

Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies  
Year-End Report  
July 2002-June 2003

Director

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## INTRODUCTION

We at the Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno wish to extend our deep sympathy to the family and friends of former Nevada First Lady Bette Sawyer, wife of former governor Grant Sawyer, for whom the Center is named. Mrs. Sawyer passed away on September 11, 2002, at the age of 79. She is remembered by those who knew her as a dynamic and intelligent woman, who served the people of Nevada diligently and gracefully despite her shyness. We gratefully acknowledge Mrs. Sawyer's support of the Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies, and we wish to thank the Sawyer family for their continuing support.

The Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno continues to expand the scope of research, education and outreach on justice issues. The activities at the Center reflect our ongoing commitment to further the expansion of knowledge and community awareness of justice-related issues. The Center continues to expand, now supporting ten graduate research assistants and an undergraduate research assistant, who are engaged in several new and ongoing research projects. The ten graduate research assistants represent approximately one-third of the graduate students in the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology at the University of Nevada, Reno. We are proud to provide not only financial support, but also invaluable research experience in the growing area of social psychology and law, and the research to which our current and former graduate research assistants have contributed has added significantly to the body of knowledge in this area.

The Center continues its collaborative relationships with The National Judicial College, the Judicial Studies Program at the University of Nevada, Reno, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, as well as other departments within the University. In addition to these productive relationships, the Center is currently collaborating with two new partners from outside the University. The Nevada Department of Education and the Center are conducting an assessment of test data from the various state administered standardized tests. The goals of this effort are to explore the validity of the statewide tests, to identify groups which are in need of assistance, and to shape educational programs to meet the perceived needs of these groups. We are also working in partnership with the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence. This project will examine the factors related to whether or not protection orders issued by the court in an effort to protect victims of domestic violence are not served to domestic violence offenders. The Center continues its collaboration with Colorado District Court Judge David Lass, a member of the Standing Committee on the Effective and Efficient Use of Juries, on a pilot study of the consequences of permitting jurors to ask questions to witnesses in criminal cases.

In the past year several Center graduate research assistants have completed their doctoral dissertations under the supervision of Center Director Ron Dillehay. Their dissertation research included a project that analyzed data from actual venue surveys in capital cases in an effort to develop a model of pretrial prejudgment of defendants, a project examining prosecutorial discretion and the death penalty, and the adequacy of voir dire for selecting an impartial jury.

Among the excellent educational opportunities available to students and community members through the Center's Brown-Bag Colloquia and Distinguished Speaker Series were lectures given by distinguished justice scholars such as Dr Jim Blascovich, Chair of the

Department of Psychology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, former ambassador Edward Abington, Reverend Labib Kobti, author Aaron Mannes, former U.S. Senator Richard Bryan, Dr. Marat Shterin of the Sociology Department at the London School of Economics and Political Science, Dr. Silvia Pogolsha of the School of Law at the College of William and Mary, Dr. Lawrence J. Korb, Director of National Security Studies, Council on Foreign Relations, Nancy Neal Yeend of the John Paul Jones Group, Richard W. Harris, Esq., and Dr. Robert P. George of Princeton University. In addition to enriching the knowledge of students and community members, our colloquia and public lectures provided a valuable service to the legal community by offering opportunities for legal professionals to earn continuing legal education credits. We are pleased to have the opportunity to serve the community by providing high-quality and practical learning experiences in the tradition of America's land grant universities.

The strategic planning process at the University continued into its second year with ongoing important implications for the Center. Provost John Frederick asked Jim Richardson, Director of the Judicial Studies Program and former Director and current Faculty Associate of the GSCJS, to present a plan for justice and judicial studies at UNR. Richardson brought together more than 30 university faculty and members of the National Judicial College and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, all of whom are active in scholarship or outreach activities on justice and judicial issues, as part of the planning process. Working with a steering committee from among the larger group, Richardson submitted to the University Planning Council a plan for the future of the area on campus that included a new Ph.D. in Justice Studies, among other elements. In the plan the Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies would assume a central role for a University unit that would include closely integrated activities with the Criminal Justice Department, the National Judicial College, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, along with other units and individual faculty. The ultimate outcome of the proposals remains to be seen as advocates for the proposed organizational structure and function of an encompassing unit for justice and judicial studies pursue this development.

