

# CRIME & JUSTICE BLOTTER

Seattle University Criminal Justice Masters Program

Co-Editors: Elaine Gunnison, Ph.D. and L. Devin MacKrell

Volume 2. Issue 2. Summer/Fall 2010

## Continuing Education Program: Offender Reentry kicks off new series

The Criminal Justice Department is proud to announce two Continuing Education Events that will be offered in the 2010-2011 academic year. On Tuesday, November 9th from 6-9 p.m., the first CE Event is entitled, "DNA Exoneration and Wrongful Conviction." One of the invited speakers at this event is Kirk Bloodsworth, the first individual sentenced to death row in the U.S. who was then exonerated by DNA fingerprinting.

The second CE event "Criminal Justice Ethics & Accountability" will take place on Friday, May 6th, 2011. This second CE event will feature speakers from Seattle University and agencies across King County. Details about this training will be forthcoming. Contact: mackrell@seattleu.edu to be added to the event mailing list.



*Guest Speaker, Kirk Bloodsworth*

## Annyonghi kashipshiyo, EK!



The Seattle University Criminal Justice Department bids a fond farewell to graduate, Eunkeyeong Jeong, of the 2008 cohort. Upon the completion of her MACJ degree in Winter 2010, EK returned to her native Republic of Korea to work in law enforcement.

Congratulations, Eunkeyeong! It was a pleasure to count you as a member of our student body and we wish you the best in your future endeavors!

## APB

**MACJ Comprehensive Exam**  
Oct. 9, 2010 8–12:30 p.m.

**Continuing Ed: Bloodsworth**  
Nov. 9, 2010 6-9 p.m. (SU)

**ASC Conference**  
Nov. 17-20, 2010 (San Fran)

**WSC Conference in B.C.**  
Feb. 3-5, 2011 (Vancouver)

**AAFS Annual Meeting**  
Feb. 20-26, 2011 (Chicago, IL)

**ACJS Conference**  
March 1-5, 2011 (Toronto, ON)

**Continuing Ed: Criminal Justice Ethics & Accountability**  
May 6th, 2011 (SU)

**MACJ Info Sessions**  
1st Thursday every month



**Educating Leaders for a Just and Humane World**

# DISPATCHES

Welcome new and continuing MACJ students to the 2010-2011 academic year!



Congratulations to Laura Polson, the 2010-2011 recipient of the “Eugene Corr Scholarship Award.” The “Eugene Corr Scholarship,” named in honor of Eugene Corr, co-founder of the Seattle University Criminal Justice Department and former Assistant Police Chief of Seattle Police Department, is awarded annually to a MACJ student who is a minority and/or woman employed and/or has previous experience in law enforcement and plans to pursue a career in law enforcement after completing the MACJ degree. The Corr scholarship award is a one-time award of \$2,000. Laura has just gained employment as a U.S. Marshal in the Tacoma office.

As most of you know, I will be on an academic sabbatical during this academic year. Dr. Hickman is the designated Interim Graduate Director in my absence. You are in great hands! Dr. Hickman will be available to meet with you if you need advising in the form of course selection or career advice. Please do not hesitate to contact him at any time. All new MACJ students admitted in Fall of 2010 will have a formal advising appointment with Dr. Hickman sometime during Winter quarter.

**Elaine Gunnison, Ph.D.,  
Graduate Director**

Contributions to the newsletter or feature ideas for upcoming editions can be sent to [gunnison@seattleu.edu](mailto:gunnison@seattleu.edu) or [mackrell@seattleu.edu](mailto:mackrell@seattleu.edu). Have a great academic year!

## Course Update:

### Qualitative Research Methods -- CRJS 512

The seminar is designed to expose students to the major qualitative research methods (e.g., ethnographic, intensive interview, unobtrusive methods) and for students to apply these skills within a service learning context.

In Winter 2010, students worked collaboratively with the SPD and the Belltown Community Council to better understand the potential for crime and criminality within the City’s planned Belltown Park Boulevard, 17,000 square feet of park space which will pierce through an area long known for open air narcotics sales. Student projects focused on topics such as crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED), fear of crime, and crime and nightlife.

Don’t miss the chance to take this applied and fascinating course from Prof. Rice in Winter 2011!!

