



## Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

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SWACJ Web Page: [www.swacj.org](http://www.swacj.org)

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## Annual Meeting

8-10 October 2015

**Schlitterbahn Waterpark Resort  
South Padre Island, Texas**

*“Looking Toward Reentry:  
Linking Evidence and Best Practices”*

**Luncheon Keynote Speaker**



**Mr. Nicholas (Nico) LaHood  
District Attorney  
San Antonio**

**President**

Greetings to all SWACJ members!

For those who do not know me, I am currently an Assistant Professor and Program Director of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Program at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas. I am also a proud alum of Sam Houston State University and the University of North Texas.

I am honored to serve as your 2014-2015 Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice President. After attending SWACJ meetings for more than a decade, I am excited to see how we continue to evolve by growing a diverse membership and creating exciting development opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students.

On that note, I am very happy to announce next year's conference will again be held on South Padre Island at the Schlitterbahn Beach Resort October 8-10. The 2015 theme is *Looking Toward Reentry: Linking Evidence and Best Practices*. I am pleased to announce our keynote speaker, Mr. Nicholas LaHood, Bexar County District Attorney (See p. 2)). If you have not attended an annual meeting in while, this is the perfect time to reconnect and experience the South Padre Island location. The executive board has worked to again secure the same low conference rate of \$80 dollars a night and you are now able to register online or over the phone. This rate is good for 3 days prior and 3 days after the conference, and I would encourage you to come early and stay late. This time of year on the island is perfect, and members enjoyed many meals at the resort's beach café while watching sunrises, the wildlife, and the waves come in. It was the perfect setting to discuss research and commiserate about life in academia.

Because of the setting and the great success of the 2014 conference, SWACJ members overwhelming supported returning to South Padre Island for one more year. Congratulations to James Blair, the executive board, and the rest of the site team for not only choosing this location, but for coordinating outstanding events during the conference. There were so many positive comments about the panel presentations, the Quiz Bowl, the Crime Scene Investigation Competition, and the Past Presidents' Reception held on a Pirate Ship that sailed around South Padre Bay. My goal is to continue to build on this success.

As you can probably tell, I am very much looking forward to returning to South Padre Island later this year.

All the best,

*Jiletta*

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## Bexar County Criminal District Attorney **NICHOLAS LAHOOD**



- **Juris Doctorate** *St. Mary's University School of Law*
- **Former Magistrate Judge** *Bexar County*
- **Special Prosecutor** *Bexar, Wilson, Medina & Karnes Counties*
- **Adjunct Professor** *St. Mary's University School of Law*
- **Instructor** *SAPD Police Academy*
- **Instructor** *AACOG Police Academy*
- **"Rising Star"** *Texas Law And Politics Magazine* (6 years)

### **Biography**

Native San Antonian Nicholas 'Nico' LaHood, as a result of his extensive legal and trial background and countless professional accomplishments and recognitions, has successfully established himself as a highly respected and revered attorney in the community. He has built a successful law practice with father, Michael LaHood and brother Marc LaHood. As a former special prosecutor for Bexar, La Salle, Wilson, Karnes and Medina counties, Nico built a reputation for hard work and a no-nonsense approach at trial. A philosophy embraced early in life, Nico has relied on integrity and ethics-based principles when working towards justice.

### **Accomplishments**

Nico LaHood has been recognized by Law & Politics Magazine, as seen in Texas Monthly Super Lawyers edition, as a rising star in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. He is among the top 2.5 percent of attorneys in the state according to that publication. He has been recognized as one of the San Antonio legal community's rising stars by being featured in the 2007 edition of Scene In S.A. and has also been featured on FOX29's Legal Minds. He was elected as a board member of the San Antonio Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and St. Mary's University Law School Alumni Association.

### **Personal**

Nico is a graduate of Mount Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary school and also graduated from Central Catholic Marianist High School. He received B.A. in Finance and Financial Services from St. Mary's University and his J.D. degree from the St. Mary's School of Law. Nico's knowledge of the law was further broadened as a result of him advocating for the rights of his late brother, Michael LaHood, Jr. who was murdered. Nico fought unyieldingly for fairness and justice for his late brother and for his family. An event that shaped Nico's life significantly and that furthered his commitment and passion for seeking justice. Additionally, in his spare time, Nico stays active by training law enforcement officers and others in martial arts. He also stays active by working out and is an avid hunter. Nico's beloved immediate family includes wife Davida and three children Maya, Michael, and Leah.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Greetings from East Texas!

