

THE SOUTHWESTERN REGION NEWSLETTER

Spring 1997

Newsletter of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joy Pollock
Southwest Texas State University

The Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice met in Tucson this past September. All involved enjoyed the great Arizona weather and especially the lunar eclipse that Tom Hawley and the site committee arranged for our viewing pleasure during the opening reception. Next year we meet in Corpus Christi and Phil Rhoades is already lining up the activities which will be available for conference participants. In the business meeting, the following year's site was voted on and San Antonio received the most votes, so we will be meeting in San Antonio in 1998. Bill Stone (Southwest Texas State University) was selected as site coordinator, so if you have any ideas about hotels, activities, etc., please contact him.

One issue that I would like to work on as president this year is the relatively low attendance at our regional conference. I would like to offer the following observation—while everyone's travel budget is being reduced or is barely sufficient to make one national conference, we should also consider the benefits and responsibilities of regional conferences. The regional conference is not merely a "mini" national conference—it serves different and additional purposes. I think of it in the following way: a national conference may be a responsibility you owe to your own career (in terms of presentations, listening to presentations of others, meeting with co-authors and editors, and so on), the regional conference is a responsibility you owe as an educator in your particular state. In the regional conference, such issues as articulation agreements, other assessments and other educational and practitioner issues can be dealt with in an environment where it is possible to have greater representation from colleges and universities that may not have the funds to send their faculty to national conferences. It seems incumbent on at least the larger universities to make sure there is good representation from their faculty if they expect to be considered leaders of criminal justice education in that state, since this is the regional association which is supposed to represent that particular group of professionals. Information is shared through formal and informal means. Sometimes the most enlightening discussions are those which occur outside the formal presentations, for instance such issues as curriculum outlines, senior "exit" tests, transfer problems, and hiring practices of state agencies are all issues which faculty from several universities in the same state may discuss and thereby learn from each other.

We also have responsibilities to support our region as an entity of ACJS. Those present in Tucson, for instance, will be able to make more informed choices regarding the upcoming vote on our regional trustee because both nominees had the opportunity to speak to those present. Our votes in the business meeting on varied issues are brought forward to the ACJS board by our elected trustee. If one isn't there at the regional conference to vote, one can hardly expect that one's wishes will be carried forward to the national board.

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1997 CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS October 2-4, 1997

Phil Rhoades, Site Committee Chair
Texas A&M University,
Corpus Christi

The annual meeting scheduled for October 2-4, 1997 will be held in Corpus Christi, Texas at the Omni Marina Hotel. The Omni Hotel system has just taken over the facility and has begun a complete renovation of guest rooms. For those of you who remember, SWACJ met at this hotel as a Marriot a few years back. It is centrally located on the bayfront with spectacular views of the bay and city from the private balcony of each room. The hotel has an attached parking garage and parking is free. Free shuttle service from and to the Corpus Christi Airport is also offered.

The downtown Corpus Christi area has seen a resurgence of restaurants. Within easy walking distance of the hotel are several highly rated seafood restaurants, two oyster bar/diners, a sports bar and grill, a mini-brewery, and Cajun, Mexican, Chinese, BBQ, and steak places.

Please consider making your room reservations early. Room rates are \$55.00 single, \$75.00 double, \$85.00 triple, and \$95.00 quad. Reservations can be made to:

Omni Marina Hotel
707 N. Shoreline Boulevard
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
1-800-874-4585

The cut-off date for reservations is September 1, 1997.

Since SWACJ's last meeting in Corpus Christi, several major attractions have opened. The Texas State Aquarium is a short drive or water taxi ride across the ship channel. Next to it is the Lexington Aircraft Carrier Museum. Just a few blocks from the hotel is the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History with the recovered items

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President's Message, continued from page 1

Our responsibilities as teachers include our membership and assistance in helping our students begin their academic career and there is no better place to get one's feet "wet" with paper presentations than regional conferences, yet we had extremely few paper presentations submitted to the student paper competition, even after removing the requirement to be present. This indicates to me that we are not doing a very good job advertising the opportunity or competition to students (and I am just as guilty of this as anyone!)

