

CRIMSA NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 25: 2000

- Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of CRIMSA
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FROM THE EDITOR

The year 2000 was a significant year for CRIMSA and it is pleasing to report that substantial progress has been made in a number of key areas. Aside from the excellent progress made on a number of development and other strategic projects, the picture which emerges in relation to the following activities is a positive achievement.

I am please to report that on 10-11-2000,

CRIMSA has the following number of members: Honorary members: 2; Group members: 26; Active members: 37 and Student members: 33. The Executive Committee investigating the extension of membership categories for the year 2002 including criteria for the different categories. A detailed membership application form will, aside from members' biographical information, cover aspects such as field of interest and relevant experience. The issuing of membership certificates are also envisaged. The compilation of a Code of Conduct is another important matter to be dealt with in the year 2001. We will keep you informed, but any suggestions are welcome and should be forwarded to the editor of the CRIMSA NEWSLETTER.

During the Annual General Meeting Ms N Mandla, the coordinator of the Standards Generating Body (SGB), NSB 08 of SAQA addressed the delegates on the process and requirements of establishing an SGB.

As a result of the workshop, a committee steered by Dr Dorette van den Berg and Mr

Gerhard Swanepoel, and assisted by Proff Beaty Naudé and Johan Prinsloo, were elected to explore the potential of establishing a Standards Generated Body for Criminology.

In the past year, progress was made in stimulating academic discourse by means of the CRIMSA NEWSLETTER. Members of CRIMSA started to participate in an academic debate and speak their minds on topics such as new legislation. Academic institutions used the opportunity to inform members and readers on various community projects. Individual members reported on attended conferences and shared new developments in the study field of Criminology. Several members passed informed on local and international conferences. My heartfelt thanks to you all. Let's continue for the year to come.

This edition of the CRIMSA NEWSLETTER will cover letters from members, report backs by individual members attending conferences; a summary of a forthcoming conference and an introduction to a visiting academic from the Southern Oregon University of the USA, Professor Vic Sims. New developments such as the Logo Index for Methaqualone and amphetamine-type stimulants, and a new International Criminal Court (ICC), also features.

Please remember to renew your membership fees before the end of March 2001 (see the membership form at the back of this newsletter).

I hope this Christmas season will bring you all peace in your hearts amidst all the violence and unrest out there.

Alice Maree mareea@unisa.ac.za

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

The President of CRIMSA and members of the Executive Council wish all the members of CRIMSA and the South African community at large, a Merry (crime-free) Christmas and a prosperous New Year. For those who will be spending their holidays away from home, apply the necessary crime prevention strategies before you leave home and drive safely. For the rest, keep your eyes peeled for the criminals.

David Kgosimore

LETTERS FROM MEMBERS

I am a second year criminology student at the University of Pretoria and also a member of CRIMSA. I joined CRIMSA this year (2000) and attended the Annual General Meeting. As a member of Crimsa ons is continually informed about the current situation of crime in Souther Africa.

This is done through newsletters which the members receive. This information also forms part of the study material for Criminology students. During the Annual General meeting students and other members share ideas and information. I realised that our contribution as students in the association is vital. Being a member is an ideal means of building good interaction between students, the community and the lecturers (experts).

Meeting with experts in this field could help to address our daily problems as students. I just wish to make a special appeal to Criminology students and students of Criminal Justice to join CRIMSA. It is very important for students to participate in the association to establish the bona fides of themselves and the community.

David Monakedi
University of Pretoria

**CRIMSA INTRODUCES:
PROFESSOR VIC SIMS**

Prof Sims, welcome to South Africa. Please tell us more about yourself, and the purpose of your visit.

I'm Vic Sims. My partner, Glenda, and I live in the United States and we are spending the period between August 2000 and May 2001, in South Africa. We are proud of our

three grown, university-educated children and our two daughters-in-law. Our daughter works at the Federal Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Oregon.

I am a former police officer and now a Professor of Criminology at Southern Oregon University. The State of Oregon is in the northwest part of the USA just north of California, on the Pacific ocean. Southern Oregon University (<http://www.sou.edu/>) generously sponsored our visit while the South African Police Service's Detective Academy at Silverton (<http://www.saps.co.za/l6divstat/dacademy/index.htm>) and the Criminology Department at the University of South Africa (<http://www.unisa.ac.za/dept/krim/index.html>) are graciously hosting our visit.

