prize winners Ben Golder, Trees Beckett, and Emmanuel Giuffre; and we learn what a New Scholar Award winner is currently doing.

Ben Golder won the Student Paper Prize in 2003 for his essay, “‘It forced me to open more than I could bear’: H.A.D., paedophilia, and the discursive limits of the male heterosexual body”, which he wrote while an undergraduate law student at the University of New South Wales. Ben gave the paper to the Law, Literature and Humanities Conference in 2002, and he published it, as sole author, in Aesthetics of Law and Culture: Texts, Images, Screens (Studies in Law, Politics and Society, Volume 34) (2004), edited by Andrew Kenyon and Peter Rush, Elsevier, Amsterdam, pp. 53–73.

Today, Ben is a senior lecturer at the University of New South Wales Law School, where he works “just down the corridor from my former supervisor, now Emeritus Professor, David Brown”.

Ben’s prize-winning paper proposed “a way to think about the High Court’s infamous decision in Green v The Queen and a series of other appellate cases that dealt with the phenomenon of the ‘Homosexual Advance Defence’ (H.A.D.).” It was “steeped in Foucault, Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, and feminist legal theory” and “was really an essay about the body, masquerading as an essay about criminal law”.

Like another winner of the Student Paper Prize, Amanda Alexander (PacifiCrim profile in Vol. 13, Issue 1, April 2016), Ben’s supervisor was David Brown, who Ben says “by now must be eligible for some kind of Student Paper Prize Best Coach Award”.*

In 2004, “after having scaled the heights of winning the ANZSOC Student Paper Prize”, Ben left Sydney to pursue doctoral studies at Birkbeck, University of London. While in London, Ben taught law at the University of East London, University College London, Birkbeck, and New York University (London campus). “After 4 years of rich intellectual engagement, great friendships, good beer, and bad coffee”, Ben returned to Sydney “with an almost complete PhD, an almost born first child, and very little else”. He began his position at UNSW on his return, where he has been working “very happily ever since, PhD thankfully finished and parenting ongoing”. He briefly taught criminal law and advanced criminal law, but today most of his teaching and research is in legal theory, public law, and critical human rights theory.

Ben “credits my undergraduate studies in law, and the excellent teachers who now surround me as colleagues, as deterring me from the path of corporate lawyerdom and towards the less materially enriching, but more intellectually stimulating life in legal academia”.

*Note: David Brown has supervised a third Student Paper Prize winner, who is featured in the column in this issue.

Trees Beckett won the Student Paper Prize in 2007 for her essay, “The use of electroconvulsive shock therapy (ECT) without consent in New Zealand”, one of two research papers she wrote as part of her postgraduate diploma in Criminology at Victoria University Wellington. She wrote the paper under the supervision of Elizabeth (Lizzie) Stanley. Trees gave her prize-winning paper to the Philosophy, Psychiatry, Psychology Conference in Queenstown in 2009. Previously, in 1998, she received a BA (Hons) degree in philosophy from Otago University (Dunedin), where she received the Richardson Award in Arts and undertook tutoring in critical thinking and ethics. The thesis topic for her honours thesis was rational suicide.

Since winning the Student Paper Prize, Trees has lived in Dunedin and Wellington. She worked for the Department of Corrections in community- and prison-based roles as a probation officer and education tutor. She also held policy roles for the Ministry of Health, working on the Drivers of Crime interagency work program and the Tackling Methamphetamine program in

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Ben Golder

Trees Beckett

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Wellington. Trees is about to return to a policy role at the Ministry of Social Development, and she is “really excited about this new opportunity, which moves beyond the criminal justice sector”.

Trees returned to study in 2015 when living in Dunedin. She enrolled at Otago University to complete a Masters thesis in philosophy, having received the Daniel Taylor Senior Scholarship in Philosophy Award. She says “it was an absolute luxury to study again in my chosen field” and “my supervisors, Andrew Moore and Lisa Ellis, were great” and had “an amazing depth of knowledge”. Moreover, “they were excited about the topic area, which was really motivating”. Trees also enjoyed resuming tutoring for the Philosophy Department, again in the areas of critical thinking and ethics. Her Masters thesis is in moral philosophy, “with a focus on Immanuel Kant’s categorical imperative”. It examines “differences in moral and prudential decisions, and the key exemplar is suicide”. The thesis goes beyond the premise of her undergraduate thesis, “which analysed the conditions of rational suicide, by delving further into what constitutes moral decision making and obligation (and more importantly what does not)”. Trees submitted her thesis in June 2016 and is “eagerly awaiting the result”. She has two sons, lives in Wellington permanently with her partner and says that “I enjoy being back in a city that I love. Wellington is a great city, with many opportunities, and thus far 2016 is shaping up to be an extremely fruitful and productive year”.