### Student Profile: J. Grant Ballingham



**Grant Ballingham, 2009 cohort  
with wife, Meri-Michael**

Back when they were still called junior high schools, Grant Ballingham had two main goals in life—getting a college education and joining the local police dept. in his small home town in northern Utah. In Fall 1984, just prior to his senior year at UW, Grant deferred his education to join the Seattle Police Dept. Family life further delayed his pursuit of a bachelor’s degree as he busied himself raising three children and focused on his law enforcement career. Taking classes when his work schedule permitted, he earned his undergraduate degree in Society and Justice in 1998. Along the way, he worked as a patrol officer in various precincts, as an instructor at the WA State Basic Law Enforcement

Academy, and as a detective in several units within SPD. Grant was promoted to Sergeant in 2005 and is currently assigned as the supervisor for the Mounted Patrol Unit, roaming around Seattle on his Quarter Horse, Tiger.

In 2009 Grant decided to fulfill a life-long dream—obtaining a graduate degree in criminal justice. Grant feels the experience and perspective gained from 25 years of law enforcement helps him keep up with the other students in his classes. His goal is to combine the wealth of his experience and the knowledge gained through the MACJ program to start a second career as an educator after he retires from SPD.

Grant loves his job, but his greatest joy in life is his family. Sadly, his oldest son Jason passed away in 1998. His son Jacob is on active duty in the US Marine Corps, having served combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Daughter Mary attends Cascadia College and works in a Seattle law firm. A single dad since 2000, Grant re-married in 2007 to the lovely Meri-Michael, a teacher finishing a Masters of Special Education degree at UW. Grant stays busy trying to keep up with his wife and teenage step-daughters, Carlie and Leanne.



## Faculty Profile: A. Daktari Alexander, Ph.D.:

Professor Alexander's primary research interests include issues related to the causes and prevention of juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice. His other research interests include Race, Crime and Delinquency; Strain Theory; General Strain Theory (GST); Race and GST; Social Disorganization Theory; Juvenile Justice Sentencing; Juvenile Waiver; Police and Citizen Interaction; and Prisoner Rehabilitation Programs.

Dr. Alexander earned his Ph.D. in Crime, Law and Justice from The Pennsylvania State University in 2004 and joined the faculty of Seattle University Criminal Justice Department in the Fall of 2007. Prior to arriving at Seattle University, Dr. Alexander was at The American



*A. Daktari Alexander, Ph.D.*

University in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Alexander presents regularly at academic conferences, such as the American Society of Criminology (ASC) and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), and is currently working on research related to police and line of duty deaths, recidivism among ex-offenders in a residential house, and the relationship between juvenile detention and demeanor.

When away from teaching and research, Dr. Alexander likes to watch international (foreign) films and documentaries and enjoys learning anything new and interesting.

## Alumni Profile: Kathy Dockins, Everett Police Department

The MACJ Program's first graduate ('08) to complete the comprehensive exam requirement took a long, strange trip to get her diploma! With a BA in

Kathy felt ill-prepared to pursue a completely different career path without some additional education under her belt. Fortunately, Seattle University had a newly-minted MACJ Program in 2006, and Kathy was accepted as a member of the program's first cohort. The plethora of interesting courses made her head spin! Unable to "double specialize" in both Investigative Criminology and Victimology, she simply chose no specialization, then took all of the electives necessary for both.

Kathy's first (and current) job in the criminal justice field is with the Everett Police Records Unit. However, other opportunities abound, and Kathy's specific goals include working in Crime Analysis or Public Disclosure. Her overarching career goal is to secure a

position in which she will continue to be challenged long past her training.

In her spare time, Kathy enjoys working on photo albums, reading, and watching movies. She also likes traveling, and recently returned from a trip to Washington, D.C. and the Dominican Republic. While in D.C., she met with Congressman Jim McDermott and had a long conversation with his Chief of Staff, Diane, about the reality of crime versus its portrayal in the media. They discussed the actions legislators can take without violating an individual's First Amendment Rights. Pretty heavy stuff for a vacation!

In the Dominican Republic, Kathy jaywalked as much as possible, because, "well . . . you pretty much have to." Back in Seattle, she has resumed her law-abiding ways, as befits a Criminal Justice graduate and civilian police employee.