Congratulations to all the winners of the 2014 undergraduate and graduate student paper competitions. The first year of clearly dividing the student paper competition into undergraduate and graduate paper competitions, each with its own unique requirements, including faculty review of submissions, was successful and well received. I would like to express my gratitude to the judges, Dr. Wendi Pollock and Dr. Milt Hill of Stephen F. Austin State University and to the faculty who reviewed submissions prior to submission.

Among my responsibilities as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President are the Undergraduate Quiz Bowl competition and the Poster session for the 2015 meeting. Expect to see new categories along with some rule clarifications in next year's Quiz Bowl. I must confess that as a student I never completed a poster or participated in a poster session. Therefore, I would like to call on your experiences and solicit the SWACJ membership's input on ways to improve the poster session. Please send any suggestions or comments to me at [First-Vice-President@swacj.org](mailto:First-Vice-President@swacj.org)

The time has arrived for planning the 2016 SWACJ conference. In the past, conference venues would be announced at the mid-year meeting by the SWACJ 1<sup>st</sup> vice president. It is my desire to bring this practice back; therefore my plan is to announce the venue for the 2016 conference at the SWACJ business meeting at the 2015 annual conference at South Padre Island. I will need your help if I am to accomplish this task.

I have two destinations in mind: Oklahoma City, OK and the Stockyards in Ft. Worth, TX. SWACJ has held successful conferences in both venues in the past. Oklahoma City is my first choice for a couple of reasons. Primarily, it has been several years since SWACJ has held its annual meeting outside the state of Texas and it is time we do so again. Secondly, my first SWACJ conference was the 2005 meeting held in OKC and I find it appropriate that I host the conference in the same city I started my SWACJ adventure. Ft. Worth also holds promise and has the advantage of convenience since it is centrally located in our region and near the Dallas-Ft. Worth Airport simplifying travel to and from the conference.

Regardless of where the 2016 conference is held we need the support of the membership to help make our conferences successful. Therefore I am putting out a call for proposals for future conference sites. SWACJ member institutions in the past were of great help to the executive board by developing conference proposals, committing to faculty and student participation, and providing institutional support. If you would like an SWACJ conference to be held near your institution, contact the current 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president who will be looking for good venues to host the conference during their presidency. Send proposals detailing why your proposed venue is ideal for a SWACJ conference and solicit proposals from hotels that can handle conferences of 120-150 people. Contact the tourist bureau associated with the venue and find out what kind of services they can offer SWACJ. Then send the information you gather to one of the vice presidents who will bring your proposal to the rest of the executive board. If your proposal is chosen, we will use the foundation you have built to begin negotiations, find venues for the past president's reception and other conference events.

I look forward to seeing you at South Padre Island!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George J. Day". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

George J. Day

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



I have been a member of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice for several years, dating back to when I was a graduate assistant for Dr. Will Oliver when he was president of the organization. I attended that conference in Corpus Christi with no idea of what an academic conference even was! That first experience made a lasting impression upon me.

I left Corpus Christi that fall knowing that I wanted to eventually contribute to SWACJ and to the annual meeting as both an active member and as an officer of the board. That desire has come to fruition because I have had the honor of serving on the audit committee last year and on the student paper judging panel for the past two years. Even more importantly, I was elected during the 2014 conference to serve as second vice-president. I am honored and humbled by this opportunity, and I look forward to working with the board and with all of the members of SWACJ to make our organization a shining star in our field. Thank you for your confidence in me—I will strive to be the best officer and member that I can be.

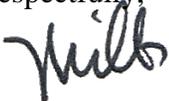
I wish to offer my congratulations to Past President James Blair and our wonderful secretary, Christine Nix, and the rest of the board for a fantastic 2014 annual meeting in South Padre Island. I am looking forward to returning there this year to support President Jiletta Kubena in her presiding role. I encourage everyone to make plans to attend!

As the second vice president, I will be in charge of the student paper competition at the 2015 conference. If you (or someone that you know) are interested in serving as a judge for the undergraduate or graduate (or both) divisions, please let me know. My email is [mhill@sfasu.edu](mailto:mhill@sfasu.edu) or [Second-Vice-President@swacj.org](mailto:Second-Vice-President@swacj.org). Thank you in advance for your support and assistance.

