

Race and Justice Scholar

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From the Editor: Jennifer L. Christian

Hello DPCC members & friends!

This edition of *Race and Justice Scholar* is packed with new information about where we as a division are headed! We have a new website that is about to go live, we have manuscripts in the pipeline for *Race and Justice: an International Journal* edited by our very own Shaun L. Gabbidon at Penn State Harrisburg, and a new Chair! This newsletter also brings into focus the work done by some of our outstanding members in a new section called "Featured Criminologists." We also have an outstanding article by Teresa I. Francis an Assistant Professor in the Department of Law and Justice at Central Washington University. Finally, division announcements and events for this years ASC Annual Meeting!

Best,
Jennifer

Fostering Relationships to Foster Our Legacy

Hillary Potter

"I have loved my work, I have loved people and my play, but always I have been uplifted by the thought that what I have done well will live long and justify my life, that what I have done ill or never finished can now be handed on to others for endless days to be finished, perhaps better than I could have done." W.E.B. Du Bois

I am honored to begin my term as the new chair of the Division on People of Color and Crime. Alongside returning board members Elsa Chen, Jennifer Christian, Nathaniel Terrell, and Everett Penn, and new board member Victor Rios, I hope that we will continue to follow the mission of the division as set forth by its founders 15 years ago. Without the DPCC, finding support for me and my work would have been a daunting endeavor - and I know many other members have a similar experience.

From the Chair, cont.

The DPCC has offered a place for those of us who consider crime and crime processing systems from a critical standpoint and where race matters. The annual ASC meeting provides us a space in which to come together to hone established relationships, to foster new relationships, and to welcome new members to the division. While the DPCC events and the informal interactions around the DPCC outreach table bring us together and invigorate us for another year of research, teaching, and service, we could do more to maintain our bonds and provide support for each other. These efforts include finding new avenues of communication. Although we have a listserv that has provided a setting for some members to exchange ideas and engage in discussions surrounding current events, there are other ways we can build our virtual community. To start, Connie Koski, a doctoral student at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, graciously launched a Facebook page for the DPCC. I strongly encourage division members to join the Facebook group (listed as "American Society of Criminology, Division on People of Color and Crime"). If you are not a member of Facebook, but would like more interaction with specific DPCC members - which is difficult to do via the listserv - please join up. Second, our new and improved website will be available soon, and will include new features to assist in making connections with other members. The website will be managed by Daysha Lawrence, a University of Akron doctoral student. Last, the DPCC mentoring program will be revitalized so that established scholars can provide guidance to graduate students and junior faculty, especially those who are not receiving adequate mentoring at their home institutions. Executive counselor Nathaniel Terrell has managed the DPCC mentoring program during the past several years, and, with a committee of DPCC members, will continue to work on efforts to match mentors with mentees.

Maintaining our support for each other, and utilizing methods to better facilitate these relationships, will assist in meeting the goals set out by the division founders. Supporting each other while meeting the demands of our jobs is certainly a hefty task - something I can attest to, as I have repeatedly found myself buried under a multitude of responsibilities that impede my wish to help up-and-coming scholars. I hope, however, that we can all follow the unfaltering trail of senior scholars who have aided many of us in realizing our professional ambitions.

While mentoring and collaborating are not new practices, increasing our use of modern technology and methods of communication to foster these connections is a new way of doing old things. Cultivating these associations is important to remind us that we do have a community and that the critical race and crime work conducted by scholars-in-training is supported and accepted.

Hillary Potter

Tough Financial Times for Academe: Survival Tips from Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Teresa I. Francis

As our country faces hard economic times, many people are concerned about their financial futures. Businesses are closing; individuals who are qualified and highly educated have found themselves unemployed. Academic institutions are also struggling to find ways to maintain their viability. Excellent sources of guidance in this process are the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), which have a long a history of overcoming and dealing with lean economic times.

HBCUs have survived the hardest of times. They were created with a paucity of resources and have continued to exist through incompetent management, bad press and periods of limited financial support. Through it all they have remained an important source of higher education for the Black community specifically and, increasingly, the global community.