Let me challenge you this year to consider the above issues. If you disagree with me on these responsibilities, let me know and I will make a public retraction. If you agree with me, please make every effort to come to Corpus Christi. Further, make it a worthwhile trip by doing the following: indicate to your state representatives those particular state issues that need to be discussed and worked on; have an agenda before the meeting that is widely distributed so all faculty will know what they are missing if they do not come. Also, identify at least one student who has potential and encourage him or her to submit a student paper. Encourage a group of students to attend (it's the beach—how hard could it be to convince them??). Develop a student panel to showcase your best students. Set up a workshop over some teaching or research issue that you are working on—share information in other ways besides the panel presentation format. Encourage practitioners in your area to come to perhaps link up with academics who are doing research in that area. If these regional conferences do not meet a particular need that you see, tell me and we will do everything possible to meet your needs. If we're not doing something we should be doing, let us know. If most of us do even some of the things I mentioned above, I think our conferences would be improved tremendously. See you in Corpus!

STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Janet K. Wilson
1st Vice President
University of Central Arkansas

I know. I know. You can hardly think about what needs to get done within the next few days let alone nine months from now. However, now is the time to start motivating your undergraduate and graduate students to write and polish those papers for the 1997 Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice Student Paper Competition. The rules and regulations require that the paper be student(s) authored only and an original work prepared especially for the SWACJ conference or the revision of a paper prepared for course work at the student's home university. It may be useful to inform your students that the top graduate paper receives \$150 and the top undergraduate paper receives \$100. In addition, as was decided at the 1995 business meeting, students do not have to attend the conference to enter their paper in the competition. While this is our policy at the present moment, I hope that the value of professional socialization would be recognized and we would insist and assist our students' conference attendance. Rather than having a Spring or Summer deadline for the competition, I have set September 1, 1997 as the final date I will accept a student paper. Be aware, however, that if the student is to present the paper at the conference and be on the program he or she will need to send an abstract of the paper to Jim Golden, the Second Vice President, by the deadline established in the Call for Papers.

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from a Spanish ship from the 1500s and the full-size replicas of the Columbus fleet. Just on the other side of the water garden from this museum is the Art Museum of South Texas. You may want to throw in the clubs for the trip because the hotel offers free access to the Kings Crossing Country Club golf course on the south side of town. Sight seeing tours of the ship channel and bay are offered on the T-head (a very short walk from hotel to dock).

As local arrangements person, I need some guidance from the membership. We can hold the President's Reception at the Science and History Museum, Art Museum, Texas State Aquarium, or on a tour boat on the bay. What would be your pleasure? **I need to hear from you.** Also, I can arrange transportation and group entry into the Aquarium and Lexington. These two attractions are also adjacent to Corpus Christi beach. In addition, we could arrange transportation to the gulf beaches on Padre Island. It would only be a half-hour trip. **I hope to hear from a large number of the members within the next two months so that we can schedule the reception and tours early. Call me at (512) 994-2637, e-mail at prhoades@falcon.tamucc.edu, or write: Phil Rhoades, Criminal Justice, TAMU-CC, 6300 Ocean Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78412.**

TUCSON '96: CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS

Tom Hawley, Past President
Mesa Community College

This year's conference in Tucson may be deemed a success based on the variation of panel themes, an increase in paper presentations by students, "new faces" in the crowd, and favorable comments on Tucson and the facilities. All of this in spite of the last minute cancellation of the plenary speaker, Travis Hirschi.

The attendance at our conference during the past year has remained consistent at fifty, well below our total membership.

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SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

W. Wesley Johnson
Sam Houston State University

The annual business meeting of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice was held at the Hotel Park Tucson in Tucson, Arizona on September 27, 1996. A number of items were on the agenda:

1. Jim Golden (Criminal Justice Institute) was elected Second Vice-President, Janet Wilson (University of Central Arkansas) was elected First Vice-President, and Joycelyn Pollock (Southwest Texas University) began her duties as President.
2. Mary Parker (University of Arkansas at Little Rock) gave the regional trustee report (see her included report for updates).
3. Candidates for Regional Trustee, Joan Crowley (New Mexico State University) and Wes Johnson (Sam Houston State University), addressed the meeting and encouraged the membership to become more involved in ACJS.
4. Phil Rhoades (Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi) discussed site possibilities and concerns for the 1997 annual meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas.
5. Alan Thompson (Sam Houston State University) won the Graduate Student Paper Competition.
6. Five publishers, the most ever, attended the conference and displayed their books/software.
7. Joycelyn Pollock received a check in the amount of \$350.35 from Anderson Publishing Company representing a 1% royalty on new Anderson books purchased by schools within the Southwest region that are actively involved with the SWACJ through individual and/or institutional memberships from June 1, 1995 through May 31, 1996.