Finally, please encourage your students to enter the various competitions: the quiz bowl; the CSI team competition; the paper competition; the poster competition; etc. And, of course, please encourage your students to present their research in one of the panels. Although most of our students are the future of criminal justice, many are also the future academics in our field! Let's get them started early!

Until next time, take care—and please let me know if there is anything that I can do for you or for SWACJ.

Respectfully,



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### Treasurer's Report



Another Annual Meeting has come and gone; and with it come feelings of pride, joy, and melancholy. Although the closeout with the hotel is my signal that the conference is over, in reality there is still quite a bit of work to do in the weeks after the conference to update the ledgers, pay the final invoices and write checks to our student prize winners. I'm happy to announce that our fund balance has continued to improve and your Association is financially stable. Our current fund balance is \$18,943.04. I will explain why this is significant in a sidebar below.

#### Current Balances as of October 31, 2014

PayPal	\$	524.54	
Wells-Fargo	\$	18,418.50	
Balance on Hand	\$	18,943.04	
Incumbered	\$	2,700.00	*
Available	\$	16,243.04	

\*Includes 2014 encumbrances and Caeti Fund (\$1888.64)

At the business meeting during the 2013 Annual Meeting, my cautious description of our financial status was almost immediately elevated as we received some late payments from sponsors and advertisers and were able to make additional deposits. We closed our books with a small increase in our fund balance. In 2014, it appeared that we again had a modest increase. We are not getting rich, but we are making progress. For now, I would like to point out that James Blair and Christine Nix did an amazing job keeping the cost of the conference down while providing us a refreshing conference venue.

We registered 82 Professionals for the Annual 2014 Meeting as well as 65 Students. Our 2014 Membership to-date is 65 Professionals and 23 Students.

A huge thanks to Bill Stone for developing the 2014 electronic registration process. This was the second year that we used that strategy. As with most new things, there were a few hic-ups, but the electronic abstract submission, registration, and membership forms have improved our onsite registration process immensely. The lines will not completely disappear; but at the registration table, we definitely noticed that there were fewer and shorter lines than in the past. The Executive Board welcomes your suggestions to enhance the process. If you have experience integrating online forms and payments, feel free to contact me.

Nothing will grow the size and strength of our Association more than you convincing others of the value of our organization and our conference. Begin now inviting other professionals and advanced students to attend. Think about the paper that you can present on South Padre Island in October.

Tom

#### Why is the fund balance Important?

I realize that not every member is interested in the minutiae of conference contracts; but it is important everyone understand some of the basics. As you are aware, small organizations like ours depend on membership and meeting registrations to fund the Annual Meeting and other Association matters (e.g. the journal). The Schlitterbahn agreed to a very favorable contract in 2014. In 2013, we were caught off guard the day before the conference when the hotel advised us that we would need to complete payment of the total estimated costs immediately. This is unusual in that we normally pay deposits that are stipulated in our contract, but hold final payment until the end of the conference "closeout." A management change at the hotel appears to be the culprit in that episode, but it brought home the fact that we need to always be able to pay the cost of the conference "up front" rather than depending on the income generated by the conference itself. We are now in a position to do that.

### Secretary's Report



Hello from Central Texas!

Fresh air, the beach, plus a great venue were the makings of a wonderful 2014 annual SWACJ conference. At the end of each conference, the Executive Board sits back, exhales a huge sigh of relief and satisfaction, knowing that success was the result of committed members, sponsors, and caring conference hotel staff.

Initially, I was leery of a conference on the beach, at a waterpark resort, and casual attire. My apologies to James Blair, President for the 2014 conference, for the doubts. The panels, poster sessions, round tables, luncheon, and both receptions were well attended. In fact, some were standing room only. A look at behind the scenes, James did a herculean job of getting the conference schedule put together in an amazing amount of time.

Denise Arnold with South Padre Convention & Visitors Bureau and Mike Bigelow of Schlitterbahn went above and beyond to ensure the success of the conference. Craig Paxman, the representative for Osprey cruises, was the impetus behind the Past President's reception evening cruise aboard the Black Dragon Pirate Ship. I am not a fan of boats or water; however with the help of motion sickness patches (I think Craig Hemmens will agree), it was a very enjoyable evening!