We chose South Africa for many reasons both personal and professional. Police and policing and crime and criminals have fascinated me my entire life. Police and policing in South Africa are changing greatly and rapidly. Such a rapid major change is almost unprecedented in police history. As the SAPS continues to undergo transformation it provides an excellent laboratory for the study of police change. We cannot hope to improve the police anywhere, until we better understand the dynamics of police change. This is one of the reasons I chose South Africa.

The unacceptable overall high crime rate of South Africa is another reason. Here I am able to look at both a country and a police system in transition. Any police system can deal with low crime rates; the SAPS has an enormous, perhaps unprecedented, challenge in handling the public's understandable fear of and reaction to crime. The SAPS has an opportunity, at this point in history, to provide a model for the rest of the police world.

What is the situation in the USA on Criminology and Criminal Justice as comparing, contrasting and intertwining disciplines?

In the USA there are more than 1 200 higher education (tertiary) programs of criminal justice or criminology at more than 900 colleges and universities. Most of these are law enforcement, police administration, or criminal justice programs found at two-year junior colleges or community colleges. As far as I know, there are no two-year criminology programs. (<http://Ncnsearch.colleae.net.com/cai-bin/CN/index> is one of several sites useful in locating programs by major or geographical area.)

Most of the 1 200 programs found at four-year colleges and universities are named criminal justice programs. There are only a few criminology programs in the USA.

In the late 1960s, for the first time in the history of public-opinion polling, crime and fear of crime became the number-one concern of USA citizens. The government responded in several ways; they appointed many prestigious commissions and panels to study the problem of crime. These bodies produced many volumes which contained countless recommendations. Among the recommendations was the call for increased education and training for all criminal justice personnel; indeed, in one of the publications, "The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society," the terms criminal justice and criminal justice system were used for the first time.

Prior to 1965 there were only about five or six college or university criminology programs in the USA. In the late 1960s the US governments began pouring millions of dollars into an attempt to do something about crime. Much of that money went to colleges and universities to develop criminal justice programs. The millions of dollars soon became billions of dollars and at the same time crime, policing, illegal drugs, prisons, incarceration and law-and-order became hot political issues. No politician ever lost a vote by promising to get tough on crime or build more prisons.

Originally in the USA criminology in its purest form was the study of crime

causation while criminal justice was the study of the justice process from investigation, detection, arrest, through the courts, and sentencing, to corrections - institutional and community. Criminal justice then was the study of how society dealt with crime and the criminal offender. Today, in the USA, the distinction between Criminology and Criminal Justice programs has blurred so much it has almost disappeared. Criminology programs offer courses dealing with process and Criminal Justice programs offer theory courses.

We wish you and Glenda a wonderful and crime free stay in South Africa and all the best with your research project.

CAMPUS NEWS

**DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF THE NORTH**

David Leepile Kgosimore

The Department of Criminology at the University of the North continues to be one of the biggest departments in the Faculty of Arts despite the general decline in student numbers on campus. The only worrying factor is that students no longer participate in the activities of Crimsa as they used to do. We hope to correct the situation in the coming year when we introduce the Bachelor of Criminal Justice degree. Our target group is people in criminal justice.

Hopefully we can get them to participate, and form a student component of Crimsa on our campus.

We have experienced a decline in the number of staff members (from 11 to 8). We lost Ms Mpho Tshesane to Unisa. We also lost the services of Ms Betsie Swarts (to run a business) and Ms Thozama Lutya (to study at Wits and not returning to the University of the North). We were, however, able to secure the services of Dr Poodhun on a contract basis until February 2001.

Research activities

In March 2000 Prof Neels Moolman released a report on **The Incidence of Serious Crime in the Seshego Police Station Area between January 1994 and December 1998**. His other research report entitled: **Farm Attacks and the African Renaissance: Opposite Reactions to a Devastating European Culture** is due for release by the end of the month.

Attendance of overseas conferences

David Kgosimore attended the victimology conference in Montreal, Canada in August. He read a paper entitled: **South Africa's New Constitution, the Criminal Procedure Act and the Rights of Victims**.

