Jeffrey Sedgwick Selected as New JRSA Executive Director

Jeffrey Sedgwick, Ph.D., has been named the new Executive Director of JRSA, effective January 1, 2015. Dr. Sedgwick takes over from Joan Weiss, who is retiring at the end of December after serving as JRSA’s Executive Director for 24 years.

“I am honored and delighted to have been chosen to lead JRSA and grateful to Joan for all her accomplishments over a long and distinguished career as JRSA Executive Director,” said Jeffrey Sedgwick. “She positioned JRSA as a leading voice among those committed to evidence-based policy and programming in the criminal justice community. I look forward to continuing that work and building on that foundation.”

Dr. Sedgwick is currently the Chair of the National Research Council’s Panel on Modernizing the Nation’s Crime Statistics and is co-founder and managing partner of Keswick Advisors, a statistical analysis and policy evaluation consulting firm in Richmond, Virginia. He was confirmed by the Senate as Director of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) in April 2006, and in January 2008, he was named acting Assistant Attorney General (AAG) for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) in addition to the role of the American presidency. He also served as visiting instructor of leadership studies at the University of Virginia. He is the author of Law Enforcement Planning: The Limits of an Economic Approach (1984) and many other books on public policy and government.

Deterring Criminals: Policymaking and the American Political Tradition (1980), and directed or participated in several international programs, teaching and lecturing in Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Germany, Trinidad and Tobago, and other countries. He has a bachelor’s degree in political science from Kenyon College, a master’s degree in public administration and public policy from the University of Virginia (UVA), and a Ph.D. in government and public affairs, also from UVA.

JRSA Begins Three New Projects

The Justice Research and Statistics Association recently received three grants to provide research and evaluation assistance to other organizations.

Developing a Victim Legal Network for DC
JRSA is serving as the research partner for a project to develop a Victim Legal Network for the District of Columbia (VLNDC). JRSA will be working with the District’s Office of Victim Services (OVS) and Network for Victim Recovery (NVRDC). The project, which is being funded by the Office of Justice Program’s Office for Victims of Crime, will expand the capacity of District service providers to provide legal education and services on an array of legal issues for victims of any type of crime.

JRSA will conduct a needs assessment of legal services and victim legal needs in DC. Staff will collect qualitative and quantitative data using both structured and open-ended items in face-to-face, one-on-one, and small group interviews with stakeholders; analyze the data collected to identify existing services and their capacity, as well as service gaps identified by stakeholders and victims; and report findings and recommendations for service enhancements. Using the needs assessment results, JRSA, in conjunction with NVRDC, OVS, and the project Steering Committee, will develop an implementation plan for expanding the capacity of legal services providers within the District to provide victim-focused legal services. The implementation plan will consist of time-oriented deadlines, a training and technical assistance plan, and an ongoing plan for VLNDC evaluation.

Through JRSA’s independent observation, VLNDC hopes to close potential service gaps, maximize capacity of service providers, and create a truly holistic system of legal assistance for victims of crime.

For more information on the Victim Legal Network project, contact Dr. Shawn Flower at sflower@jrsa.org.

See JRSA Begins New Projects page 14
New Executive Committee Elected for 2014–2015

State Statistical Analysis Center directors voted in a new Executive Committee to lead JRSA during 2014–2015. The election was conducted by email prior to the Annual Business Meeting and results were announced during the meeting on October 29. The officers are Stephen Haas, Ph.D. (WV), President; Mark Myrent, (IL), Vice President; Lisa Shoaf, Ph.D. (OH), Secretary/Treasurer; Danette Buskovich (MN), Thea Mounts (WA), and George Shaler (ME), Delegates. (Because the committee does not have a Past President to serve this year, three delegates were elected instead of two.) In addition, every year the JRSA President appoints a delegate who is not a SAC director to represent the broader community of members. President Haas choose Roger Przybylski, President of RKC Group in Lakewood, Colorado, to serve as Appointed Delegate.