It takes a village to raise a child and it takes many individuals to ensure a successful conference. My thanks to the Executive Board for assisting with registration and to members and guests for your patience when I floundered like a fish out of water. No matter how we prepare, there will always be a hiccup or two or three. I am very appreciative of my students (Chris Naimo, Josh Gammill, Jessica Hernandez, and Kelsie Finn) who gave up valuable study and relaxation time to assist with conference preparation, registration, Sheriff Valdez, and the Crime Scene Investigation competition. These students had a total of two hours free time while attending the conference. As much as they wished to compete in the CSI, they understood the associated issue of attached compromise with Sgt. Hitch (their professor) as the monitor for the event. Sgt. Hitch, an adjunct continues to embrace the world of academia through scholarship, research, and service, especially to SWACJ. A group who worked behind the scenes was the soldiers with Major Bryan Blair (brother to James Blair). They transported a number of individuals to and from the airport, packed and unpacked the SWACJ mobile office, and participated throughout the conference. Many thanks to the South Texas College – Mid Valley Criminal Justice Club for their generous donation of conference bags and the multitude of bag stuffers.

We are very fortunate the rate for rooms, food and beverage, Past Presidents' reception for the **8-10 October 2015 Annual Conference** will not increase from 2014. The link for SWACJ submissions and payments, as well as, the room reservations are available on pages 14 and 20 of this newsletter and [www.swacj.org](http://www.swacj.org).

Last conference I erred and scheduled individual posters for both sessions. I will not make the same mistake (keep your fingers crossed). Several members have offered to assist wherever needed during the conference, it is greatly appreciated, and we will call upon you!

We are in need of **sponsorships** to ensure the continued success of SWACJ. Harriett McHale of CJ Publications, Sam Houston State University, has kindly offered to print the 2015 conference program (the rate is outstanding). As usual we need funding for conference bags (or I can obtain plastic Wal-Mart bags) and items for the bags. Please consider sponsorships in the form of a program ad, table, breaks, luncheon, bag stuffers, and prizes for the student competitions.

Congratulations to Milt Hill as the newest member of the Executive Board as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and to Camille Gibson as the Region IV trustee to ACJS. Also, congratulations to Camille as the 2014 recipient of the Felix Fabian Founder's Award – very deserving! There are not enough words to thank David Montague for his service to SWACJ as the outgoing Region IV trustee.

This is my last conference as SWACJ secretary. It has been a humbling, learning, and gratifying experience. I am appreciative of your support throughout the years. I look forward to many more years with you as part of the SWACJ family.

*Blessed travels,*

*Christine*

### Past President



Greetings from South Texas!

Thank you all for the wonderful 2014 conference at South Padre Island. It took the collective effort of many people to make it happen, and for all of their efforts I am truly grateful. I have no doubt that this year's conference at the same location will be even better. We had an unbelievably generous hotel contract, and are blessed to be able to repeat it again for the upcoming conference. This will put us in a good position to plan a conference outside of Texas, which I eagerly look forward to.

Our new president, Jiletta Kubena, has my full support, and I am sure that the members of SWACJ will support her just as much as they supported me during my year in the presidency. Likewise, George Day and Milt Hill will look forward to your support as they plan their respective conferences. Anyone with strong suggestions for a 2017 meeting location should feel free to start talking to Milt so he can get a head start on the process.

Although my time as a SWACJ officer has been short, I had the honor of one more year ahead of me as Past President to the Executive Board. My primary responsibility for the 2015 conference is chairing the Awards Committee; I will be requesting volunteers to help me with this endeavor. The most important award to be considered is the Felix Fabien Founders Award, created to honor those among us who have given of their time and talents through the years in service to SWACJ. Phil Rhoades, Bill Stone, and Camille Gibson have each earned this award. Do you know someone in SWACJ who deserves to join them in this honor? If so, please submit your nominations by September 16, 2015. See the selection criteria for the award on page 19.

May you be safe and happy until we meet again.

*James Blair*



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**Regional Trustee report (fall 2014)**

As your regional trustee, I proudly bring greetings from the ACJS Board of Directors. Things have been busy at ACJS and please allow me to share some highlights. Our ACJS Executive Director Mary K. Stohr has brought a wealth of experience to this position and has worked diligently to make sure that all regional issues are addressed as best as possible. She attended our regional SWACJ meeting in South Padre Island, Texas and presented important information to keep all those wanting to better understand ACJS and connection to SWACJ, as knowledgeable as possible. We also appreciate the financial support ACJS provided the region for our amazingly successful meeting this fall and the fact that the President of ACJS, Brian Payne, stayed several days and made sure to brief all the SWACJ officers on the latest events and future plans.