Center Director Ron Dillehay retired from the University of Nevada, becoming Emeritus Professor of Psychology, on May 16, 2003. At that time he also stepped out of the role of Director of the Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies. He had served in that capacity since July of 1995. For academic year 2003-2004 he will have a post-retirement, part-time appointment divided between the Center and the Judicial Studies Program at UNR. The new Director is Dr. James T. Richardson, no stranger to the Center, having served in two different periods since the founding of the Center in 1992 as Director and Interim Director. As mentioned previously, Jim Richardson also spearheaded the strategic planning for Justice and Judicial Studies at the University during 2002-2003.

### **RESEARCH PROJECTS AT THE CENTER**

#### ***Nevada Student Standardized Test Performance Study***

The Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies and the Nevada Department of Education's Office of Assessment, Curriculum and Program Accountability are currently collaborating through the co-sponsorship of a part-time research assistantship housed in the Center. Patrick Bennett, M.A., the current research assistant, is actively involved in the assessment of test data

from the various state administered standardized tests. This partnership is timely given that standardized educational testing and justice issues have become intertwined in response to claims that test formats and testing practices are unfair to a number of sub-groups in the school setting. A primary goal of our work is to explore any disparities that exist between a variety of identified sub-groups. Specifically, we regularly analyze test performance by ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, disability, and English proficiency. These analyses provide two direct benefits. First, they inform the development and administration of statewide assessments which validly assess the knowledge, skills, and abilities of Nevada learners. Secondly, they allow for the identification of those groups which are in need of assistance and shape educational programs to meet these perceived needs. This aids the state in meeting their goal of proficiency for all student groups as mandated by the 2002 No Child Left Behind Act.

### ***Identifying, Examining, and Mitigating Barriers to Service of Protection Orders in Domestic Violence Cases***

The Center is currently working with the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence on a project titled “Identifying, Examining, and Mitigating Barriers to Service of Protection Orders in Domestic Violence Cases.” The project is supported by funds from the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence and the Nevada Office of the Attorney General. Protection orders are issued by the court in an effort to protect victims of domestic violence; law enforcement personnel strive to serve the orders on offenders. Problems for the system and for the involved parties emerge when those orders, for whatever reason, are not served. And it can happen a significant proportion of the time. A previous study found that upwards of 60 percent of domestic violence protection orders are never served on the offending party. Our project will study the three largest counties in Nevada (Clark, Washoe, and Elko) in an effort to identify reasons why orders do not get served. Goals of the research include recommendations for changes in the system to facilitate a higher service rate.

### **COMPLETED DISSERTATIONS BY CENTER STAFF**

#### ***A Chain of Consequences: An Information Processing Model of Pretrial Prejudgment*** **Craig New, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology, December 2002** **Ron Dillehay, Advisor**

When crimes attract considerable attention in the media, as homicide cases which are likely to be prosecuted as capital cases and some others often do, the 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment right to a fair and impartial jury may be compromised in the venue of the crime. This study used a model of media influence that includes frequency of use of the media (newspapers, TV, and radio), the mediating effects of some factors of reception (exposure to the case through TV, radio, and the newspapers; prejudicial case-specific knowledge and belief), and the prejudgment that the defendant is guilty. The effects of some pre-existing criminal justice attitudes were also examined. Data used in the study came from systematically conducted surveys of prospective jurors in seven cases over three different states. Results support the prediction that prejudgment of defendants derives from exposure to media accounts and is mediated by the reception factors. In addition, criminal justice attitudes predict prejudgment, but not reception. That is, those with

more punitive attitudes are not more likely to have been exposed to the case in the media but are more likely to judge the defendant to be probably or definitely guilty.

***Operating Outside the Rules: An Examination of the Social Psychological Factors Affecting Jury Nullification Tendencies in a Decision-Making Context***

**Dionne M. Maxwell, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology, May 2003**

**Ron Dillehay, Advisor**

Under conditions analogous to some features of a courtroom jury, this project investigated effects of instructions and attitudinal styles and content on decisions about transgressors. In the experiment, instructions in one condition emphasized following the law; in a second condition the emphasis was on adhering to community standards and sentiments; and in the third treatment no guidelines were provided—participants were left to their own devices. Instructions emphasizing the law consistently produced harsher judgments against the perpetrator when compared to the group left to their own preferences. Following a model developed by Maxwell concerning differences in the style of thought and relevant attitudes, the two groups who were relatively more disposed toward crime control dispositions (called Loyalists and Conformists, and who tended to place a higher emphasis on such things as the suppression of crime; commitment to law and order; and trust in the ability and honesty of authorities) were more punitive toward the transgressor than were contrasting groups (identified as Mavericks and Patriots). Overall, new findings about the effects of instructions and the role of attitudes appear in this research.

