“Criminal justice studies do not represent any single discipline but rather must draw upon the methods and knowledge of many.”

— Don M. Gottfredson, Founding Dean
At a Glance

Administration (Fall 2014)
Shadd Maruna, Ph.D., dean
N. Taylor Porter, assistant to the dean
Edith Laurencin, senior associate dean of administration & finance
Dennis Ng, business manager
Sandia Wright, Th. D., business assistant
Bill Leipold, Ed., associate director of administrative programs & student services
LaWanda Thomas, assistant dean of undergraduate programs

Faculty (Fall 2014)
Robert Apel, Ph.D.
Edem Avakame, Ph.D.
Anthony A. Braga, Ph.D.
Rod K. Brunson, Ph.D.
Joel Caplan, Ph.D.
Ko-lin Chin, Ph.D.
Johnna Christian, Ph.D.
Ronald V. Clarke, Ph.D.
Todd R. Crear, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Griffiths, Ph.D.
Leslie W. Kennedy, Ph.D.
Shaid Maruna, Ph.D.
Jody Miller, Ph.D.
Joel Miller, Ph.D.
Michael Ostermann, Ph.D.
Sara Wakefield, Ph.D.

Faculty Emeritus (Fall 2014)
Fred Adler, Ph.D.
James O. Finckenauer, Ph.D.
George L. Kelling, Ph.D.
Andrew von Hirsch, LL.D.

Degree Programs (Fall 2014)
B.S.
B.S./M.A.
M.A.
M.A./J.D.
Ph.D.

Enrollment (Fall 2014)
Rutgers University–Newark, 66,015
Rutgers University–Newark, 11,314
School of Criminal Justice
Bachelor’s, 613
Master’s, 25
Doctoral, 54

Affiliated Faculty (Fall 2014)
Paul Bower, Ph.D.
Eric Cadora
John Cohen
Bernadette Hohl, Ph.D.
Vanessa R. Pantil, Ph.D.
Anka Ramakers, Ph.D.
Pawel Wozniakowicz, Ph.D.

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To update information related to an alumni profile, visit alumni.rutgers.edu.

Foreword from the Dean

BIRTHDAYS ARE Awkward, AND PERSONALLY I CAN THINK OF LITTLE WORSE THAN A SURPRISE PARTY OR THE LIKE.

Yet, through my research on crime in the life course, I have come to appreciate the universal function of rituals and rites of passage in the making of meaning in human lives. As such, I have become a recent, somewhat reluctant convert to the marking of big, life milestones like turning 40 (even if I have come a bit late to the party)—pun intended—to celebrate my own. Four decades in any line of work, but maybe particularly in the fickle world of academic programs, is certainly something to recognize and celebrate.

But why choose to commemorate our anniversary by writing a self-history? Anyone familiar with my research knows that I am fascinated by the power of autobiographical storytelling. According to what is called “narrative identity theory,” human adults imbue our lives with meaning and purpose through the development of a coherent story that integrates one’s past history into a roadmap for the future. In the end, according to the psychologist Jerome Bruner, we “become the stories that we tell about ourselves.”

Research also suggests that companies, families, gangs, and even nations have collective stories that act as a sort of cultural adhesive, binding communities together and guiding collective behavior. Groups that are rich in storytelling, where members regularly retell the group’s narratives, are tighter and last longer as units. One study found that families in which children grew up in Newark were the most likely to stay intact.

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Chancellor’s Message


These are the hallmarks of the first 40 years of Rutgers School of Criminal Justice (RSCJ)—and it is no coincidence that as we at Rutgers University-Newark (RU-N) have engaged in our democratic and inclusive strategic planning and implementation process over the past year, these traits also have emerged as hallmarks of our university as a whole.

Being a school—or a university—that construes its mission to be outwardly focused is hard work. But we believe that the challenge is RSCJ’s legacy: faculty, staff, and students work with the same energy and determination today as in the early days of the 1970s, when a cadre of scholars, policy experts, and professionals coalesced around the mission to use the widest possible lens to truly understand the sources of criminality to evidence-based policing, to reform and re-entry, to community health and justice and the greening of neighborhoods, is critical to our university-wide strategic priority to build stronger, healthier, and safer neighborhoods. And we want this work locally to resonate globally, as so many RSCJ faculty members demonstrate in projects all around the nation and the world. With that kind of vision and the school’s collaborative history and indomitable spirit, we are optimistic about Newark’s future and the future of our rapidly urbanizing world.

Congratulations and profound thanks to all who have made RSCJ everything it is today and made such a profound difference in their communities and in the world. You will be our inspiration for the next 40 years!

Nancy Cantor
Chancellor, Rutgers University–Newark

Provost’s Message

For 40 Years, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice (RSCJ) Has Always Been Seen as One of Criminology’s Exceptional Programs. Why Is That?

For an academic program to be seen as exceptional, it must develop a distinctive reputation among its peer institutions—usually that means it must have some special area of study in which it exerts scholarly leadership in the field. We can think of this as developing a “forte.” Exceptional academic programs get their reputation from doing something very well that is also very important.

Four decades ago, when Don Gottfredson put together the original faculty of this school, it is doubtful he was thinking about creating a forte. More likely, he was trying to cover some bases. He sought substantive, methodological, and personal diversity, and he was largely able to get it. What he could not have known is that a heterogeneous group of scholars would soon emerge as the most influential collection of people interested in post-conviction decision-making in the country. It seemed like nobody could have a meaningful conference on sentencing and related problems without having at least one Rutgers scholar on the program.

When Ron Clarke took over the deanship from Gottfredson, he had a specific agenda: bring crime prevention into the core of academic criminology. The time was ripe for that shift, as the number of people behind bars and under correctional authority kept growing. RSCJ became known as the preeminent center for crime prevention theory and practice in the United States, and a leading voice internationally. Anyone who wanted to study the prevention of crime needed to spend time at the school, which attracted scholars from around the world.

Todd R. Clear
Provost, Rutgers University–Newark

Today, two developing themes in the field have created an opening for newly emerging areas of RSCJ’s strength. First, the shocking realities of mass incarceration and racial inequality have released the field to engage in profound questions of social justice, and to challenge policy and practice on these ideals. At the same time, a pragmatic movement to house justice practice within a framework of “evidence” has placed new emphasis on policy-making connected to meaningful factual foundation.

Looking forward, I am sure the school will remain one of criminology’s premiere programs. It will do so by bringing in highly skilled faculty and strong students, by keeping its scholarship current with new themes in the field, and most of all by continuing to cultivate a forte that sets it apart.
IN THE BEGINNING
Knowing where to begin is essential in telling the Rutgers School of Criminal Justice (RSCJ) story. At some level, the school started with a legislative mandate in Trenton. Others might argue that it originated in New Brunswick with Rutgers University administration’s strategic hire of an industry icon to the dean position. However, the true source of RSCJ’s foundation—the genesis from which its character, culture, and contributions evolved—can be traced to a Newark coffee shop.

“The school opened for the fall semester in 1974, but of course for months before that we had to decide what the program would be, and what courses we were going to offer,” recalled Freda Adler, one of the school’s founding faculty members, who previously had served as an assistant professor of psychiatry at The Medical College of Pennsylvania. “We met quite often in a snack shop—one of the local places right off campus—and designed quite a bit of this on napkins.”

This “we” included Dean Don M. Gottfredson, who came to Rutgers from a directorship at the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD), as well as Assistant Dean Al Record, who transitioned from a position with the New Jersey Department of Higher Education, and four additional founding faculty members. Among them, Gerhard O.W. Mueller at the time was chief of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the United Nations. David Twain, a psychologist, previously had headed the Center for Studies of Crime and Delinquency at the National Institute of Mental Health. Richard Sparks, a maverick methodologist, joined RSCJ from the University of Cambridge in England. And James Finckenauer, a criminal justice management expert with deep New Jersey agency ties, joined from a professorship at Trenton State College to round out the team.

Together they set out to create one of the first graduate programs in criminal justice, at a time when the field was in its infancy. “We really were starting from scratch,” Finckenauer said. “Working so closely and intently on a shared goal, we developed a very tight social network, which became important in the tenor of the school. We became a family, and that held fast even after our students came on board.”

The idea from the outset was to establish and grow RSCJ not as a purely academic program but one that
embraced public service by addressing concerns for real problems of crime and justice. Beyond contributing critical and much-needed theoretical work, this vision involved efforts toward policy reform and changes in practice. In that respect, Gottfredson was an ideal choice in leadership.

“Don had a foot in both worlds,” Finckenauer noted. “He was a criminal psychologist who had taught. He also had worked with President Johnson’s National Crime Commission to address juvenile delinquency issues. Importantly, his reputation and recognition on a national basis gave the school instant visibility and status. Beyond all of that, however, he was a great leader. He described himself as an orchestra conductor who wanted to find the best musicians, give them resources, and let them do their thing. That’s what he did with the school.”

And the time was right to do it. The federal government’s strengthening call for attention to the connections between inequality, poverty, and crime—and to necessary justice system reform—was punctuated locally and nationally with ongoing echoes of the civil unrest in Attica and elsewhere, post-Watergate crisis, and a general atmosphere of change on the national scene. Fueled by significant federal research funding offered through the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, academic interest in issues of crime and justice was escalating quickly.

LEADING THE BIRTH OF A DISCIPLINE

“We didn’t know what a school of criminal justice was supposed to be,” Adler recalled. “We tried to figure out the best approach to bringing people into a new field. Until the 1960s, there really wasn’t anything called a criminal justice system. Police/courts/corrections and the social science of criminology were looked at separately. This new ‘systems’ approach meant that they needed to be connected. We would have to produce students who understood why people commit crime, were knowledgeable about sentencing and prisons, and could comprehend how the system can help or destroy people. It was a very new perspective.”

With a curriculum designed to address these themes, RSCJ welcomed its first cohort of more than two dozen master’s students for classes on September 12, 1974. From the start, hands-on instruction and real-world experience were entrenched in the learning process. Classes on incarceration visited different prisons and detention facilities weekly, and students became involved in applied research efforts led by faculty members.

Early on, RSCJ research centers landed major grants, which provided for more student and staff hiring. Faculty honed and generated original theories on female criminality (Adler) and sentencing (Gottfredson), and conducted groundbreaking field work across a spectrum of specializations ranging from delinquency prevention to maritime crime. These efforts raised the school’s profile not only within the academic community but the policy realm as well. Arguably, it became the world’s best place to study criminal justice decision making.

“From its inception, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice was special,” noted Frank Cullen, former president of both the American Society of Criminology and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, as well as a distinguished research professor of criminal justice at the University of Cincinnati. “It was conceived as a major program that would do things the right way.”

“Don brought with him a scientific orientation,” Cullen added. “He hired people who were consequential scholars, which brought instant credibility and legitimacy. Because the field was so new and so few programs existed, there was great opportunity to achieve prominence. Within that context, Rutgers stepped in and established a program that catapulted it to the top.”