REGION 4 TRUSTEE REPORT

Mary Parker
University of Arkansas at Little Rock

The Executive Board for the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) met in New Orleans for its mid-year meeting. A number of items of interest were discussed during the course of our two day meeting. Some of the highlights were:

- New Orleans was chosen as the host city for the ACJS annual conference in the year 2000. The hotels preferred by the Board are very close to the French Quarter and offer exclusive use of their hotel to our conference (both rooms and meeting space). The Board was very impressed with the quality of service and the proximity to the Quarter attractions, a brand new casino that is currently under construction and the river attractions.
- The Board approved a return check fee of \$15.00 and a lost name tag fee to deal with some growing problems we are experiencing in conjunction with the annual conference. Please note these new Board policies—make sure that they do not affect you in the future.
- The Board approved the formation of a new section—the Public Policy Section. If you have an interest in public policy issues watch for more information from this section.
- In 1998 ACJS will celebrate its 35th anniversary during the annual conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. A group of ACJS members would like to gather as many old photographs and programs from the early days of ACJS as possible to put together a display for the celebration. If you have any material that you think should be included, please contact Charles (Chuck) Fields at California State—San Bernardino (909) 880-5508.
- The 1997 annual conference for the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences will be held at the Louisville Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky from March 11-15, 1997. The conference promises to be our best yet, with a full panel agenda, numerous professional development seminars, technology oriented exhibits and presentations, and six exceptional plenary sessions.

Plan to attend and make your hotel reservations early. I will see you in Louisville.

This will be my last Trustee report to the members of Region 4. Joan (Jody) Crowley of New Mexico State University and Wesley (Wes) Johnson of Sam Houston State University are running for the Trustee position. You should have received your ballots in the mail. I hope you voted.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as your trustee. I thank all of you for your support during the last three years.

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It is understandable that in recent years travel money has become a commodity. But despite this, and as food for thought about attending next year's conference in Corpus Christi, Texas, there are advantages to regional vs. national conferences.

In fiscal terms, regional conferences are the best buy for the money because of the proximity to other member states. Generally a regional conference is one-half the cost of the national in terms of airfare and accommodations. Another advantage of attending the regional is that it allows an opportunity for new professors and students to present their research to a smaller forum before moving on to the national. And, unlike the national, the regional conference allows students a more supportive environment in which to interact with other members to discuss topics germane to them.

During the coming year I ask all of the membership to reconsider the benefits attached to membership in our region and encourage you to support this year's president, Joy Pollock, and begin making plans to attend next year's conference.

NEW MEMBERS

SWACJ welcomes the following people who have joined (or re-joined) the Association. A reminder—now is the time for you to update your membership! If you attended the 1996 annual meeting in Tucson, then you paid your membership fees for 1996-97. Otherwise you may pay \$10 for regular membership or \$5 for student membership. Please send your check to the Secretariat.

Jessica Barmack, Brown Little, Boston, Massachusetts
Lynn Barnes, Southeastern Oklahoma University
Bonnie Black, Mesa Community College
Melissa Blevins, Western New Mexico University
David Bruce, Pima College—West