***An Empirical Analysis of Defendant, Victim, and Crime Characteristics as Predictors in Prosecutorial Decisions to Charge Death***

**Roselyn K. Polk, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology, August 2003**

**Ron Dillehay, Advisor**

Guided by the literature that has examined decisions to seek the death penalty in relation to factors about the crime, the defendant, and the victim, this was an exploratory study of data from Washoe County covering a period of approximately 22 years following the reinstatement of capital punishment in Nevada in 1977. The overall focus of the study was prediction of the filing of intent to seek the death penalty in cases of first degree murder. Crime-related variables included were the weapon used, relationship of the defendant to the victim, and aggravators present. Defendant factors were age, ethnicity, gender, education, employment status, use of alcohol or drugs, and residential status. Victim variables were ethnicity, gender, and social status. Analyses revealed that the likelihood of filing an intent to seek the death penalty is greater for those who were unemployed, who were less than 30 years of age, who were using drugs or alcohol, and who had a larger number of statutory aggravators. Other analyses explored the predictive utility of a risk of death scale, devised specifically for this study, and found it to predict the filing of intent to seek the death penalty. This scale consisted of the Nevada statutory aggravators plus some crime and victim factors. In a second focus of the study, based on limited data and an attempt to apply rational bias theory in a new domain, the election cycle for prosecutors was found not to be associated with decisions to file for capital prosecution.

***Misguided Discretion: A Dual Process Model of Juror and Jury Sentencing in Capital Trials***  
**Bryan Edelman, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology, May 2003**

**Ron Dillehay, Advisor**

In an attempt to develop a model that was consistent with the literature on race and juror sentencing in capital trials, this study tested a proposed model of juror decision-making. Data were provided on capital jurors by the Capital Jury Project. These data included over 300 white jurors and some 139 cases where the defendant was black and the victim was either white or black. Results indicated that white jurors displayed more empathy toward white victims than toward black victims and evaluated them more positively. Empathy toward the victim was also found to have an influence on how black defendants were evaluated. Both defendant and victim evaluations had implications for how mitigating evidence was evaluated and for white jurors' pre-deliberation sentence positions. These results suggest that empathy toward the victim has a pervasive influence on the evaluation of sentence phase evidence and on pre-deliberation sentence positions.

***The Moderating Influence in an Hispanic Sample of Superordinate Group Identification and Subgroup Identification on Evaluations of Overall Procedural Justice, Overall Distributive Justice, and Overall Satisfaction in Assessing Experiences with Law Enforcement Agencies***

**Sally A. Dittloff, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology, August 2003**

**Ron Dillehay, Advisor**

Research has shown that the perceived fairness of procedures used by criminal justice system authorities while enacting their roles vis-à-vis citizens is important along with the outcomes--the distributive justice--of those encounters in determining satisfaction with the interaction. A factor in the evaluations of the exchange is the extent to which the person confronted with justice system authority figures identifies with the dominant culture or with a subculture, such as Hispanics in American society. This project examined the extent to which superordinate group identification--broadly speaking, identification with American society--and Hispanic subgroup identification are significant factors in the perception of procedural and distributive justice. Results indicated that variation in superordinate group identification did not affect the relationships between procedural justice factors, on the one hand, and overall judgments of outcomes of the interactions, on the other. However, ethnic subgroup identification was associated with variations in the relationships between procedural justice elements and overall procedural justice. As identification with one's ethnic subgroup increased, the association between components of procedural justice and overall judgments of procedural justice increased as well.

**ONGOING DISSERTATION RESEARCH**

***Adequacy of Voir Dire for Selecting an Impartial Jury***

Steve Son, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology

Ron Dillehay, Advisor

Steve Son, with the Director, Ronald Dillehay, received a dissertation improvement grant of \$14,237 from the National Science Foundation's Law and Social Sciences Program. This

award will be used to support research designed to analyze the form of questioning that takes place by attorneys and judges during voir dire in capital trials. Results of the analyses would then be compared to the standards of interviewing set forth in the social sciences.