Mark Myrent, Director of the Illinois SAC, is JRSA Vice President. Mr. Myrent serves as Associate Director for the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, where he oversees the Research and Analysis Unit. He previously worked as Research Director for the Cook County Juvenile Court, conducting studies of juvenile detention alternatives and mental health screening of court-involved youth. Prior to that, he worked for more than 20 years at the Authority as a senior research analyst and Illinois Integrated Justice Information System (IIJIS) project manager. He is the author of numerous publications on criminal justice strategic planning, juvenile justice trends, disproportionate minority contact, computerized access to criminal history records, victim assistance programs, and jail crowding. He has also served as an adjunct faculty member at the Chicago campuses of both Loyola University and the University of Illinois.

JRSA’s Secretary/Treasurer is Lisa Shoaf, Director of the Ohio SAC. Her primary responsibilities as SAC Director are to facilitate access to criminal justice statistics and generate statistical reports and publications. Dr. Shoaf has collaborated with multiple state and federal agencies on information sharing projects such as the National Violent Death Reporting System, the Death in Custody Reporting Program, and the Governor’s Cabinet Opiate Action Team. More recently, she and her colleagues have been involved in a multi-city effort to implement a crime reduction initiative based on the Boston Ceasefire strategy. Dr. Shoaf has also been heavily involved in the development of the Ohio Consortium of Crime Science, an association of researchers from across Ohio who work to provide evidence-based solutions to...
Statistical Analysis Center Publications Win 2014 Yearwood Award

Each year JRSA recognizes outstanding efforts by state Statistical Analysis Centers to publish reports that apply empirical analysis to justice policy making in the states. This National Publication Award was established in 1986 as the Phillip Hoke Award in memory of the first Louisiana SAC director and one of the founders of JRSA. The award was renamed in 2012 in memory of longtime North Carolina SAC Director, and former JRSA President, Douglas Yearwood.

The award is given in two categories, Statistical/Management and Research/Policy Analysis, with awards going to Small SACs (< 5 full-time staff) and Large SACs in each category.

The winners of the 2014 Douglas Yearwood National Publication Awards are the Indiana, Vermont, and West Virginia SACs. The awards were announced during the JRSA Annual Business Meeting on October 29.

Statistical/Management Category

Statistical/Management reports present statistical data that identify and describe one or more justice-related issues. This type of report usually includes tables and graphs, with some text that explains and summarizes the data depicted.

Indiana won in the Small SAC division of the Statistical/Management category for "Victimization in Indiana: Nature, Extent, and Related Services" by Joshua Ross, Christine Reynolds, Garrett Mason, and Andrew Rodeghero. This report describes the data collection and analysis efforts the Indiana SAC undertook to learn more about the nature of victimization in the state, and to discover where there might be gaps in victim-related services. The assessment of statewide victimization was based on the comparison of 24 victimization indicators in six categories (violent crime, property crime, domestic violence, sex crimes, extralegal crime indicators, and crimes against children) for all 92 counties in Indiana. Scores were then compared to the victimization services available within that county to gauge broadly whether any gaps in victim-related services might exist. One judge called the report “a good descriptive account of victimization and services” and “a great resource for the intended audience.” Another judge praised the “very exhaustive data collection” and the “development of...”

See Yearwood Award page 4

Farewell

Saying farewell to JRSA after twenty-four years is not an easy task. JRSA is a unique and wonderful organization, and being its Executive Director has been an extraordinary privilege.

In the last two decades, JRSA has greatly expanded its work from a few projects to a broad array of programs. Through our work with federal, state, and local agencies, those programs have greatly enhanced the use of data for decisionmaking in state and local agencies. I take pride in our accomplishments, made possible by the very dedicated and talented staff of JRSA, as well as the SAC directors across the country—public servants and academics who really care about the impact of their work in their states. I thank them and the federal officials with whom I have had the opportunity to work, especially those in the Bureau of Justice Statistics, for all their efforts and contributions to the success of JRSA. In addition, I want to give special thanks to all those who have served on the JRSA Executive Committee over the years for their support and friendship.

