



THE SOUTHWESTERN REGION NEWSLETTER

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SWACJ Web Page: www.swacj.org

Summer 2005 Newsletter of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice Vol. 11(2)

President's Message

Camille Gibson

Prairie View A&M University

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Hearty greetings to all SWACJ members and friends!

It was good to see so many of you in Chicago. We had a successful business meeting on Thursday morning of ACJS and later that day the general business meeting. For the latter, there was a small turnout since several section meetings were scheduled concurrently. Nonetheless, much was accomplished.

We are on point to meet in Oklahoma City, September 29th to October 1st at the Sheraton (formerly, the Westin) Downtown Oklahoma City. The conference rate is \$109 per night which is good until September 7th. Let me urge you to stay at the conference hotel for two reasons: 1) It puts you right in the heart of the city – walking distance from restaurants, underground shops, botanical gardens, the bombing memorial, the terrorism museum and other touristy sites and, 2) staying at the conference hotel is important to meeting our conference budget. The Oklahoma City University Criminal Justice Department is pretty excited about SWACJ coming their way and is assisting with the local arrangements. The SWACJ attendees at the mid-year business meeting selected Fort Worth for the 2006 conference and Corpus Christi was suggested for 2007. Our membership in Little Rock, Arkansas are contemplating being the site committee for 2008.

Other tasks that constitute the vision for this year include forming outreach committees to solicit more participation in our organization from colleges, universities and practitioners in all of our states – New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Texas. If interested in serving on such a committee for a particular state please contact me. The plan is to make our outreach efforts as personable as possible. We also plan to look at our Constitution to see what updates might be warranted. Additionally, the Board intends to do what it can to facilitate the membership in improving our efforts at student and junior faculty mentorship. We welcome your thoughts on how to go about this.

Regarding the SWACJ peer reviewed journal – Jon Sorensen tells me that things are going well. If interested in reviewing articles please let him know. Also note there will be two issues each year – April and November.

On behalf of the Board – we appreciate you! Thanks for your continued involvement in SWACJ!

Camille Gibson

***Chip Burns, First Vice President
Texas Christian University***

Greetings SWACJ members,

I hope everyone is enjoying the change of seasons and gearing up for our October annual meeting in Oklahoma City. Camille and others have done a wonderful job planning the event, and we anticipate another enjoyable and productive meeting. Among other things, a “college bowl” is on the itinerary for Oklahoma City. The event will enable SWACJ student members to “flex their academic muscles” by answering a series of questions pertaining to criminal justice. The event demonstrates SWACJ’s continuous efforts to further involve students in the Association; efforts which I believe highlight the outstanding quality of our membership (in other words, we don’t view our membership/participation in SWACJ as a means of self-fulfillment). Reduced membership and meeting registration fees, the student paper competition, and providing winners of the student paper competition the opportunity to publish their work in *The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice* provide additional evidence of our concern for students. As we prepare for our October annual meeting, please consider means by which we can further attract and assist student members. One of the most influential panels I’ve ever attended (including both regional and national meetings) was at a SWACJ meeting in San Antonio a few years back. The participants on the panel, who were either current or former journal editors, offered invaluable advice for getting published. Perhaps we could reconvene the journal editors, as several years have passed since that panel and our new crop of students have not been exposed to the helpful advice. Maybe a panel consisting of criminal justice practitioners could offer insights regarding careers in the field (e.g., where to find jobs, how to interview, how to succeed once hired, etc.). Investing in our students is investing in our discipline. Here’s hoping we continue our impressive efforts in this area.

Chip Burns

CALL FOR PAPERS

**The 2005 SWACJ Annual Meeting will be held
September 29-October 1
Sheraton (formerly the Westin) Downtown
Oklahoma City**

Theme: “*Innovative Thought, Innovative Practice*”

Please see our website or contact Program Chair Camille Gibson for more information

2005 SWACJ ANNUAL MEETING **-- IMPORTANT REMINDERS --**

Those planning to attend the 2005 SWACJ annual meeting should keep in mind the following dates. Your cooperation in registering early enables us to better estimate the number of attendees expected for the President's Reception, luncheon, and other functions. Attendees are encouraged to complete and submit the information form found on Page 9 of this newsletter. Please be sure to note the number of students (if any) you intend to bring with you.

Important Dates:

Abstracts due:	August 1 st
Student papers due to President Camille Gibson:	September 7 th
Cutoff date for SWACJ rate at the hotel:	September 7 th

Gallery of the National Cowboy and
Western Heritage Museum, OKC



Oklahoma City National Memorial



2005 SWACJ Meeting-Oklahoma City

Hotel Information: Sheraton (Westin) Downtown, One North Broadway, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102
1-800-325-3535 or 1-405-235-2780 FAX 1-405-232-4782

Please mention that you are with the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice when making your reservation. The cutoff date for reservations at the Sheraton Downtown is September 7th. Rooms are \$109.00 single or double occupancy.

A review of the hotel complete with pictures, directions, activities, and descriptions of the services can be found at: www.westinokc.com/conference.html

Information on Oklahoma City can be found at: www.okccvb.org, www.travelok.com, and www.bricktownokc.com

Oklahoma City, OK!

