



THE SOUTHWESTERN REGION NEWSLETTER

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SWACJ Web Page: www.cj.swt.edu/swacj/intro.html

Fall 2003 Newsletter of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice Vol. 10(1)

President's Message

Beth Pelz

University of Houston - Downtown

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Greetings from Houston, the land of eternal summer weather. Those of you enjoying a crisp, cool fall should be willing to share with us. Oh well, no one said life is fair. I have had the opportunity to speak with several of you since the October meeting and the consensus is that we had a great meeting for several reasons. First, attendance was exceptional. The more people who participate, the better the quality of presentations and the greater our purchasing power is in negotiating with hotels. Second, we had a noteworthy discussion addressing reallocation of SWACJ officers' responsibilities. I will submit my suggestions for reallocation of these duties to you before we meet in Las Vegas so we can discuss them as a group. Finally, several institutions supported substantial graduate and undergraduate student presentations. This fact may be the most important reason for holding the SWACJ meetings. Special appreciation goes to Wes Johnson for agreeing to chair the student scholarship committee.

To my knowledge, what we have not done recently, is to hold a discussion examining the specific goals of our organization. There seems to be universal agreement that every October we meet to reconnect relationships, and share opinions, expertise, and research we have conducted. If we are honest, some of us participate simply to add to our vitas, but we have not spent time examining how we should be contributing to the field as a unified group. I propose that each of us arrives in Las Vegas in March with ideas as to how SWACJ can impact the field as a whole.

I offer you a couple of topics to consider. First, what is our obligation to the future of the field of criminal justice as it relates to mentoring our students? How should this issue impact our search for appropriate venues for our meetings and is there anything we can do organizationally to impact financial support for student travel? If our goal is to enrich the field, our students are our future. What better way to ensure a bright future than to fully support and mentor them?

Second, as a regional association of ACJS, what is our obligation to expend our time and energy on analysis of specific issues? Should we form a consortium of institutions and/or faculty who agree to address a different issue of consequence to the field on a yearly basis? How would such a cooperative venture work?

Are we up to the challenge? SWACJ could be the leader in developing regional activities that would result in each region arriving at ACJS with information about current issues that are important to us all.

I look forward to seeing all of you again in Las Vegas in March and hope that you will seriously consider the mission and goals of SWACJ before we reconvene. Have a great winter and send some of that cold weather our way.

Beth Pelz, President
Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

CALL FOR PAPERS

**The 2004 SWACJ Annual Meeting will be
October 7-9**

Hilton Houston Plaza, Houston, Texas

Theme: “Researching Criminal Justice Organizations”

Please see our website or contact Program Chair Tory Caeti for more information

ABOUT OUR ASSOCIATION

The Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice (SWACJ) is a regional affiliate of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. It is composed of criminal justice educators and practitioners from Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. We are committed to developing the highest standards in education, training, practice, and research in criminal justice and criminology.

The Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice encourages participation from criminal justice agencies, community and junior colleges, four-year colleges and universities in the process of furthering the criminal justice system through research and education. The organization strongly encourages the participation of students in our annual meetings.

Membership is welcomed from individuals involved in:

- *Higher Education*
- *Criminal Justice Training*
- *Criminal Justice Agencies*
- *Private Enterprises Related to Criminal Justice*
- *Others Interested in Criminal Justice*

For additional information regarding membership in SWACJ, please visit our web page at: www.swt.edu/swacj/intro.html or contact SWACJ Secretary/Treasurer Chip Burns (contact information is provided on Page 1 of this newsletter)

2004 SWACJ ANNUAL MEETING -- IMPORTANT REMINDERS --

Those planning to attend the 2004 SWACJ annual meeting should keep in mind the following dates. Your cooperation in registering early enables us to better estimate the number of attendees expected for the President's Reception, luncheon, and other functions. Attendees are encouraged to complete and submit the information form found on Page 10 of this newsletter. Please be sure to note the number of students (if any) you intend to bring with you.

Important Dates:

Abstracts due:	September 15 th
Student papers due to Second Vice President Camille Gibson:	September 6 th
Cutoff date for SWACJ rate at the hotel:	September 15 th

2004 SWACJ Meeting—Houston, Texas

Hotel Information: Hilton Houston Plaza
6633 Travis Street
Houston, Texas 77030-1308
Telephone: (713) 313-4000 **Fax:** (713) 313-4660

Please mention that you are with the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice when making your reservation. The cutoff date for reservations at the Hilton is September 15th. Rooms are \$72.00 for either a single or double.