Two years after its founding, RSCJ introduced its doctoral program. By the end of the decade, it offered a joint M.A./J.D. degree program with the Rutgers University–Newark (RU-N) Law School as well. The school’s faculty also continued to evolve, growing with key hires including some of the biggest names in criminal justice research. Penal theorist Andrew von Hirsch was among the first additions. His landmark book Doing Justice had a transformative and enduring impact on the public and academic conversation.
Around crime and justice, he was followed by established academics such as Donald Barry, John "Jake" Gibbons, Dorothy Guyot, Dwight Smith, and a young researcher straight out of the University of Albany with a strong reputation for community corrections research named Todd Clear.

Faculty research and output began to garner significant recognition for RSCJ. And the remarkable achievements of students and early alumni were equally important in solidifying the school’s reputation in the field.

Criminal Justice Expansion and Identity

In the 1980s, the country’s violent crime rate reached 596.6 incidents per 100,000 Americans (Uniform Crime Reports)—a jump of more than 50 percent in eight years. As political and public attention increasingly turned to the resulting implications on society, the field of criminal justice gained traction amid a sense of urgency.

“Undergraduate, master’s and doctoral programs started to pop up at universities across the country, with many of them following the same type of model as Rutgers and other forerunners like SUNY Albany and Michigan State,” Finckenauer said. “A number of our first doctoral graduates went on to teach or perform high-level research in some of these newer programs. Our master’s students entered the field in agencies and organizations that touched on criminal justice issues. We saw more research and data collection. In short, all of those things we hoped for in 1974 began to happen.”

RSCJ also grew as interest in the study of criminal justice spread. “We were all surprised at how quickly things happened,” Adler said. “It was a special moment to be part of the creation of a new discipline. We learned as we went along, and we were very proud that our graduates showed interest in joining us in the creation and expansion of this new and dynamic area of expertise.”

Still, more traditional academic programs balked at welcoming criminal justice as a legitimate discipline. Criminal justice departments, commonly labeled “professional schools,” struggled to find an identity within their larger university settings. “As a field of study, we were somewhat excluded from the social sciences community,” Record said. “We overcame it, but it wasn’t easy.”

The school worked for recognition by building an even more significant research background and agenda. The school added depth to its research expertise with a series of critical hires including David Weisburd, who would later be awarded the Stockholm Prize in Criminology for his work on policing, and Anne Campbell, who became the first Guggenheim Fellowship recipient at Rutgers University and whose groundbreaking book, *Girls in the Gang*, laid the foundation for work that would remain a strength at Rutgers.

As a result, RSCJ continued to attract some of the best students in the country (see Ph.D. graduates, page 25). And it expanded the depth of its recruiting pipeline through the establishment of a joint B.S./M.A. degree program for Newark College of Arts and Sciences and University College-Newark undergraduates. With this collaboration, students would use master’s courses as electives within their respective undergraduate curricula.

RSCJ also achieved some unprecedented marks during its first decade. “We became one of only three A-rated programs at the graduate level at Rutgers University,” Record recalled. “Further, we were the first academic unit at Rutgers to receive grants from the Pew Foundation and Edna McConnell Clark Foundation. These types of things get noticed.” Additionally, in 1984 the school purchased the NCCD’s library and moved the collection to Newark, making it home to the world’s largest strictly criminal justice library (see feature, page 17).

In the mid-1980s, Mueller shifted his focus at the United Nations to become a full-time member of the faculty, giving rise to RSCJ’s increased focus on international comparative issues. While still maintaining its local and regional focus, the school began to develop a world perspective that amplified its recognition on a global basis and encouraged diversity within the student body. This included an exchange program with the USSR Academy of Sciences, Institute of State and Law, which conducted research exchanges and individual scholarly visits, and also spawned a research project on the legal socialization of American and Russian youth.
Looking back and forward

School of Criminal Justice

distinct identity."

is no question that the shift again provided it with a pedagogical difference within the faculty, yet there was no question that the school was facing national crime prevention. Within the criminal justice most program in the country in terms of studying situations beyond the academy. "Most departments do not go in that direction," Cullen noted. "Rutgers did, and it became the fore-

"Most departments do not go in that direction," Clarke acknowledged RSCJ’s internal challenges de-

spite this increase in credibility and outside support. "The atmosphere at the school really was good most of the time," he said. "But we did have conflicts, which are always part of growth and change—and frequently make for the most interesting stories. That said, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice grew in reputation during those years. We always were conscious about the need to be at the top, and we worked hard to get there and stay there." Clarke and Allan Futernick, who replaced Record as associate dean in 1991, spearheaded a number of initiatives to raise RSCJ’s profile within the Rutgers community, including the extension of the school’s joint B.S./M.A. program to other Rutgers schools, as well as Trenton State College and Stockton State College. "The school had the smallest number of stu-

dents in the Rutgers system," Futernick noted. "We made sure we established a presence in as many capacities as possible and maintained a concerted effort to make our voice larger than our proportion of students and faculty."

While some considered this a departure from the vision of the founding faculty, others believed that it helped to distinguish the school amid growing competition. With crime rates continuing to soar, and tensions between communities and the police, Rutgers became known as a home for pioneering justice solutions beyond the academy.

"The atmosphere at the school really was good most of the time," Futernick said. "We always were conscious of the need to be at the top, and we worked hard to get there and stay there." Clarke acknowledged RSCJ’s internal challenges despite this increase in credibility and outside support. "The atmosphere at the school really was good most of the time," he said. "But we did have conflicts, which are always part of growth and change—and frequently make for the most interesting stories. That said, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice grew in reputation during those years. We always were conscious about the need to be at the top, and we worked hard to get there and stay there."

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most program in the country in terms of studying situational crime prevention. Within the criminal justice community, it was clear that the school was facing pedagogical differences within the faculty, yet there is no question that the shift again provided it with a distinct identity." Clarke and Allan Futernick, who replaced Record as associate dean in 1991, spearheaded a number of initiatives to raise RSCJ’s profile within the Rutgers community, including the extension of the school’s joint B.S./M.A. program to other Rutgers schools, as well as Trenton State College and Stockton State College. “The school had the smallest number of students in the Rutgers system,” Futernick noted. “We made sure we established a presence in as many capacities as possible and maintained a concerted effort to make our voice larger than our proportion of students and faculty.”

Notable acknowledgements within the discipline during this time included the school being awarded editorialship of the Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency (JRCD) (see box, above). Consistently named as one of the most influential criminology journals, JRCD represented one of many pioneering, groundbreaking, impactful work. While the early- and mid-1990s brought little change to the size of the faculty, the school did experience significant staff movement. Gottfredson retired and received the prestigious Rutgers Medal. Some key hires during this time brought a vibrant diversity to the faculty’s research expertise, including Jeffrey Fagan’s work on juvenile justice and the policing of communities, Candace McCoy’s research on sentencing and the court system, Coretta Phillips’s work on race and justice, Elin Waring’s focus on white-collar and organized crime, and Michael Maxfield’s research on criminal justice policy. Also hired during this time were current faculty members Ko-Lin Chin, Mercer Sullivan, and Bonita Veysey (see faculty bio, pages 32-42).

In 1993, an external evaluation led by scholars from SUNY Albany and The University of Chicago ranked RSCJ’s doctoral program as one of the two best in the country. “Our program was generally regarded as being in the top three, quite possibly number one, depending on the ranking,” Clarke said. “This was important.”

And, by this time, the school’s doctoral graduates could be found teaching at almost all major com-

petitor schools and departments in the country. Its master’s graduates were rising stars in major agen-

cies and criminal-justice-focused positions around the world. And, as throughout its first two decades, its faculty and current students continued to produce groundbreaking, impactful work.

RSCJ-led efforts to establish the field as one with academic credibility and standards.

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A FIELD OF STUDY COMING OF AGE

As RSCJ’s silver anniversary approached, the criminal justice field again experienced a paradigm shift. Following a steady—and significant—decade-long drop in the U.S. crime rate, criminology’s focus began to ebb from crime deterrence and move toward a greater diversity of topics from evidence-based policy, to prisoner reentry, to the consequences of mass incarceration.

The school, itself, ushered in a new chapter when Leslie Kennedy assumed the deanship in 1998, coming to RSCJ from the University of Alberta, where he had been the director of the Center for Criminological Research and an associate dean of research. The following year, the school moved into the new, state-of-the-art Center for Law and Justice at 123 Washington Street. “The move to the new building gave us a great boost for recruiting faculty and students,” Futernick said.

It also provided an opportunity for the new dean to think strategically about the future of the school and how to best create a foundation that would serve the future needs of its students, the field, and the public sector. Kennedy’s early efforts included an examination of the school’s administrative structure.

“Rutgers’s demands were changing, the school’s growth was creating the need for stronger student and research support, and it was time to push ourselves to the next level,” he said. “Staffing was not adequate. We moved academic advisement from a part-time to a full-time position, and we created two associate deanships—one focused on finance and administration, and the other on supporting academic programs and student services.”

Futernick retired in 2000, and Edith Laurencin stepped into the newly created associate dean of finance and administration position. Initially, the associate dean of academic programs and student services role was filled by various faculty members.

That era also brought significant achievements related to enhancing RSCJ’s research infrastructure. The launch of The Police Institute, under the direction of George Kelling, in 2001 ushered in collaborative efforts with community and law enforcement partners—including the Office of the Attorney General and New Jersey State Police—through integrated research, problem-solving, and criminal justice policy and practice. And, in response to heightened emphasis on terrorism and public safety following the World Trade Center attacks, Kennedy led the founding of the school’s Center on Public Security.

The school’s international efforts continued as well, highlighted by an ongoing partnership with the Turkish National Police (TNP). For a number of years, TNP sent senior police officers to study at RSCJ, and the school was actively involved in workshops and conferences in Turkey.

“Even though we were a small school in the larger Rutgers infrastructure, we had the people and resources to respond to some of the most important political and societal issues of that time,” Kennedy noted. “From homeland security strategy to issues related to school safety, we became a recognized source for information and support in New Jersey and nationwide.”

At the same time, the field of criminology had grown considerably and had come of age as a fully established academic discipline, with dozens of strong programs challenging RSCJ’s dominance in the field.

“It was time to diversify our faculty, but we were competing with other strong programs in our efforts to recruit new colleagues,” Kennedy noted. “I think, though, that we had great success in beginning the rebuilding process during that time.”

The additions of current faculty members Johnna Christian and Edem Avakame, as well as Damian Martinez and Travis Pratt, highlighted these recruiting successes. Past RU-N Provost and long-time University Professor Norman Samuels joined the faculty as well. In 2004, Bil Leipold was appointed as associate dean of academic programs and student services, solidifying the shift of that role from a faculty to staff position.

During this time, the school also committed to expanding and updating its programs. In a milestone many years in the making, the criminal justice undergraduate program came under the RSCJ umbrella in 2006, enabling undergraduate students to matriculate from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences to the school.