Sheraton Downtown, Oklahoma City



Bricktown, Oklahoma City



2005 SWACJ STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Graduate and undergraduate students currently enrolled (and those who will be enrolled September 2005) in a university, college, junior college or community college within the Southwest Region.

Awards:

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

** Winner of the graduate student paper competition will be invited to have their work included in a forthcoming edition of *The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice*.

JUDGES: Judges must be active within SWACJ and will be selected from the updated membership list. Judges may or may not elect to award all of the prizes available depending on the number of entrants and quality of the papers.

ENTRY RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. The paper must be authored by student(s) only. No faculty/student joint papers will be considered.
2. The paper must be an original work. It may be especially prepared for the 2005 SWACJ annual meeting or it may be a revision of a paper prepared for coursework at the student's home university or college.
3. Three copies of each paper must be submitted before **September 7, 2005** to:

Camille Gibson
 Department of Juvenile Justice and Psychology
 P.O. Box 4017
 Prairie View A & M University
 Prairie View, TX 77446

Papers received after the deadline will not receive consideration.

4. The paper must meet standard publication formats as established at the student's home university or college.
5. The title page of the paper should include the student's full name and address, school affiliation and status as either graduate or undergraduate. The author's name and affiliation *should not appear* on any other page of the submitted paper.

PRESENTATION OF SUBMITTED PAPERS: Students **are not required** to attend the annual meeting or to present their papers to be eligible for the awards. However, we do encourage students to consider presenting their papers. Students wishing to attend the meeting should **complete the registration form** found in this newsletter or on the SWACJ webpage at: www.swacj.org.

Students who submit papers for presentation **are not obligated** to enter the paper contest. The paper competition is strictly voluntary.

RECOGNITION OF THE WINNERS AND PRESENTATION OF THE AWARDS
 WILL BE MADE AT THE LUNCHEON.

-- All Students Are Encouraged To Participate --

Secretary's Report

M. George Eichenberg
Tarleton State University

Minutes of the mid-year meeting held 3/17/05 at the ACJS annual conference, Chicago, IL

SWACJ President Camille Gibson called the meeting to order at 4:10pm with a total of eight people in attendance. The low attendance may be attributable to the scheduling of section and other meetings during the same time slot.

David Montague gave the treasurer's report advising that we currently had \$16,209.86 in checking and \$25.03 in savings. He stated that \$10,000 would be transferred from the checking account into savings.

George Eichenberg gave the secretary's report advising that the website would be updated as soon as possible. He stated that over the coming months a discussion needed to take place among our members concerning the role of the state associations within the region.

Camille advised the fall conference would be in Oklahoma City, September 29th through October 1st. The host hotel is the downtown Sheraton (formerly the Westin). The hotel is at the OKC Bricktown, an area of shops, restaurants, and night spots. The hotel rate is \$109.00 per night single or double occupancy. All participants are strongly encouraged to stay at the host hotel as this ensures our rate for meeting rooms, the luncheon, and other activities and necessities associated with the conference. Among other events planned for the conference are an undergraduate quiz bowl from 4-6pm Thursday 9/29, the President's reception which may be co-sponsored with the University of Oklahoma City, a Friday evening reception hosted by the Oklahoma City based Institute for the Study of Terrorism, and a luncheon speaker with expertise on the Oklahoma City bombing. David Montague recommended Dr. John Duncan of the Oklahoma Bureau of Investigation. Camille advised she would contact the local site committee to send Dr. Duncan an invitation to speak. Camille noted that the deadline for abstracts was much earlier for the fall 2005 conference than in the past, being August 1st rather than early September. It was also recommended that the fall conference be advertised in "The Southwestern Behavioral Science Journal."

Camille pointed out the need to examine and re-evaluate the SWACJ constitution on a regular basis. This was informally agreed upon and George stated he would locate the constitution and make it generally available. It was also agreed that we needed to form state committees to do outreach for the Association. Phil Rhodes was recommended as outreach director for Texas, Dr. Prabha Unnithan from Colorado State was recommended for Colorado; Vince Webb, Arizona, Joan Crowley, New Mexico, and David Montague volunteered to cover Arkansas.

Camille also brought up several miscellaneous topics. One was her interest in making SWACJ a source of mentoring for students and junior faculty. She reported that since taking over the editorship of our journal, Jon Sorenson noted that he had received 15 manuscripts, four of which were to be published in the forthcoming issue. Jon also advised Camille that he planned to publish two issues per year with a second issue published in November. Jon needed more reviewers and had also advised Camille that he would appreciate faculty members spending more time with students on editing prior to a student's paper being sent in for review.

First vice-president Chip Burns advised that he and 2nd vice-president Pat Mueller were working on Ft. Worth as the site for the fall 2006 conference. Of the hotels contacted the Ft. Worth Plaza and the Radisson were the only ones really suited to hosting our conference. The Plaza offered a room rate of \$79.00/room/night with a minimum of 40 rooms for Thursday and Friday nights and five for Saturday night. Additionally they asked for us to spend a minimum of \$5,600.00 on food. In return they guaranteed the low room rate and complimentary meeting rooms and set-up. The Radisson was substantially higher in costs for all these areas. Chip advised that the Plaza group seemed much more interested in working with us. Discussion ensued. Mary Parker (UALR) made a motion to give Chip and Pat permission to proceed with the Ft. Worth Plaza. Bob Walsh seconded, and the motion carried.

unanimously. It was discussed that we hold our 2007 conference in Corpus Christi and 2008's conference in Little Rock.