FEEDBACK: SLOVENIA**Johan Prinsloo**

The Third Biennial International Conference: Policing in Central and Eastern Europe: Ethics, Integrity and Human Rights: 21 to 23 September 2000 - Ljubljana, Slovenia

The Third Biennial International Conference “Policing in Central and Eastern Europe: Ethics, Integrity and Human Rights” was presented in Ljubljana, Slovenia from 21 to 23 September 2000. The conference was hosted by the College of Police and Security Studies affiliated to the University of Ljubljana, and co-sponsored by the Slovenian Ministry of the Interior, the General Police Directorate of the Republic of Slovenia and the Council of Europe, Directorate General of Human Rights, as well as Slovenian businesses. Slovenia is a small Central Europe country bordered by Austria, Hungary, Croatia, Italy and the Adriatic sea, with a population of two million people.

Fifty-six papers compiled by seventy-five authors from nineteen different countries were selected by the Programme Committee. Apart from Slovenian members the Programme Committee included twelve other international scholars from Europe, UK and the USA. The first session of the

conference was devoted to core issues and challenges in the field of human rights, police ethics and integrity. This was followed by sessions on policing and human rights, opinions about the “code of silence”, lessons from the past and the present based on case studies, gender issues in policing, issues of organised crime, attitudes, perceptions and values in policing, education, training and other means of enhancing integrity in policing, the police and the community and finally, police corruption and deviance. In addition, five workshops were also conducted dealing, inter alia, with personal determinants for ethical conduct, ethical issues facing the City of London Police in forming a professional standards unit and behaviour risk assessment and strategic systems.

Two South Africans delivered papers at the conference. Professor Johan van der Westhuizen of the Department of Public Administration at Unisa read a paper pertaining to “The positioning of police management within the ambit of public administration: Some ethical considerations” while Professor Johan Prinsloo of the Institute for Criminological Sciences, Unisa, delivered a paper entitled “Policing with integrity: The quest of the South African Society”. Both papers elicited controversy and debate regarding developments in South Africa.

FEEDBACK: MONTREAL

Michelle Ovens

The Tenth International Symposium was held in Montreal, Canada from 6 to 11 August 2000.

The Symposium hosted over 1 200 delegates and speakers. More than 300 papers were presented during the week-long symposium and 22 posters were displayed during the symposium. Various topics were covered such as victims of crime, victim rights and services, victim compensation, victim involvement in the parole process and the implementation of basic principles for justice for victims. Special groups were identified and topics covered the abuse of the elderly, victims of war, families of homicide victims, children, hate crimes towards minority groups, victims of domestic violence, human trafficking and the further victimisation of victims of sexual crimes. The wide scope of the symposium allowed an in-depth look at international standards of dealing with victims, legislation and social services provided. Emphasis was also placed on violence against women in different countries and means of victim empowerment.

Two areas that raised controversy were the

use of the victim impact statement and restorative justice. Dame Helen Reeves raised concerns about the use of the victim impact statement. The application of restorative justice was questioned, especially when victims' expectations were unrealistic.

A number of visits were arranged for delegates to meet with various professionals in their workplace. Seven organisations were visited. The organisations included the Phillippe Pinel Institute, a secure psychiatric facility specialising in forensic psychiatric medicine; the Laboratoire de Sciences Judiciaires et de Medecine Legale established in 1914, the first laboratory to be established on the continent; the Mason Parent-Roback, a corporation composed of twelve groups or associations working to eliminate violence towards women and to improve their living conditions and promote social justice; the Palls De Justice de Montreal, a court composed of 99 courtrooms and the largest courthouse in Northern America. Correctional Services and the Montreal Urban Community Police Service were also visited. A crime prevention programme known as Tandem Montreal, managed by community groups, was also visited.

**LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCES**

***Modern Criminal Investigation,
Organised Crime & Human Rights***

Date: 27 - 31 August 2001

Venue: International Convention
Centre, Durban, South Africa

Contact person: Conference Secretariat.
Event Dynamics, P O Box 411177,
Graighall, 2024, South Africa.

Tel: +27 11 442 6111

Fax: +27 11 442 5927

E-mail: tasha@eventdynamics.co.za or
timothy@eventdynamics.co.za

Police and victims of crime conference

Date: First half of 2001

Venue: Israel

Contact person: Supt Nurit Ziv. Head,
Victims of Crime section. Division of
Investigations and Prosecutions, Israel
Police Headquarters, Sheikh Jarrah,
Jerusalem 91906, Israel.

