

CrimSL News

Fall 2023

Newsletter of the Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies
at the University of Toronto



Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Director's Message



The top part of the Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies banner. Image by Justin Arjune.

Welcome to the 2023-24 academic year!

Our Centre is growing and changing. In the last few months, we bade a fond farewell to Audrey Macklin, whose service as director was a period of progress and expansion for our centre. I am now halfway through my short term as interim director. On January 1, 2024, we will welcome a new director, Kamari Clarke.

We recently welcomed several new people to CrimSL. Two new faculty members, Drs. Leonid Kosals and Patrick Watson, will be with us for two years as term-appointed assistant professors. Visiting Professor Dongyan Lao of Tsinghua University School of Law will be with us for one year. Three new staff members - Noah Frank (centre manager), Pat Doherty (communications officer), and Katherine Tiller (assistant to the director) - have joined us.

Our offices on the 2nd floor of the Canadiana Gallery and our library on the ground floor have undergone some much-needed updating and refurbishing. Anyone who visits the Centre Lounge will find a much airier and more inviting space. We have created additional office space in our main suite as well as in the library to accommodate our increasing numbers, and to ensure that CrimSL remains a vibrant and welcoming place.

We will soon begin a University of Toronto Quality Assurance Program (UTQAP) review process. This is a provincially mandated, cyclical assessment of our teaching and research which will culminate in a visit to campus by three external reviewers from similar programs at peer institutions in the 2024-25 academic year. We look forward to constructive feedback to help us improve our programs to remain the leading department for criminology and sociolegal studies in Canada.

Finally, 2023 marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Centre of Criminology, now CrimSL. As most of you know, we are the oldest academic unit in English Canada dedicated specifically to research and teaching on crime and criminal justice (as well as now sociolegal studies), yielding the title of oldest Canadian criminology centre to our colleagues at the Université de Montréal. Our 25th annual Edwards Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Professor Mary Bosworth of Oxford University. As a complement to her talk on the UK's deportation and short-term immigration detention system, she will devote some attention to the future of criminology and the critical role that centres such as ours can play in the profession.

Matthew Light
Interim Director
Criminology & Sociolegal Studies



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image by Tyler King

New faces Introducing...

LEADERSHIP

Interim Director (to December 31, 2023) and Undergraduate Coordinator



Matthew Light

Professor Matthew Light studies migration control, policing and criminal justice, and public and citizen security, primarily in the post-Soviet region. His book (Routledge 2016) and several related articles on Russian federal and regional migration policies in the aftermath of the breakup of the USSR analyze what forms of freedom of movement emerged in the new post-Soviet Russian state, and frames the Soviet and post-Soviet experience with migration management in comparative international perspective. Light's recent work concerns policing and other aspects of public and citizen security in several post-Soviet countries, including Russia, Georgia, and Armenia, and examines the evolution of both public policing institutions and private provision of security in the region.

Incoming Director (from January 1, 2024)

Kamari Maxine Clarke is Distinguished Professor of Transnational Justice and Sociolegal Studies and will assume the role of CrimSL Director in January 2024 for a five-year term. For more than twenty years, Professor Clarke has conducted research on issues related to legal institutions, human rights and international law, religious nationalism and the politics of race and globalization. She has spent her career exploring theoretical questions concerning culture and power and detailing the relationship between new social formations and contemporary problems.

Kamari Clarke



New faces

Graduate Coordinator



Beatrice Jauregui

Professor Beatrice Jauregui's research addresses how security institutions and actors reflect and shape dynamics of social order and state power. Her monograph *Provisional Authority: Police, Order, and Security in India* (University of Chicago 2016) is an ethnography of everyday police practices in northern India. She is co-editor of *Anthropology and Global Counterinsurgency* (University of Chicago 2010) and *The Sage Handbook of Global Policing* (Sage 2016), and author of numerous chapter contributions and research articles published in *American Ethnologist*, *Asian Policing*, *Conflict and Society*, *Journal of South Asian Studies*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *Public Culture*, and *Qualitative Sociology*.

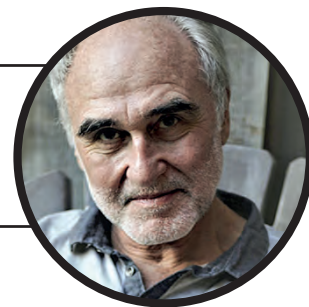
FACULTY

Leonid Kosals is Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream. His research focuses on corruption in the law enforcement agencies of post-communist countries in a broad socio-economic, political and comparative context. His research is based on empirical analysis of police officers in Russia, Kazakhstan, Bulgaria, and Latvia, where he develops a broad view of police misconduct and crime, their involvement in the shadow economy and organized crime, including an analysis of distortions in their professional role and culture.