***The Effect of Mode of Presentation and Argument Quality on Comprehension, Memory, and Decision-Making***

Veronica Dahir, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology  
James T. Richardson, Advisor

Veronica Dahir, with incoming Center Director Jim Richardson, received a grant of \$11,027 from the Law and Social Science Program or the National Science Foundation to fund her dissertation research. In addition, DOAR Communications, Inc., a Lynbrook, New York Company, will provide additional monetary and in-kind support of approximately \$5,000 to the project. These funds will be used to support research designed to examine the effect of argument quality (strong vs. weak) and mode of presentation (computer display, still visual graphics/diagrams, and an oral presentation without visual aids) on memory, comprehension, and decision-making. Participants will be jury-eligible citizens from the New York community.

The proposed experimental design will serve as a critical test of Petty and Cacioppo's (1986) Elaboration Likelihood Model (ELM). Hypotheses will test whether or not a slip-and-fall computer display enhances or disrupts elaboration of the message's arguments. Via basic research, this project will serve as a building block for further work on computer technology and its use in the courtroom, and it will add knowledge and merit to the intellectual work conducted on the ELM and other decision-making literature. Only a few researchers have applied the Elaboration Likelihood Model within a legal setting (cf. Cooper & Neuhaus, 2000; DeWitt, Richardson, & Warner, 1997; Cooper, Bennett, & Sukel, 1996). In addition, this project will appeal not only to the specific applied communities of law, science, and technology, but also to social science, communication, and education scholars, generally.

**AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

Center Director Ron Dillehay was honored at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Trial Consultants for his many contributions to the field of Trial Consulting.

Center research assistant Bryan Edelman received a \$25,000 scholarship from the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program of the International Rotary Foundation to study international conflict resolution at the University of Kent in Canterbury, England.

**ABOUT THE DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES**

The public lectures and colloquia offered by the Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies during our 2002-2003 academic year were truly broad in the scope of justice-related issues presented. Several international scholars discussed justice issues from the perspective of their respective countries, and government officials from the United States and abroad offered insights into issues of national and international importance. These speakers, who are selected in

response to the expressed interest of the community, university faculty, and students, provided an opportunity for those who attended their lectures to not only hear the speakers' perspectives, but also to engage in discussion of current issues. From July, 2002 to June 2003, the Center sponsored the following events:

**Nov. 4, 2002: Marat Shterin, Ph.D., “New Laws for New Religions in the New Russia”**

Dr. Shterin, whose area of expertise focuses on religion and social change in post communist societies, discussed the effects of recent legislation passed in Russia on the freedom of religion.

Dr. Shterin is a Russian citizen and holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the London school of Economics and Political Science, where he is currently a Research Fellow. His interests include religion and social change in postcommunist societies with special reference to Russia, New Religious Movements and other religious minorities, and religion and law from a comparative perspective. He has published extensively on these topics and is currently writing a book titled *Gods and Prophets in Uncertain Times: Religion in Remaking of Russia*. He has a growing international reputation as a sociologist of religion with specialties in minority religions and the legal social control of religion.

**Dec. 9, 2002: Dr. Silvia Pogolsha, Visiting Fulbright Scholar, William and Mary School of Law, Williamsburg, Virginia, “Training Women Judges, Prosecutors, and Attorneys in the Moldovan Justice System” and “Trafficking of Women and Children in Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States”**

Dr. Polgosh is a visiting Fulbright Scholar and Executive Director of the Judicial Training Center of Moldova.

**Oct. 10, 2002: Edward Abington, Former Ambassador and Advisor, Palestinian Authority, Washington, D.C., Reverend Labib Kobti, Pastor, St. Thomas More, San Francisco, and Aaron Mannes, former Director of Research, Middle East Media Research Institute , Washington, D.C., “Is the Establishment of a Palestinian State a Viable Option”**

The panel provided both Israeli and Palestinian perspectives on the current conflict in the Middle East, proposals to resolve the conflict and create a Palestinian state, and the effects of a potential war with Iraq on the U.S.'s involvement in resolving the conflict.