And, with postgraduate programs gaining credibility at universities across the nation, RSCJ rolled out fully redeveloped doctoral and master’s curricula that same year.

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Criminology and Public Policy and a former president of both the American Society of Criminology and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Clear brought with him a reputation for leadership, innovation, and criminological research with true public policy impact. The latter included his foundational work on community justice and justice reinvestment.

Upon his homecoming to Rutgers, Clear immediately launched a rapid period of hiring with a focus on academic excellence and diversity. “I was the fifth white male in a row to join the faculty, and I felt strongly that there not be a sixth,” Clear recalled. “Within six weeks, we recruited Rod Brunson, Jody Miller, and Andres Rengifo, and then added Rutgers School of Criminal Justice graduate Anthony Braga to the team.”

Dean Clear reshaped the doctoral program as well, overseeing the revamping of its curriculum and exams, and introducing highly competitive funding packages for incoming students. This helped the school recruit smaller numbers of the very top applicants. He also launched the highly innovative NJ-STEP (New Jersey Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prisons) Consortium. This vital partnership among New Jersey universities and the state prison system provides higher education courses for inmates during their incarceration. It then assists them in the transition to college life upon their release.

Over the next three years, Robert Apel, Elizabeth Griffiths, RSCJ graduate Michael Ostermann, and Sara Wakefield—all accomplished younger academics with growing reputations—came on board, fueling growth and a genuine excitement within the school. As its energy intensified, the school again became the country’s most talked-about center for criminological research.

“The feel of the place changed dramatically during those pivotal years,” Clear said. “We made a concerted effort toward assembling a healthy mix of junior and senior faculty members, with interests that are fairly balanced between social justice and evidence-based criminology. Oftentimes, the differences in these interests create tension. However, at Rutgers School of Criminal Justice we have social justice people who understand the value of safety, and crime prevention people with a deep commitment to social justice. We achieved real collegiality, and while it is fragile and has to be nurtured, it enables the school to enjoy prominence in both applied and conceptual criminal justice.”

TRIALS AND TRANSFORMATIONS

In 2007, Adam Graycar followed Kennedy as dean. During his short tenure, Graycar made two strategic hires with the additions of professors Joel Caplan and Joel Miller, and worked closely with the faculty in a well-received revision to the master’s program. He left the school in 2009 to take a leadership position at Australia National University.

Veysey served as interim dean during the search for new leadership. “It was a challenging time,” she noted. “Most importantly, we needed to achieve a stable administrative and fiscal environment so the incoming dean could comfortably and quickly establish a positive legacy. We worked hard to review where we stood as a staff, as a faculty, and as a student body to ensure that everyone was pulling in the same direction.”

In 2010, Todd Clear returned to RSCJ as its fifth dean. The founding editor of the highly influential journal "The current faculty includes some of the leading established and emerging voices in social justice, and some of the best talent in empirical criminology," she said. “These scholars are positioned to conduct practice, and training the field’s next generation of scholars and practitioners.”

And the school again finds itself on the cusp of a new chapter in its story. Clear, in 2014, was appointed RU-N provost, leading to the hire of Shadd Maruna as RSCJ’s sixth dean. Veysey, who once again stepped in as interim dean to steer the school for nearly one year during the most recent transition, now serves as RU-N vice chancellor for planning & implementation. She believes the school is at its most exciting turning point yet.

“Ready for a Fearless Future

As RSCJ celebrates its 40th year, its graduates can be found in nearly every major criminal justice agency, research unit, and academic department across the country and beyond (see page 22). They can be found making significant contributions within organizations and institutions that shape criminal justice policy and practice, and training the field’s next generation of scholars and practitioners.”

And once again, Veysey added, “I believe the school is at its most exciting turning point yet.”

“The current faculty includes some of the leading established and emerging voices in social justice, and some of the best talent in empirical criminology,” she said. “These scholars are positioned to conduct practice, and training the field’s next generation of scholars and practitioners.”

And the school again finds itself on the cusp of a new chapter in its story. Clear, in 2014, was appointed RU-N provost, leading to the hire of Shadd Maruna as RSCJ’s sixth dean. Veysey, who once again stepped in as interim dean to steer the school for nearly one year during the most recent transition, now serves as RU-N vice chancellor for planning & implementation. She believes the school is at its most exciting turning point yet.

Veysey, who once again stepped in as interim dean to steer the school for nearly one year during the most recent transition, now serves as RU-N vice chancellor for planning & implementation. She believes the school is at its most exciting turning point yet.
and Criminal Justice, Queen’s University Belfast. Although he previously has worked at several esteemed criminology departments, including the University of Cambridge and SUNY Albany, Maruna fully appreciates the size of the shoes he is being asked to fill as RSCJ dean. “In my view of the school’s legacy, it really is the spiritual home to a vision of criminology that is engaged, applied, and activist in orientation,” he said. “I want to help preserve that spirit of public service and take it in new directions.”

Maruna contends that RSCJ must continue its involvement in criminology “that matters” and research that makes a difference on the ground. The school must also remain deeply engaged not just in policy making, but also with public conversations related to crime and justice.

According to Maruna, change is not only inevitable but necessary. “Good science learns more from failures than successes, and criminal justice in the U.S. and around the world has a lot of failings from which to learn,” he noted. “If there was ever a time for status quo criminology, for toeing the line, patting each other on the back, and enjoying our tenured careers, this is surely not it.”

“If we are to be brave, to ask big questions, and not be afraid to pursue the answers,” Maruna added. “Above all else, I want a place where students can be brave, to ask big questions, and not be afraid to pursue the answers.”

— Shadd Maruna

With roots dating back to the early 1920s, the Don M. Gottfredson Library of Criminal Justice is a great source of pride for Rutgers School of Criminal Justice (RSCJ) and the larger Rutgers University–Newark community—with good reason.

The collection, housed on the third floor of the Rutgers law library in the S.I. Newhouse Center for Law and Justice, is widely considered to be the world’s largest strictly criminal justice library. More importantly, its incredibly deep and diversified resources serve as invaluable tools for RSCJ students and faculty, and criminal justice researchers, professionals, and policy-makers around the world.

The National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) founded the library in 1921 and formally organized it in 1956. RSCJ founding dean Don M. Gottfredson, who formerly had headed NCCD’s research division, learned that the collection was up for sale in 1984. He pursued its purchase for $150,000, and moved it from Hackensack, New Jersey, to Newark. The collection was renamed in his honor in 2005.

“Don knew the value of the library, and how important it could be in supporting the school and its scholarship,” said Phyllis Schulze, librarian, who has overseen the collection, housed on the third floor of the Rutgers law library, since its founding in 1956. RSCJ founding dean Don M. Gottfredson, who formerly had headed NCCD’s research division, learned that the collection was up for sale in 1984. He pursued its purchase for $150,000, and moved it from Hackensack, New Jersey, to Newark. The collection was renamed in his honor in 2005.

“Don knew the value of the library, and how important it could be in supporting the school and its scholarship,” said Phyllis Schulze, librarian, who has overseen the collection since the late 1970s. “Over the past 30 years, we have worked consistently to grow the content and its quality, building on what NCCD already had accomplished and what Don envisioned.”

In one of its most ambitious undertakings to date, in 2010 the library began compiling brief abstracts of technical reports, working papers, government and agency documents, and conference proceedings. The resulting Grey Literature Database is available both at the library and online.

“The Grey Literature Database project is really coming into its own,” Schulze said. “We currently have more than 11,000 entries on documents covering all aspects of crime and criminal justice that would not typically be included in a traditional library database. It continues to grow and become richer and more accessible. Usage has gone up 100 percent over the past year.”

Other Gottfredson Library-led initiatives include the Criminal Justice Visiting Fellows program, which has welcomed renowned scholars from around the world since its founding in 1985. The library also maintains websites for two key organizations: World Criminal Justice Library Network, and Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Books. The latter, the only online criminal law/criminal justice book review journal in existence, was launched by the Rutgers School of Law–Newark and RSCJ, in cooperation with the Gottfredson Library, in 2011. Already, it is highly regarded in the fields of law, criminal justice, and other related disciplines.

While administered under the Rutgers law library, the Gottfredson Library is staffed exclusively by Schulze and RSCJ students. “It truly is one of the best of its kind, with a level of quality that is very much due to Phyllis’s efforts,” noted John Joergensen, director of the law library. “For decades, she has been building the collection based on her own knowledge of the field and her knowledge of the needs of her students.”

Today, the Gottfredson Library houses more than 100,000 monographs, more than 6,000 bound periodicals, and approximately 20,000 documents on microfiche. It acquires more than 6,000 titles annually. And Schulze’s ability to uncover obscure technical reports or an elusive, rare book continues to position the library and its leadership as widely respected and sought-after resources for the field.
Growing Up in Newark

“We all want Newark to excel as a city and region—and we believe it will and we want to be a part of bringing that to fruition. We know that as a university, we are not just in Newark, but of Newark.”

— Rutgers University—Newark Strategic Plan 2014

Norman Samuels, former Rutgers University–Newark (RU-N) provost and current Rutgers School of Criminal Justice (RSCJ) faculty member, first came to Newark to teach in the summer of 1967. He got to know the city in the midst of incredible civil unrest and then witnessed it sink lower and lower in the 1970s.

“Newark became known for everything dreadful—riots, car thefts, murder, tuberculosis, you name it,” Samuels said. “Whole swaths of the city were abandoned. Businesses and stores closed their doors and left a deserted downtown.”

Yet Rutgers and other universities with locations in Newark stayed, and remained convinced that the city could come back. “Newark for the longest time has been a place for higher education, and the academic sector is important in the life of the city,” noted the late Clement Price, then Rutgers Board of Governors distinguished service professor of history, shortly before his November 2014 passing. “During the lean years, in particular, Rutgers’ strong presence here provided a vital beacon of hope.”

Within this setting, RSCJ was born. “Rutgers’ choice to establish the school on the Newark campus was simple,” Samuels noted. “Unfortunately, but realistically, what better place could there be to study crime and all the things that go along with it? Faculty and students come to this school because they recognize that the urban experience offers something that a sleepy, traditional university town with woods and fields around it does not.”

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

And, like all of the Rutgers schools based in Newark, RSCJ quickly leveraged this urban orientation to become deeply active in efforts to serve the community. And that commitment has remained steadfast through four full decades.

For example, The Police Institute during its time under the school’s umbrella worked closely with the Newark Police Department to study and improve policing tactics and techniques. This RSCJ-born initiative remains highly involved in the city’s successful Operation Ceasefire and other programs.

The school also enjoys a long history of serving as a resource for local government. During United States Senator Cory Booker’s tenure as mayor of Newark, RSCJ participated on the advisory boards for two key programs: the Newark Community Solutions (Newark Community and Youth Courts) and the installation of the City of Newark Office of Re-Entry.

Currently, RSCJ also takes an active leadership role within the Greater Newark Youth Violence Consortium. This ambitious undertaking—involving community service organizations, and law enforcement and community corrections agencies—is developing an agenda for reducing violence and increasing support and opportunities for youth across the neighborhoods in Newark. The school also participates in initiatives involving juvenile re-entry, youth and community courts, and several other outreach programs.