These ACJS officers, as well as ACJS past-president Craig Hemmens, attended our SWACJ Quiz Bowl to show support for our regional students. Another major national initiative that was mentioned during the business meeting at the SWACJ meeting, is the first-ever ACJS Doctoral Summit. This initiative will bring 31 PhD students from across the country (including some from our region) to ACJS in order to meet the ACJS leadership, attend seminars on understanding career development, and networking opportunities.

We are proud to see this effort to directly support students and for the faculty graduate coordinators who made sure to support these student applications. So these Summit participants will get a unique experience at the ACJS annual meeting this spring. Please know that our body has been working hard to address numerous proposals impacting ACJS and that I will do my best to keep the Southwest Region as informed as possible toward this end.

One major point to report herein, is that our region is well thought of in terms of the use of innovative programming at our annual SWACJ meeting each year; especially with an ever-increasing difficulty in acquisition of corporate sponsorship. Specifically, the annual Poster Session, Student Paper Competition, Student CSI Competition, and Undergraduate Quiz Bowl, are well-respected by the other regions.

So, I thank you for allowing me to serve as your trustee and I will continue to work to represent our region as best as possible...

Sincerely,

David Montague  
Regional Trustee  
SWACJ - ACJS Region Four

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Greetings from ACJS Region Four, the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice.

To be sure, our region is quite busy with numerous things at present. By popular demand, our 2015 annual meeting will again be held in South Padre Island, Texas from October 8 to 10, 2015 at the famous Schlitterbahn Water Park Resort. We also have our usual mix of topical panel sessions all addressing this year's theme of "Looking Toward Reentry: Linking Evidence and Best Practices."

Our fourth Poster Session will be held as well as our Student Paper Competition and Student CSI Competition, thanks to generous support from local first responders and from publishers who help sponsor and attend these events. One of the highlights of our meeting this year will be our Undergraduate Quiz Bowl, which draws a large crowd and promotes healthy mentoring and scholarship among all our attendees. Of course, there will be wonderful activities nearby for attractions outside the conference, given the beautiful area for our conference this year. Our keynote speaker Sheriff Lupe Valdez, the only Latina Sheriff in the Nation, gave our 2014 attendees an amazing understanding of the complexities and successes of her role in maintaining positive community-police relations. So, we encourage you to please visit [www.swacj.org](http://www.swacj.org). We now have all registration, payments (via PayPal), and panel/poster/roundtable abstract submission processing via our website. Abstracts can be submitted electronically to: [http://swacj.org/Conference%202015/2015\\_annual\\_meeting\\_information.htm](http://swacj.org/Conference%202015/2015_annual_meeting_information.htm) and the deadline for abstracts is 11:59PM CST, August 30, 2015.

Additionally, our journal, the Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice & Criminology, is doing well and editor, Dr. Willard M. Oliver, invites submission of manuscripts focusing on the niche of qualitative research to support the work of many globally. The journal is at Issue 2 / Volume 2 and is published twice a year. In terms of analytics, as of October 2014 we had 133 articles submitted and 23 accepted, yielding an acceptance rate of 17.2%. Please visit our journal at <http://www.jqcjc.org/> to learn more or to submit a manuscript.

Under the leadership of our new president Dr. Jiletta Kubena, our region still endeavors to be fiscally responsible in order to maximize giving back to our members, while also taking advantage of the latest in technology and working closely to promote our discipline for our six member states.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Montague".

David Montague, Regional Trustee  
SWACJ ACJS Region Four  
[drmontague@ualr.edu](mailto:drmontague@ualr.edu)  
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**Final Report as the ACJS REGION FOUR TRUSTEE**

I write this message as my final entry as outgoing Regional Trustee for Region Four. Over the last eleven years, I have had the privilege of being connected with the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice (SWACJ) in various leadership roles. Most recently, our region was well represented at the annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) held in Orlando, Florida. In addition to an outstanding showing by the officers of SWACJ as part of various panels presenting and supporting student presenters, our region participated in probably the best leadership summit ACJS has held to date.

At this summit, ACJS called together the leadership/officers for all five regions in order to update our understanding of each other and share best practices. Also during the conference, students representing colleges and universities within the region participated in the first-ever ACJS Doctoral Student Summit. With much anticipation, the SWACJ officers spread the word and built excitement about the upcoming SWACJ annual meeting to be held October 2015 at South Padre Island, Texas.