Funding for justice research and data has expanded and contracted over the years, though it has never risen to the level that is necessary given the challenges that crime and justice issues present in our society. But regardless of the fluctuation in financial support, one thing has been constant: the commitment of my colleagues to policies and programs that will improve the various components of the justice system. I am honored to have worked with such dedicated professionals.

Much work remains to be done, and I am pleased to welcome Jeff Sedgwick as the new Executive Director of JRSA. The current economic and political climate demand ever greater reliance on good data for program and policy decisions. I know that Jeff, with his wealth of experience and belief in the contributions that JRSA and the SACs can make, will provide excellent leadership for JRSA as it takes on new challenges and moves into its next stage.

Twenty-four years is a long time to stay in a job. But I stayed because I loved what I did. I value the experiences I have had at JRSA and, even more, the people I have met. I wish Jeff, the SACs, and JRSA continued success and exciting new ventures.

Joan C. Weiss
JRSA Executive Director
Illinois and West Virginia SACs Recognized for Innovative Projects

The Statistical Analysis Centers in Illinois and West Virginia were named winners of the 2014 SAC Innovation Award. The award recognizes SAC projects that create innovative statistical, analytical, methodological, or technical approaches to analyzing and using state justice data. The awards were announced during the JRSA Annual Business Meeting webinar on October 29.

**Adult Redeploy Illinois**

Adult Redeploy Illinois (ARI) is a statewide funding source for prison diversion programs that are run by counties or judicial circuits. Created by the Crime Reduction Act of 2009, ARI funds evidence-based programs that serve prison-bound individuals in the community, with a major focus on performance measurement and program improvement. When ARI started in 2011, the initial pilot sites had varying capabilities for providing individual-level data for performance measurement. The Illinois SAC worked with the sites to conceptualize a data collection instrument that would support required performance measurement. An Access database was developed that allows users to capture individual-level information on all parts of the probation process. The database is robust enough to act as a basic case management system, with reports that allow probation staff to monitor caseloads. It also houses data required by ARI for performance measurement, including probation revocations, technical violations, successful treatment episodes, and contact levels with probation officers. It can be tailored to each individual site through the use of drop-down menus (non-editable combo boxes) or specialized reports, which allow the same database to be used for multiple program types (e.g. intensive probation, drug court, mental health court, etc.). The standardization of the database and its free-to-use distribution allow smaller jurisdictions or jurisdictions without electronic case management systems to submit coded, client-level information for analysis.

**Improving the Accuracy of Crime Statistics: NIBRS Data Quality Tool for the States**

Users of data from the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) must contend with, and find methods for resolving, problems of data quality such as missing values and irregular reporting. To address these data quality issues, the West Virginia SAC developed and tested a macro-enabled Excel workbook tool, NIBRS Data Quality Control Tool for the States. The tool is designed to be used by analysts in the states and local jurisdictions to input data, launch macros that identify missing and irregular data, and ultimately produce clean datasets for crime trend or other types of statistical analyses. Moreover, it uses readily available software, making it accessible to most people working in ordinary office settings (i.e., Microsoft Excel and Visual Basic for Applications) and follows a step-by-step guided process developed by the SAC. The analytic methods used in the tool involve an algorithm for identifying missing data and outlier detection formulas to identify irregular data. This tool has been tested and validated by the SAC on longitudinal data using rigorous analytic methods, and has demonstrated its usefulness in improving data that are used as a basis for information and research.

**Yearwood Award from page 3**

index scores and tables...by county presenting the scores and the resources available.”

The Large SAC division of the Statistical/Management category was won by the West Virginia SAC for Testing the Validity of Demonstrated Imputation Methods on Longitudinal NIBRS Data by Christina R. LaValle, Stephen M. Haas, and James J. Nolan. This report presents the results of research conducted by the SAC to test and validate data quality techniques and imputation methods using state incident-based reporting (IBR) data. The study, which builds on previous work that found issues with data completeness and accuracy, seeks to test and validate data quality techniques and imputation methods to provide evidence that reliable and stable estimates of crime data can be attained with consistency over time. The study examines the performance of alternative imputation methods in comparison to FBI methods and provides a framework for the use of techniques on state-level IBR data. One judge commented that “this study went beyond the typical descriptive analysis.