“We have been so involved that one might get the impression that the school’s primary purpose is to fix Newark,” Samuels said. “But it is important to
remember that Rutgers School of Criminal Justice’s role is academic. In turn, its scholarship and research have and hopefully will continue to make a difference for the local community.

A CLASSROOM FOR LEARNING
Just as RSCJ brings value to the community, Newark serves as a classroom for learning and inspiration for the school’s students and faculty. “The possibilities that exist because we are in a city with a crime problem and a city with a justice problem are immense,” noted Todd Clear, RU-N provost and former RSCJ dean. “We are one of the only criminal justice doctoral programs located in a major urban area. That makes us special.”

To that end, the city is intimately bound up in the school’s research and teaching. Current grant-funded projects include the Newark Violence Reduction Initiative. Headed by faculty member Anthony Braga—and supported by multiple foundations—this "focused deterrence" study is designed to produce large, rapid, and sustainable reductions in homicides and shootings driven by violent gang members in drug market settings.

A National Institute of Justice-funded project headed by faculty members Leslie Kennedy and Joel Caplan, along with Eric Piza (Ph.D. ’12), is seeking to fill gaps in knowledge on the use of closed-circuit television by law enforcement. The same team is heading another study, also funded by the National Institute of Justice, measuring the extent to which allocating police patrols to high-risk areas impacts the frequency and spatial distribution of new crime events.

“In addition to our faculty’s immersion of Newark in its research, some of our students have done important papers about the city as part of their dissertations,” Clear added. “We have established Newark as a place that can be a valuable source for criminology. More importantly, to only look beyond the city’s borders in our work would be to withhold assets from a place that is crying out in need.”

A BRIGHT FUTURE
The commitment of RU-N to the wider Newark community over the difficult past 40 years is starting to pay off, and the city in 2014 is a very different place than the one in which RSCJ began. A growing number of companies are again moving into the city, bringing jobs and an energetic daytime population to support rejuvenated local retail and service businesses. New construction is prevalent, with Prudential Financial’s new global headquarters on Broad Street leading the charge. A renovated Military Park and thriving cultural and entertainment venues showcase the city’s return to its roots as a desirable place to work, live, and play.

By staying, expanding, and attracting students, professors, and public attention, Rutgers played an important role in stabilizing Newark. “This is an era of positive change, one which this campus is a part of and one to which its schools are contributing,” Price concluded. “Rutgers is genuinely committed to the future of this great city.”

Samuels gets a great sense of satisfaction walking around Newark these days. “We at Rutgers always believed that the city would come back,” he said. “It is real now. And the school’s position as an advocate of forward-thinking crime policy and public safety discourse positions it as a key contributor to this progress.”

Today, RSCJ’s legacy in its hometown continues, supporting, and supported by, Newark’s leadership. “I am grateful that this school plays a key role in supporting my administration’s priority to develop strategies that engage the community around public safety initiatives designed to reduce violence, as well as offer programs that can provide jobs and hope,” noted Newark Mayor Ras Baraka. “I am very pleased that we are moving forward on such pivotal initiatives as the Outreach Worker Program and the Newark Partnership for Safe Communities, and have Rutgers School of Criminal Justice as a key partner in the evaluation of both.”

One of Newark’s newest residents, RSCJ Dean Shadd Maruna, sees the city’s future as very bright. “Newark has been, and continues to be, a real resource for Rutgers and our school,” Maruna said. “It is the birthplace of icons like William J. Brennan Jr. and Amiri Baraka, as well as a new generation of leaders, including Mayor Ras Baraka. This is a place with a strong history of homegrown creativity and leadership, and these roots are reemerging today. I look forward to working with the many rich and diverse communities and organizations that are committed to Newark’s future—listening to their ideas and helping to facilitate their vision.”

Congratulations to the faculty, staff, and students of Rutgers School of Criminal Justice as you celebrate your 40th anniversary! What a tremendous accomplishment. This milestone—a symbol of your excellence in the field of criminal justice policy and practice—offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect on an impressive record of achievement for your students, for Rutgers University–Newark, and for the Newark community. You have not contained your scholarship and research in an ivory tower, rather you have brought your expertise to a collaborative framework of community partners who build cooperation, share best practices, and seek the best solutions for our city. With its long and proud history and talented faculty, I have no doubt the school will continue to be a tremendous resource for my administration and for the people of Newark.

The Honorable Ras Baraka
Mayor, City of Newark
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Our Talented and Accomplished Alumni

AWARD-WINNING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MAKES COMMUNITY ITS PRIORITY

The importance of fostering a community where faculty, alumni, and students come together to share their knowledge, leadership skills, and experiences is central in the mission of the Rutgers School of Criminal Justice (RSCJ) Alumni Association.

“The School of Criminal Justice experience should not end at graduation,” noted John F. Baroud, board president. “If we remain involved, our lives are immensely enriched and new opportunities present themselves. Just as the school provided us alumni with the foundation to reach our goals, we feel a deep sense of obligation to repay a debt of gratitude to this school.”

This includes engaging current students early in their journey at Rutgers University–Newark, with initiatives that enrich the learning experience, create ties between students and alumni, and lay a foundation for future alumni to participate in the school’s and university’s Alumni Association efforts. To that end, the group’s networking and career/professional development opportunities, and outreach programming earned it the Rutgers University Alumni Association’s 2014 Excellence in Alumni Leadership Award.

POST-CHARTER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

John F. Baroud (B.S. ’12) Ioannis (Yanni) Athanasopoulos (M.A. ’07) Satenik Margaryan (Ph.D. ’07)

Alumni employers include, among others:

African Development Bank
American Association of Retired Persons
Arizona State University
Athanasopoulos, Emanuel & Associates LLC
Atlas Model Railroad Co., Inc.
Bank of America
Bayonne Police Department
Beni & Weinrock & Staubach
Bergen County Probation
Bevan Mosca Guinta Zarillo PC
Bowling Green State University
Brett Harris & Moughan
Bureau of Justice Statistics
Caliber Associates
California State University–East Bay
California State University–Fullerton
California State University–Hayward
California State University–Long Beach
CEC-Bi Robinson
City University of New York
Clark County Sheriff’s Office
Cosmar, Inc.
Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas
Cross Training and SAP Services
CTOD
Dpenak Police Vocational School
Drape Monks, LLP
Engler Financial Services
Essex County
Essex County Prosecutor’s Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Felix College
Florida Law Office, PC
Florida International University
CoS Source Solutions USA
George Mason University
Harris County Juvenile Probation
Hiscock & Barclay
Indiana University
Institute for Social Research
Istanbul Bigit University
J.F. Loma Incorporated
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Kean University
Kings County District Attorney’s Office
KPMG LLP
Kutztown University
Macau Law & Assoc.
Marne College
Medical & Health Research Association of New York City
Mercer County Prosecutor’s Office
Mercer Family Division
Metropolitan Police Department
Michigan State University
Middlesex County
Middlesex County College
Middlesex County Prosecutor’s Office
Montclair State University
Northeastern University
Novartis
O’Conner & Stecher
 Pennsylvania Probation
Peapack and Gladstone Police Department
PGE Consulting
Pringle, Quinzi, Aranaz, PC
Prudential Financial
Ramsey Law Firm
Rasmussen College
Riverdale Police Department
Rosa Parks Elementary School
Rutgers University
Rutgers Supply Inc.
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Seattle Police Department
Seton Hall University
Sharper College
Simon U.S.A., Inc.
State of New Jersey
Temple University
The Aspen Institute
The College of New Jersey
The Law Offices of Scott E. Turner, PC
The New York Times
The Philadelphia College of New Jersey
The Vera Institute of Justice
The New York Times
The New York Times
The State Judiciary
The Vera Institute of Justice
Tunstall LLP
Turkish Police Academy’s Research Center
Union County College
Union County Superior Court
United States Courts
United States Department of Homeland Security
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
United States Department of Justice
United States Government
United States Probation Department
United States Probation Office–Southern District New York
University of Alaska
University of Central Florida
University of Central Oklahoma
University of Cincinnati
University of Idaho
University of Manchester
University of Maryland at College Park
University of Massachusetts
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of North Carolina
University of Pennsylvania
University of Santa Clara
University of Southern California
University of Texas at Arlington
University of Texas at San Antonio
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Department of Corrections
Fluxmsted Correctional Center
Virginia Wesleyan College
Warner Chilcott
Warren County Prosecutor’s Office
Washington College
Washington University
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
West Chester University
Westfield State College Center for Criminal Justice Studies
Westwood Police Department
Westfield State University
Worcester State University

As of Fall 2014. List does not include all RSCJ alumni employers.

RSCJ Alumni Live in 35 States

RSCJ Alumni Live in Nine Countries

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Our Talented and Accomplished Alumni

A TALENTED AND ACCOMPLISHED ALUMNI FAMILY

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Our Talented and Accomplished Alumni

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Our Talented and Accomplished Alumni

Award-Winning Alumni Association Makes Community Its Priority

The importance of fostering a community where faculty, alumni, and students come together to share their knowledge, leadership skills, and experiences is central in the mission of the Rutgers School of Criminal Justice (RSCJ) Alumni Association.

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Bank of America
Bayonne Police Department
Beni & Weinrock & Staubach
Bergen County Probation
Bevan Mosca Guinta Zarillo PC
Bowling Green State University
Brett Harris & Moughan
Bureau of Justice Statistics
Caliber Associates
California State University–East Bay
California State University–Fullerton
California State University–Hayward
California State University–Long Beach
CEC-Bi Robinson
City University of New York
Clark County Sheriff’s Office
Cosmar, Inc.
Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas
Cross Training and SAP Services
CTOD
Dpenak Police Vocational School
Drape Monks, LLP
Engler Financial Services
Essex County
Essex County Prosecutor’s Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Felix College
Florida Law Office, PC
Florida International University
CoS Source Solutions USA
George Mason University
Harris County Juvenile Probation
Hiscock & Barclay
Indiana University
Institute for Social Research
Istanbul Bigit University
J.F. Loma Incorporated
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Kean University
Kings County District Attorney’s Office
KPMG LLP
Kutztown University
Macau Law & Assoc.
Marne College
Medical & Health Research Association of New York City
Mercer County Prosecutor’s Office
Mercer Family Division
Metropolitan Police Department
Michigan State University
Middlesex County
Middlesex County College
Middlesex County Prosecutor’s Office
Montclair State University
Northeastern University
Novartis
O’Conner & Stecher
 Pennsylvania Probation
Peapack and Gladstone Police Department
PGE Consulting
Pringle, Quinzi, Aranaz, PC
Prudential Financial
Ramsey Law Firm
Rasmussen College
Riverdale Police Department
Rosa Parks Elementary School
Rutgers University
Rutgers Supply Inc.
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Seattle Police Department
Seton Hall University
Sharper College
Simon U.S.A., Inc.
State of New Jersey
Temple University
The Aspen Institute
The College of New Jersey
The Law Offices of Scott E. Turner, PC
The New York Times
The Philadelphia College of New Jersey
The Vera Institute of Justice
Tunstall LLP
Turkish Police Academy’s Research Center
Union County College
Union County Superior Court
United States Courts
United States Department of Homeland Security
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
United States Department of Justice
United States Government
United States Probation Department
United States Probation Office–Southern District New York
University of Alaska
University of Central Florida
University of Central Oklahoma
University of Cincinnati
University of Idaho
University of Manchester
University of Maryland at College Park
University of Massachusetts
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of North Carolina
University of Pennsylvania
University of Santa Clara
University of Southern California
University of Texas at Arlington
University of Texas at San Antonio
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Department of Corrections
Fluxmsted Correctional Center
Virginia Wesleyan College
Warner Chilcott
Warren County Prosecutor’s Office
Washington College
Washington University
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
West Chester University
Westfield State College Center for Criminal Justice Studies
Westwood Police Department
Westfield State University
Worcester State University