Patrick Watson

Assistant Professor Patrick Watson completed a PhD at the University of Manchester (UK) in 2010. His research interests include policing and civilian police oversight, municipal governance, and criminal proceedings. He conducts research predominately from an ethnomethodological framework, and is a board member of the International Institute of Ethnomethodology and Conversational Analysis. Patrick is the principal investigator of two SSHRC funded projects: the Partnership Development Grant "Charting the Reasonable Officer," a study of how civilian police oversight agencies account for lawful officer conduct in contested use-of-force incidents; and the Open Research Area grant "Visions of Policing," a study of how video technology impacts police oversight and training. He would like to work with students who have an interest in the work routines in civic institutions.



Leon Kosals

— New faces

STAFF

Centre Manager



Noah Frank

Noah Frank, our first Centre Manager, joined us in April. He has worked at the University of Toronto since 2009, most recently at the Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research where he was Operations and Research Officer. Over the span of his career, Noah has worked at all three U of T campuses, in positions ranging from lab manager to research administrator to operations manager.

Noah's formal educational background is in the sciences. He holds an MSc in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Boston University.

He is particularly enthusiastic about CrimSL's social science/justice orientation.

Communications and Events Coordinator

Pat Doherty joined CrimSL as Communications and Events Coordinator in April after over six years in a similar role at U of T's Mobility Network and Transportation Research Institute.

Previous to that, she was Program Coordinator at the Law Foundation of Ontario, Administrative Officer at U of T's Cities Centre, and Administrator of U of T's Senior College.

She invites the CrimSL community to share their news and updates at any time.

Email: crimsl.communications@utoronto.ca.



Pat Doherty

Executive Assistant to the Director



Katherine Tiller

Katherine Tiller joined CrimSL in January as Executive Assistant to the Director.

She joined U of T in 2021. Prior to that, she worked at the Investment Industry Association of Canada supporting top executives for almost a decade.

Katherine also previously worked at Inanna Publications, an independent feminist press, as well as the Canadian Film Industry "Hollywood North."

New faces

VISITING PROFESSOR

Dongyan Lao is Professor of Law at Tsinghua University School of Law, Beijing, P.R. China. She specializes in Chinese criminal law and comparative criminal law. She has published four books and more than 90 academic essays. Many of her essays have been accepted and published in the most academically influential Chinese law journals. She has had 19 essays published in the most authoritative four law journals in China: *China Legal Science*, *Chinese Journal of Law*, *Social Sciences in China* and *Peking University Law Journal*.

Dongyan Lao



VISITING JUNIOR FELLOW



Morten Boe

Morten is a doctoral researcher at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law in Freiburg, Germany. He studied Law at Humboldt University Berlin and Queen Mary University of London, with a specialization in International and German criminal law. After the First State Exam in Germany (2019), he worked shortly as a research assistant in a law firm focusing on corporate criminal law before obtaining a Masters' Degree in International and Transnational Criminal Law from the University of Amsterdam in 2020. His PhD dissertation focusses on the concept "Schuld" (guilt) and its significance for (German) criminal law.

NEW DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Khadro Abdulle completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Toronto and her master's degree in Criminology and Social Justice at Toronto Metropolitan University. For a few years, Khadro has been working at a non-profit organization to tackle issues of gun violence within the Somali community. Her research interests focus on youth justice, policing, violence, and public policy within the criminal justice system. She is glad to be back to continue her educational studies at U of T.

Khadro Abdulle

New faces

Lisa Ariemma focuses on citizenship, democracy and migration issues. Published in journals such as *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change*, she has participated in conferences and festivals in Europe, North America and the Middle East. She devotes volunteer hours assisting people in transit in border areas. Lisa is a candidate in a collaborative PhD with the Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies and the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies at the University of Toronto, and a Fellow at the Evasion Lab.

Lisa Ariemma



Lauren Borders

Lauren is originally from Atlanta, Georgia, and, over the past few years, has called several cities around the world home. Prior to arriving at the University of Toronto, she worked in policy and campaigning in both the UK and the US across a number of issue areas, including renewable energy, healthcare, international aid, and political elections. Most recently, she was a Campaign Lead for Cancer Research UK, the world's largest cancer charity. Lauren holds an MSc in Social Policy from the London School of Economics and a BA in Strategic Communication.

She will be completing her PhD in Criminology & Sociolegal Studies with a collaborative specialization in women and gender studies. Her research interests include trauma and victimization, addiction, and punishment and gender.