Over the years, Historically Black Colleges have educated the vast majority of black professionals and community leaders in the United States. According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, HBCUs account for only three percent of the nation's educational institutions, however, "HBCUs conferred 23.6 percent of bachelor's degrees by Blacks in 2001" (Hill and Johnson 2004). The numbers clearly establish that HBCUs are dedicated to the education of Black students despite the political, economic changes in the United States that threaten higher education.

History

Following the abolition of slavery, there were no other opportunities for Blacks to obtain a quality education. By limiting access to quality education for Blacks, many Whites hoped to cripple the political aspirations of Black Americans and inhibit the ability of Blacks to compete economically. Many southern states did not allow Blacks to attend White colleges and state legislatures appropriated limited funds to Black institutions, making the financial struggle of Black and universities even more difficult.

The lack of equal resources was also apparent when Congress authorized the Morrill Act of 1862. Through the use of land grants the act provided for the development of colleges and universities around the United States. State legislatures had exclusive authority to disperse Morrill funds but, most states simply did not allocate the federal land grant monies to institutions that educated primarily Black students.

Nearly 30 years after the Morrill Act passed, Congress was prompted to pass a second Morrill Act of 1890 to ensure equitable distribution of funds to benefit both Black and White students, but states still routinely denied funding to Black colleges and universities. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter established a federal program "to overcome the effects of discriminatory treatment and to strengthen and expand the capacity of Historically Black Colleges and Universities to provide quality education."

community folk and alumni to keep the doors open." HBCUs have wrestled with budget cuts, some successfully and some at great peril to their institutions.

Clark Atlanta University is the largest university of higher education in the Atlanta Center Consortium. As the largest institution, there are great costs to keep a campus of 5,000 students operating. In the 2004 article, "Surviving Tough Times," Traci Powell wrote that Clark Atlanta University (CAU) had announced a cost-reduction plan which included elimination of faculty and staff positions and a change in curriculum.

The change in curriculum meant that there were departments and programs that had to be phased out and closed. In 2007, students and faculty at CAU were fighting to keep the engineering department open. They filed a lawsuit against the university seeking an injunction. The Georgia Supreme Court upheld a lower court ruling that stated "the correct response for students and faculty was not to interfere in the control of the university, but to seek damages for any individual harm they allege they have suffered." The Engineering Department still appears on the CAU website. The department of Library Science and System Science Ph.D. program is no longer listed on the university's website.

On February 6, 2009, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported that 70 full-time faculty members and 30 other employees had received word they were being dismissed from Clark Atlanta University. In the same week of February 2009, it was reported the university had canceled all of the physical education classes for the rest of the semester.

Additionally, CAU closed the very famous Paschal's Motor Hotel and Restaurant. Paschal's was where the Reverend Martin Luther King and other civil rights leaders met to strategize anti-discrimination tactics during the civil rights movement. The school was losing \$500,000 a year and the university planned to build a new dormitory in its place.

Right now, the university is financially sound. President Brown stated in the Atlanta-Journal-Constitution, "You have to fit what you do to what you can pay for." In the end, CAU remains open and continues to educate students.

Other HBCUs may be in trouble if they do not make some changes. As reported by Powell in 2004, Morris Brown College was more than 37 million dollars in debt. Alabama A&M University (A&M) also faced problems during the 2008-2009 academic year. In December 2008, Alabama A&M was put on probation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the regional accreditation agency. The measure was initiated for A&M's failure to demonstrate financial stability. Interim President Dr. Beverly Edmond, responded to the crisis by "cutting pay for summer faculty, ordering unpaid furloughs for administrators and faculty, and making cuts in contracts, consultant equipment and travel."

Partnerships with the community and alumni can help schools build strong endowments. These connections may afford the university the ability to communicate problems or future goals to alumni and ask for assistance in order to avoid such extreme measures taken by CAU.