A review of the hotel complete with pictures, directions, activities, and descriptions of the services can be found at www.hilton.com (search for the Hilton Houston Plaza via Hilton's main web site).

Information on Houston can be found at: www.houston.com

See you in Houston!

*First Vice President's Note***Tory Caeti****University of North Texas****Hello Everybody in SWACJ Land!**

It seems like every business meeting we rehash a few similar topics: Where are we going next year? Should we go out of state? Will students be able to afford the conference? The problem is that the business meeting is relatively brief and always seems hurried and we have never really come to a clear consensus on issues relating to the conference and scheduling.

Over the past 11 years, we have been to numerous locations both in and out of the state of Texas. The constant issue has been the dollars that are generated at the conference and covering the conference bill. Until the past four or so conferences, we were generally happy with breaking even at the conference. When I was Secretary / Treasurer, the highest balance we ever had in the coffers was around \$4500, Chip informed me that we currently enjoy an \$11,000 dollar balance in the account—fantastic. The effort to get publishers to foot some expenses, raise sponsorships, and increase attendance at the conferences have all paid off—now what should we do? I was stuck on a plane that was diverted to Montreal for the Boston business meeting when we decided to go to Houston for another year in 2004. The question then arose at the Houston conference, should we go out of state for 2005? Several possibilities were mentioned in Houston and at prior conferences, none of which have ever been successfully debated to fruition. Should we have a permanent site for the conference? If not, how often should we go out of Texas? What would the attendance be if we decided to go to another state?

In order to come to an informed decision, I have chatted a bit with Chip and we are going to put together a survey of our membership consisting of anyone who has paid dues or attended a conference in the past ten years. We will assemble the questions, put them into a webpage, and then e-mail the membership to ascertain the thoughts and wishes of the entire membership in order to give our organization a better picture for planning in the future. If you want to include some thoughts or ideas for items on the survey, please contact me at tcaeti@unt.edu with your suggestions. The questions we are planning include support for selecting a permanent site, querying about support and attendance at sites both in and out of the state of Texas, thoughts about student attendance and the potential for student travel money from the organization, and questions about the conferences in general in order to gain additional support from our universities and colleges. I must admit that I was disappointed by the attendance of both my employing institution and my alma mater at the recent conference in Houston which was close to both institutions.

Once the results of the survey are in, we will share them with the organization in the next newsletter. This year's theme is "Researching Criminal Justice Organizations" and is designed to open up thoughts about conducting research in the field as well as an open attempt to bring more practitioners into our organization. If you have suggestions for panels, roundtables, or thoughts about the conference itself, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing everyone in Houston next year.

2004 SWACJ STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Graduate and undergraduate students currently enrolled (and those who will be enrolled September 2004) in a university, college, junior college or community college within the Southwest Region.

Awards:

	<u>Graduate Student</u>	<u>Undergraduate Student</u>
First Prize	\$250	\$100
Second Prize	\$150	\$75
Third Prize	\$100	\$50

** Winner of the graduate student paper competition will be invited to have their work included in a forthcoming edition of *The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice*.

JUDGES: Judges must be active within SWACJ and will be selected from the updated membership list. Judges may or may not elect to award all of the prizes available depending on the number of entrants and quality of the papers.

ENTRY RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. The paper must be authored by student(s) only. No faculty/student joint papers will be considered.
2. The paper must be an original work. It may be especially prepared for the 2004 SWACJ annual meeting or it may be a revision of a paper prepared for coursework at the student's home university or college.
3. Three copies of each paper must be submitted to **Camille Gibson, Prairie View A&M University, College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology, PO Box 4017, Prairie View, TX 77446** before **September 6, 2004**. Papers received after the deadline will not receive consideration.
4. The paper must meet standard publication formats as established at the student's home university or college.
5. The title page of the paper should include the student's full name and address, school affiliation and status as either graduate or undergraduate. The author's name and affiliation *should not appear* on any other page of the submitted paper.

PRESENTATION OF SUBMITTED PAPERS: Students **are not required** to attend the annual meeting or to present their papers to be eligible for the awards. However, we do encourage students to consider presenting their papers. Students wishing to attend the meeting should **complete the registration form** found in this newsletter or on the SWACJ webpage at: www.cj.swt.edu/swacj/intro.html.

Students who submit papers for presentation **are not obligated** to enter the paper contest. The paper competition is strictly voluntary.

RECOGNITION OF THE WINNERS AND PRESENTATION OF THE AWARDS
WILL BE MADE AT THE LUNCHEON.