**Research/Policy Analysis Category**

Research/Policy Analysis reports pose one or more specific research or evaluation questions and typically employ a specific research design to address the issues raised. They usually involve

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**Yearwood Award** from page 3

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See Yearwood Award page 5
Colorado SAC Wins 2014 SAC Website Award

The JRSA SAC Website Award recognizes a Statistical Analysis Center website for excellence in utilizing the web for the dissemination of justice data and research. The contest is judged by members of the JRSA SAC Website and Innovation Awards Committee, who review all eligible SAC websites, nominate a list of finalists, and then vote for the best site based on four criteria: content, technical quality, aesthetics, and innovation and creativity.

The 2014 SAC Website Award winner was the Colorado SAC. The award was announced during the JRSA Annual Business Meeting on October 29.

One committee member commented that the “website is user-friendly and easy to navigate.” Another said it makes “innovative use of web applications” and “that evidence-based topics are discussed.” A third wrote that the site has “a wealth of information in a variety of formats and includes the kinds of information the public wants as well as that requested by other criminal justice professionals.”

Arizona and South Carolina SAC Directors Honored for Service to JRSA

Arizona SAC Director Phillip Stevenson and former South Carolina SAC Director Rob McManus were recognized during the Annual Business Meeting on October 29 for their many years of service to JRSA in varied roles. JRSA President Stephen Haas thanked Dr. Stevenson for his leadership and service as President and member of the Executive Committee and for his contributions to improving research for state justice policies and programs. Dr. Haas commended Rob McManus for his service to JRSA in many different capacities—as a member and President of the Executive Committee, as Chair of the Research Committee, and as long-time Co-Editor of the Justice Research and Policy journal. “He devoted numerous hours in a volunteer capacity to help ensure the success of JRP,” Dr. Haas said. Because the Annual Business Meeting was held by webinar, plaques were mailed to the honorees instead of being presented in person.

Yearwood Award from page 4

the collection and analysis of data (either quantitative or qualitative), summarize findings, and offer conclusions and recommendations.

The 2014 Small SAC winner in the Research/Policy Analysis category was the Vermont SAC for Criminal Justice Consensus Cost-Benefit Working Group: Final Report by Max Schlueter, Robin Weber, Marcia Bellas, William (Travis) Morris, Nathan Lavery, and Nancy Greenewalt. This report describes the research methods and results of a study by the Vermont Center for Justice Research, which was charged with convening and staffing a Criminal Justice Consensus Cost-Benefit Working Group. The project had the following goals: 1) determine the costs of the criminal and juvenile justice system including costs to victims; 2) develop “Throughput Models” of the criminal justice system to identify how cases proceed through the system and to serve as a tool to assess the costs of policy changes; 3) analyze the cost benefits of the Bennington County Integrated Domestic Violence Docket Project using the Results First Model; 4) assess the quality of justice data collection systems for the purpose of conducting cost-benefit analysis; and 5) investigate the need for and the most appropriate entity within state government to manage an ongoing criminal justice cost benefit model. The project was completed within a six-month period. One judge was “impressed by the amount of work that went into this project in a short amount of time.” Another called it an outstanding piece of work that “showcases the research capacity of the SACs as well as how SACs can work collaboratively to benefit criminal justice policy and practice.”

The 2014 Large SAC winner in the Research/Policy Analysis category was the West Virginia SAC for Predictors of Client Success in Day Report Centers: Successful Program Completion and its Relationship to Recidivism by Douglas
Since 1930, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has published Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data quarterly, semiannually, and annually. In 1959, the FBI began publishing its annual publication Crime in the United States, which has served a critical role in disseminating national crime data in a readily accessible format to a wide audience, including academics, scholars, teachers, and policymakers. These crime data were collected and published under the Summary Reporting System, the original system created for this purpose. In the 1990s, the FBI UCR Program, which is responsible for collecting and publishing crime data, started collecting more detailed information through the NIBRS. However, summary data were the only data published in the FBI annual reports, as data collected from the NIBRS were not nationally representative. The NIBRS data were not lost, though, as the information collected via this system was converted to the summary format for publishing.