Emmanuel Giuffre won the Student Paper Prize in 2008 for his essay, “Punks and jockers: masculinity, identity and power within prison”. The paper “investigated the nature, extent, and ramifications of sexual violence within Australian male prisons”. Emmanuel wrote his prize-winning paper while enrolled in a penology course, taught by David Brown, at the University of New South Wales Law School.

Today, Emmanuel is Legal Counsel of Voiceless, the animal protection institute, located in Sydney. Voiceless is “a non-profit think tank, focused on raising awareness and alleviating the suffering of animals in factory farms and the commercial kangaroo industry”. It brings “together a coalition of animal welfare scientists, lawyers, academics, communicators, and influential ambassadors”. Its “mission is to bring the institutionalised suffering of animals to the forefront of the national agenda, and to make animal protection the next great social justice movement”.

Some years before, “like many other young graduates, I found myself on the corporate law conveyor belt, working as a paralegal, summer clerking, and then settling at one of Sydney’s top corporate law firms”. It was at the law firm that “a colleague introduced me to the problems associated with animal agriculture”.

After working in the corporate law firm for nearly eight years, “I re-evaluated my lifestyle” and decided to “dedicate my legal skills to advocating for animal justice”. He joined Voiceless in 2013 as Legal Counsel.

Although he considers himself an environmentalist, Emmanuel was “initially shocked to learn of the impact of animal agriculture on the environment: it is responsible for 18 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions and 20 to 33 per cent of global fresh water consumption; and is the leading cause of species extinction, ocean dead zones, water pollution, and habitat destruction”. He was also “horrified by the mistreatment of farmed animals” and “the often painful mutilation practices performed on them”. All of this “forced me to question: how could this be tolerated by any civilised society, and how is it permissible under our legal system?”

New Scholar Prize


Michelle is a Lecturer, School of Law, University of New England.

“Where Are They Now: Profiles in Criminological and Socio-Legal Adventures” reported by Professor Kathy Daly, Griffith University
Impairments therefore require an understanding of symptomatology. Offenders and the nature and extent of mental impairments are complex and varied in their nature and extent. The mental impairment not covered by the mental impairment defence is that which is not typically covered by the restrictive mental impairment defence. We further argue that the decision to abolish defensive homicide was driven by dominant, populist voices, without sufficient understanding of its potential to achieve the aims underpinning its enactment, including providing an alternative offence for women who kill in response to prolonged family violence.

Abolishing defensive homicide: A step towards populist punitivism at the expense of mentally impaired offenders

The offence of defensive homicide was abolished in Victoria in November 2014, following a widely held perception that it was being abused by violent men. While primarily associated with battered women who killed in response to prolonged family violence — but who were unable to establish their offending as self-defence — a less publicised rationale underpinning the introduction of defensive homicide was to provide an alternative offence for offenders with a mental impairment not covered by the mental impairment (formerly the insanity) defence. Mental impairments are complex and varied in their nature and symptomatology. Offenders presenting with mental impairments therefore require an appropriate range of legal responses to capture the nuances and appropriate moral culpability of their conduct. Drawing from an analysis of the 33 cases of defensive homicide heard over its 10-year lifespan, this paper contends that the abolition of defensive homicide failed to take into consideration the potential impacts on individuals whose mental conditions are not typically covered by the restrictive mental impairment defence. We further argue that the decision to abolish defensive homicide was driven by dominant, populist voices, without sufficient understanding of its potential to achieve the aims underpinning its enactment, including providing an alternative offence for women who kill in response to prolonged family violence.

ANZSOC Griffith University Postgraduate Conference

Supported by the generous funding of ANZSOC, the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University hosted a one-day postgraduate conference on 7 October 2016. PhD students in criminology and related fields from a range of universities in South-East Queensland were invited to attend the free event. The aim of the conference was twofold: (1) to help PhD students understand the various processes involved with a PhD, and; (2) to assist students with skills and knowledge for employment after their PhD.

Academics from Griffith University, The University of Queensland, The Queensland University of Technology, post-doctoral students, and two Griffith PhD students presented on the day. The four keynote sessions focused on presentation skills, maximising research impact, publishing in academic journals, and exploring international research opportunities and potential collaborations. Concurrent sessions were also run, and were aimed towards those either at the beginning or end of their PhD. Presentations focused on topics such as managing supervisor relationships, narrowing the scope of research, self-care, and advice for new HDR students. Presentations for those nearing the end of their candidature focused on thesis examination, securing post-doctoral fellowships, learning how to write research grants, and preparing for employment.

The day ended with a round of ‘5 minute pitches’ where PhD students were provided the opportunity to present their current work. The postgraduate conference also provided a platform for PhD students from a range of universities to network with each other and attending academics.
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