-- All Students Are Encouraged To Participate --

Second Vice President's Note
Camille Gibson
Prairie View A&M University

Yep! The Faculty Jobs are Out There Especially in CJ!

A couple of years ago a reporter for the *San Francisco Chronicle* wrote a piece predicting a faculty hiring surge in 2003 for Arizona, California and Texas as a result of faculty retirement and increasing enrollment. Well, it's happening! Not just in these states, but nationwide it seems like almost everyone is hiring and with multiple openings. The search includes the "tougher to get into" ranks of the likes of the University of Maryland (whose folks might be heard laughing about the caliber of applicants they have received thus far) and New York universities. Many departments hope to use the opportunity to diversify. Standard recruitment pitches include selling the academic reputation of the institution, the quality of research facilities, jobs for spouses, junior faculty mentorship and teaching load reduction. More novel tactics include mortgage assistance programs, tuition waivers for relatives and subsidized child-care. Nevertheless, universities are screening applicants carefully, opting to go with adjuncts until the right full-timer comes along.

That First Full-Time Academic Job

Unlike adjuncting as a doctoral student, that first academic job is not all about teaching. Enter - administrative responsibilities, student advising, office hours, research, consulting work, publishing, grant writing, carrying out grants, networking, service to the university and to the community, not complaining but troubleshooting and having the reserve to do it all. The smaller the institution, the more one usually has to do. Oh, and note, I haven't mentioned a personal life - although it is possible to work one in there somewhere.

Now just because you are doing all of the above doesn't necessarily mean that others know it. So, keep documents and a log on everything and inform your supervisors as you go. Remember: "Every university says they focus on undergraduate instruction, but the fact of the matter is that neither universities nor professors gain reputation through teaching" - Patrick Callan, 1999 President of the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education.

If as a graduate student you are complaining that it is too much - don't enter academia because things only get worse after graduation. To excel in that first job you must realize the value of your time and prioritize. For some of us diligent dutiful servants of others, putting self over students is far easier said than done (so often the more selfish among us get out of the starting gate with a lead and may wind up looking better than us on paper). Life, huh... Anyway, one way to handle this is collaborative work. But note, all publications are not the same. Solo, refereed pieces still carry more weight than collaborated ones and quantitative pieces are still more esteemed than qualitative ones.

Other things to remember: women in academia still earn less than men (American Association of University Professors, 2003) so, be careful about that starting salary that you accept ladies. Also, get the real scoop on a department before accepting a job (students love to tell it! Plus, if a place has a high turnover rate - guess what - there is a reason for it); be amicable to your colleagues once you take that job and watch what you say and to whom you say it, for "the walls have ears;" keep learning and growing - especially where technology is concerned; allow yourself to be mentored if someone is gracious enough to offer it, but be careful of those who would exploit (have you do the work and they

take credit); learn all you can about grants before you graduate because bringing in money makes you really special; have teaching experience (2 years preferred) before graduating and at least two publications to increase your competitiveness; also, your reputation as a graduate student is likely to follow you – so, be nice. Finally, avoid taking a full-time faculty position before completing the PhD. It's tempting, I know, especially with all those jobs out there – but, many people can't handle both. So, be very real with yourself. An ABD is not a degree.

Oklahoma City and Little Rock are the sites currently under consideration for the 2005 SWACJ annual meeting. It is expected that those attending the 2004 ACJS-SWACJ Business Meeting in Las Vegas will select the site. Otherwise, forward your thoughts and suggestions on site selection to Camille Gibson at Camille_Gibson@pvamu.edu.

Call For Book Reviews

Care to share your views on a particular book? *The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice* is seeking book review contributors. Graduate students are encouraged to submit reviews although all are invited to share their work. The guidelines for submitting a book review are similar to those prescribed by ACJS:

- Provide a review that will help the readership determine the utility of the book for teaching particular courses.
- Identify how the book is applicable to criminal justice, criminology, sociology, and/or related curriculums.
- Identify the courses for which the book will be useful.
- Identify the level of students most likely to find the book useful.
- Reviews should be no more than three (3) single-spaced pages with references in APA style.
- Submission of a review to the SWACJ newsletter implies the review has not been published elsewhere nor is it currently under submission to another publication.