As of Fall 2014. List does not include all RSCJ alumni employers.
The First Ph.D. Graduate

When Jay Albanese got behind the wheel of his Ford Pinto in the summer of 1974 and headed to Newark for the first time, he had never taken a class in criminal justice. Further, in possession of a newly minted bachelor’s degree in sociology, he had only just embraced the idea of being a graduate student. “In the spring of my senior year at Niagara University, I had no real post-college plan,” Albanese said. “One day at the beginning of class my professor pulled out a flyer and said ‘it looks like Rutgers is opening a new School of Criminal Justice; it sounds interesting.’ I wrote down the information, completed an application and took the GRE. I got in, and I got an assistantship. I didn’t apply to any other graduate school. If I had cut class or been late the day my professor mentioned the new program, things would have turned out very differently. The lesson? Don’t cut class, and always be on time.”

Upon arriving in Newark, Albanese found a low-rent apartment and then headed to campus to meet Al Rindler, the first Rutgers School of Criminal Justice director, who told him, “You are going to like the dean.” He was right in that, as Albanese would learn, the school would be learning along with our students. Rutgers is a great place to grow, and it is not surprising, given the nature of the experience I had there. If I had to do it all over again, I would still choose Rutgers—there is no question in my mind.”

Albanese holds the distinction of being part of the first cohort of graduates from the RSCJ master’s program (1976) and its inaugural doctoral graduate (1981). “The entire time I was at Rutgers I was surrounded by high-quality, incredibly fun human beings,” he noted.

Today, Albanese is a professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he has taught and held leadership positions since 1996. From 2002 to 2006 he served as chief of the International Center at the National Institute of Justice. “Since my time, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice has continued to employ— and produce—in internationally known scholars,” he said. “We began with a disproportionate share of top-notch faculty. Today, the school also boasts a disproportionate share of high-caliber alumni.”

More importantly, noted Albanese, these faculty and alumni have and continue to generate lasting, quality ideas to help advance the field. “For me, that’s what defines Rutgers School of Criminal Justice as having a world-class graduate program,” he said. “And it is not surprising, given the nature of the experience I had there. If I had to do it all over again, I would still choose Rutgers—there is no question in my mind.”

This page includes a list of Ph.D. graduates:

**Ph.D. Graduates**

1981
- Jay Albanese
1984
- Bernadette Fiore Faye Taftman
1985
- James Byrne Carol Rauch
1986
- Jay Berman Patricia Harris Edward Sieh
1987
- Dennis Kenney Richard Quane Pompen-Petrouski Donald Rebrovich
1988
- William Lauber Kip Schlegel
1988
- Charles Coxon Antonio Frieswy Patrica Hardjyam Harvey McCurry
1990
- Wojciech Gublak Bruce Stout
1990
- Kathleen Hanrnan Donna Koota Marc Oudiett Eamon Walsh
1991
- Rose Biglar Seddahane Kathirnen Nella Lee Mangula Natarajan Omolola Odubekun Lee Ross
1992
- Henry Dummer Truc-Nhu Ho Leona Lee
1993
- Mary Brewster Michael Berger Yue Ma Lorraine Mazzerol Carolyn Tuxpin-Petrouski
1994
- Wayne Girardet John Kavanagh Jordan Leiter Sheila Maxwell Laura Nelson-Green Cynthia Epeno Bohdan Yowsows
1995
- Gai Caputto Denise Jenne James Kenny Lisa Maher
1996
- Martin Floss Allan Juw Delores Jones-Brown Nancy La Vigne Lori Lessin Martha Smith Michael Vigotska Bruce Taylor Nancy Whidey
1997
- Anthony Braga Anthony Petrosino
1998
- Ramona Brocket Christopher Maxwell James O’Kane Deanna Willkinson
1999
- Eliza Lichtenberg Mathew Belanger Robin Macr Debra Ross Robert Weidner
2000
- Gisel Alichier Stephanie Bush-Bakelte Silvia Iuzzoa Patrick Hieamann Marisa Muter Dana Nurge Stephen Perrello Gina Pino-Roberto Christine Tartaro William Tell
2001
- Douglas Rococo Jamet Lovell Timothy O’Boyle
2002
- Nancy Blank Jennifer Lebronn Cynthia Marksman William Roberts
2003
- Emmanuel Barte Sharon Chamard Thomas Cohen Garth Danes Juan Medina-Ariza Joseph Richardson Christopher Sedelmaer Rash Shluka David Sorenson William Sousa Wei-Wang
2004
- Kyungsook Cho Robert Cuereute Jean McGin Jean Monet Barbara Morell Kristen Zgoba
2005
- Jie Xu
2006
- Mariana Levy Ross Limdon Nancy Merrit Alison Sherley Angela Taylor
2007
- Constance Haulst-Waller Lara Kuhn Jennifer Lantensman Satenik Mergusyan Melanie Neault Dina Perrone Renata Seabrook Michael Wagers
2008
- Lynette Barnes Regina Brigano Huan Gao Seungmog Lee Megan McNally Demir Oguzhan Jon Shane
2009
- Neyazi Elcici Calma Jalic Jusun Noc Michael Ostermann Justin Ready Sung-Suk Yu
2010
- Ahmet Gelik Remee Graphia Zachary Hamilton Elenice De Souza Min Liu Alison Murgarski Patrick Morris Shery VanHome
2011
- Beth Adubato Michael Changh Ibrahim Eksism Shuryo Fujita Michelle Griffin Michael Jenkins Andrew Lemku Bahybah Muhammad-Brown Vivian Pacheco Shengu Qome Thomas Jw Xu
2012
- Rose Marie Akas Christine Barrow Steven Block Emrhan Daram Ellen McCann Michelle Muni Chris Petrakis Stephen Pires Eric Piza Ausnul Rege
2013
- Jennifer Biddle Aaron Hoo Eric Leonard Carrie Maloney Noreen Martinez Solano David Mavelli William Moreto Murat Orkun Brian Smith
2014
- Olay Dugang Sung-Hun Byon Ko-Hin Hsu Yasum Ivan-Erickson Jonathan Kremer Malane Magawso Elizabeth Panuccio Nusret Sahn Laura Salerno Virginia A. Systma Heather Tulman-Carbone

This page also includes a list of graduate students who have completed their studies in various years.
Rutgers School of Criminal Justice (RSCJ) students reflect the rich cultural and socioeconomic diversity of the student body at Rutgers University–Newark (RU–N).

Many are first-generation college attendees or the first in their families to attend an institution of higher education in the United States. English is frequently spoken as a second language, with multiple native tongues heard in our classrooms and hallways. And as is common throughout the campus, RSCJ students often juggle the responsibilities of working several jobs and being the primary care taker for parents or children while attending classes.

The school’s undergraduate population hails primarily from New Jersey. The school and the Office of the Chancellor have worked tirelessly to forge and improve relationships with several northern New Jersey county colleges. Thanks to the resulting seamless pipeline, transfer students make up approximately half of our undergraduate enrollment. Criminal justice also has emerged as a major of choice for university administrative staff. RSCJ students often become leaders on campus. In fact, our own Eslam Abdelbasset currently serves as president of the undergraduate RU–N Student Governing Association.

Master’s students choose the RSCJ program for our curricula and the opportunity to study with top-ranked scholars in the field. In addition to its traditionally high percentage of New Jersey residents, the student body includes scholars who have traveled here from throughout the United States. The master’s program attracts students with distinguished careers in criminal justice as well as those just starting out in the field. As a result, they all enjoy riveting classroom conversations with deep diversity of experiences and perspectives.

Our doctoral program continually draws top applicants from across the country and around the globe. Students have come to Newark from South Korea, Turkey, China, and Australia, among many other corners of the world. They reflect the best of the best in emerging thought leaders and scholars. Working with and alongside their mentors, our doctoral students frequently find success in publishing their first peer-reviewed articles, and many present their research at national and international conferences. In turn, their efforts influence the field.
Student Government Association
Works to Position RSCJ as a Resource
Dating back to the foundation of Rutgers School of Criminal Justice, the school’s Student Government Association (SGA) serves as the voice of the graduate student body. With direct lines of communication to Dean Maruna and the faculty, as well as the Graduate Student Government Association at Rutgers University-Newark and the Rutgers University Senate, its board is dedicated to building a stronger school.

And SGA’s potential to make a difference has grown along with Rutgers University–Newark, according to Jeremy Barnum, treasurer. “We are working hard to enhance the position of the School of Criminal Justice as a resource for other Rutgers programs in Newark,” he said. “And we are finding more ways than ever before to be heard and make a positive impact within the larger Rutgers community.”

Bachelor of Science
Focused on interdisciplinary exposure to all aspects of crime and criminal justice, our undergraduate program courses deal with crime and other forms of deviance and organizational responses to these problems, contemporary criminal justice issues, and ethical concerns and research. Students are prepared for further study in graduate or professional schools as well as for careers in criminal justice.

The school also offers an accelerated B.S./M.A. program that combines an undergraduate liberal arts education with professional study.

Our Programs
Rutgers School of Criminal Justice Students enjoy a world-class education focused on current issues of crime, public security, and social justice. Our degree programs, which have evolved commensurate with the field through four decades, continually produce graduates who take their places as productive and respected scholars.

Doctoral
Our doctoral program is designed to provide students with a command of criminological theory, research methods, and criminal justice policy, as well as in-depth knowledge in areas of specialization within criminology and/or criminal justice. The doctoral degree is awarded based on evidence that the candidate has achieved a high level of proficiency in independent scholarship and research.

Master of Arts
The master’s curriculum prepares students for positions of responsibility in organizations dealing with issues of crime, justice, and law enforcement. In addition to providing advanced training in social science research, courses and hands-on experience emphasize knowledge of policies and practices in the field and the development of skills needed for students to become effective agents of change.