As a recent Criminology/Socio-legal master's graduate, Madison has always had a passion to continue to research and spread awareness of injustices towards Indigenous communities and peoples. Recent experiences being employed as an Aboriginal court worker with Aboriginal Legal Services has given many opportunities to give back to the community along with reconnect with her own Indigenous heritage. Madison is super excited to continue her educational journey at U of T in the PhD program along with getting the chance to see familiar and new faces!

Madison Hovey



New PhDs

Congratulations to CrimSL's newest PhDs who have recently defended their theses and are embarking on exciting next steps!



Dr. Fernando Avila

"The Scars Remain: Power, Solidarity, and Punishment in an Atypical Latin American Prison"

Supervisor: Kelly Hannah-Moffat

Fernando will join Brock University's Department of Sociology as an Assistant Professor (tenure track) in January 2024.



Dr. Giancarlo Fiorella

"Spectralities at the Protest Chronotope: Venezuela's Colectivos and the Opposition Social Imaginary"

Supervisor: Beatrice Jauregui

Giancarlo is Director of Research and Training at Bellingcat and Assistant Professor at Utrecht University.



Dr. Serdar San

"Policing and Police Reform in Turkey since 1980: Regime Transitions and Policing Transformations"

Supervisor: Matthew Light

Serdar joined the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at Texas A&M University-Commerce as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice in fall 2023.

Awards Graduate Awards

Congratulations to this year's Graduate Awards recipients!

Mary H. Beatty Fellowship



Adina Radosh

(Supervisor: Professor Beatrice Jauregui)

2023-24 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship



Laura Acosta-Zárate

(Supervisor: Professor Kamari Clarke)

Ontario Graduate Scholarship



Olivia-Cezanne Berkovits

(Supervisor: Professor Catherine Evans)

Ontario Graduate Scholarship



Daniel Konikoff

(Supervisor: Professor Beatrice Jauregui)

Ontario Graduate Scholarship



Roksolyana Shlapak

(Supervisor: Professor Scot Wortley)

2023-24 Connaught "PhDs for Public Impact" Fellowship



Omowumi (Wumi) Asubiaro Dada

(Supervisor: Professor Kamari Clarke)

Awards Cluster Awards

The **CrimSL Research Cluster for the Study of Racism and Inequality** has awarded seed grants to the following individuals and programs to begin or continue their collaborative work in line with its mission to build collaborative knowledge about the historical and ongoing legacies of racism, colonialism, gendered and sexual violence, exclusion and other forms of structural inequality:

Laura Acosta Zárate

Brushstrokes of Restoration: Painting the War, Sharing Healing, and Making Us Visible
COLOMBIA

Adina Radosh Sverlin and Jacqueline Gutiérrez

Cuidad Civil Housing Project workshop for Police families
MEXICO

Roksolyana Shlapak

Beyond the Mainstream? A Critical Understanding of Indigenous Policing in Mohawk Nation Territory
AKWESASNE

Sabeen Kazmi

Drawing out colonial legacies: katchi abaadis in contemporary Karachi
PAKISTAN

Tiina Eldridge, Dr Simone Weil Davis, and Lorraine Pinnock

Walls to Bridges Ontario Community Collective
CANADA

Events

CrimSL Speaker Series

The CrimSL Speaker Series is back this year with more engaging speakers and topics related to the fields of criminology and sociolegal studies!

The Centre hosts a lunchtime speaker series each academic year as a way to expose students to a variety of research styles, substantive issues, and theoretical perspectives in the fields of criminology and sociolegal studies.

All talks, unless otherwise indicated, take place from 12:30 to 2:00 pm in the Ericson Seminar Room, CG 265. These events are free, however, registration is required.

Visit crimsl.utoronto.ca/events to learn more and register to attend.

**Monday,
Sept. 11, 2023**

The Battle for Sabarimala: Religion, Law, and Gender in Contemporary India
Professor Deepa Das Acevedo, Emory University

**Monday,
Sept. 25, 2023**

Citizenship Deprivation: Legality, Bureaucracy, and the Everyday
Professor Radhika Mongia, York University

**Monday,
Nov. 27, 2023**

Where is Race in the 'Totality of Circumstances'? Police use-of-force trials and the colour-blind court
Professor Patrick Watson, University of Toronto

**Monday,
Jan. 22, 2024**

TBA
Professor Madeline Whetung, TMU

**Monday,
Feb. 5, 2024**

TBA
Professor Heather Dorries, University of Toronto

**Monday,
Mar. 18, 2023**

TBA
Professor Terence Keel, UCLA

Events

Research Cluster

The CrimSL Research Cluster returns this year with two event series: the Speaker Series and the Works-in-Progress Series.