Terry Callahan, U.S. Probation, Salt Lake City, Utah
Michelle Carter, Phoenix, Arizona
Jenny Cassidy, Sam Houston State University
Myrna Cintron, Sam Houston State University
Susan Coleman, West Texas A&M University
Phillip Corrigan, Mankato State University
Michele Crawford, North Little Rock, Arkansas
Kyle Crusoe, Idabel, Oklahoma
Joe Cruz, Dallas, Texas
Curtis Hayes, Western New Mexico University
Jack Dison, Arkansas State University
Nancy Duncan, Ada, Oklahoma
Elisabeth Ebben, Cincinnati, Ohio
Frank Fradella, Arizona State University
Gary Gibson, Lee College, Huntsville, Texas
Jim Golden, University of Arkansas—Little Rock
Bruce Grissom, Wetumka, Oklahoma
Robin Haar, Arizona State University—West
Sharon Halford, Community College of Aurora
John Harland, Stephen F. Austin State University
Curtis Hayes, Western New Mexico University
Harb Hayre, Impairment Measures, Houston, Texas
Sherri Hoffman, University of Arkansas—Little Rock
Denise Jacks, Mesa, Arizona
Steven Johnson, Eastern Arizona College
Wayne Johnston, Arkansas State University
Raymond Kessler, Sul Ross State University
Richard Kiekbusch, University of Texas—Permian Basin
Pamela Kime, Colorado Mountain College
Deborah Lauferweiler-Dwyer, University of Arkansas—
Little Rock
Dan Lawrence, Oklahoma Department of Corrections
Moses Leon, Pima College—West
Antoinette Little, University of Arkansas—Little Rock
Frank Lussky, Las Cruces, New Mexico
Bill Miller, East Central University
D.A. Miller, Alvin Community College
Merlyn D. Moore, Sam Houston State University
Ellyn Ness, Mesa Community College
Angella Northcutt, Ada, Oklahoma
Mark Pettit, Pima Community College
Cynthia Phillips, Our Lady of the Lake University
Ted Phillips, Tarrant County Junior College
Peg Rooney, Denver, Colorado
William Stone, Southwest Texas State University
Claudia Stuart, West Texas A&M University
Donna Vandiver, University of Arkansas—Little Rock
Thomas Ward, New Mexico Highlands University
Thomas F. Waters, Northern Arizona University
Harry White, University of Texas—Brownsville
Deborah Wilkes, Arapahoe Community College
Fred Wilson, University of Arkansas—Little Rock

1997 SWACJ STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Graduate or undergraduate students currently enrolled (and who will be enrolled September 1997) in a university, college or community college within the Southwest Region.

PRIZES? \$150 will be awarded to the winning graduate paper, and \$100 will be awarded to the winning undergraduate paper.

JUDGES? Judges will be faculty members of SWACJ.

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS? If the student desires to present the paper at the conference, he or she must follow the guidelines in the Call for Papers Program Announcement. The following instructions apply to the paper competition *only*.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. The paper must be authored by student(s) only. No faculty/student co-authored papers will be considered.
2. The paper must be an original work. It may be especially prepared for the 1997 SWACJ conference or it may be a revision of a paper prepared for course work at the student's home university.
3. Three copies of your paper should be submitted to **Janet K. Wilson, Ph.D.; Department of Sociology; University of Central Arkansas; Conway, Arkansas 72035** before September 1, 1997. No papers will be considered that are received after the established deadline.
4. The paper must meet standard publication form requirements as established by the student's home university.
5. Indicate on the front of the paper whether it is prepared by an undergraduate or graduate student. Also, make sure author's name and affiliation is included in title page, and only appears on title page.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF WINNERS AND PRESENTATION OF AWARDS WILL BE MADE AT THE CONFERENCE.

Please Note: Students are not required to participate in this paper competition in order to present a paper at the 1997 SWACJ conference. The competition is strictly voluntary in nature.

1997 SWACJ ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM PARTICIPANT'S INFORMATION FORM

Interested individuals are requested to provide the following information to the program chair by **September 1, 1997**. **Dr. James W. Golden; Criminal Justice Institute; University of Arkansas at Little Rock; 2801 South University Avenue; Little Rock, Arkansas 72204.**
PLEASE TYPE

1. Name _____ 2. Affiliation _____
3. Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____
4. Telephone _____ 5. Paper Title _____
6. Paper Abstract (Abstracts should be edited to 100 words.). Type in complete sentences and as one paragraph. Do not use references, figures, tables or quotations. Please attach separate sheets.

7. List Names and Addresses of All Co-authors

8. Indicate if you wish to:
 chair a panel present a student paper organize a panel
 present a paper organize a workshop or roundtable serve as a discussant

SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Application for Membership

NAME _____ DATE _____
 TITLE _____
 INSTITUTION _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 WORK PHONE _____ FAX _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY: FULL MEMBER _____ (\$10.00) STUDENT _____ (\$5.00)

SIGNATURE _____

Mail to:
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 Huntsville, TX 77341-2296
 Phone (409) 294-1697
 Fax (409) 294-1653
 INTERNET: ICC_WWJ@SHSU.EDU

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