Bachelor of Science
Focused on interdisciplinary exposure to all aspects of crime and criminal justice, our undergraduate program courses deal with crime and other forms of deviance and organizational responses to these problems, contemporary criminal justice issues, and ethical concerns and research. Students are prepared for further study in graduate or professional schools as well as for careers in criminal justice.

The school also offers an accelerated B.S./M.A. program that combines an undergraduate liberal arts education with professional study.

Rutgers School of Criminal Justice
Looking back and forward

RSCJ Doctoral Students
Fall 2014
William Anderson
Carlene Y. Barnaby
Jeremy D. Barnum
Nisha Bhardwaj
Rosalyn T. Bocker
Walter Campbell
Patricia Cantara
Lisa Chowdhury
Kimberly S. Copeland
Amanda D’Souza
Sarah E. Daly
Mustafa Demir
Samuel E. Dewitt
Jill A. Drucker
Kurt W. Fowler
Janet Garcia
Patricia Gavin
Leigh Grossman
Shannon T. Grugan
Marina K. Henein
Bryn A. Herrschaft
Jeong Hyun Kim
Ahmet R. Kirkpinar
Joanna Kubits
Marin K. Kuntz
Thomas A. Lateano
Antony C. Luberato
Lindsey M. Livingston
James T. Manning
Eden M. Marchi
Simone Martin
Denis Martinez
Alisa A. Matlin
Morgan B. McCollin
Justine H. McGard
Kari L. Miller
Ezra Nei
Madeleine F. Novich
Ismail Oztal
Husnusha Park
Kashwa N. Pegram
Kathleen M. Powell
Danielle M. Rusnak
Nicole M. Sachs
Cory C. Schnell
Ryan T. Senneter
Danielle M. Shields
Sarah B. Treuho
Brian A. Wade
Elizabeth H. Webster
Amarat Zaatut

Master of Arts
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A Alice Coffman, author, guest lecturer
B (left to right) Kimberly Copeland (Ph.D. student), Judy Miller, Morgan McCollin (Ph.D. student), and Sandi.Treccio (Ph.D. student)
C (left to right) Robert Apel, Amanda D’Souza (Ph.D. student), and Mercer Sullivan

Fall 2014
Enrollment
Bachelor’s: 615
Master’s: 25
Doctoral: 54

Student GOVERNMENT
Rutgers School of Criminal Justice has been fortunate in attracting highly competent, deeply committed individuals to serve as dean. Their influence has been vital in shaping the school’s foundation, guiding its progress, and positioning it to continue as one of the world’s most respected and valuable programs of its kind.

Don M. Gottfredson (1974-1986)
Ronald V. Clarke (1987-1998)
Leslie W. Kennedy (1998-2007)
Adam Graycar (2007-2009)
Todd R. Clear (2010-2013)
Shadd Maruna (2014-present)

Four highly respected faculty members have served as interim dean, capably steering the school during transitional periods in our history.

Freda Adler
James O. Finckenauer
David Twain
Bonita Veysey

The contributions of the school’s associate deans also have been integral in our evolution.

Albert L. Record (1974-1991)
Edith Laurencin (2000-2006; 2009-present)
Narda Acevedo (2007-2008)
Thomas Lu (2006-2007)
Ben Rodin (2012-2013)

Over the years, a number of faculty members have served as associate dean, including Johnna Christian, Michael Maxfield, Jody Miller, and Bonita Veysey.

When it comes to leadership, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice has been fortunate in attracting highly competent, deeply committed individuals to serve as dean. Their influence has been vital in shaping the school’s foundation, guiding its progress, and positioning it to continue as one of the world’s most respected and valuable programs of its kind.

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Ronald V. Clarke (1987-1998)
Leslie W. Kennedy (1998-2007)
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If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader.” — John Quincy Adams
Faculty Roots and Reflections

ROBERT APEL, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Ph.D. (2004) University of Maryland
Year of hire: 2011
Areas of specialization: labor markets & crime; violent victimization & injury; applied econometrics

“As an undergraduate, I majored in criminology and minored in sociology and psychology. As a graduate student in criminology, I took some coursework in economics. Even today I frequently read and draw inspiration from very diverse disciplines for my research—with sociology, psychology, economics, political science, public policy, and statistics among them. I feel that these influences have made me a well-rounded scholar capable of communicating about many issues other than my own narrow research specialties. But with each new project, I like to challenge myself to broaden my substantive and/or methodological expertise just a little bit more. This is what makes research so exciting for me—the ability to nurture my curiosity and acquire new skills at the same time. When one approaches his or her job as a continual learning opportunity, it will truly never be boring.”

EDEM AVAKAME, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Ph.D. (1995) University of Alberta
Year of hire: 2001
Areas of specialization: social inequality & crime; statistics; research methods

“I grew up in Ghana, a West African country where 99 percent of the population is black. Race is not an issue. When I came to North America for graduate school at the University of Alberta, I was startled to see how race is mingled with all kinds of negative outcomes. It was at that same time I was introduced to criminology by my department chair (I had earned my undergraduate degree in economics and sociology). Those two events sparked my interest in social inequalities related to race, gender, and age. I started wondering, what are the dynamics of race that create so much negativity about minorities? I read Douglas Massey’s work, American Apartheid, which is about segregation and how it interacts with poverty. That made sense to me. Then I read William Wilson’s book, The Truly Disadvantaged, which contends that social class is a primary driver. That also made sense. So which dynamic is more important? That is the question I have been struggling with ever since, and I am still looking for answers. There is no better place for me to be doing that than Rutgers University—Newark.”

ANTHONY A. BRAGA, DON M. GOTTFRIDSON
PROFESSOR OF EVIDENCE-BASED CRIMINOLOGY
Ph.D. (1997) Rutgers University
Year of hire: 2010
Areas of specialization: police & crime control; firearms & violence; program evaluation

“I feel very lucky to be a member of this terrific faculty and to have earned both my master’s and doctoral degrees at Rutgers School of Criminal Justice. As soon as I arrived at Rutgers—drawn by its world-class faculty—in 1997, I had an opportunity to get involved in a large-scale research project funded by the U.S. National Institute of Justice. It focused on innovative strategies for controlling street-level drug hot spots in Jersey City, and my job involved monitoring the integrity of the treatment. For a young guy, it was a truly exciting project. I got to ride along with the narcotics control squad, documenting that the treatment officers and those in the control group were doing what they were supposed to be doing. This formative experience shaped my career in three ways. First, I learned how to implement a complex, randomized experiment in the field. Second, I discovered the value of collaborating with criminal justice organizations to analyze and find solutions to ongoing crime problems. And, third, I saw, first-hand, that criminal justice academics can do things that actually make a difference in the real world. This was an important balance to what I was learning in class, and it served to distinguish me when I graduated.”

ROD K. BRUNSON, VICE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, PH.D. PROGRAM DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Ph.D. (2005) University of Illinois at Chicago
Year of hire: 2010
Areas of specialization: communities & violent crime; police-community relations; qualitative research methods

While enrolled in the doctoral program in criminal justice at the University of Illinois, Chicago, I engaged in research and writing projects, mostly examining the intersection of race, class, and gender. In fact, my dissertation research investigated how young African-American women in a working-class Chicago neighborhood negotiated challenging gang milieus. This study allowed me to further sharpen my research skills and refine my intellectual curiosities regarding disadvantaged urban youths’ living experiences. I was able to identify several salient themes. In particular, study participants consistently reported grave concerns about having to navigate heavy-handed policing tactics, sporadic youth violence, and an array of looming neighborhood dangers—all critical social issues that I currently study. I primarily utilize qualitative research methods to undertake my research agenda because such methods facilitate a nuanced understanding of individuals’ perspectives and life experiences. Specifically, in-depth interview techniques allow me to acquire insightful understandings of the situational contexts of certain events and their meanings for those involved.

“As a graduate of both the master’s and doctoral programs, I am undeniably a product of the School of Criminal Justice’s academic orientation and vision. The professors urged us to think about big ideas and how they were related to the local communities affected by crime. Furthermore, there was an expectation that graduate students at all ranks should pursue opportunities to engage in hands-on data collection and experience ‘research in action.’ I am very grateful for this training.” —Jean McClain (Ph.D. ’04, M.A. ’03)
JOEL CAPLAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
Year of hire: 2008  
Areas of specialization: GIS mapping & spatial analysis; computational criminology; policing  
“It seems to me that, lately, the general public is recognizing data analytics as a necessity. This is important for criminal justice research, generally, and crime analysis, specifically. ‘Big data’ is certainly a buzzword nowadays. The information products of crime analysts and academic researchers seem to be increasingly top-notch and actionable. This is very exciting. I hope, however, that criminal justice scholars will not undervalue the public relations aspect of what they do. As scholars, we know that good empirical products are often objective assessments of existing phenomena in a jurisdiction—and that this intel can provide evidence for justifiable actions, such as interventions by police. However, skeptics think of ‘Minority Report,’ stop-and-frisk, government surveillance, and other negative connotations of what ‘big data’ collection for public safety purposes could relate to. Propriety matters for criminal justice researchers. The general public’s perceptions of impropriety could have a huge effect on the profession in terms of its value and legitimacy in the eyes of a variety of stakeholders. Effectively communicating the positive and valuable role of data, research, and evaluation for criminal justice practice in the 21st century is not something that should be overlooked or ignored.”

JOHNNA CHRISTIAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
Year of hire: 2003  
Areas of specialization: mass incarceration; prisoner reentry; families and incarceration  
“I became deeply motivated to study criminal justice, when, as an undergraduate sociology major at UCLA, I first learned that one in four young, African-American men was in prison or jail, on probation or parole. I had no idea that, while African Americans comprised about 13 percent of the general population, black men made up nearly 40 percent of the prison population. I actually entered graduate school thinking I would like to be a prison warden. Looking back, I was incredibly naive, believing that being the person ‘in charge’ of a prison would enable one to make significant differences in inmates’ experiences of prison. I believed in rehabilitation. Within the first year of graduate school, I realized that problems were far more complex than I conceptualized. Now, unfortunately, my students learn that one in three young African-American men is under some form of correctional supervision, such as in prison, or on probation or parole. The situation has worsened from two decades ago when I was an undergraduate learning about these issues, but I am hopeful that we will witness a shift in our approach to crime, emphasizing prevention and early childhood interventions, sentencing reform, and alternatives to incarceration.”

KO-LIN CHIN, DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR  
Ph.D. (1986) University of Pennsylvania  
Year of hire: 1991  
Areas of specialization: gis mapping & spatial analysis; computational criminology; policing  
“I am ethnic Chinese born and grew up in Burma (or Myanmar), completed high school and college in Taiwan, and attended graduate schools in the United States. This experience determined the kinds of research topics that interest me, such as gangs in the overseas Chinese communities, the smuggling of Chinese to America, organized crime in Taiwan, drug trafficking in the Golden Triangle, the sex trade in Asia, etc. I studied business as an undergraduate in Taiwan. I worked for Chase Manhattan Bank in Taipei for a few years, and even though it was the best job a person could possibly have in Taiwan at that time, I was miserable. Then I became fascinated with all types of social problems, and that’s why I decided to come to the U.S. to study sociology, focusing on deviant behaviors. My colleagues at Chase thought I was out of my mind leaving the banking industry to study ‘useless’ sociology. However, they would probably agree that my experiences—such as sneaking into the drug lord-controlled Golden Triangle near the Burma-China border area and staying there for several months conducting fieldwork under the protection of armed soldiers—have been much more interesting as a result.”

