



Criminal Justice Studies Program

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

2019-
2020

In this issue, we feature Program events for 2019-2020, including the Alumni Panel and the Susette M. Tal-
arico lecture delivered by Dr. John Jarvis. Interest in studying criminal justice continues to be strong, with
275 majors/ intended majors and 178 minors enrolled during spring 2020. [**Opportunities for experi-
ential learning, including internships, are highlighted in the pages below. This issue also of-
fers an opportunity to note a few of the many awards won by our accomplished students and
affiliated faculty.**] To find out more about CJSP, please check out our web site at: cjstudies.uga.edu

CJSP Alumni Panel

If it is homecoming week, it is also time for the CJSP annual alumni panel. Each fall, fifteen alumni return to campus during homecoming week to participate on a panel. In addition to reminiscing about experiences in Baldwin Hall or Sanford Stadium, these alums reflect on their own career choices and provide advice on what students should be doing on campus now so that they will be able to achieve their post-graduation goals. These alumni represent many career fields— lawyers in private practice, prosecutors, federal-state-local law enforcement, juvenile justice, corrections, corporate security, natural resources, academia, victim services, to name a few. After the panel, alums also spend time talking one-on-one with students who are thinking about a career in their area.

In these photos, we highlight the panel from this past year. As you will see, the renovation of Baldwin Hall allows an opportunity to use a new, beautiful space: the Pinnacle Room. If you have any interest in participating in future panels, please contact Todd Krohn at tmkrohn@uga.edu

This year's participants: **Ashley Mancik, Justin Nixon, Laila Schuler, Vicki Bowman, Andy Hunter, Josh Lovett, Jesse Maddox, Jackie Gittens, Will Hannah, Lt. Derek Scott, Joel Stringer, Mark Blackwood, Alley Mauldin, Ryan Swingle, Josh Huffman**



2019 Alumni Panel



Susette Talarico Lecture

We sponsor the **Susette Talarico** lecture each spring—the 11th lecturer was here in February: Dr. John Jarvis, academic dean of the FBI academy. With 29 years of experience in criminal justice analysis, Dr. Jarvis has also served in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program and as Chief Criminologist in the Behavioral Science Unit at the FBI Academy. He conducts research on lethal and non-lethal violence, mass victimization events, violent crime trends and the dynamics of crime clearance rates.

This series, supported by the Susette Talarico fund and the CJ Society, brings practitioners and scholars to campus to discuss current issues in the criminal justice system.

In 2019, the lecture was delivered by Judge Steve Goss, formerly on the Georgia Court of Appeals; Judge Goss was a former student of Dr. Talarico's and leading figure in the development of mental health courts in Georgia and across the nation (Sadly, he died in late summer of 2019). In 2018, LaGrange Chief of Police Lou Dekmar delivered the lecture—he is the former president of IACP. If you google his name, you'll see a very interesting (compelling) story about his role in working with the community to address their long-time suspicion of the police as a result of a man who was murdered (lynched) while in custody.



Dr. John Jarvis' lecture



Dr. Jarvis, 2020 Talarico lecturer



CJ Field Trip in Atlanta

In February, with support from the **Will Bush fund**, CJ sponsored a day-long field trip with 25 students and 2 staff to the federal prison in Atlanta. It was followed by a meeting in the federal judicial/law enforcement building downtown with a federal district court judge and those who work in US Probation, US Marshals, public defenders, and assistant US attorneys.

The follow-up emails from students who participated in this field trip indicated that this offered an invaluable opportunity to understand the people and work of those professional in these areas. Multiple students said that it has led them to expand their thinking about their own career paths.

Each year, we visit the federal prison/complex or the state prison in Jackson. In addition, students have enrolled in Sarah Shannon's Inside-Out class where sessions are held in the ACC jail (students are made up of inmates and those from UGA).

CJ Minors All Around

The CJ minor was "re-activated" as a result of increased interest in the area and to mitigate the demand for the major. After launching in fall 2017, we now have 178 students from six different colleges/schools who identify as criminal justice minors. By comparison, we currently have 136 CJ majors (these are juniors and seniors) and 139 intended CJ majors (freshmen, sophomores). It looks like there was tremendous growth in the early-to-mid 2000s that led to the current enrollment figures that we have today. There is year-to-year fluctuations, but overall, the numbers have been about the same: we graduate about 65-75 majors each year.

Alumni and our one-hour course on criminal justice



Panel on careers as victim advocates (4905): Amelia Rushton, Sophie Taylor, and Will Olmstead

A one hour course on the practice of criminal justice was added to the curriculum four years ago. Since then, we have re-organized sessions to include panels of speakers from a wider range of fields, including representatives from professional graduate degree programs that have tie-ins to criminal justice. The course has practitioner-speakers from law enforcement (all levels), law (public defenders, prosecutors), community supervision (probation, state and federal), working with at risk families and victims (advocates from governmental agencies and nonprofits), and specialty courts (i.e. drug courts).

Students use assigned readings to frame their journal essays that reflect on speakers' comments. In addition to keeping a journal, students conduct an informational interview of a practitioner in a field of interest. We survey their career interests, organize them into teams based on their shared interest, and then match each group with a figure in their career field to conduct the interview. Each team presents at the end of the semester. The class is taught once annually with about 85-90 students enrolled.