Tel: +972 2 5309312

Fax: +972 2 5309675

E-mail: Prof Sarah Ben of
Bar Ilan University
bendas@mail.biu.ac.il

**GAUTENG, A WORLD DRUG
CENTRE?**

In the previous newsletter, the Department

of Criminology at the University of Pretoria, introduced their community project on Drug abuse. According to an article by Webb (*Pretoria News* 29-11-2000), Sanab warns that Gauteng is becoming one of the drug centres of the world. Although South Africa is regarded as a drug problem area of the world it also fast become a respected fighter of the problem. In Pretoria, cocaine usage has jumped from only one percent of the local drug market in 1995 to 30 percent in 2000.

On 28-11-2000 a Logo Index for Methaqualone (Mandrax) and amphetamine-type stimulants (such as Ecstasy) was launched at the Forensic Laboratory in Silverton. The first Logo Index of its kind in Africa, sponsored by the UN Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, it will be given to local law enforcement agencies across the country and law enforcements groups across the globe. This Logo Index will also be used by law enforcement agencies around the world.

**CRIMINAL COURT FOR MASS
MURDERERS AND OTHER GROSS
HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATORS**

On 27-11-2000, South Africa became the 23rd nation to ratify a treaty establishing the world's first permanent criminal court that

would try mass murderers and other gross human rights violators. The new International Criminal Court (ICC) will be set up in The Hague, Netherlands. The ICC will try individuals accused of the world's most heinous crimes - genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. South Africa, a leader in the establishing of the court, along with other Southern African nations, played a key role in formulating its statutes. A total of 60 ratifications, which meant approval by State legislatures, are needed for the treaty to be put into force. A total of 115 countries have signed up to the court so far, signalling their intention to ratify.

MORE ABOUT CRIMSA

Fund raising number:

01 1016131 0003

CRIMSA'S PHILOSOPHY

Crimsa is a non-governmental, voluntary, non-sexist, non-racial organisation aiming to promoting the academic, practical, social and universal relevance of Criminology alike in order to understand, control, prevent and reduce crime and its outcomes and to serve the South African community at large.

CRIMSA'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language of the Society is English.

CRIMSA'S MISSION

Crimsa is committed to combating crime and to positively impact on the following:

An increased level of standards of criminological discourse in South Africa
An increase understanding of crime, the criminal, the victim and the Criminal Justice system in order to control, prevent and reduce crime through coordinating:

- research and publications;
- community outreach;
- networking with the public and private sector and government;
- training;
- teaching; and
- awareness raising in a professional and cost effective manner.

To co-operate with interested local and international institutions.

To promote the interests of academics, researchers, NGO's and students by encouraging special workshops and participation at national and international conferences.

ACTA CRIMINOLOGICA AND CRIMSA NEWS

Crimsa will provided members with the latest research findings, professional issues and statistical information in the field of

criminal justice, free of charge, by means of an accredited journal, Acta Criminologica, and a regular newsletter Crimsa News.

CATEGORIES OF CRIMSA MEMBERSHIP

ACTIVE PERSONAL MEMBERS

An active personal member may be any person who is devoted to the field of Criminology. (The field of Criminology is the study of crime, the criminal, the victim and the Criminal Justice System. It is also concentrated with the improvement of the understanding, control, prevention and reduction of crime in South Africa.

Please note: Only active personal members have voting rights and qualify for election as office bearers.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Any student enrolled in a discipline which is acceptable to Crimsa may join the Society as a student member.

Please note: A student member may participate in all the activities of Crimsa, but has no voting rights at a meeting.

GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Where a group, an institution or an organisation attains membership of Crimsa as a group nominates a representative to

exercise, on behalf of the group, the rights of the group concerned.

Please note: The representative of the group may not be an office bearer of Crimsa unless he/she is an active member in his/her own right. A group consists of at least 5 people.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Honorary membership is at the invitation of the Board and is bestowed by the Board by virtue of a particular contribution in the field of Criminology or to the Society.

A honorary member has the same privileges as active personal members of Crimsa.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Annual membership fees are payable (renewable) before 30 May.

Active personal members

R150 per annum

Student members

R50 per annum

Group members

R250 per annum

International members

R350 (US \$55) per annum

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please complete this form and mail it with your postal order/cheque (no cash please), to:

**The Treasurer
Crimsa
PO Box 28936
SUNNYSIDE
0132**

Please mark your membership category with an X

- Active personal membership
- Student membership
- Group membership

Title: Mr/Ms/Dr/Prof

Initials:

Surname:

Postal address:

.....

Tel: () (w)

Tel: () (h)

Cell:

E-mail address: