



October 2016



Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies University of Toronto

14 Queen's Park Crescent West
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 3K9

T: 416.978.3722 • F: 416.978.4195

www.criminology.utoronto.ca

From The Director's Desk

As most of you know, I filled in as acting/interim director of the Centre while Kelly Hannah-Moffat was on leave; and as those of you at U of T no doubt know, Kelly will not be returning to her nice corner "Director" office at the Centre because she is now the University's Vice-President, Human Resources & Equity. Despite the responsibilities of this major administrative position, Kelly will continue to be involved with the Centre through her research projects and through graduate supervision.

As I write these lines, a search for a new Director is underway, with the new leader taking up his/her job on January 1, 2017. We expect that the transition will be smooth, as has been the case in the past. Whether coming from within our core faculty or from among the faculty cross-appointed to the Centre from other units, previous directors (including me) have had the benefit of the collective wisdom and collegial habits that have long characterized our Centre. I personally look forward to helping with the transition, though I also know that everyone else will collaborate as well and share their experience and ideas.

As usual, this newsletter reports on research activities over the past few months, from the two research workshops held in April (on punishment issues and on indigenous justice) to doctoral student research accomplishments, to faculty research and publications. We also feature our undergraduate student association, CRIMSA, which currently has a very active and energized leadership, and our undergraduate student journal, of which we are very proud (although it's students who initiated it and do virtually all the work, so we faculty cannot claim much if any credit).

But for the first time, we are also asking newsletter readers, especially graduates of the Centre and members of the Centre's international community of friends and supporters, to consider making a financial contribution. We are appealing for donations to help us support graduate students. We have not generally used our newsletter for fundraising purposes. But in my recent travels I have encountered many graduates of our

MA and PhD programs who are financially secure and are sympathetic to the financial difficulties experienced by today's generation of graduate students. Small annual gifts are one excellent way to support Centre students and their research. We promise we will not bombard you with appeals – so please take a moment to consider if you might be willing to make a contribution [SEE PAGE 4]

Mariana Valverde



The 2016-2017 Master's Program Class

Criminology Undergrad Students



(Left to Right) Shully Sappire (Secretary); Olivia Kang (Treasurer); Sandleen Azam (Academic Director); Pri Sharma (Academic Director); Aadil Nathani (President); Ravita Surajbali (Social Director); Felisha Jagiah (Social Director); Joana Jabson (Communications Director); Regrets: Anju Xing (Vice President) and First Year Director (To be Elected).

“We are **CRIMSA** or the Criminology Students’ Association and we are here to serve you if you are a member of this great department! Our aim is to hold events that will help you excel in both academic and social aspects of your life here at U of T and in Criminology. This year we have planned for you a Welcome Back Social (Sept 19), a Faculty Meet and Greet (Oct 6), a Stress Buster/Study Jam (Oct 12), a Academic Panel (Nov 15) and a Board Game Night (Dec 7). We look forward to seeing you there! These events are a great opportunity to meet friends in Criminology and to meet the Faculty and other Professionals within the field.

Be sure to check us out on Facebook and Instagram as well as keep an eye out for CRIMSA Wear (CRIMSA Sweaters/Cardigans) that will go on sale shortly. If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please email crimsa.president@gmail.com.”

U of T Undergraduate Criminology Review

This summer saw the publication of the third volume of the University of Toronto Undergraduate Criminology Review. The UTUCR is an academic journal published annually by the students of the Criminology & Sociolegal Studies program under the supervision of faculty advisors. Serving as a venue in which students can not only find a wider audience for their excellent work, the journal is also a scholarly space in which students can liberally engage with a bevy of compelling (and oftentimes pressing) criminological issues.

Picking up the mantle from last year’s Editor-in-Chief, **Daiana Kostova**, was **Daniel Konikoff**, who along with a masthead of stellar undergrads and savvy faculty advisors ushered seven high-quality essays from submission to editing to publication. What’s more, the journal received more submissions than ever before, with 45 students submitting original work and making the selection process all the more challenging for those involved. It is Daniel’s hope that the journal will continue to flourish under the new Editor-in-Chief, **Radha Lamba**, and that the already staggering number of submissions will continue to grow as students produce original work of the highest caliber.

Criminology Graduate Students

A major prize given at the University of Cambridge’s Faculty of Law, the Richard Hart early career prize in Public Law, has been awarded to Centre junior fellow **Jennifer Raso**: UK Supreme Court justice Lord Reed and LSE professor Carol Harlow presented the prize to Jen at the “Unity of Public Law” conference at Cambridge in early September.

Junior fellows are doctoral students in other departments whose research is relevant to the Centre and who have ongoing contacts there; they participate in the life of the Centre and may have shared office space.

Jen Raso is completing a doctoral thesis at the U of T faculty of law that empirically documents and theoretically analyzes how welfare workers use their discretion, and how their discretion is in turn regulated by software programs and their drop-down menus. Jen, who worked as a city solicitor for several years before graduate school, has been active for some time in the sociolegal studies research group that meets at the Centre, and has worked closely with Mariana Valverde on a SSHRC-funded research project on the governance of local infrastructure partnerships.

Graduate Student Activities

International Research On Drug Corridors

Two Centre PhD students, **Valentin Pereda** and **Serdar San**, are collaborating on a research project comparing levels of violence in two countries that both serve as major transit corridors in the international trade in illegal drugs, Mexico and Turkey. While in Mexico drug-related violence has exploded in recent years, in Turkey such violence has actually diminished, and appears to be partially contained. The

two students are planning a co-authored paper or series of papers with their supervisor, **Matt Light**, exploring the broader puzzle raised by the two case studies: why is the drug trade so much more violent in some regions of the world than in others? This project is supported by a small grant from the university and the Centre, and showcases the Centre's commitment to international and comparative research.

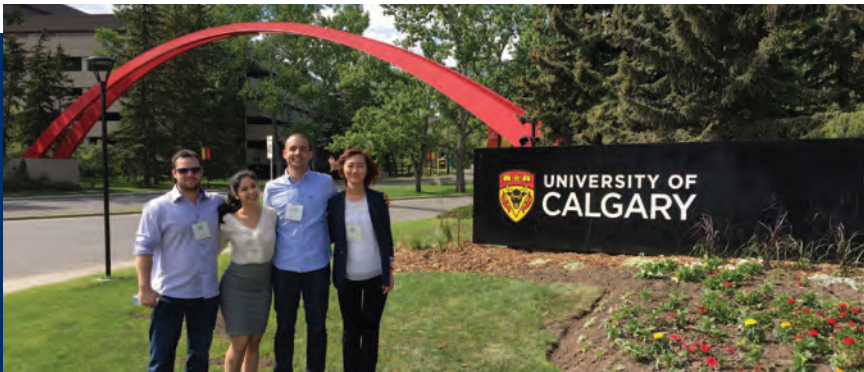
Jacqueline Briggs, third year PhD student at the Centre working with **Mariana Valverde** and **Jim Phillips**, has been named the 2016/2017 McMurtry Fellow in Canadian Legal History by the Osgoode Society. The fellowship is designed to support a graduate student in the field of legal history for one year with a \$16,000 award. It was created upon the retirement of the Hon. R. Roy McMurtry as Chief Justice of Ontario to honour his contribution to and support for Canadian legal history as the founder and longtime president of the Osgoode Society.

Jacqueline's dissertation is provisionally titled "Administering Justice: a legal history of federal criminal justice policy for Indigenous peoples in Canada, 1867 to 1974". Her project explores a legal aid program delivered by the Department of Justice (DoJ) and the Department of Indian Affairs (DIA) for status 'Indians' accused of murder in this period through an analysis of over 700 cases and files held in the national archive. These files yield insights into long-term trends in Indigenous homicide dispositions, illustrates a fascinating jurisdictional dispute between the federal government and the provinces, and highlights the integral role of the legal profession and access to legal services in the colonization of Indigenous peoples.



In 2014 and 2015, financial assistance from the John Beattie Fund enabled PhD student **Mayana Slobodian** to attend the national event of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada in Edmonton, Alberta, as well as the TRC closing event in Ottawa. In addition

to providing significant content for her doctoral project, Mayana's participation at these events led to her publishing an op-ed piece in the *Toronto Star* about the TRC, as well as being interviewed on *Canada National News*.



PhD students **Erick Laming**, **Grace Tran**, **Jihyun Kwon** and **Giancarlo Fiorella** each presented some of their work at the Canadian Law and Society Association's 2016 conference at the University of Calgary in May. Erick and Jihyun gave a highly publicized talk on police body cameras and accountability. Grace presented on marriage fraud and migration in Canada, Giancarlo spoke on anti-government protests in Venezuela.

In early 2016 PhD student **Valentin Pereda** received a \$4,000 "Globalink" research grant from the MITACS organization, for a preliminary research trip to Mexico during which he set up contacts with local organizations with a view to supporting his doctoral research on violence and the drug trade. The grant application was facilitated by his supervisor, **Matt Light**. Valentin's research begins by noting that in many countries/situations, drug traffickers resort

to violence only occasionally. But in Mexico, the drug cartels have essentially become armies engaged in full-out war against one another and against the state. The case of Mexico is thus unusual and requires investigation; Valentin's thesis will be an important contribution to the interdisciplinary global literature on violence.

Our New PhD Students

Andrea Sterling completed her MA at the Centre in 2015, where she was presented with the John L. J. Edwards Award for her outstanding performance. Her MRP looked at legal consciousness and independent sex workers in the wake of the implementation of PCEPA. We are so excited to welcome her back to the Centre, where she will continue to conduct this research under the supervision of Mariana Valverde. Her doctoral studies will examine the various legal mechanisms and jurisdictions that regulate sex workers, as expressed by sex workers themselves. Her academic work is motivated by her political activism, particularly her involvement with Maggie's, the Toronto Sex Workers Action Project, where she acts as chair of the board.



(Left to Right) Andrea Sterling and Jade Nixon

Jade Nixon is University of Toronto, through and through. She completed both her MA and her Honours BA at the University of Toronto's Mississauga campus, in Sociology. Jade comes to the Centre with a passion to examine the ways that Caribbean leisure space are subject to state regulation. She hopes to investigate the informal regulation that disciplines gendered bodies within those spaces.



Leisan Khaliullina has come a long way to join the Centre community. She received her MA from the European University at St. Petersburg. She has been empirically researching controlling organizations for more than ten years, including Russian traffic police, anti-trust agencies, and migration control. Leisan is the author of more than ten research articles, including publications in *Economic Sociology* and *Nationalities Papers*. She plans to study traffic regulations enforcement under the guidance of Matthew Light.

Pay It Forward

People in different parts of Canada and around the world receive this newsletter. Some of you are graduates of our programmes. Others have attended lectures here or used our specialized library, perhaps during stays as visiting scholars. And yet others have participated in our research activities, as co-investigators with Centre faculty or in other ways. You are academics, lawyers, judges, prosecutors, people who work in community agencies and in the broader public sector and may have benefitted from the research conducted by our graduate students.

This is an appeal to help support the research projects of our graduate students. The university does make funding available for our graduate students, but not for everyone and not in amounts that are adequate to support all research. External grants are thus essential, and our students have traditionally done well in such competitions. However, we still find that many worthy students experience financial difficulties and are unable to bring research projects to fruition.

We are therefore asking you to consider making a financial contribution. Your gift, large or small, when combined with the gifts of others, can make a big difference, and can help to ensure that the Centre remains an excellent source of criminological and sociolegal research.

We asked just one of our graduate students – a top recent graduate of our MA programme – to tell you why it is important for the Centre to have some discretionary funds to support students when needed (e.g. some excellent students cannot get government grants because they are not permanent residents). Here's her story.

My name is Jona Zyfi and I am an international student from Albania. After completing my BA, I knew I wanted to pursue graduate work, specifically in migration and refugee studies. Being able to do an MA and work directly with faculty who do research in my field has been a very enriching experience.

Having completed my Master's, I took a year to gain more work experience and expand my knowledge of organizations such as the Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies. In September 2017 I hope to begin my doctoral studies at the Centre.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Centre, as the scholarship that I was awarded at the beginning of my graduate career has made all the difference. Without doubt, this scholarship played a key role in helping me achieve my dreams. I would like to use this opportunity to say 'thank you' for your investment in the Centre and in the futures of students like myself.

<http://criminology.utoronto.ca/donate/> is the online link to donating to the Centre. You may also send a cheque to:

Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies,
University of Toronto,
14 Queen's Park Crescent West,
Toronto, ON M5S 3K7

Centre Research Activities

Criminalization of HIV Non-Disclosure

Visiting scholars, often professors from other universities in Canada or abroad who are spending a sabbatical leave at the Centre, have always been an important part of the Centre. They interact with graduate students and faculty, participate and sometimes even organize Centre research events, and frequently give guest lectures on their research to undergraduate classes. They also remain in contact with the Centre after their visit and facilitate future exchanges and

visits. This year the Centre is hosting **Prof. Amy Swiffen**, a sociolegal scholar from Concordia University. Her sabbatical research project is on the criminalization of HIV non-disclosure in Canadian law, and is connected to a longer-term research agenda on the study of legal violence. One issue she is exploring, with others, concerns the use of epidemiological information in judicial decisions.

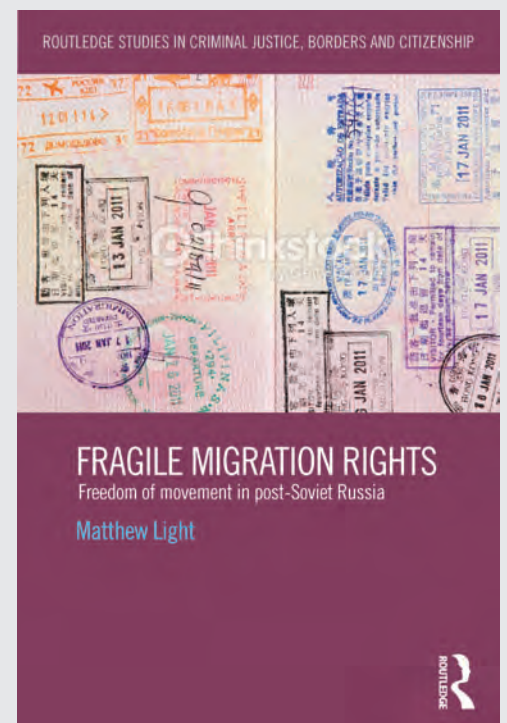
The **Toronto Police Transformational Taskforce** is considering potential ways to modernize how police services are delivered, co-sponsored by the Police Service and the Police Services Board. The taskforce has asked the Centre to make a presentation responding to the taskforce's June report. This was done by Prof. Mariana Valverde on behalf of the Centre, on September 28. In addition, the Centre is contributing original research on police force civilianization and contracting out, research currently being carried out by PhD students **Giancarlo Fiorella** and **Erick Laming**. Important reforms mentioned in the report include the abolition of the paid-duty system, the abolition of the TAVIS guns-and-gangs taskforce, the possible closure of some police stations, and changes to the current rigid two-officer patrol system. Key to the taskforce is Inspector **Shawna Coxon**, a graduate of our MA program.

Prof. Mariana Valverde spent the month of May as an invited guest of the **Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales** in Paris. One of the activities included in the visit was explaining the Canadian Truth and Reconciliation process to a large audience composed of government officials and academics, at an event headlined by the French Minister of Justice. She also held discussions with criminology PhD students there, some of whom then met with their counterparts from the Centre at the New Orleans Law and Society meetings. We hope to organize graduate student exchanges with the EHESS in the future.

Prof. Valverde also visited three universities in Colombia in early August. The trip, which included several forums with local scholars as well as some lectures, was organized by former Centre visiting PhD student **Maria Victoria Castro**, currently professor of constitutional law at the **Universidad del Norte**, on Colombia's Caribbean coast. Contacts that may bear fruit in the future were made with numerous doctoral students from the **Universidad de los Andes** in Bogota, probably the best centre for sociolegal studies in Latin America.

Dr. Catherine Evans, a criminal justice historian and legal scholar who will be joining the faculty of the Centre in July 2017, has been named a Kathryn T. Preyer Scholar by the American Society for Legal History. Catherine will present her paper "Crime, Punishment, and the Indigenous Subject in Colonial Canada" as part of the Preyer Prize panel for outstanding early career legal historians at this year's annual meeting of the American Society for Legal History, held in Toronto from October 27 to 30 at the Royal York Hotel. The Centre is collaborating with other local academic units in sponsoring receptions and events during this important conference.

Prof. **Matt Light**'s book *Fragile Migration Rights: Freedom of movement in post-Soviet Russia* appeared in April with Routledge. Russia is now a major recipient of immigration, mainly from other post-Soviet republics. Light's study aims to integrate Russia's evolving migration policies into the interdisciplinary literature on the regulation of migration. The book encompasses both the regulation of internal migration (the movement of Russian citizens around their country) and the settlement of foreign citizens in Russia. The book covers both the Soviet and the post-Soviet period, and compares Russia's pattern of migration governance with that in other states. Light argues that the defining feature of Russian policies is not so much greater repressiveness but greater informality and unpredictability – hence, "fragile" migration rights.



Centre Workshops

Indigenous Justice Workshop

On April 22, the Centre was host to the Indigenous Justice / Indigenous Critique Workshop. This event, organized by PhD students **Jacqueline Briggs** and **Mayana Slobodian**, under the supervision of **Mariana Valverde**, brought students, faculty, and educators from across U of T together with lawyers and practitioners working in the fields of Indigenous criminal justice. The goal was to explore the multiple meanings of “justice” in “Indigenous justice,” particularly the tensions and affinities between Aboriginal criminal justice reforms and the critical imperatives of decolonization.

The workshop featured a keynote presentation from **Dr. Sarah Hunt**, Kwakwaka'wakw professor of geography at the University of British Columbia, as well as a powerful panel on Indigenous Criminal Justice Initiatives, with **Savvas Lithopolous** (Public Safety Canada), **Colette McCombs** (Aboriginal Legal Services), **Promise Holmes Skinner** (Gladue Program Specialist), **Amanda Carling** (AIDWYC Legal Education Counsel and Debwewin Committee Member). Filmmaker **Lisa Jackson** presented her fascinating short films, as well as early work she is conducting as part of the Gladue Film Project.



Penal Boundaries Workshop

For two days in April, the Centre was abuzz with discussion of punishment and society. The second annual Penal Boundaries workshop was subtitled “Excesses, Limits, and the Production of Inequality,” and it featured paper sessions, a plenary panel, as well as a film screening. The goal was to bring together a select group of faculty and graduate students to consider topics such as the co-construction of space and punishment, the manner in which community regulation intersects with modes of governance, the ways in which organizational logics condition “on-the-ground” practices, and how race is and is not intersecting with international penal debates.

The conference was organized by PhD student **Jihyun Kwon** under the supervision of **Phil Goodman**, **Kelly Hannah-Moffat**, and **Paula Maurutto**, as well as **Mona Lynch**, of the University of California-Irvine's School of Social Ecology. Thank you to everyone who put together and participated in this invigorating event – we look forward to next year!



Professor Kelly Hannah-Moffat

Former Centre Director **Kelly Hannah-Moffat** has been appointed as Vice-President, Human Resources & Equity for a five-year term effective October 1, 2016. Many of us in the criminology and sociolegal community know Kelly's contribution to a wide range of issues in the criminal justice and penal systems here in Canada and around the world. The other hat Kelly has worn for many years is that of a top university administrator and we wish her all the best in this new appointment, knowing that her research will form the foundation of many decisions she will make in her new and challenging role.

Mariana Valverde is currently Interim Director until the end of the year. Thanks again, Mariana!



Congratulations to Professor Mariana Valverde,

who was honoured with the 2016 Harry J. Kalven Jr. Award. Presented at the annual Law & Society Association Meeting in New Orleans, the award recognizes empirical scholarship that has contributed to the advancement of research in law and society.

The LSA award announcement read as follows: "Professor Mariana Valverde's body of scholarship exemplifies the ideal of interdisciplinary engagement. She deftly moves between grounded empirical examinations of everyday contestations in legal regulation to deeply theoretical scholarship that draws from that empirical work to advance our understanding of socio-legal phenomena. Wielding with equal ease the tools of social, political, and literary theory, feminist critique, historical and comparative inquiry, and even, when the occasion calls for it, nuanced legal doctrinal analysis, Professor Valverde is an interdisciplinary scholar in the best law and society tradition, and inspires others to show a similar impatience with calcified disciplinary and institutional boundaries and orthodox narratives and methods in the pursuit of original and meaningful insight."