Wes Johnson, our regional trustee for ACJS reported that Mittie Sutherland had been hired as the first ACJS Executive Director. Mittie quickly resolved several personal issues at the national office and was off to an excellent start as director. Wes advised that a committee has been working on standards for certification of academic programs. Wes noted that certification was not the same as accreditation, certification being a required preliminary step to accreditation. The draft final report of the committee had been reviewed and sent back to committee for further work. Wes also advised there were issues with the ACJS website that were to be resolved by developing a 'members only' section. He further advised that negotiations were in progress to contract with the current publisher of the ACJS sponsored journals to take over the website. Wes concluded his report with the reminder that ACJS will meet in Baltimore next year. Mary Parker advised that at the 2006 ACJS conference, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock would be hosting a special reception for Jeff Walker who will be the incoming ACJS president that year.

Camille adjourned the meeting at 5pm.

CALL FOR BOOK REVIEWS

Care to share your views on a particular book? *The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice* is seeking book review contributors. Graduate students are encouraged to submit reviews although all are invited to share their work. The guidelines for submitting a book review are similar to those prescribed by ACJS:

- Provide a review that will help the readership determine the utility of the book for teaching particular courses.
- Identify how the book is applicable to criminal justice, criminology, sociology, and/or related curriculums.
- Identify the courses for which the book will be useful.
- Identify the level of students most likely to find the book useful.
- Reviews should be no more than three (3) single-spaced pages with references in APA style.
- Submission of a review to the SWACJ newsletter implies the review has not been published elsewhere nor is it currently under submission to another publication.

--- Contact journal editor Jon Sorensen (jon_sorensen@pvamu.edu) for additional information ---

Oklahoma sunset



The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice

A PEER-REVIEWED ELECTRONIC JOURNAL

Web Page: <http://www.cj.txstate.edu/swacjindex.html>

Call for Papers

The *Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice* (SWJCJ) is now accepting manuscripts for consideration. We are interested in receiving submissions of original work that have not been previously published. Diversity in theoretical and methodological approaches is encouraged as is the submission of policy-related research. The *SWJCJ* is the online, refereed journal of the Southwest Association of Criminal Justice, a regional affiliate of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. Authors need not be members of the Southwest Association of Criminal Justice to submit a manuscript for consideration. Previous issues of the journal and submission information are located at <http://www.cj.txstate.edu/swacjindex.html>. Inquiries may be directed to the editor at jon_sorensen@pvamu.edu.

ABOUT OUR ASSOCIATION

The Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice (SWACJ) is a regional affiliate of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. It is composed of criminal justice educators and practitioners from Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. We are committed to developing the highest standards in education, training, practice, and research in criminal justice and criminology.

The Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice encourages participation from criminal justice agencies, community and junior colleges, four-year colleges and universities in the process of furthering the criminal justice system through research and education. The organization strongly encourages the participation of students in our annual meetings.

Membership is welcomed from individuals involved in:

- *Higher Education*
- *Criminal Justice Training*
- *Criminal Justice Agencies*
- *Private Enterprises Related to Criminal Justice*
- *Others Interested in Criminal Justice*

For additional information regarding membership in SWACJ, please visit our web page at: www.swacj.org or contact SWACJ Secretary George Eichenberg (contact information is provided on Page 1 of this newsletter). A membership application and registration form for the annual meeting appear on the following page.

2005 SWACJ Membership & Annual Meeting Registration

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ e-mail: _____

ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

Interested individuals should mail the following information along with the **\$50** (\$40 for students) meeting registration fee to David Montague at the address below. Late and on-site registration is an additional \$10 (waived for students).

Please be sure to complete this form even if you choose not to actively participate in the proceedings. Information from these forms is used to estimate attendance at the President's Reception and the luncheon

I will be staying at the meeting hotel yes no

I will be bringing _____ students/attendees

I wish to (check all that apply):

Present a paper Chair a panel Organize a workshop or roundtable Organize a panel

Present a student paper Serve as a discussant Attend, but not present a paper

Paper Title: _____

Paper Abstract: (100 words or less - Please use complete sentences and refrain from using references, tables, or quotations. Feel free to attach your abstract on a separate sheet)

PLEASE SUBMIT ABSTRACTS AND REGISTRATION FEES BY August 1, 2005

MEMBERSHIP

PLEASE INDICATE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY (PLEASE SELECT ONE) :

FULL MEMBER (\$10) STUDENT (\$5) INSTITUTION/AGENCY (\$100)

Return Form & Check or Money Order for Both Registration and Membership Fees to:

Dr. David Montague
University of Arkansas-Little Rock
Department of Criminal Justice
Ross Hall 539
2801 S. University Ave
Little Rock, AR 72204-1099