Survival Tips

Several HBCUs are using technological innovations and business partnerships to make it through the current financial crisis. In April 2009, EOServe Corp, the nation's premier online educational platform provider made an announcement that it will partner with Morris Brown. Morris Brown expects the corporation will offer its students the opportunity to learn and obtain their degrees anytime, anywhere. Morris Brown expects the partnership to increase enrollment.

In the 1996 article "Endowments: Investing in Education's Future -- Historically African American Colleges," the author advises that when universities are aggressive with their investments of their endowments it can provide long-term financial stability. Howard University, Spellman College, and Meharry Medical School have been able to create strong investment portfolios by investing in U.S. stocks, international stocks, and real estate. Along with good financial planning, historically Black colleges and universities have found success in long-term relationships with the government.

Since 1980, HBCUs have partnered with the department of Housing and Urban Development to rebuild neighborhoods. Schools have the opportunity to apply for grants and carry out projects to benefit low-income and moderate-income residents and help prevent or eliminate slums. In 2002, Jackson State University in Mississippi was granted \$500,000 to buy and rehabilitate six vacant properties which were to be sold to low and moderate-income families. Proceeds from the sales would establish a revolving fund to continue the project after the grant ended.

All institutions can learn from Morris Brown. When the school was unable to pay its pass due water bill, Morris Brown was able to use its social capital to pay the bills. In early 2009, teachers, alumni, and others took to the streets and phones and were able to raise \$150,000 to pay the water bill. HBCUs have long histories of networking with their surrounding communities and alumni and benefit greatly when those relationships are nurtured. They have also taught the nation that social capital is imperative to a university's financial recovery and stability.

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Featured Criminologists: Dr. Dorie Klein

Dr. Dorie Klein is currently a Consultant with Contra Costa County Health Services Department on Women's and Family Behavioral Health Services. She earned her BA in sociology from SUNY Buffalo and Ph.D in Criminology from UC Berkeley. Over the past 27 years Dr. Klein has published numerous research papers and evaluation reports, served on several advisory boards, and been awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in fellowships and grants. Her path to success has been paved with both surprise and hard work. In this interview Dr. Klein explains how she became a criminologist and where her career is headed now.



Dr. Christian: ***Did you always want to be a criminologist? Or were their other interests you thought you might peruse in college ?***

Dr. Klein: When I began college at SUNY Buffalo I thought I might someday be a lawyer. My image was glamorous United Nations work for the government. As I got radicalized and involved in "the movement" of the late 1960s, my idea shifted to working *against* the government. Several friends were put on trial for anti-war activities as the "Buffalo Nine," our local version of the "Chicago Eight," and I attended the trial, covered it for our college paper, and was mesmerized by the Movement lawyers. But a couple of years later I found myself using my housemates' law school books as aids for insomnia, so I realized law school wasn't for me.

Dr. Christian: ***Are there any scholars, teachers, or papers you read as an undergraduate, or even before that made you want to continue your education and eventually get your Ph.D.?***

Dr Klein: In college, getting a Ph.D. wasn't on my radar screen. However, several of my undergraduate professors did influence me.

A popular young sociology instructor who taught the huge Soc 101 class – and who was fired at the end of my freshman year – assigned Domhoff's *Who Rules America?*, which had just come out. The instructor drew a triangle on the board and explained it was the US social structure (which years later I would realize was not quite accurate!). This hit me like a brick, since, like so many middle-class white 18-year-olds of my generation, I'd totally believed in American democracy and equality.

Later, as a sociology major, I took a class from Sidney Wilhelm, who had just published a book provocatively titled *Who Needs the Negro?* that presciently described the growing permanent unemployment among African-Americans due to what was then called "automation." Whereas in the big lectures and more conventional courses I was a loud-mouth, in this serious and scholarly little class I was quiet. However, Dr Wilhelm was kind enough to remember me later on and wrote me a recommendation for graduate school.