The [Research Cluster for the Study of Racism and Inequality](#) at the Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies aims to build knowledge about the historical and ongoing legacies of racism, colonialism, gendered and sexual violence, exclusion and other forms of structural inequality by providing a research platform for interrogating the roots of social disenfranchisement.

2023-24 Advisory Committee members are Beatrice Jauregui (Chair), Laura Acosta Zárate, Wumi Asubiaro Dada, Kamari Clarke, Julius Haag, Camille Hazzard, and Akwasi Owusu-Bempah.

The Research Cluster Speaker Series lectures bring scholars and professionals who are exploring, investigating, and working on subjects of racism, inequality, and other related topics.

The Works-in-Progress series showcases the current works of up-and-coming scholars with a focus on the CrimSL Research Cluster's values and topics of interest.

A light lunch is served at 12 pm at the Centre Lounge prior to the seminars.

Visit crimsl.utoronto.ca/events to learn more and register to attend.



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

Centre for Criminology &
Sociolegal Studies

The CrimSL Research Cluster for the Study of Racism and Inequality

Fall 2023 Events

	Thurs., October 12 12:00 – 2:00	Penal Extractivism: A Qualitative Study on Punishment and Extractive Industries in Peru
	Works-in-Progress Series	Diego Tuesta PhD Student CrimSL, University of Toronto
	Thurs., October 26 12:00 – 2:00	Undervalued and Overlooked: Women's Practices of Preventing Conflict in a Post-colonial State
	Works-in-Progress Series	Wumi Asubiaro Dada PhD Candidate CrimSL, University of Toronto
	Fri., October 27 12:00 – 2:00	Reconciliation: Walking the Path of Indigenous Allyship
	Seminar Series	John Croutch Indigenous Training Coordinator Office of the Vice President, People Strategy, Equity, and Culture, University of Toronto
	Fri., November 17 10:00 – 12:00	Gendering Justice on the Chilean Courts: Institutional Developments, Legal Actors' Practices and Women's Access to justice
	Works-in-Progress Series	Karime Parodi Ambel PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, UCLA
	Mon., November 20 12:00 – 2:00	Policing and Metamorphosed Racialization in Postcolonial India
	Seminar Series	Ashwin Varghese Assistant Professor, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities, O.P.Jindal Global University, India

FREE. ALL WELCOME.
REGISTER NOW!

For more details visit:
<https://www.crimsl.utoronto.ca/events>

Questions?
csri@utoronto.ca

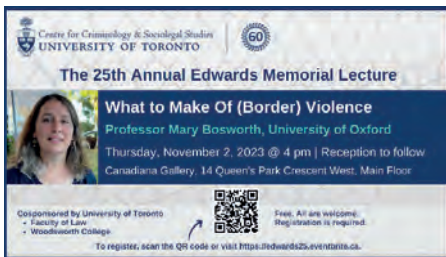


Canadiana Gallery, University of Toronto, 14 Queen's Park Crescent West • Second Floor - Room CG 265

Events

Celebrate our 60th Anniversary

Visit crimsl.utoronto.ca/events to learn more and register to attend 60th anniversary events.



What to Make Of (Border) Violence: The 25th Annual Edward Memorial Lecture

Professor Mary Bosworth, University of Oxford, will draw on material from a long-term, mixed-methods research project with staff in the UK deportation and short-term immigration detention system, to reflect on how criminologists and socio-legal scholars conceptualise, study, and understand institutional(ised) violence.

The annual John Ll. J. Edwards Memorial Lecture is delivered in honour of the Centre's founder, Professor John Llewellyn Jones Edwards. Presented by the Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies, Woodsworth College, and the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto.

November 2, 2023, 4-6 pm, followed by reception.



"The Phenomena of Crime and All the Training Required": Sixty Years at the Centre for Criminology | Digital Exhibit

Join us for a historical tour of the rich history deriving from the Centre's archival materials. This exhibit tells the story of the evolution of the Centre, capturing the essence of its early records from the late 1950s and chronicling its achievements through the dynamic decades until the 2000s.

Curated by Elizabeth Abraham, Jonathan Ku, Ava Mangold and Danielle Van Wagner with the assistance of the Pedagogical Innovation and Experimentation (PIE) fund.

[Launches here online on October 18, 2023.](#)

Brushing the Edges of Justice: Art, Narratives, and the Future of Criminology | Visual Art Exhibit

Visual art exhibit by CrimSL PhD students Laura Acosta Zárate (supervised by Professor Kamari Clarke) and Sabeen Kazmi (supervised by Professor Beatrice Jauregui).



Presented by the CrimSL Research Cluster for the Study of Racism and Inequality.



Dates to be announced soon.