**ABOUT THE BROWN BAG COLLOQUIA**

The Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies colloquia series (often referred to as “brown bag” colloquia because they are scheduled during the noon hour and lunch is frequently provided to facilitate the attendance of community members and legal professionals outside of campus) addressed diverse justice-related issues. The speakers, whose backgrounds included academia, government, and practicing legal professionals, discussed topics ranging from empirical research to philosophy, representing a wide variety of university and community interests. The series included the following for 2002-2003:

**Sept. 12, 2002: Dr. Jim Blascovich, Chair, Department of Psychology, University of California, Santa Barbara, “A Virtual World?: Immersive Virtual Environment Technology and Applications”**

Dr. Blascovich discussed the nature of immersive virtual environment technology, its capabilities, and its role in behavioral science research and applicability to the legal system.

Dr. Blascovich received his Ph.D. in Social Psychology at the University of Nevada, Reno. He is currently Professor and Chair of Psychology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He has received many distinguished honors and awards, as well as a number of grants, including two from the National Science Foundation. One grant started the Virtual Environments and Behavior Center, and a more recent grant applies this technology to eyewitness accuracy.

**Oct. 17, 2002: Richard Bryan, former U.S. Senator, “Civil Liberties and National Security Issues”**

Drawing on his years of experience in public service in the state and the nation, Senator Bryan addressed matters of civil liberties and individual rights in relation to times of need for increased national security. He discussed such matters as possible effects of the upcoming elections on justice and judicial issues. His observations ranged over matters such as presidential opportunities for appointments to the United States Supreme Court and the implications of judicial composition for critical decisions by the Court.

**Feb. 20, 2003: Dr. Lawrence J. Korb, former Assistant Secretary of Defense and Current Director, National Security Studies at the Council of Foreign Relations, “9-11 and the Impact on National Security”**

Dr. Korb addressed the issues relevant to justice and foreign policy in the post- 9-11 world.

Dr. Korb served as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower-Logistics and was responsible for 75 percent of the defense budget under President Reagan. He was also a member of both President Reagan’s and President Bush’s Defense Advisory Groups during their presidential campaigns. He has served as a consultant to the General Accounting Office and the National Security Council. He has held several academic positions at institutions including the U.S. Naval War College, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, the University of Dayton, and Georgetown University. He spent four years on active duty as a naval flight officer and retired from the U.S. Naval Reserve as a captain. He is the author of several books and publications, including *The Joint Chiefs of Staff: The First 25 Years*. He has appeared on virtually every major network news program and has written opinion-editorials for major newspapers.

**Feb. 28, 2003: Ms. Nancy Neal Yeend, John Paul Jones Group, “The Integration of Alternative Dispute Resolution and the Judicial System”**

Ms. Yeend discussed the role of alternative dispute resolution in the courtroom, and the ramifications of budget cutbacks on the future of these programs.

Ms. Yeend has over 20 years of experience as a mediator. She has served on trial and appellate court panels, as a member of The National Judicial College faculty, manages the West

Coast office for the John Paul Jones Group, and was the recipient of the Mediation Society Award for Outstanding Professional Contributions.

**April 17, 2003: Richard W. Harris, Esq., Harris & Thompson, Reno, Nevada, and Adjunct Professor of Environmental Law and the University of Nevada, Reno, “U.S. Environmental Policy: Why Some Issues Get Attention and Others Don’t”**

Mr. Harris discussed the impact of global warming on the environment and the development of public policy in reaction to the threat, using a “policy cycle” model of decision-making.

Mr. Harris is a Reno attorney specializing in natural resource and environmental law and has testified as an expert witness in resource law in various state and federal courts. He also has published extensively in the fields of resource and environmental law.

**May 8, 2003: Robert P. George, Ph.D., Princeton University, “Reason, Freedom, and the Rule of Law”**

Dr. George discussed the significance of the *Marbury v. Madison* and the *Dred Scott v. Sanford* decisions in the development of the United States Supreme Court as the preeminent judicial authority in the United States.

Dr. George is McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and Director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University. He teaches and conducts research in legal and political philosophy, constitutional law, and civil rights and liberties. A graduate of Swarthmore College and Harvard Law School, he holds a doctorate in philosophy of law from Oxford University. Professor George was recently appointed to the President’s Council on Bioethics, and he served from 1993 to 1998 as a presidential appointee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights. In addition, he is a former Judicial Fellow at the Supreme Court of the United States, where he received the 1990 Justice Tom C. Clark Award. Professor George also has authored a number of articles, review essays, and books, including *Making Men Moral: Civil Liberties and Public Morality*.

### **WEBSITE**

The Grant Sawyer Center web site is now online at: <http://www.unr.edu/justicestudies/>.