Dr. Dorie Klein

Dr. Christian: *How did you get into criminology?*

Dr. Klein: After college, in the early 1970s, I moved to Berkeley to live with friends, who'd also mostly been young activists. We were adrift in the counterculture, politically and personally depressed. We did odd jobs for a living: writing term papers (me), go-go dancing (housemate), drug dealing (housemate's boyfriend). My parents urged me to go back to school for practical reasons, to get a masters degree that would lead to a real job. I was leafing through the University of California catalog and saw the Criminology listing. I thought "oh, that sounds interesting, I like crime novels." I decided that it would be Criminology or Journalism. But Journalism School took two years, while you could get a Masters in Criminology in one year. Two years sounded like forever to me.

Only later – after I applied to the Criminology School -- did I remember that I'd gotten a C in undergraduate criminology. I'd found the standard texts boring, the conservative professor idiotic, and when I bothered to do the reading and go to class, I didn't hide my opinions. In ordinary circumstances, I might not have gotten into graduate school. But in the early 1970s the Berkeley Criminology School had been "captured" by radical faculty and students. While I didn't know this when I applied, I quickly found it out. Faculty member Tony Platt interviewed me, and asked my opinions about women and rape, Cuba, etc. When I sat in on his class I was secretly disappointed because it covered apparently familiar material -- I thought, "I already know all this" -- and I was hoping for something practical and vocational! I was not only ignorant about vocational options, I was ignorant about critical social science. I owe my wake-up call to the Crim School, especially Hi Schwendinger, who taught introductory theory to graduate students.

Dr. Christian: *What has been the most valuable advice a former mentor has given you?*

Dr. Klein: I didn't have mentors in the classic sense. It wasn't my style, and I wasn't career-oriented, even when I got my doctorate. At the Criminology School, faculty member Paul Takagi always tried, in his modest and offhand way, to steer me toward doing better research, with casual throw-away lines, like "A comparative study is better than a case study." I didn't always understand his valuable advice.

Dr. Christian: *What research are you currently working on? What do you hope to be working on in the future?*

Dr. Klein: I'm currently doing very practical, local consulting on program coordination and policy. The programs are substance use treatment for low income women, mostly single mothers, from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. The policies involve how women get into programs and what they get out of them. My modest hopes, first, to improve the programs in ways that I have influence over. I'd like to incorporate more harm reduction and client-driven approaches – there's been too much emphasis on abstinence and forcing the clients to do what the *programs* want. We don't even know if different approaches would be more successful than current ones, because in the US no publicly funded programs are allowed to deviate from the model that conforms to the "war on drugs."

My other modest hope is that local policies can change as they affect low income mothers of color who use alcohol and other drugs, including those who suffer from addiction or mental illness. These women are threatened with incarceration, losing custody of their children, economic benefit cut-offs, housing sanctions, and dismissals by health care providers, just as they were two decades ago during the "crack baby" scare. Middle-class white mothers who drink, use prescription drugs, or smoke don't face these threats. I hope we can make such policy changes. Only evaluation can show if changes in formal protocols

punishments. I hope we can make such policy changes. Only evaluation can show if changes in formal protocols and procedures lead to real changes in the women's experiences.

Thank you Dr. Klein!

Dr. Klein can be reached via email at: doriekcriminologists@yahoo.com

If you have any suggestions for who should be featured in our next edition of Race and Justice Scholar "Featured Criminologists" please send an email to Dr. Jennifer L. Christian jlknnox@hotmail.com, indicating who (including contact information) and why this person should be featured. We look forward to highlighting the many different people who make up our outstanding division!!

Announcements & New Publications

2010 Division on People of Color and Crime Awards

The Division on People of Color and Crime (DPCC) offers five awards in recognition of outstanding contributions to our discipline. To nominate someone for one of the DPCC awards described below, please send a brief note by e-mail to Victor Rios (vrrios@soc.ucsb.edu) explaining your reasons for the nomination. The awards committee will follow up with the nominee for more information. The deadline to nominate someone for a DPCC Award is September 1, 2010. Early nominations are strongly encouraged!