Stories from the Stacks

Archives Shines Light on the Founding of the Centre of Criminology

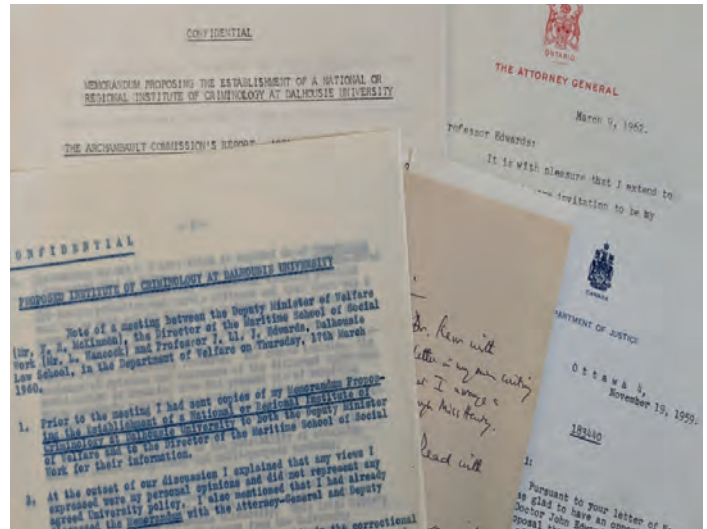
by Danielle Van Wagner, Criminology and Sociolegal Librarian

2023 marks the 60th anniversary of the Centre of Criminology, but the concept goes back much further than that. It traces to a different province, the release of a government report, and a rotating cast of people: a Dean, a Minister of Justice, an Attorney General, a Director of Probation Services, and in the middle of it all, the Centre's founding director, John L. J. Edwards.

In 1985, Edwards reflected back on the earliest origins of the Centre in a mere few paragraphs: "the original sod of which the University of Toronto's Centre of Criminology grew was a proposal that I drew up while teaching a course in criminology as part of the LL.B. curriculum in the Faculty of Law at Dalhousie University in 1958-59" (Edwards, 1985, p. 1). But, he points out, a lack of funding made it "very apparent that time was not opportune to press forward with my proposal." (Edwards, 1985, p. 2). Archival material, in the form of letters, reports and memorandum, recently discovered in the Centre's library demonstrate a much more complicated story, and situate the founding of the University of Toronto's Centre of Criminology in a crucial time for the approach to crime, the law, and corrections.

In 1958, Edwards reintroduced an elective third-year course in Criminology for law students at Dalhousie. Edwards was "convinced of the limited value of studying criminology from the exclusively legal approach" and "was determined from the outset to secure the broadest collaboration possible in the course" (Edwards, 1960, p. 216-217). He achieved this by taking a multi-disciplinary approach and including guest speakers from the John Howard Society of Nova Scotia, the officer in the charge of the RCMP crime laboratory, a prison warden, a crown prosecutor and a parole officer, as well as visits to both the Halifax county jail, a girls' reformatory and Dorchester Penitentiary.

Edwards thought such a course would be beneficial to students beyond the faculty of law, writing, "the



teaching of criminology should not be thought to be the special perquisite of a faculty of law any more than the subject of criminology should be mistakenly thought to be coexistent with criminal law." (Edwards, 1960, p. 226). This course pushed him to propose the establishment of an Institute of Criminology at Dalhousie, and luckily, he had a governmental report that provided him with evidence as to why it was needed.

The Fauteux Committee (1956) was tasked to investigate the development of prison reform first established by the Archambault Commission in 1938. Their published report highlighted the need for two streams of university education. The first, "professional specialties which are coming more and more to serve prisons, probation departments and after-care agencies," and the second, "University training which is in need of development is the area of criminology itself ... the size and urgency of the crime problem in Canada underscores the need for professional training which focuses directly upon crime and its treatment" (Fauteux Committee, 1956, p. 85). On 6 January 1958, Chief Justice J.C. McRuer, Chairman of the Canadian Corrections Association wrote to the President of Dalhousie University, "One of the recommendations of the Fauteux Report was

that the federal government call the Universities together to discuss what can be done to expand facilities for university teaching in the corrections field" (McRuer, 1958). Edwards quickly became a prominent figure in this discussion, and he submitted his lengthy sixteen page *Memorandum Proposing the Establishment of a National or Regional Institute of Criminology at Dalhousie University* in the summer of 1959. While the government focus since the publication of the Fauteux Committee had been focused almost exclusively on the training of correctional personnel, Edwards focused more on the report's second recommendation. "The multi-disciplinary aspects of criminology have been deliberately emphasized in this memorandum" he wrote as "delinquency cannot be dealt with effectively without more knowledge of its causes and a more accurate measurement than exists hitherto of the success of different penological methods" (Edwards, 1959, p. 11).