Again, it has been an honor serving as regional trustee for our six states and thank you for the opportunity. Dr. Camille Gibson, the new regional trustee, is already on board and working hard on behalf of our region!

David R. Montague  
Outgoing Trustee, Region Four  
drmontague@ualr.edu  
501-683-7509

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#### SWACJ Members and Friends:

Join me in thanking David Montague for his years of service as regional trustee. He officially passed the baton to me this year at the Orlando Academy of Criminal Justice (ACJS) meeting. Since then, the ACJS board has been busy finalizing new contracts for meetings well into the future including a return to Orlando and Vegas. The Board has also been considering new approaches with its journals and the possibility of a new

journal. It is expanding the Doctoral Student Summit which started at the last national meeting. The Summit funded the attendance of a doctoral student representative from programs nationwide to attend the national conference, in particular mentorship sessions just for them. The inaugural effort went so well that two students per program will be funded next year for the Denver conference.

Internationally, ACJS was represented at the April, United Nations Congress in Qatar. Nationally, ACJS remains committed to strengthening its relationship with the regional organizations. To that end, funds are available to support regional meetings, but the funds must be requested by a deadline. There is an effort to encourage more regional members to also have national membership. While not a political advocacy organization, members of ACJS are being called on to comment on the hot button issues of the day, and the Board is certainly attentive as well. ACJS is in good shape and is embracing its unique role as a place that brings academics and practitioners together toward the effective practice of criminal justice and the development of future practitioners, researchers, and professors in the field.

At your service,  
Camille Gibson  
SWACJ Regional Trustee



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### Journal Editor Report



The official journal of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice, the *Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice & Criminology*, I am happy to report, appears to be in fine shape. Volume 2, Number 2, was published online on October 15, 2014, and is available at [www.jqcjc.org](http://www.jqcjc.org).

As of October 2014, I have served three years as the editor, one preparing the new journal, and two serving as the editor of the journal. I received 134 manuscripts. I accepted 24 for publication; 8 under review and 4 with revise and resubmits.

In addition, 4 were withdrawn for various reasons and 95 rejected. The current acceptance rate of the journal is 18% which I believe has served to make the journal a very difficult, yet worthy one in which to publish. In addition, I think having only two issues a year has kept the quality of the articles ultimately published very high.

Volume 3, Number 1 was published online on April 15, 2015 and is also available at [www.jqcjc.org](http://www.jqcjc.org). The number of manuscripts received was 159, with 10 under review, and 27 accepted. The acceptance rate for this issue was 16.9%.

Having served now for three years, I believe it is time for me to step down. I will continue to manage Volume 3, to publish issue Number 1 on April 15, 2015, and issue Number 2 on October 15, 2015, but then it will be time for someone else with new ideas and new energy to take over and move the journal forward.

At the 2014 conference at South Padre Island, I recommended to the executive board that a committee be formed in the winter, an ad go out in the spring, and a decision made before the 2015 conference in South Padre. That way, I can enjoy the beach knowing the journal will be in new and trusty hands.

I have enjoyed working on this journal and I have appreciated all of the support from both the SWACJ executive board and the membership, as well as my institution Sam Houston State University and my book review editor, Kevin Steinmetz (now at Kansas State University). I believe that SWACJ now has a journal that fills a needed niche in criminal justice (and criminology!) and that it has enhanced our academic prestige. I am proud to have been a part of the journal and ever proud to be a part of SWACJ.

Will Oliver  
Sam Houston State University



### Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

ARKANSAS • ARIZONA • COLORADO • NEW MEXICO • OKLAHOMA • TEXAS

SWACJ Web Page: [www.swacj.org](http://www.swacj.org)

Email: [swacj.org@gmail.com](mailto:swacj.org@gmail.com)

# Call for Conference Papers & Posters

## Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice (SWACJ)

Annual Meeting  
8-10 October 2015  
South Padre Island, Texas

### Conference Theme

*“Looking Toward Reentry: Linking Evidence and Best Practices”*

Submit abstracts electronically to:

<http://fs18.formsite.com/ws03txstateedu/Registration/index.html>

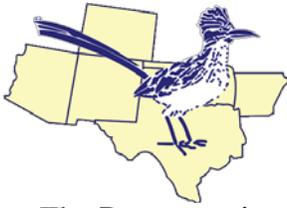
**Deadline for abstracts: Midnight, 16 September 2015**



\*No individual may appear more than twice in the program as an author or presenter



SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
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## 2015 Poster Session

### Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

The *Poster session* offers the opportunity to participate in an innovative, progressive, interactive presentation of your research guaranteed to reach a wider audience than traditional panel presentations.

