

CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE AREAS OF FOCUS

The department has identified three focus areas positioning it for national and international recognition. The three focus areas are the: (1) Center for Community Criminology and Research; (2) Genocide, Human Rights and International Law Project; and (3) National Center Crisis Intervention Team Training and Technical Assistance. All three areas build on existing capacity and programs that have already gained national and international attention.

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CRIMINOLOGY AND RESEARCH (C3R)

The Center for Community Criminology and Research (CCCR) was established in 2001 incorporating five components in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice involved in research and outreach functions. Staff from these components work together on projects to provide comprehensive research support to regional law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, and other community-based organizations. The following components make up the CCCR.

- ?? **THE RESEARCH AND EVALUATION GROUP** - provides research support and evaluation, participates in collaborations, and in conjunction with the Mid-South Training Institute, provides consulting services on a variety of topics available throughout the region. Projects include crime, health, early childhood development, and education issues. *Representative projects: Strategic Approaches to Community Safety; Project Safe Neighborhoods; Operation Courage; Evaluation of the Memphis Police Department's Juvenile Violence Abatement Project; Evaluation of the Shelby County Department of Corrections Lifting Voices Program; City of Brownsville Weed and Seed Initiative; Sheriff's Department Homeland Security Planning Effort; Truancy Abatement Project; Evaluation of the Shelby County Schools Emergency Preparedness Initiative.*

- ?? **THE COMMUNITY INFORMATION PROJECT** - supports local agencies and government initiatives through provision of information in the form of system analysis, database development, spatial analysis, and mapped data. The project also provides an information portal linking local and regional information systems through a common web-based interface. *Representative projects: Community Safety Information Project; Memphis and Shelby County Offender Tracking System; Victim's Assistance Records Management System; Youth Resources Information System; Child Health Data Consortium; Shared Urban Data System.*

- ?? **THE MIDSOUTH TRAINING INSTITUTE** - was established in 1999. The Institute provides personnel and professional training to criminal justice professionals from agencies in Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Missouri. *Representative projects: Training of over 1,000 law enforcement annually; developing new CIT training, including federal earmark proposal for National Training Center; preliminary exploration of development of a Command College.*

- ?? **THE MID-SOUTH SOCIAL SURVEY PROGRAM** - examines public opinion about crime through survey administration. *Representative projects: Annual criminal justice and victimization survey; annual update of services directory for the Community Institute for Early Childhood; Behavioral Risk Factors Survey for the Child Health Data Consortium.*
- ?? **COMMUNITY INTERVENTION STRATEGIES** - focuses on the implementation of community change with an emphasis on criminal justice, social services, neighborhoods and housing. Projects include criminal justice diversion and recidivism, crisis intervention, trauma recovery, and neighborhood change issues. *Representative projects: Southeast Memphis Community Revitalization Initiative; Thousand Oaks Community Revitalization Initiative; Medical District Public Safety Planning Study; Trauma Mitigation De-Briefing Contracts: Memphis Police and Fire Departments.*

C3R is at the forefront of demonstrating the effectiveness of research driven collaborative problem solving partnerships. Already recognized for its work as part of the United States Department of Justice's five-city pilot project, Strategic Approaches to Community Safety Initiative, C3R faculty and staff are providing research and evaluation support for numerous projects funded or coordinated by federal agencies, including the National Institute of Justice (e.g., SACSI, COMPASS,) Bureau of Justice Assistance (Project Safe Neighborhoods,) National Institute of Corrections (Lifting Voices Program Evaluation,) and national foundations (e.g., the Annie E. Casey Foundation,) and local foundations (Plough, LHS, Inc., Assisi Foundation). C3R's Community Information Project (CIP), using federal and local funding, has already garnered national attention for its technical partnership with local criminal justice agencies in developing database and GIS applications such the Community Safety Information System (CSIS), housed at the Memphis Police Department, and the Memphis and Shelby County Offender Tracking System (MASCOTS) in partnership with the TN Board of Probation and Parole. In addition, CIP is providing database management, GIS support, and technical assistance to many other local criminal justice and government agencies and has developed interactive mapping and database systems for the Community Institute for Early Childhood and the Youth Council. C3R is also developing the database structure and GIS infrastructure for the Child Health Data Consortium and working with other community partners in developing a Shared Urban Data System. In support of these initiatives, C3R's MidSouth Survey Research program has launched an annual Shelby Crime Survey, modeled on the National Crime Survey (NCS), which for the first time will allow for comparisons between responses from a local crime survey and the NCS. A more comprehensive list of C3R projects can be found in recent report attached as Appendix A.

Faculty Involved: Janikowski, Forde, Dupont, Turner, Mace

GENOCIDE, HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

Faculty members are doing research on slavery, lynching, and historic executions and their influence on the modern criminal justice system. *Genocide Research*