In November 1959, Edwards traveled to Ottawa where he spoke with A.J. MacLeod, chairman of the Correctional Planning Committee, W.R. Jackett, Deputy Minister of Justice and the Hon. Davie Fulton, Minister of Justice. After his visit, Fulton wrote directly to Dalhousie's Dean of the Faculty of Law, Horace E. Read. "I am afraid that I was not able to give to Doctor Edwards any immediate encouragement for the project, in terms of possible financial assistance by the Federal government towards it. There are, as I indicated to Doctor Edwards, a number of complicating factors" (Fulton, 1959). With that letter the dream of an Institute of Criminology at Dalhousie was shelved indefinitely, but Edwards was not deterred. In 1960, in an unintentional act of foreshadowing, Edwards published his vision for an institute of criminology in the *University of Toronto Law Journal*, and he continued to develop his class on Criminology at Dalhousie according to those principles.

In April 1962, Edwards was invited to a dinner party at the Plaza Hotel in Toronto, hosted by the Attorney General, Kelso Roberts, to "explore and develop the field of Criminal Research" (Roberts, 1962). At the formal dinner, surrounded by ministers, magistrates, representatives of several universities, and deans of faculties of medicine, law, social work, psychology

and sociology, Edwards was surprised to discover that they expected him to give a speech, for which he had not prepared. Undaunted, Edwards quickly delivered a speech on the need for an institute of criminology. After the event, he voiced his concerns that he hadn't been clear or concise enough by sending a six-page letter directly to Kelso outlining all his points, now perfectly arranged, and extensively answering all questions that he thought should have been asked. In response, Dan Coughlan, the director of Probation Services, who had arranged Edwards' invitation, quipped in a letter, "If what you did is a sample of your work 'off the cuff', I look forward with great anticipation someday to hearing a speech you have thoroughly prepared" (Coughlan, 1962). Roberts followed up by writing, "[I] wish to thank you for your very exhaustive treatise on the subject. I am giving it very careful study" (Roberts, 1962). However concerned Edwards was about his unpracticed remarks, the result was favorable. By February 1963, the University of Toronto established a committee to determine the feasibility of the study of criminology, and the provincial government offered funding. Edwards was subsequently offered the appointment of director of the to-be-established Centre of Criminology, which was founded on 1 July 1963.

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Feature

'Great battles are won by the wisdom of women'

Wumi Asubiaro Dada works with Nigerian women to protect their communities with smartphones

by Cynthia Macdonald - A&S News

Growing up in Nigeria, Omowumi (Wumi) Asubiaro Dada was frequently outspoken, argumentative, and animated by injustice. To her family, it was obvious what path her life would take: "They always said, we know you're going to be a lawyer," she recalls.

Over 20 years later, Dada can look back on an impressive career in human rights law and feminist advocacy. And today, with the assistance of a Connaught PhDs for Public Impact Fellowship, she is working with local organizations and women in Nigeria to help them achieve justice by protecting their home communities through the use of modern technology.

Beginning her studies straight after high school, Dada was practicing law by 21. "At first, I worked in public interest litigation and human rights education, mostly representing incarcerated prisoners awaiting trial," she says. In Nigeria this is a critical problem: the system is badly underfunded, and some prisoners are held in congested facilities without bail for decades.

It was just one of the many problems with the legal system



Wumi Asubiaro Dada


Dada has confronted over the course of her career — and early on she saw that women, in particular, were badly in need of advocacy. Since completing a master's of law degree with a human rights concentration, she has made significant contributions to the women's movement in Nigeria, designing and managing a wide range of projects for non-governmental organizations, government and international development agencies.

In an effort to further her research and knowledge, Dada decided to pursue her PhD at the Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies in the Faculty of Arts & Science, where she is now a candidate. "If you have your sights set on changing structural inequality," she says, "this qualification can help you do that. I'm engaging with ways to amplify the voices of people who would not ordinarily have the opportunity to make an impact on the structures that control their lives."

Helping women become a major force in conflict prevention and resolution is key both to her doctoral work, and to the unique project she's working on in Kaduna — one of Nigeria's 36 states.

Dada believes that women can play a prominent role in diffusing violence, which is a massive problem in Nigeria's northern region. The violence includes kidnapping, sexual assault, village burnings and murder.

The sources of violence are complex and varied. "Kaduna in particular is very unsafe," she says. "The violence there started as



religious and ethno-communal clashes, with many reprisals and counterattacks and has now changed in dynamics to kidnapping, village burning with various violations such as murder and sexual assault.” And as she explains, climate change has also begotten violence.