The poster session is a collection of visual displays of research that encourages informal interaction between authors and attendees. The primary author of a Poster presentation must be in attendance and committed to stay throughout the presentation.

#### How to be a Poster Presenter:

Submit presentation topics via the **Abstract and Panel Participation Form**. Upon acceptance, prepare a visual presentation for your paper, and bring it to San Antonio.

Set up your presentation in your assigned spot **30 minutes BEFORE** the poster sessions begins and remain at your spot for the full time the poster session is scheduled.

#### The poster presentation

A poster consists of two components. First, it is a visual display of research and secondly, it involves interaction with the audience. The research is usually PowerPoint slides or some other computer software. Then the slides are printed and placed on a poster stands provided by SWACJ. The visual display includes text, tables, graphs etc. Some people choose to have their posters printed professionally or laminated; this is a personal preference but is not required. The second component of the poster research requires that the author(s) interact with the audience during the allotted session time. Conference participants browse the displayed visual presentations of research and have an opportunity to inquire about the research.

Anyone interested in presenting research may do so by submitting an **Abstract and Panel Participation** form no later than **midnight 16 September 2014**.

**No one can present\* more than one poster presentation at the conference.** However, participants may be a co-author of research with other co-authors who will present the additional research. Each poster presentation must have an author present to interact during the duration of poster session. (\*No person's name may appear more than twice as author or presenter).

**No unattended presentations.** At least one presenter is required to stand by your poster for the entire session. If there is more than one author, it is acceptable to alternate or split up times with your coauthor(s). If your research is accepted, we will expect someone to be available to present it in your place. Please plan and have a backup person who can present the research on your behalf if you cannot attend the conference.

Please contact George Day at [First-Vice-President@swacj.org](mailto:First-Vice-President@swacj.org) with questions regarding the poster session.



## 2015 SWACJ STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Graduate and undergraduate students currently enrolled (and those who will be enrolled for the fall 2013 semester) in a university, college, junior college or community college within the Southwest Region.

### AWARDS:

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

\* The winner of the graduate student paper competition will be invited to have their work included in the Special Conference 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. Student(s) must author the paper; no faculty/student joint papers will be considered.
2. The paper must be an original work; it may be especially prepared for the 2013 SWACJ annual meeting, or it may be a revision of a paper prepared for coursework at the student's home university or college.
3. The paper must be submitted electronically to: [Second-Vice-President@swacj.org](mailto:Second-Vice-President@swacj.org).
4. To be considered for competition, entries must be received by **midnight, September 16, 2015.**
5. The paper must meet standard publication formats as established at the student's home university or college.
6. The title page of the paper should include the student's full name and address, school affiliation and status as either graduate or undergraduate.
7. 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 present their papers in the supportive atmosphere of the annual meeting.

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 CONFERENCE BUSINESS MEETING**



-- All Students Encouraged To Participate --

## Call for Teams

The Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

is pleased to announce the

**Fourth Collegiate Undergraduate Team**

## Crime Scene Interpretation Competition

**Friday October 8, 2015**

**Beginning at 2pm**

Location to be announced

The competition will be held as part of the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice (SWACJ). Teams will photograph, sketch, and document a processed crime scene.

Teams may consist of up to five members. Teams must be sponsored by a faculty member of their home institution who is a member of SWACJ. All team members must be registered as meeting attendees. Teams *may not* include professional, reserve, interns, or former peace officers or crime scene technicians regardless of status as students. **Any team found in violation will forfeit placement status and will be disqualified from competing for 2 years.**

Teams will be judged on professionalism, accuracy of processing and interpretation, and compliance with recognized standards and protocols.