Project: The Genocide Research Project is a collaborative effort begun and centered at the University of Memphis. The goals of the Genocide Research Project are: (1) To construct a long term research agenda which applies the theories and methods of criminology and legal studies to the problem of understanding and preventing genocide; (2) To promote and encourage the study of genocide by criminologists and other scholars by developing and maintaining a current website of resources for research and teaching, organizing panels and roundtables on genocide at regional, national, and international conferences, and publishing theoretical and empirical studies of genocide; (3) To promote and encourage development of undergraduate and graduate courses on genocide; (4) To inform and educate the public on issues of genocide and human rights. Spearheading a new area of research in criminology, faculty have published a number of groundbreaking articles examining genocidal events from a criminological perspective, explored the development of new directions in international criminal law, and are founding members of a new refereed journal concerning genocide and human rights. Achievements of the Project include editing a special issue of *Crime, Law and Social Change: An International Journal*; presenting papers at international conferences held in Bosnia-Herzegovina and national conferences in the United States; maintaining an updated website that has received over 45,000 hits; offering a special topics course on genocide in the department; and responding to requests for information from activists, scholars, and students from Cambodia to Ukraine to Turkey to Tennessee. Beginning in 2004, GRP will publish a journal, *War Crimes, Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity*. In addition, research by faculty members related to capital punishment has been cited by the United States Supreme Court, is being funded by the National Science Foundation, and is expanding scholarly understanding of the contours and processes involved in application of the death penalty. *Capital Punishment Project:* The use of lethal punishment in the United States is an interest of several faculty members, and the department has achieved a reputation in this area, resulting in frequent calls for information and assistance from media, lawyers, investigators, mitigation specialists, and activists. The following are among the activities of faculty in this area: (1) CJUS is one of five sites for a National Science Foundation study of jury decision making in capital cases (Capital Jury Project); (2) The Abolitionist Oral History Project is an ongoing collaborative effort to preserve the experiences of people active in the post-*Furman* movement to abolish the death penalty; (3) Three times a year at regional and national conferences, two faculty members participate in roundtables on capital punishment; and (4) Recent and current research projects include work on public opinion, international law, race discrimination, and miscarriages of justice.

Faculty Involved: Vandiver, Giacomassi, Turner, Janikowski

NATIONAL CENTER FOR CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (CIT)

Memphis has long been recognized as a national model for the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) concept developed by the Memphis Police Department. Heralded by the Justice Department, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, and many other organizations for the dramatic decreases in injuries among both the mentally ill and police officers during police encounters and the diversion of the mentally ill from the criminal justice system, CIT has become the model that police agencies around the nation wish to emulate. However, until recently only a small number of agencies have been able to access the necessary training and technical assistance to implement similar programs in their jurisdictions. Housed in the department's MidSouth Training Institute, which annually provides continuing professional education to over 1,000 law enforcement officers from 23 states, the CIT program is developing new programs and partnerships to provide training, technical assistance, and evaluation support for agencies adopting CIT across the nation. Sample Projects: (1) De-escalation Training: Memphis Police Department; 48 other cities in the nation; continued training for new cities; (2) Trauma Mitigation: De-Briefing contracts with Memphis Police Department; Memphis Fire Department; training program for Shelby County Schools (3) Development of de-escalation training for private industry; corrections; private security.

Faculty involved: Dupont; Janikowski

1. Identify those areas that fit within the University's areas of focus and within your College's areas of focus.

| <i>University Focus Area</i> | <i>A & S Focus Area</i> | <i>Department Focus Area</i> |
|---|--|---|
| <i>Biotechnologies/ Learning Technologies</i> | Biotechnology/Bioinformatics; Cognitive Studies | <i>CIT</i> – Virtual A/I CIT Training Curriculum (with RTI) |
| <i>Business and Civic</i> | | C3R – Research support for criminal justice agencies (e.g., MPD, SCSO, DOC, Pre-trial Services, Probation & Parole, US Attorney, City of Memphis, Shelby County Government, DCS), business groups and civic groups (e.g., Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, Youth Council, Clark & Clark), community organizations (e.g., Ten Point Coalition, Coalition of the Willing, Urban Youth Initiative); Program Evaluation (e.g., JVAP, JIFF, Family |

Leadership

Healthcare Programs

Teacher Education

Health-related Studies

Teacher Education

Justice Center, Lifting
Voices, Victims
Assistance Center);
Database Design
(Probation and Parole,
MPD, SCSO, Victims
Assistance, Boys and Girls
Clubs, Ten Point
Coalition, Reach and
Teach); GIS – (e.g., MPD,
SCSO, US Attorney,
Bartlett Police
Department, Brownsville
Police Department, DCS);
Shared Urban Data
System; Regional GIS
project (Shelby County)
C3R – (1) Mid-South
Training Institute (2)
Command College (3)
Emergency Preparedness
Planning
C3R – (1) Child Health
Data Consortium (2) Child
Services Directory (3)
Behavioral Risk Factors
Survey (4) Quality Health
Care Management Data
(with UT) (5) Child
Health Survey;
Community Institute for
Early Childhood research
support; CIT – (1) CIT
training; (2) National
Center for CIT (3) Trauma
Mitigation De-Briefings –
MPD & FPD (4)
Emergency Preparedness
for Shelby County Schools
C3R – Truancy Prevention
Initiative; School Safety
GIS support; SACSI;
Shelby County Schools
Emergency Preparedness
Project, Day Care Quality
Enhancement Planning

Urban Initiatives

Community-based Research

Initiative; *CIT* – CIT training for teachers and school personnel in Shelby County Schools; Incident Trauma Mitigation planning and training for Shelby County Schools; Genocide & Human Rights – work with Facing History and Ourselves *C3R*- Neighborhood Profiles Project (with CCBANA), Brownsville Weed and Seed, Hope VI Evaluation data support; Southeast Memphis Community Revitalization Project; Thousand Oaks Community Revitalization Project; Medical District Public Safety Planning Study; Shared Urban Data System

Social Inequality & Change

Genocide, Human Rights And International Law – research on capital punishment, racial profiling, diversity in law enforcement, genocide and international law, constitutional law and theory, victim-related research

Additional information on projects can be found in Appendix A, a copy of a recent report to the Assisi Foundation, and Appendix B, a copy of a recent report on the Child Health Data Consortium presented to LHS, Inc.