“A lot of land has been affected by desertification,” Dada says. In the Lake Chad Basin across the border, “people who make their living by herding cows have lost their livelihood and become desperate, which has also led to crime.”

In all these cases, she notes, the voices of women are regularly ignored. “This is because they’re not considered part of the problem. And because they bear the brunt of much violence, they’re simply considered victims. I’m pushing the argument that we need to recognize the agency of women: it’s important that they be part of the solution.”

Dada says that in Nigeria, communities are often left to fend for themselves with no assistance. Established in the days of colonial rule, the male-dominated police force is, like other units of the justice system, located far away and lacks the resources to properly assist rural communities. This has resulted in widespread vigilantism — which can mean defensive violence, but also the prevention of crime before it happens. This is where women come in.

“There’s a lot happening in the domestic sphere that is actually

political,” she says. “Women often hear things being planned before anyone else hears about it. And women can influence the actions of others.” Dada points out that in pre-colonial society, women’s roles as keepers of knowledge, leaders of ritual and even warriors were far more respected than they are today. In her own Yoruba tradition, for example, many deities were female — which had a general effect on how human women were perceived.

To capitalize on women’s capacities, Dada has co-created a project with a local organization known as the CLEEN Foundation, and her PhD supervisor, Distinguished Professor Kamari Maxine Clarke. Known as Early Warning Early Response (EWER), the system trains villagers, including women, to use publicly available geospatial imagery to identify planned attacks before they happen. Push alerts communicated through a mobile app are then used to warn others to be prepared.

So far 120 women have been trained on EWER, which was launched in 2021. “They’ve been able to get information across which in some cases has led to a de-escalation of violence,” says Dada. “And when there is a trigger, meetings are called. One of the conditions of these meetings is that women must form part of the quorum, which has increased their participation in decision-making in conflict prevention. Another effect is that women have brought other women into the fold.”

As part of her work, Dada also seeks to advance Nigerian women’s participation at all levels of community justice administration. In addition to crime prevention, she is exploring restorative justice: examining the root causes of crime, and how best to reintegrate those who have offended back into society.

One of her Connaught Fellowship aims will be to present her findings at the annual meeting of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in March. There, she hopes to show how women’s work in domestic life should not be dismissed — but appreciated for its value in political and public life.

According to a Nigerian proverb, “battles are won by the weapons of men, but great battles are won by the wisdom of women.”

Thanks to Dada’s work, the fight against crime in her home country is that much closer to being won.

Feature

A special CrimSL End-of-Year Party



Top row: Professor Matt Light; Professor Mariana Valverde; Professor Kamari Clarke; Dr. Jihyun Kwon (L) with PhD student Jona Zyfi. Bottom row: Dean Melanie Woodin (L) with Professor Audrey Macklin; Audrey (L) with Matt; event graphic; Audrey (L) with Matt. (All photos: Laura Acosta-Zárate)

CrimSL was delighted to host a very special End-of-Year party on June 15, 2023, welcoming summer while acknowledging and celebrating the contributions of Professor Audrey Macklin, who stepped down as CrimSL Director after six years of service on June 30, 2023.

The gathering had a superb turnout. Guests included current and past CrimSL staff, students, postdocs, and faculty, as well as Professor Melanie Woodin, Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Science, and Audrey's family and friends. It made for a lively late afternoon celebration on the patio of the elegant L'Espresso Bar Mercurio restaurant at Bloor and St. George.

Incoming CrimSL Interim Director, Professor Matt Light, welcomed guests and gave a short introduction on the behalf of the Centre. Short speeches followed from Professors Mariana Valverde and Kamari Clarke, Dr. Jihyun Kwon, PhD student Jona Zyfi, and Dean Woodin.

Matt then presented Audrey with parting gifts on behalf of the Centre as a token of deep appreciation.

Audrey responded with her thanks and spoke from the heart about her tenure as CrimSL Director. She encouraged attendees to celebrate the accomplishments and challenges of the past year (and beyond), and look forward to the future with confidence.

She continues as Professor & Rebecca Cook Chair in Human Rights Law in the Faculty of Law, cross-appointed to CrimSL.



"Let's celebrate the year we had and look to the future!" Professor Audrey Macklin gives a toast, June 15, 2023. (Photo: Laura Acosta-Zárate)

CrimSL Research out & about

Here's a snapshot of some of the many directions CrimSL scholarship has headed in the past six months.

Interested in seeing more? Check out our website's [In the Media](#) mentions and our [2023 CrimSL Summer Reading List](#).

PODCASTS

Professor [Ayobami Laniyonu](#) hosted [Legal Defense Fund podcast](#) "What Was Freedom House?" September 14, 2023.