*Kathy Dockins, 2008 Alumna with Congressman Jim McDermott*

Communications and 20 years working primarily in the entertainment industry,

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# UNDER INVESTIGATION: RESEARCH

## FACULTY

**PROFESSOR A. DAKTARI ALEXANDER** is currently working on the submission of several grant proposals and was recently appointed as a member of the Seattle University Institutional Review Board.

**PROFESSOR ELAINE GUNNISON** has an article forthcoming in *Western Criminological Review* and is examining work release programs in WA State.

**PROFESSOR JACQUELINE HELFGOTT** is co-investigator on several ongoing collaborative research projects and was recently named the general editor for a 3 volume set on *Criminal Psychology* for Praeger Publishers.

**PROFESSOR MATTHEW HICKMAN** recently submitted a grant proposal to the National Institute of Justice to study police officer stress in the East Precinct of the Seattle P.D. He is also working on research related to evidence retention policies within police departments, and (with Dr. Rice) the improvement of national crime statistics.

**PROFESSOR STEPHEN RICE** forthcoming scholarship includes a digital analysis of crime statistics in the *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* (with Dr. Hickman).

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## STUDENTS

Recent student paper abstracts submitted for the upcoming ASC conference in November:

**JENNIFER CAUFFMAN (2007 COHORT)-**  
**Abstract Title--** Crime and Nightlife: An Analysis of the Impact Crime Has on Belltown, Seattle Businesses

**CARLA HOUGH (2009 COHORT) -**  
**Abstract Topic--** Integration of technology in the Criminal Justice classroom.

**TAMMY KYNETT (2008 COHORT)-**  
**Abstract Title--** An Examination into the Perception-Reality Gap Regarding Crime in Belltown, Seattle WA

**MEGAN YERXA (2007 COHORT)-**  
**Abstract Title--** Finding the Right Spot, CPTED Style: Ideal Seating and Gathering in a Proposed Urban Greenspace

These abstracts are available for review on the MACJ website:

[http://www.seattleu.edu/artsci/macj/News\\_Article.aspx?id=50221](http://www.seattleu.edu/artsci/macj/News_Article.aspx?id=50221)

### THESIS SPOTLIGHT:

*PROFILING RIDGWAY: A Retrospective Analysis of Criminal Profiling Through the Green River Killer Investigation*

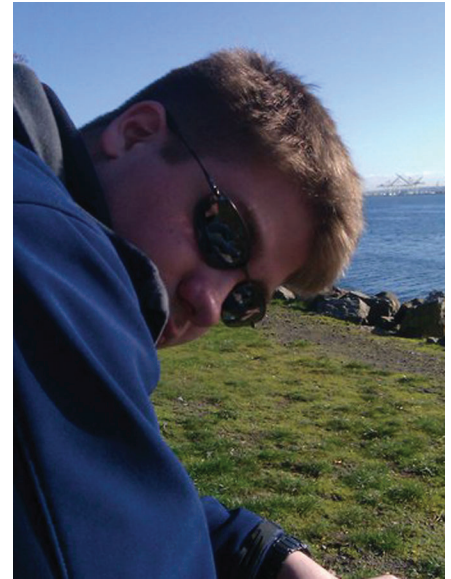
~ Loren Atherley

Gary L. Ridgway has been called the most prolific serial killer in U.S history. Despite the efforts of the foremost minds in criminal profiling he evaded capture for nearly twenty years.

Attempts to profile Ridgway using the methods available failed to identify key behavioral components and misled the investigation. Loren Atherley's thesis is a case study and retrospective analysis of criminal profiling with attention to the relationship between crime scene evidence and offender personality, background, and individual characteristics. Atherley hypothesizes that modern methods of criminal profiling would have been more effective in identifying personality characteristics of the offender given corrected behavioral models. This study found support of the hypothesis in that the Green River Killer fits known models of behavior based on empirically validated theory; however, further analysis of the series suggests, while modern criminal profiling would have yielded significant investigative leads, the high degree of forensic awareness exhibited by the offender left little forensic evidence. Even with an accurate criminal profile a conviction would not have been possible without the DNA evidence analyzed in 2001 and used to obtain a conviction in 2003.

Committee Members: Dr. Helfgott (Chair), Dr. Hickman, and Dr. Taylor

Loren Atherley successfully defended and completed his thesis in 2010.



**Loren Atherley, cohort 2008**