The web site is updated monthly and features information about the Center, its personnel and activities, links to other justice-related Internet sites, and copies of the Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies newsletters and annual reports. The 488 page “Science Programs for the Judiciary-2001” can be accessed from this site, as well.

The site opens with news items of interest to those involved in judicial studies, such as updates regarding particular justice-related legislation or significant court decisions. The site also presents information about upcoming conferences and programs, details about our past public lectures, colloquia, seminars, and symposia, and information about imminent presentations in the Center’s colloquium series.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Our Fall 2002 and Spring 2003 Newsletters reviewed recent Center educational and outreach events. They included announcements for upcoming Center events, a list of justice-related publications, websites, and conferences, and information about videos available for loan from the Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies video library.

The Fall 2002 Newsletter discussed the impact of the U.S.A. Patriot Act, which passed in October, 2002. According to an article published on October 22 in the New York Times, Criminal justice experts have become concerned that the Attorney General's Office is moving to exert political control over some of the independent agencies within the Justice Department that collect crime statistics and grant research awards. The author writes that this issue bears on the integrity of statistics about whether crime is increasing or decreasing, and the findings of scholars about the causes of crime and the methods that should be taken to reduce it.

The Fall Newsletter also announced the passing of former Nevada First Lady Bette Sawyer, wife of former governor Grant Sawyer, for whom the Center is named. Mrs. Sawyer, described by those who knew her as shy, dynamic, funny, and smart died on September 11, 2002, at the age of 79.

The Spring 2003 Newsletter described the many organizational and administrative changes occurring at the University of Nevada, Reno and their effects on the Grant Sawyer Center for Justice Studies. In December, 2002 the University Planning Council received proposals generated by more than 25 faculty from the University and members from the judicial institutions on campus regarding educational, research, service, and outreach activities, including development of a multi-track Ph.D. in Justice and Judicial Studies.

The Spring Newsletter also announced the May 2003 retirement of Center Director Ron Dillehay. The incoming Center Director is Jim Richardson, Director of the Judicial Studies Program and Professor of Sociology at the University of Nevada, Reno. The newsletter also described some of the Center's current research activity. Updates were provided for the *Nevada Department of Education* project, and the *Nevada Domestic Violence* project, and the completed dissertation research of four recent graduates from the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology were described.

Please contact the Center if you would like a free copy of this or any other issue of the Newsletter. The Newsletter is also posted on the GSCJS Web page, and can be viewed at [www.unr.edu/justicestudies/](http://www.unr.edu/justicestudies/).

## **FOSTERING SCHOLARSHIP ON JUSTICE ISSUES**

In addition to the publications and presentations listed above, Center staff have made significant contributions to scholarship on justice issues at UNR through the support of projects by affiliated faculty and research projects within the Center. In the past, faculty associated with the Center have received bibliographic assistance, as well as help in proposal writing and project budget development. Center staff have also facilitated grant proposal processing through the institutional review board, department chairs, deans, and the Office of Sponsored Projects, sometimes doing this processing themselves for principal investigators. Center staff are ready to

assist faculty and graduate students with literature searches, LEXIS case law and statute searches, completion of funding agency forms, human subjects' protocols, and other related tasks in the broadly defined area of justice studies.

Center staff are required to "wear many hats." This past year they have been and continue to be responsible for a multitude of duties including:

Research and Development: grant writing; literature searches on the Internet, LEXIS, and library data bases; writing annotated bibliographies; survey design and instrument development; training interviewers; and pilot testing

Survey Management: supervising interviewers; survey tracking; data collection, coding, cleaning, and analysis; report writing.

Public Lectures and Colloquia: coordinating speakers, room availability, audio/visual equipment, and catering; setting up equipment and preparing rooms; scheduling and coordinating all activities relating to speakers (e.g., transportation, lodging, food); publicity for event, including creating flyers, posters, mailing flyers, and advertising on and off-campus.

Center Publications: creating and editing newsletters, the GSCJS Paper Series, Annual Report, Website, and other Center publications.

Clerical: general receptionist activities of the Center, including: receiving visitors, answering phones, typing, filing, data entry, correspondence, and mailing.

In addition to multi-tasking, Center Staff often during the past year worked long days and extra hours to meet the numerous deadlines that the Center is constantly confronted with in its efforts to facilitate and conduct justice research.