While the summary system has several strengths, including its long data series and national coverage, it is collected at the aggregate level and lacks incident-level details for crimes other than homicide. The NIBRS provides incident details, but these details were not included in any regular, ongoing publications by the FBI, until now.

In 2012, the FBI compiled the rich information provided within the NIBRS and published for the first time an annual complementary report to Crime in the United States, NIBRS 2011. The NIBRS, as its name implies, is an incident-based reporting system. It collects data on each single crime occurrence and produces more detailed and meaningful statistics such as when and where crime occurs, the type of crime it is, and the characteristics of its victims and perpetrators. The NIBRS data provide unique insights based on incident details which currently include 23 crime categories made up of 49 specific offenses (Group A offenses) and include a variety of crimes against persons, property, and society.

The FBI’s new annual NIBRS publications take advantage of the rich detail provided by these data. NIBRS 2011, for example, presents 32 tables that include information about agency and state participation in NIBRS; demographics for both victims and offenders broken down by offense type; and comparisons focusing on incident characteristics (e.g., victim-offender relationship, location, weapon and time) also by offense type. For NIBRS 2012, the publication was expanded to include 24 additional tables dealing with sex offenses, 36 tables providing city-level offenses and offense types by state, and five tables focusing on the demographics of arrestees. The NIBRS publications provide specific information about crimes not collected elsewhere in the UCR Program.

The annual NIBRS publications provide quick access to detailed crime data that can benefit a variety of data users including researchers and policymakers who seek national- and state-level data to provide context for their work, teachers who want to access recent statistics for their students, journalists who research articles, and the general public who look for information regarding various crimes. The NIBRS reports are available online at <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/ucr> (under the “Publications” section).

The FBI Begins Publishing Data from National Incident-Based Reporting System

By Drema Fouch, Management and Program Analyst, FBI UCR Program, and Lynn Addington, Associate Professor, Department of Justice, Law & Criminology, American University

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President Obama to Nominate William Sabol as Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics

On October 31, President Obama announced his intent to nominate William Sabol, Ph.D., as Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Dr. Sabol has served as Acting Director of BJS since 2013. He joined BJS in 2006 as Chief of the Corrections Statistics Unit and became Principal Deputy Director in 2010. Prior to his tenure at BJS, Dr. Sabol pursued careers in academia and the private sector. From 2003 to 2006, he served as the Associate Director of Homeland Security and Justice at the Government Accountability Office (GAO). He had been a Senior Social Scientist earlier at GAO from 1991 to 1995. Dr. Sabol has also served as Associate Director of the Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change at the Mandel School of Applied Sciences at Case Western Reserve University (2000 to 2004), Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute (1995 to 2000), and Project Director at Cosmos Corporation (1990 to 1991). He began his professional career at the University of Maryland, serving first as a Faculty Research Associate in the Afro-American Studies Program (1987 to 1988), and then as an Assistant Professor of Afro-American Studies and Criminal Justice (1988 to 1991). Dr. Sabol was a Fulbright Scholar at the Institute of Crimi- nology at the University of Cambridge from 1986 to 1987. He received a B.A. and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh.

National Research Council Issues Report on a Developmental Approach to Juvenile Justice

In 2013, the National Research Council’s (NRC) Committee on Assessing Juvenile Justice Reform released a report entitled, “Reforming Juvenile Justice: A Developmental Approach.” This report reviewed the research on adolescent development and juvenile justice interventions, as well as the status of current juvenile justice reform efforts. Committee members recommended a “developmental approach” to juvenile justice system improvements. They proposed that practices and policies at every decision-making point be grounded in the developmental sciences, as well as in research on the impact of juvenile justice interventions.