CrimSL PhD candidate [Jamie Duncan](#) speaks out in Amnesty International Canada's Rights Back At You podcast in an episode about border technology, "[Access Denied - Tech at the Border](#)," February 22, 2023.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

CrimSL PhD student [Diego Tuesta](#) presented a paper at the 23rd Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology in Florence, Italy on September 8, 2023 as part of the session entitled "Criminalising beyond the usual limits."

CrimSL Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. [Jihyun Kwon](#) presented "Circumventing Change: Prison Oversight, Data Governance, and the Chameleonic Nature of 'Segregation'" at ComplianceNet 2023 on June 23, 2023, in the panel session entitled "Compliance and Human Rights."

Contributing research presentations and participating in discussion at the Law and Society Association (LSA) 2023 Annual Meeting June 1-4, 2023, in San Juan, Puerto Rico, were: CrimSL Professors [Kamari Maxine Clarke](#) and [Catherine Evans](#); PhD students [Laura Acosta Zárate](#), [Wumi Asubiaro Dada](#), [Sabeen Kazmi](#), [Tyler King](#), [Daniel Konikoff](#), [Adina Radosh](#), [Diego Tuesta](#), [Jeffrey Wong](#), and [Jona Zyfi](#); and postdoctoral fellow Dr. [Ketty Anyeko](#). [See our website for full details](#).

Criminology Librarian [Danielle Van Wagner](#) moderated a session and gave a scholarly presentation entitled "The Quill and 'The Wheel of Fire': First-Hand Accounts of

Experimentation on Mentally Ill Prisoners in Ontario" at the Bibliographical Society of Canada (BSC) Annual Conference, May 29-30, 2023.

CrimSL PhD candidate [Sabeen Kazmi](#) spoke at the 2023 University of Toronto Teaching & Learning Symposium on May 3, 2023.

PUBLICATIONS

[Duncan, Jamie](#). 2023. "Data Protection beyond Data Rights: Governing Data Production through Collective Intermediaries." *Internet Policy Review* 12(3).

[Kwon, J.](#) (2023). "Jurisdictional overlap: The juxtaposition of institutional independence and collaboration in police wrongdoing investigations." *Regulation and Governance*. First published: 22 June 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rego.12532>.

[King, T. J.](#), Shaw, J. D., & Kennedy, L. (2023). "Documenting the Document: The Forensic Hospital Report and Its Knowledge Moves." *Social & Legal Studies*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/09646639231187093>.

[Owusu-Bempah, A.](#), & Rehmatullah, T. (2023). *Waiting to Inhale: Cannabis Legalization and the Fight for Racial Justice*. MIT Press.

Hendley, K. & [Solomon, Jr. P. H.](#) (2023). *The Judicial System of Russia*. Oxford University Press.

[Super, Gail](#) (2023). "Porous Penalty and the Myth of Liberal Punishment: Lessons from South Africa." *The British Journal of Criminology*, azad017, <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azad017>.

Professor [Kamari Maxine Clarke](#) contributed the preface to *Cultural Expertise, Law and Rights: A Comprehensive Guide*, edited by Livia Holden, published May 18,

2023, by Routledge, and the Open Access version at www.taylorfrancis.com has been made available under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives 4.0 license.

[Laniyonu, A.](#), & Donahue, S. T. (2023). "Effect of racial misclassification in police data on estimates of racial disparities." *Criminology*, 61, 295–315. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9125.12329>.

[Luscombe, Alex](#), and [Duncan, Jamie](#). 2023. "Access to Information Research in the Digital Era." *Canadian Public Administration* 66, 268–276. <https://doi.org/10.1111/capa.12518>.

[Jauregui, Beatrice](#), 'Security Labor and State Suppression of Police Worker Politics', in Amit Ahuja, and Devesh Kapur (eds), *Internal Security in India: Violence, Order, and the State* (New York, 2023; online edn, Oxford Academic, 23 Feb. 2023), <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780197660331.003.0015>.

"Out of the shadows: A proposal for the regularization of migrants without status in Canada," [CERC Migration Policy Brief 12](#), by Naomi Alboim, [Audrey Macklin](#), and Anna Triandafyllidou was published in February 2023 by the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration (CERC Migration).

[Paula Maurutto, Kelly Hannah-Moffat](#), Marianne Quirouette (2023). "Punishing the Non-convicted Through Disclosure of Police Records." *The British Journal of Criminology*, azac092, <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azac092>.

O'Connell, S., & [Laniyonu, A.](#) (2023). "Race, Gender, and Risk Assessments in Canadian Federal Prison." *Race and Justice*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/21533687231153993>.

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