### **PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS OF GSCJS STAFF**

(Note: Staff member is underlined)

#### **Publications**

Beckford, J.A., & Richardson, J.T. (2003). *Challenging Religion*. London: Routledge.

Bennett, P.R. (2002, Winter). Big changes in store for the 2002 APA convention in Chicago. *APAGS Newsletter*, 14(1), 10.

Bennett, P.R., & Elliott, M. A new look at the relationship between religion and adolescent self-esteem. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*. Under review.

Dahir, V., Richardson, J.T., Ginsburg, G.P., Gatowski, S.I., Dobbin, S.A., & Merlino, M.L. Judicial application of *Daubert* to psychological syndrome and profile evidence: A Research Note. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Edelman, B., & Richardson, J.T. (2003). Falun Gong and the law: Development of legal social

- control in China. *Novo Religio*, 6(2), 312-331.
- Elliott, M., Bennett, P.R., & Peters, D. Teacher and family effects on children's social skills and behavioral problems in kindergarten. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. Under review.
- Merlino, M.L., Dillehay, R.C., Dahir, V., & Maxwell, D. (2003). Science education for judges: What, where, and by whom? *Judicature*, 86, 210-213.
- Richardson, J.T. (2002). The Jesus Movement. In H. Hillerbrand (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Protestantism*. London: Routledge.
- Richardson, J.T. (2002). New religious movements. In C. Coulson, D. Davis, and S. Juss (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Religious Freedom*. Great Barrington, MA: Berkshire.
- Richardson, J.T. (2003). Federal and state coordination in regulating new religions: Oregon versus the Bhagwan Rajneesh. In J. Richardson (Ed.), *Regulating Religion: Case studies from around the globe*. New York and London: Kluwer.
- Richardson, J.T. (2003). Legal dimensions of new religious movements. In J. Lewis (Ed.), *Oxford Handbook of New Religious Movements*. Oxford University Press.
- Richardson, J.T. (2003). [Review of the book *Misunderstanding Cults: Searching for Objectivity in a Controversial Field*]. *Sociology of Religion*.
- Richardson, J.T. (2003). Regulating minority religions and the sociology of law. In J. Richardson (ed.), *Regulating Religion: Case studies from around the globe*. New York and London: Kluwer.
- Richardson, J.T., & Edelman, B. (2002). Cult controversies and legal developments concerning new religions in Japan and China. In D.H., Davis and G. Besier (Eds.) *International perspectives on freedom and equality of religious belief*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press.
- Richardson, J.T., & Stewart, M.W. (2003). Medicalization and regulation of minority religions: An application of Conrad and Schneider's model. In J. Richardson (Ed.), *Regulating Religion: Case studies from around the globe*. New York and London: Kluwer.

Shterin, M., & Richardson, J.T. (2002). The *Yakunin v. Dworkin* trial and the emerging religious pluralism in Russia. *Religion in Eastern Europe*, 22, 1-37.

Walton, A.P. The impact of interpersonal factors on creativity. *The International Journal of Business and Entrepreneurial Research*. Under review.

Walton, A.P. (2002). The nature of creativity, and its relationship to well-being and power position. *Proceedings of the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual UIC Research Symposium*. Chicago, IL: University of Illinois.

Wright, T.A., & Walton, A.P. (2003). Affect, psychological well-being and creativity: Results of a field study. *Journal of Business and Management*, 9, 21-32.

### **Presentations**

Bennett, P.R., & Elliott, M. (2002, August). *A new look at the relationship between religion and adolescent self-esteem*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.

Dahir, V., Merlino, M.L., Richardson, J.T., Ginsburg, G.P., Gatowski, S.I., & Dobbin, S.A. (2003, June). *What trial consultants should know about Daubert: A national survey of state trial court judges*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Trial Consultants, Reno, NV.

Dahir, V., Richardson, J.T., Ginsburg, G.P., Gatowski, S.I., Dobbin, S.A., & Merlino, M.L. (2003, June). *Judicial application of Daubert to psychological syndrome and profile evidence*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association, Pittsburgh, PA.

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### **PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS OF GSCJS FACULTY ASSOCIATES**

(Note: Faculty associate is underlined)

#### **Publications**

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Weinberg, L., Eubank, W., & Pedahzur, A. (2002). *Characteristics of Terrorist Organizations 1910-2000*. Paper presented at the 25<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, Berlin.

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