In October 2014 the NRC published a new report, “Implementing Juvenile Justice Reform: The Federal Role.” The report was written by the NRC’s Committee on a Prioritized Plan to Implement a Developmental Approach in Juvenile Justice Reform. This new 2014 report on the federal role builds upon the 2013 report. It provides guidance to the federal government, specifically the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), on an implementation plan for facilitating juvenile justice reform in state, local, and tribal jurisdictions based on a developmental approach. The report proposes a three-year plan of action and outlines strategies for strengthening the capacity of OJJDP to implement reforms. Also, seven hallmarks of a juvenile justice system grounded in the knowledge of adolescent development are summarized: accountability without criminalization; alternatives to justice system involvement; individualized response based on assessment of needs and risks; confinement only when necessary for public safety; a genuine commitment to fairness; sensitivity to disparate treatment; and family engagement.

Roger Przybylski, Appointed Delegate, is a consultant and founder of RKC Group, a private company that provides applied research, program evaluation, and related training and technical assistance services to organizations working in public safety issues. Prior to forming RKC Group in 1997, Mr. Przybylski served as associate director for the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, where he directed the agency’s research division and the Illinois SAC. He also has served as coordinator of research for the Chicago Police Department, the nation’s second largest local law enforcement agency. Mr. Przybylski is a past president of the Justice Research and Statistics Association and current chairman of the American Evaluation Association’s crime and justice interest group.

He’s held adjunct faculty positions in academia and served as staff to the Illinois Legislative Commission on Juvenile Justice, the Governor’s Commission on Gangs in Illinois, and the Illinois Task Force on Crime and Corrections. Mr. Przybylski recently authored the publication, What Works: Effective Recidivism Reduction and Risk-Focused Prevention Programs, and he served as guest editor for the 2012 special issue of the Justice Research and Policy journal, which focused on evidence-based policy and practice. His recent consulting work includes projects for the Colorado Department of Public Safety, the Multnomah County (OR) Public Safety Coordinating Council, the Tennessee Targeted Community Crime Reduction initiative, and the U.S. Department of Justice, SMART Office Sex Offender Management Assessment and Planning Initiative.
Closing the Gap in Victim-Related Research to Practice: JRSA Project Update

JRSA, in partnership with the National Center for Victims of Crime and the Urban Institute, and with funding from the Office for Victims of Crime, is working on a project to identify causes of, and ways to close, the gap in victim-related research to practice. As part of that project, JRSA has developed a survey of researchers who have conducted victim-related research. The survey, which was sent to roughly 1,000 individuals on November 3, is designed to measure researchers’ capacity, attitudes, and behaviors related to victim-related research, their experiences with service providers’ use of their research, and the challenges faced in translating victim services research to practice. Survey participants were identified from a variety of sources, including books and journal articles, grant awards, and membership rosters of relevant organizations. The results of the survey will be compared with findings from a companion survey of practitioners being conducted by the Urban Institute. These findings, along with other information being produced by the project team, will serve as the basis for recommendations to OVC on how to bridge the gap in victim-related research to practice.

JRSA Welcomes New Research Associate

Jaime Michel joined the Justice Research and Statistics Association in September as a Research Associate. She has worked primarily in and/or on issues related to the juvenile justice system for the past decade. Her work on juvenile justice issues cuts across the direct service, research, and policy arenas. Dr. Michel received her B.A. from Reed College in Portland Oregon, and she earned her M.S.W in 2005 from San Francisco State University. After working as a social worker in the San Francisco Public Defender’s office, she decided to pursue a research-focused degree and in 2013 earned her doctorate in community psychology from the University of Virginia. Additionally, while finishing her doctorate she worked for almost three years with the National Juvenile Defender Center to strengthen their capacity to utilize developmental science in trainings and policy advocacy efforts to improve the legal representation of youth in the justice system. Dr. Michel will be working on JRSA’s National Juvenile Justice Evaluation Center as well as other projects.

IBRRC Website Receives Makeover

JRSA’s Incident-Based Reporting Resource Center (IBRRC) is an online resource whose purpose is to provide federal, state, and local analysts with information on the analysis and use of incident-based crime data. The website, created in 1998, was recently redesigned to be more user-friendly, with streamlined navigation and clearly defined sections. The IBRRC project is supported by funds from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice.