--- Contact journal editor Allan Patenaude (alpatenaude@ualr.edu) for additional information ---

Secretary / Treasurer's Report

Chip Burns

Texas Christian University

It was great to see everyone in Houston at the October annual meeting. It appears a productive and enjoyable time was had by all. The final tally indicates a total of 127 attendees and a net profit (including membership dues) of roughly \$3,100. The number of attendees increased 27% from last year's annual meeting total of 100 in San Antonio. Your support of SWACJ is greatly appreciated. The current account balance stands comfortably at \$11,498, thanks in part to you, the members, and all who sponsor our meetings. I encourage all members to identify and react to any and all potential avenues of support for SWACJ (e.g., publishers, departments, criminal justice agencies), with the goal of making our association even stronger.

The membership count for 2003 stands at 90, a decrease of 34% from last year's total of 121. Be sure to check the membership list on the SWACJ website to ensure that your dues are current. Please use the form located on page 9 of this newsletter to update your membership dues if necessary.

Finally, you'll notice this newsletter contains no book reviews. Anyone interested in writing (or reading) book reviews are encouraged to visit SWACJ's journal, *The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice* (<http://www.ualr.edu/~cjdept/swjci/index.html>). Happy holidays to all -

MINUTES FROM THE 2003 SWACJ ANNUAL MEETING, HOUSTON, TEXAS – OCTOBER 3, 2003

SWACJ President Verna Henson called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Verna thanked everyone for attending and introduced ACJS President Steve Lab who discussed developments in the ACJS. Steve mentioned the forthcoming upgrade of the ACJS website, and discussed the organization's recently established role in the accreditation of criminal justice programs. He mentioned that ACJS will not, at this point, offer accreditation to programs, instead the organization will offer certification should programs meet minimum standards. Steve cited the costs of setting up such a practice as a primary deterrent to ACJS accreditation, although the organization will progress based on member input. Steve concluded his report by encouraging SWACJ members to attend the 2004 ACJS meeting in Las Vegas at the Riviera Hotel and Casino (\$109 rooms).

Chip Burns then offered the Secretary/Treasurer's report, thanking individuals from the University of Houston-Downtown, particularly Paulette Purdy, for their exceptional work in facilitating the annual meeting. Chip then offered attendance and financial figures. (Note: updated figures suggest that 127 individuals registered for the meeting, with SWACJ adding roughly \$3,100 to the coffers).

Verna then asked our regional Trustee Wes Johnson to give the Trustee's report. Wes mentioned that inclement weather cancelled the Trustee's Meeting, though he would update us at the upcoming ACJS meeting. Verna thanked Wes and former Trustee Barbara Hart for all of their hard work.

Attention then focused on the ad hoc committee on the relocation of officer duties. Committee members Barbara Hart and Jim Golden noted the vague task with which they were charged, and proposed no action be taken. Jim stated that they found the current approach acceptable; that there exists an appropriate progression of duties among the officers. Beth Pelz suggested a different progression of duties might be an improvement. Tory Caeti offered agreement. Wes Johnson moved that Beth prepare a document describing a more effective distribution of duties, and the move was supported. Questions then arose regarding the appropriateness of altering the SWACJ Constitution. The motion was then revoked. Trey Williams suggested, and it was agreed, that Beth revisit the distribution of officer duties and offer SWACJ members with an alternative, and provide justification for a constitutional amendment.

Verna then turned over the meeting to incoming SWACJ President Beth Pelz. Beth thanked Verna and presented her with a gift of appreciation. Beth began her tenure as President by soliciting nominees for the Second Vice President position. Each nominee gave a brief talk and Camille Gibson was elected to the position. The election was followed with Al Patenaude, editor of the *Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice*, noting that the first edition of our electronic journal is up and running. Al encouraged all to visit the site and to submit articles for publication consideration.

First Vice President, and Program Chair of the 2004 annual meeting, Tory Caeti then offered his report on potential sites for the 2005 meeting. As it was earlier agreed that the meeting would move out of Texas in 2005, Tory reported that he was considering three sites: Santa Fe, Phoenix, and Colorado

Springs. Discussion then centered on the appropriateness of these, and other sites, and it was agreed that we would revisit the issue at the ACJS meeting in March. The meeting concluded at 5:00 PM.

WELCOME TO SWACJ!