For further information or registration, team sponsors should send an email to

Christine A. Nix at  
Secretary@swacj.org

To be considered for competition, entries must be received via email no later than midnight, **September 16, 2014.**

**\*Entry must include the number of participating students and the name of the sponsoring faculty.**

**\*\* Prior to the conference, a request will be sent to each faculty sponsor for the names of student participants in order to complete the registration process for the competition.**

**\*\*\*Late submissions will not be accepted.**

## ***Annual SWACJ Undergraduate Student Criminal Justice Quiz Bowl 2015***

**Team Composition:** A team will consist of two to four members. Team members must be registered for the Annual Meeting as students. Teams will be registered on a first to register, first to qualify basis. A maximum of 8 teams will be allowed to participate. Each college or university participating in the SWACJ Annual Meeting may enter *one* team.

**Teams must pre-register** by contacting **Dr. George Day** ([First-Vice-President@swacj.org](mailto:First-Vice-President@swacj.org)) no later than midnight, **September 16, 2015**. Teams do not have to list exact members to pre-register for the Quiz Bowl – simply indicate that a team from a particular program will participate. Exact members must be indicated at conference check in where registration for the conference will be verified.

**Relays (Rounds):** There will be two relays plus the championship round. For the two relays, teams will be divided as evenly as possible. Placement/assignment of the teams for relays will be done randomly. The winning team from each relay will then compete for the championship. The two teams in the championship will not carry any previous points (or standing) from the first relays. Thus, both teams in the championship will start with zero points. The team with the most points in the championship round will receive the first prize (\$250). The second prize winners will also receive a cash award (\$150). **Prize money** for first and second place will be given to the faculty advisor for the winning teams to be used as they determine.

**Teams in the first relays** will be quizzed from the categories of:

1. **Introduction to Criminal Justice** – Five questions commonly found in intro CJ textbooks.
2. **Courts and Criminal Procedure** – Five questions from courts and/or criminal procedure textbooks.
3. **Women and Minorities** – Five questions relating to the impact of the CJ system on Women and Minorities
4. **Criminological Theory** – Five questions about theories of criminality.

**In the event of a tie**, the category will be *potpourri* for best of two out of three questions.

**Teams in the championship** relay will compete for first place. They will be quizzed from:

1. **Law of Arrest, Search, and Seizure** – Five questions.
2. **Major Supreme Court Decisions** – Five questions.

**In the event of a tie**, the category will be *potpourri* for the best of two out of three questions.

In all relays, Team Captains will have buzzers to ‘buzz-in’ when their team is ready with a correct answer. The Team that buzzes in first will be given the first opportunity to answer. Should that team give an incorrect response; the next team to buzz in will be given opportunity to answer, and so on down the line.

*Good sportsmanship will be observed at all times by all participants and spectators. Individual participants who engage in rude, disrespectful, or unsportsmanlike behavior may be disqualified. Participants must keep cell phones out of sight during the Bowl. Spectators who engage in rude, disrespectful, or unsportsmanlike behavior may be asked to leave the event. This includes attempting to convey answers to any person in any manner.*





## **Felix Fabian Founder's Award Southwest Association of Criminal Justice 2015**

### **Nomination Criteria**

Awarded to SWACJ members who are deemed deserving of special recognition for their outstanding contribution to SWACJ and the profession.

Prior recipients of the Felix Fabian Founder's Award are not eligible for nomination  
Selection Criteria:

- Active member in good standing of SWACJ for at least five (5) consecutive years.
- Active involvement in criminal justice education and research for the preceding five (5) years.
- Through service activities, has made a substantial contribution to SWACJ and to the discipline of criminal justice.

Nominations for the Felix Fabian Founder's Award may be made only by current SWACJ members.

Nominations may be submitted by any current SWACJ member. The nomination should include the following information: (a) a brief summary of the nominee's contributions in accordance with the award criteria, and (b) an explanation of the significance of these contributions. Submission of supporting materials with nominations is encouraged but not required.

**Submit nominations to: James Blair: [Past-President@swacj.org](mailto:Past-President@swacj.org)  
No later than midnight, 16 September 2015**

**\*Felix Fabien was the first President of SWACJ. His bio can be found on our web page at [www.swacj.org](http://www.swacj.org)**



**2015**

**SWACJ Annual Conference**

**Save the Date**

**8-10 October**

***“Looking Toward Reentry:***

***Linking Evidence and Best Practices”***

**Schlitterbahn Water Park Resort**

**South Padre Island, Texas**

**Schlitterbahn room reservations for SWACJ:**

**956-761-1160**



**[www.swacj.org](http://www.swacj.org)  
[swacj.org@gmail.com](mailto:swacj.org@gmail.com)**