RONALD V. CLARKE, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR  
Ph.D. (1968) University of London  
Year of hire: 1987  
Areas of specialization: rational choice theory & situational crime prevention; problem-oriented policing & crime analysis; wildlife crime  
After receiving my master’s degree in clinical psychology, I secured a job paid for by the Home Office, the United Kingdom’s equivalent of the U.S. Department of Justice, to undertake research for a group of some 30 training schools for delinquents. This post was the first of its kind, and my bosses did not really know what to do with me, although they wanted my research to be of value to the schools. Absconding (or escaping) was a common but troublesome problem for the schools, which were all ‘open’ institutions. I spent time comparing absconders with non-absconders on a wide variety of personality tests administered by staff psychologists, as well as examining countless facts about the boys’ childhoods and upbringing. There turned out to be very few differences between the two groups, at least nothing that would allow potential absconders to be identified. However, I began to find differences between the environments and regimes of individual schools—such as the opportunity to abscond. For example, it was much easier for boys in schools located in towns to steal get-away cars than boys from country schools. These and similar findings marked the beginning of my interest in the powerful situational determinants of crime—an interest that later developed into situational prevention and rational choice theory.”

“WHAT REALLY MADE THOSE YEARS MEMORABLE WAS THE WILLINGNESS OF PEOPLE TO SHARE, TO REACH OUT, TO HAVE AN OPEN MIND. AND THE LASTING IMPACT HAS BEEN IN THE INSPIRING PERSONAL CONNECTIONS WITH THE PERSON WHO GAVE ME MY FIRST JOB—CAROL SHAPIRO—THE PERSON WHO NURTURED MY INTELLECT AND CONTINUES TO SUPPORT COLLABORATIONS ON ACADEMIC CRIMINOLOGY IN AFRICA—TODD CLEAR—and others. THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!”

— Omolola ‘Lola’ Omole-Odubekun (Ph.D. ’91, M.A. ’88)
JODY MILLER, PROFESSOR
Ph.D. (1996) University of Southern California
Year of hire: 2010
Areas of specialization: feminist theory; gender, crime & victimization; qualitative research methods; race, neighborhoods & inequality

“How I ended up an academic feminist committed to both rigorous scholarship and social justice remains in many ways a mysterious gift. I have a hazy recollection of stumbling into an introductory women’s studies course as a college sophomore, and no clear recollection of why. But obviously it resonated because I decided to pursue a certificate and immediately embraced the label ‘feminist.’ As a senior and photojournalism major, I enrolled in a sociology seminar on violence against women that counted for my women’s studies certificate. That class and Marty Schwartz, the professor who taught it, changed the course of my life. With Marty’s assistance, I spent two summers volunteering at a residential facility for delinquent girls, where I obtained donations to start a photography class (and where, six years later, I would collect data for my doctoral dissertation). Working with these young women in constructing photographic portraits of their lives solidified my concern with the experiences of and challenges facing adolescent girls involved in delinquency. I also found myself much more comfortable not being behind a camera. Given that I am a qualitative researcher, it is perhaps a great irony that I could never shake my acute discomfort with the obtrusiveness and voyeuristic feel of practicing photojournalism. But social research became and remains my passion.”

JOEL MILLER, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Ph.D. (2002) University of Surrey
Year of hire: 2009
Areas of specialization: environmental criminology; community corrections; juvenile justice; police accountability

“My doctoral research taught me a number of important lessons that continue to be relevant to my research. Some of these are probably well-worn clichés: the importance of perseverance (a doctoral dissertation is a marathon, not a sprint), or the importance of developing deep subject knowledge to inform the collection and analysis of data. However, a key substantive lesson that continues to shape my work is the importance of the ‘foreground’ of rule-breaking behaviors. While much traditional criminological theory emphasizes structural background factors that drive offending (for example social disadvantage, weak social bonds, or delinquent subcultures), my dissertation research—based on qualitative interviews with young offenders—highlights the subjective aspects of criminal motivation. These involve quite different dynamics: offending behavior tends to be meaningful behavior which serves a practical purpose within the minds of offenders, even if that purpose is short-lived. For example, it might involve a quest for excitement, a search for revenge, or the need for money to buy stylish clothes. While the focus of my work has evolved since the days of my dissertation, the recognition of these dynamics has not. Today I also draw on these insights to help explain how criminal justice practitioners often fail to adhere to agency policies and procedures.”

MICHAELO OSTERMANN, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DIRECTOR – EVIDENCE-BASED INSTITUTE
Ph.D. (2009) Rutgers University
Year of hire: 2011
Areas of specialization: prisoner reentry; corrections; public policy

“I took a criminal justice class for a general education requirement during my undergraduate education (at the time, I was a biology major). In that class, I met a professor who invited me to be a part of an independent study group on crime and deviance on campus. As students, this was our first exposure to developing original research. We learned about, and eventually became involved in, research design in its entirety. We developed the theoretical framework, came to a consensus about appropriate methodological and analytic plans, (beguilingly) entered data into statistical software packages, explained our findings, and provided insight into their broader implications. We wound up presenting our work at the annual American Society of Criminology conference. My experiences as part of that group convinced me to study criminology. I also taught the research bug—and I have never looked back. Still, it can be difficult to get people to try new things, or to convince practitioners that criminological research has real world practical applications. This is especially true if they are strongly entrenched in ‘the ways they have always done things.’ Overcoming these sorts of challenges, and being a part of eventually improving outcomes, is a very rewarding part of being a criminal justice scholar.”

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“Rutgers School of Criminal Justice is a gift to the field of criminology.”
– Joan Petersilia, professor, Stanford University

“I consider it one of the great privileges of my life to have been present during the early years of Rutgers School of Criminal Justice. The faculty were not only famous in the field, or soon to be famous, but they were also student-centered, extremely hard-working, and surely not afraid to have fun! So a toast, to 40 years and to those who have taught us well! We hope we have made you proud.”
– Harry R. Dammer (Ph.D. ’92)
In a sense, I am the odd fish in this particular fishbowl. A political scientist by training, I did not come to Rutgers University—Newark as a criminal justice faculty member. I was the provost of this campus for 20 years, then acting president of Rutgers University for a year. As provost, I worked closely with the School of Criminal Justice and always had a great deal of respect and admiration for what was being accomplished as the program evolved, and the caliber of the faculty it attracted. When I decided to go back to teaching, I was invited to make my home here. Today, I am proud to be part of this esteemed group, and I especially appreciate the opportunity to work with our doctoral students, helping to guide them—particularly with Phil Berrigan and Liz McAlister, and their anti-war colleagues at Jonah House. They formed the core of the Catonsville Nine and the Plowshares Eight. These were the other criminals I knew. In high school, two things happened to me that set the course for my life and my career. The first was a school trip to Great Meadow Correctional Facility, a maximum security prison in upstate New York where I saw and spoke to a number of men who didn’t seem all that bad (although the guards warned us otherwise). The second was my involvement with the Catholic Left, particularly with Phil Berrigan and Liz McAlister, and their anti-war colleagues at Jonah House. They formed the core of the Catonsville Nine and the Plowshares Eight. These were the other criminals I knew. In fact, Fr. Carl Cabat, who served more than 17 years in prison, is an example of, according to some, one of the most intransigent criminals. The take-home message for me was that ‘criminal’ is in the eye of the beholder. Much of my research now focuses on how people transform their lives. But really my research is about creating a different narrative about people with conviction histories; providing hope instead of feeding the fear.”

“I grew up in the ’60s, and therefore I believed it was my social responsibility to challenge institutions. Criminal justice was one of those institutions. In high school, two things happened to me that set the course for my life and my career. The first was a school trip to Great Meadow Correctional Facility, a maximum security prison in upstate New York where I saw and spoke to a number of men who didn’t seem all that bad (although the guards warned us otherwise). The second was my involvement with the Catholic Left, particularly with Phil Berrigan and Liz McAlister, and their anti-war colleagues at Jonah House. They formed the core of the Catonsville Nine and the Plowshares Eight. These were the other criminals I knew. In fact, Fr. Carl Cabat, who served more than 17 years in prison, is an example of, according to some, one of the most intransigent criminals. The take-home message for me was that ‘criminal’ is in the eye of the beholder. Much of my research now focuses on how people transform their lives. But really my research is about creating a different narrative about people with conviction histories; providing hope instead of feeding the fear.”

“Everyone who has passed through this school realizes the impact it had on our career trajectories. We are grateful for the opportunities provided to us, honored to be part of its tradition, and interested in staying connected to the Rutgers mission moving forward.” — Eric L. Piza (Ph.D. ’82)
School of Criminal Justice

Research Off the Beaten Path

IT COMES AS NO SURPRISE THAT RUTGERS SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACULTY MEMBERS ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT THEIR AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION. IN MANY CASES, THEIR fervent research pursuits have led them into some rather unusual situations.

Professor Ko-lin Chin might call this an understatement.

When he was smuggled into Myanmar (formerly Burma)—the first time—in 1998, it set the foundation for his acclaimed book, The Golden Triangle: Inside Southeast Asia’s Drug Trade. The Golden Triangle, where Myanmar, Thailand, and Laos meet, is recognized as a hotbed for drug production and trafficking, especially within the Wa area in the northeast corner of Myanmar.

Chin, who was born in Burma, left there at age 15 and spent the balance of his youth in Taiwan. “I speak Burmese fluently, and for me going there would be returning to my roots,” he said. “But as an American professor, I would never be allowed to go to that area to conduct a study on the drug trade. That was a real problem. However, I was able to find someone well connected with the drug lords, and he agreed to bring me there.”

Hidden inside a pickup truck, Chin was driven across the border of Thailand. It took three days and nights to travel 250 miles across the mountainous terrain during that region’s rainy season. “It was scary but also very exciting,” he recalled. “I wasn’t even conducting the study yet—I was just trying to see if they would allow me to do it.”

He met the Wa leaders, explained his goal, and they gave him permission. After being smuggled back out of Myanmar by the same route, he returned to the United States and applied for and received a $220,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

When he returned to Myanmar in 2001, Chin was smuggled into the country from China—still a dangerous proposition, but a route with better roads, he noted. He arrived and hired a group of local people to work with him. “None had higher than a junior high education,” he said. “I recruited them and trained them. I taught them sociology, criminology, and research methods. I showed them how to take field notes, how to interview, and how to be research assistants.”

The team ultimately completed approximately 450 interviews over a two-year period. This included conversations with 300 opium growers, 35 drug dealers, 52 drug users, the Wa leaders, and law enforcement authorities throughout Southeast Asia. From this data, Chin produced an in-depth criminological study, mainly focused on the social organization of the drug trade.