- The **Lifetime Achievement Award** recognizes an individual who has a record of sustained and significant accomplishments and contributions in (1) research on people of color and crime and the field of criminology or criminal justice; (2) teaching and/or mentoring scholars in this field; and (3) service to the discipline and to the community of people of color.
- The **New Scholar Award** recognizes an individual who is in the early stages of her or his career and has made significant recent contributions to the literature on people of color and crime. Scholars who have earned a Ph.D. in the past five years are eligible for this award.
- The **Julius Debro Award** recognizes a professional member of the DPCC who has made outstanding contributions in service to professional organizations, academic institutions, or the advancement of criminal justice.
- The **Coramae Richey Mann Award** recognizes a professional member of the DPCC who has made outstanding contributions of scholarship on race/ethnicity, crime, and justice.
- The **Outstanding Student Award** recognizes outstanding student research on race/ethnicity, crime, and justice.

Member Announcements!

ASC Minority Fellowship program received two generous donations this year! \$6,000 from Sage Publications and \$5,000 from Tom Bloomberg.

Nikki Jones received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara!

Steve Russell retired and became Associate Professor Emeritus of Criminal Justice, Indiana University at Bloomington

New Publications:

Barak, Gregg, Leighton, Paul and Jeanne Flavin. 2010. *Class, Race, Gender & Crime: The Social Realities of Justice in America*, 3rd ed. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

Jones, Nikki. 2010. *Between Good and Ghetto: African American Girls and Inner-City Violence*. Rutgers University Press.

Division on People of Color and Crime American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting San Francisco – November 17-20, 2010

<i>Wednesday, November 17</i>	<i>Thursday, November 18</i>	<i>Friday, November 19</i>
<p><u>Author-Meets-Critics</u> <i>Racial Profiling</i> <i>Research, Racism, and Resistance</i> by Karen S. Glover</p> <p>11:00am-12:20pm Pacific J (4th Floor)</p>	<p><u>Author-Meets-Critics</u> <i>Between Good and Ghetto</i> <i>African American Girls and Inner City Violence</i> by Nikki Jones</p> <p>8:00am-9:20am Salon 6 (Lower B2 Level)</p>	<p><u>Authors-Meet-Critics</u> <i>Dorm Room Dealers</i> <i>Drugs and the Privileges of Race and Class</i> by A. Rafik Mohamed & Erik D. Fritsvold</p> <p>3:30pm-4:50pm Pacific H (4th Floor)</p>
<p><u>Tenure Workshop</u></p> <p>In collaboration with the Division on Women and Crime</p> <p>5:00pm-6:20pm Pacific I (4th Floor)</p> <p><u>DPCC/DWC Social</u></p> <p>Joint social with the Division on Women and Crime</p> <p>8:00pm-9:30pm, Salon A (B2 Level) \$15, \$5 for students</p>	<p><u>General Body Meeting</u></p> <p>11:00am-12:20pm Walnut (B2 Level)</p> <p><u>Luncheon & Symposium</u></p> <p>Presentation of DPCC Annual Awards and Featured Speakers: <i>Prison University Project</i> <i>Former Inmates of San Quentin State Prison</i> (www.prisonuniversityproject.org)</p> <p>12:30pm-2:00pm Salon A (B2 Level)</p> <p>\$30 for DPCC members, \$35 for non-DPCC members, \$20 for students</p>	<p><u>Minority Fellowship Dance</u></p> <p>Funding from dance proceeds to assist in supporting the <i>Graduate Fellowship for Ethnic Minorities</i> program of the ASC</p> <p>10:00pm Salon 8 (Lower B2 Level)</p> <p>\$10 for ASC members, \$5 for ASC student members, \$20 for non-ASC members, \$10 for non-ASC member students</p>
	<p><u>Graduate Student Meeting</u></p> <p>All DPCC graduate students and interested students are welcome to attend</p> <p>3:30pm-4:50pm Foothill E (2nd Floor)</p>	