SWACJ continues to grow in size and recognition primarily through the contributions of our exceptional membership. We eagerly anticipate continued growth, facilitated in part by the following individuals who in the past year became SWACJ members:

Janice Ahmad
 Cecilia Akesson
 David Armstrong
 Stephanie Arnoldin
 Ashley Blackburn
 Edward Bolton
 Nieketta Brown
 Ferris Byxbe
 Philip Carlan
 Lora Hawkins-Carter
 Carl Chandler, Jr.
 Eric Coleman
 Tiffiney Cottledge

Janelle Dine
 Patricia Dunaway
 Olga Ermakova
 Jeff Ferrell
 Ysuke Fuse
 Byron Harrison
 Deborah Hartley
 Patti Hendrickson
 Yen Hsu
 Tom Jordan
 Sharlette Kellum
 Marshall Lloyd
 Larry McAlister

Tonya McGlon
 Willard Oliver
 Sung Eun Park
 Matthew Pate
 Candace Phillips
 Keith Price
 Gloria Priddy
 Amy Proctor
 Amber Sargent
 Matt Terry
 Becky Thomason
 James White
 Tzurung Yaown

WELCOME!!!

Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

Application for Membership

NAME: _____ DATE: _____
 TITLE: _____
 INSTITUTION OR AGENCY: _____
 ADDRESS 1: _____
 ADDRESS 2: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 WORK PHONE: _____ FAX: _____
 E-MAIL: _____

PLEASE INDICATE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY: **FULL MEMBER** _____ (\$10.00) **STUDENT** _____ (\$5.00)
INSTITUTION OR AGENCY _____ (\$100.00)

Return Form and Check or Money Order to:
 Chip Burns, Secretary/Treasurer, Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice
 Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, TCU Box 298710
 Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX 76129
 Phone 817-257-6155, Fax 817-257-7737
 r.burns@tcu.edu

2004 SWACJ Annual Meeting Program Participants Information Form

Interested individuals should mail the following information along with the \$50.00 (\$40.00 for students) meeting registration fee* to:

Chip Burns, Secretary/Treasurer, Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, TCU Box 298710
Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX 76129
Phone 817-257-6155, Fax 817-257-7737
r.burns@tcu.edu

(Please be sure to complete this form even if you choose not to actively participate in the proceedings. Information from these forms is used to estimate attendance at the President's Reception and the luncheon)

Please Type or Print Legibly

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ e-mail: _____

I will be staying at the meeting hotel yes no I will be bringing _____ number of students / attendees

Paper Title: _____

Paper Abstract - Please type in complete sentences and do not use references, figures, tables, or quotations. **Please limit Abstracts to 100 words or less.** Use the space provided or attach on a separate sheet:

Please indicate if you wish to:

Present a paper _____ Present a student paper _____ Attend, but NOT
Chair a panel _____ Serve as a discussant _____ present a paper _____
Organize a panel _____ Organize a workshop or round table _____

Please Submit Abstracts and Fees by September 12, 2004

*NOTE: Late and on-site registration is an additional \$10.00 (waived for students).

The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice

A PEER-REVIEWED ELECTRONIC JOURNAL

Web Page: <http://www.ualr.edu/~cjdept/swjcj/index.html>

Call for Papers

The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice (SWJCJ) is now accepting manuscripts for its second issue. We are interested in receiving original work that has not been previously published. Diversity in theoretical and methodological approaches is encouraged as is the submission of historical and policy-related research. The *SWJCJ* is the online, refereed journal of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice, a regional affiliate of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. Authors do not need to be a member of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice to submit a manuscript for consideration. The choice of an electronic format for the journal reflects the impact that both changing technologies and financial restrictions have had on the distribution of scholarly work. It is the secondary mission of the SWACJ to provide a high quality, low cost alternative to the traditional, print-based journal.

Electronic submissions may be submitted to the Editor, Allan Patenaude (alpatenaude@ualr.edu), as an attachment formatted in either **Microsoft Word**, **Corel WordPerfect**, or **Rich Text Format (RTF)** while printed submissions (with a disk copy) may be sent through the postal service to: Allan L. Patenaude, Ph.D., Editor, Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice, Department of Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2801 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204. All graphics must be submitted as separate files (from the text) in either **.bmp**, **.gif**, **.jpg**, **.pict**, or **.tiff** formats. Please consult *The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice* web page at <http://www.ualr.edu/~cjdept/swjcj/index.html> for further information concerning the submission requirements and style. All other concerns should be addressed by contacting the Editor by email or telephone at (501) 569-3195.

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SWACJ ANNOUNCEMENTS



- ◆ Members are encouraged to verify their information as found in the "Directory of Members" link on the SWACJ web site. Please report necessary changes to Chip Burns at r.burns@tcu.edu.

- ◆ Do you have information you'd like to share in "SWACJ ANNOUNCEMENTS?" Send contributions to Chip Burns at r.burns@tcu.edu. Your announcement will appear in the following newsletter and on the website.