Chin cites orchestrating this project as the most difficult challenge he has faced in his career. What will his next adventure be? “I would like to study issues like labor trafficking in Thailand, the counterfeit industry in China, and corruption in China,” he said.

Stay tuned.

“THE Rutgers School of Criminal Justice experience does not end at graduation. I greatly enjoy the fact that faculty, alumni, and students come together and share their knowledge, leadership skills, and experiences, through appealing network opportunities, career/professional development, and outreach programs.” — John F. Baroud (B.S. ’12)
School of Criminal Justice

Great School, Great Staff

Ever since hiring Al Record as its first Staff Member, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice has enjoyed a long track record of attracting employees who share a genuine interest in—and commitment to—the school’s growth and success. These valued Team Members are the power behind the school’s progress through its first 40 years, continually and commendably supporting its students, faculty, and research initiatives.

Newark Roots

A number of current Rutgers School of Criminal Justice staff members grew up with Rutgers University–Newark in their backyards. Why did these Newark born-and-raised professionals choose to cultivate their careers here?

“I was fortunate to have a mentor at Newark High School who saw my potential and led me here for my criminal justice undergraduate degree. I joined the School of Criminal Justice staff in 2001 following two other positions with Rutgers University–Newark. The opportunities here have enabled me to become everything that high school teacher thought I could be.” – LaWanda Thomas, assistant dean, undergraduate programs

“‘When it comes down to it, Rutgers really chose me. In 2000, Dr. Kelling hired me to serve as a community organizer with The Police Institute. During that time and since as a part of the school’s staff, I have worked with local judiciary and reentry teams on efforts related to community safety and criminal justice. Every day, I feel that I am giving back to the city in which I was raised.’” – Lori Scott-Pickens, MPA, director, community outreach/community-based learning

“‘I initially came here as a temp, and when I was offered a permanent position I thought I would stay for a year and then move on. But that year has turned into 28 because I loved—and still love—this job and being with the kids. Why is this a great place to work? My ideas are respected. I can exercise creativity. And I spend my days with a wonderful team.’” – Sandra Wright, Th.D., business assistant

Reckoning a Cornerstone

Anyone affiliated with Rutgers School of Criminal Justice through its first 27 years knew Shirley Parker as the “face” of the school. As founding secretary, Ms. Parker was the school’s second employee (after Al Record), and through her tenure she provided unwavering encouragement and support for students, faculty, and her fellow staff members. She was so admired that the first RSCJ alumni scholarship award was named in her honor in 2000. Today, the Shirley Parker Research Scholarship continues to provide $1,000 annually to a current master’s program student.

Delores Jones-Brown (Ph.D. ’96) (left) and Phyllis Schultz

Allen Futernick (left) and James Finckenauer
Recognized Scholars

AS A SPRINGBOARD OR LONG-TERM LANDING PLACE FOR CAREERS IN ACADEMIA, AND AS A PLACE FOR LEARNING, RUTGERS SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE THROUGH ITS HISTORY HAS BEEN CALLED “HOME” BY MANY OF THE MOST PRODUCTIVE AND ACCOMPLISHED CRIMINOLOGISTS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCHOLARS. WHILE CERTAINLY NOT ALL-ENCOMPASSING, THE FOLLOWING SAMPLE OF MAJOR AWARDS SPEAKS TO THE DISCIPLINE-SHAPING IMPACT AND CONTINUED INFLUENCE OF THE SCHOOL’S PAST AND CURRENT FACULTY MEMBERS, AND FUTURE STUDENTS.

Stockholm Prize in Criminology
Ronald V. Clarke – 2015
David Weisburd – 2010

The American Society of Criminology
ASC President
Todd R. Clear – 2009
Freda Adler – 1995
Donald M. Gottfredson – 1987
Gerhard O.W. Mueller – 1968

ASC Fellow
Freda Adler
Todd R. Clear
Jeffrey Fagan
Don M. Gottfredson
Jody Miller
Gerhard O.W. Mueller
David Weisburd

ASC Edwin Sutherland Award
David Weisburd – 2014

ASC August Vollmer Award
Don M. Gottfredson – 1982
Gerhard O.W. Mueller – 1980

ASC Herbert Bloch Award
Todd R. Clear – 2007
Candace S. McCoy – 2002
Freda Adler – 1972

ASC Ruth Shonle Cavan Young Scholar Award
Jody Miller – 2001

ASC Michael J. Hindelang Award
Shadd Maruna – 2001

ASC Gene Carte Student Paper Competition Award
Elizabeth Griffiths – 2003
Jody Miller – 1994
Edem F. Avakame – 1993
Candace McCoy – 1986

ASC Mentor of the Year
Jon Shane (Ph.D. ’08) – 2011

ASC Division on Corrections and Sentencing Distinguished Scholar Award
Faye Taxman (Ph.D. ’82) – 2013
Faye Taxman – 2008
Todd R. Clear – 2003

ASC Division on Corrections and Sentencing Marguerite Q. Warren and Ted B. Palmer Differential Intervention Award
Faye Taxman – 2013

ASC Division on Corrections and Sentencing New Scholar Award
Shadd Maruna – 2004

ASC Division of Experimental Criminology Joan McCord Award
Anthony Braga – 2014
Lorraine Mazerolle (Ph.D. ’93) – 2013

ASC Division of Experimental Criminology Outstanding Young Experimental Criminologist Award
Joel Caplan – 2014
Justin Ready (Ph.D. ’09) – 2013

ASC Division of International Criminology Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar Award
Lorraine Mazerolle (Ph.D. ’93) – 2010

ASC Division of International Criminology Outstanding Book Award
Ko-lin Chin and James O. Finckenauer – 2013
Clayton A. Hartjen and Sesha Rajani Kethineni – 1997

ASC Division on People of Color and Crime Coramie Richey Mann Award
Jody Miller – 2009

ASC Division on People of Color and Crime Julio Debro Award
Doreen Jones Brown (Ph.D. ’96) – 2013

ASC Division on People of Color and Crime New Scholar Award
Rod Brunson – 2008
Andres F. Rengifo – 2012

ASC Division of Victimology Faculty Teacher of the Year Award
Alison Marganski (Ph.D. ’07) – 2014

ASC Division on Women & Crime Distinguished Scholar Award
Jody Miller – 2010

ASC Division on Women & Crime New Scholar Award
Jody Miller – 2001

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
ACJS President
Jay Albanese – 1999
Todd R. Clear – 2000
James O. Finckenauer – 2004

ACJS Fellow
Freda Adler – 2010
Jay S. Albanese (Ph.D. ’81) – 2002

ACJS Bruce Smith Sr. Award
Freda Adler – 2013
Todd R. Clear – 2004
Gerhard O.W. Mueller – 2002
Jeffrey Fagan – 2000

ACJS Founders Award
Todd R. Clear – 2014
Freda Adler – 2007
Jay S. Albanese – 2000

ACJS MacNamara Award
Joel M. Caplan – 2012
Leslie W. Kennedy – 2012
Jody Miller – 2012
Robert Apel – 2009

ACJS Mueller Award for Distinguished Contributions to International Criminal Justice, International Section
Jay S. Albanese – 2011
James O. Finckenauer – 2009

ACJS Outstanding Mentors Award
Lee Ross (Ph.D. ’91) – 2011
Todd R. Clear – 2010
James O. Finckenauer – 2010

ACJS Sage Junior Faculty Professional Development Teaching Award
Dina Perrone (Ph.D. ’92) – 2012
Damian J. Martinez – 2009

ACJS Tony J. Caeli Outstanding Young Scholar Award, Juvenile Justice Section
Rod Brunson – 2010

American Sociological Association
ASA Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award, Race, Gender, and Class Section
Jody Miller – 2010

ASA Crime, Law and Deviance Student Paper Award
Jody Miller – 1993

As of Fall 2014, list is representative and does not include all awards won by RSCJ faculty, former faculty, and alumni.

THE FIELD’S HIGHEST HONOR FOR ONE OF OUR OWN

Professor Ronald Clarke will be honored in 2015 with the Stockholm Prize in Criminology. Recognized as the highest award in the field, the 1,000,000 Swedish kronor prize recognizes “outstanding achievements in criminological research or for the application of research results by practitioners for the reduction of crime and the advancement of human rights,” according to the Swedish Ministry of Justice, which established the award.

Clarke and fellow criminologist Patricia Mayhew, Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, will be recognized at a June ceremony for developing the theory of situational crime prevention. Their collaborative research in the 1970s led to the publication of “Crime as Opportunity,” a paper that refuted the prevailing paradigm that linked crime with offenders’ psychological and socioeconomic conditions. Their evidence suggested that crime was the result of opportunities provided by physical environments and circumstances, and could consequently be prevented by altering these circumstances.

“I have spent a career trying to prove beyond doubt that ‘opportunity makes the thief’ and that society can reduce crime by reducing opportunities,” Clarke noted. “Criminologists and policy-makers have often disputed these claims, believing that criminals will always find a way to commit crime. Perhaps this prize signals a change in attitudes. My dream is that we will see more effort and resources devoted to preventing crime and less to pursuing and punishing offenders.”

Clarke conducted his research with Mayhew while employed at the Home Office Research and Planning Unit for the British government’s criminology department. He joined Rutgers University–Newark in 1987 as dean of the School of Criminal Justice, and held that position until 1998.

Currently a Rutgers School of Criminal Justice professor and associate director of the Center for Problem-Oriented Policing, Clarke continues to influence the field of criminology through his trailblazing research and practical applications. To that end, in 2013 Clarke founded the Rutgers Center for Conservation Criminology to provide a secure footing for work in the emerging field of wildlife criminology.

In 2014, Rutgers University–Newark acknowledged Clarke’s achievements with the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship.

Janet Garcia (Ph.D. student) (left) and Jody Miller
Rutgers School of Criminal Justice takes great pride in the relationships it has forged with prominent organizations involved and interested in crime and justice issues. Following is a small sampling of the funding agencies that have supported the school’s research efforts in recent years.

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California State University, San Marcos
Center for Problem-Oriented Policing, Inc.
Chang-Chung-Fou Foundation for International Scholars
City of Jersey City, New Jersey
Community Education Centers
Community Fund of New Jersey
Community Solutions Inc.
Department of Homeland Security-FEMA
Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs
Executive Office for United States Attorneys, Department of Justice
Ford Foundation
Institute for Intergovernmental Research
International Research & Exchanges Board
Juvenile Justice Research Institute
Lucent Technologies Foundation
Mayyn Consulting, Inc.
MCJ Foundation
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National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institute of Health
National Institute of Mental Health
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Newark Police Department
New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts
New Jersey Department of Corrections
New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety
New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission
New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
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New Jersey State Police
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List does not include all past and current partnerships.
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Roger Leon, Newark Public Schools, assistant superintendent

Drej Pandya, Rutgers School of Law–Newark, student

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