The IBRRC website contains the following major elements:
- general information on incident-based reporting and NIBRS
- instructions and computer code for extracting and reading NIBRS/IBR data
- examples of analyses using NIBRS/IBR data
- reports on the use of state and local NIBRS/IBR data to answer research and policy questions
- information on converting NIBRS/IBR data to summary UCR formats, and
- links to other related websites.

Stephen Haas (l.) and Douglas Spence (r.) of the West Virginia SAC received the 2014 Douglas Yearwood Award in the large SAC Research/Policy Analysis category.

Yearwood Award from page 5
Where Are They Now?

- Mike Haddon served as the Utah SAC Director from 1998 to 2007. During his time working in the SAC and as Director, the SAC research team received numerous JRSA awards for their work: seven Phillip Hoke National Publication awards as well as one SAC Website Award. Mike was elected to serve as a delegate on the Executive Committee twice, and also served as the chair of the Training and Technical Assistance Committee from 2003 to 2004. In 2005, Mike received the G. Paul Sylvestre Award. This prestigious award was presented annually during the JRSA National Conference by the director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), U.S. Department of Justice, to a SAC director who demonstrated outstanding achievement over an extended period of time.

In January 2007, Mike was asked to join the team at the Utah Department of Corrections as a Deputy Director, where he still serves today. His responsibilities include overseeing the department’s Planning and Research Bureau, the Finance Bureau, the Training Bureau, and the Facilities Bureau. He also works as the department’s legislative liaison during the annual legislative session. He works closely with the department’s Executive Director and other Deputy Director in strategic department direction. Most recently, the department has focused on addressing critical staff needs, including both resources and salaries. The department has also played an important role working with criminal justice stakeholders and the Pew Charitable Trust on significant justice reform in Utah. Finally, the department is working with the Utah State Legislature’s Prison Relocation Committee as the state moves forward to relocate its primary prison facility (opened in 1951) from its current location.

On a personal level, Mike said he finds it incredibly rewarding and humbling to work for the Utah Department of Corrections. As one of the largest agencies in the state, the DOC attracts staff who are skilled and committed to performing difficult work in a dangerous environment. Additionally, on top of maintaining public safety in the prison system and the community, the department’s dedicated staff provide assistance and services to individuals who are often at the lowest point in their lives.

- Lisa Broidy served as the SAC director for New Mexico from 2006 to 2013. The New Mexico SAC is housed at the University of New Mexico (UNM), where Lisa was also an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Director of the Institute for Social Research (ISR), which houses the SAC. While serving as SAC director, Lisa was an active member of JRSA. She served on JRSA’s Homeland Security Committee in 2007 and 2008, was a member of the Research Committee in 2009 and 2010, and was elected to the Executive Committee in 2011 and 2012. Additionally, under her direction, the NM SAC won JRSA’s Phillip Hoke Publication Award in 2007 and the Douglas Yearwood Publication Award in 2012.

In 2013, Lisa left UNM for a position as Associate Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia. In addition to her teaching duties at Griffith, she is currently Deputy Director of the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice & Government. She is also the Higher Degree Research (HDR) Convenor for the School (this is akin to being the Director of Graduate Studies in U.S. institutions). Her research continues to focus on gender and offending, and she is involved in a number of new collaborations in Australia building on her work in this area. She and colleagues recently submitted a paper examining the influence of gender and Indigenous status on life course offending patterns in an Australian birth cohort. She is also working with colleagues to examine how gender influences informal social control, specifically, the likelihood that individuals will intervene in neighborhood-level problems.

Lisa also continues to pursue funded work with significant policy relevance, with two proposals currently under development with Griffith colleagues. One is a large proposal to examine the influence of maternal incarceration on child social and behavioral outcomes across three countries (Australia, the Netherlands, and the U.S.). If successful, the project will be the first cross-national, case-control study to examine the collateral consequences of maternal incarceration, allowing the team to assess the institutional-, community-, and individual-level factors that influence child outcomes. Recent growth in female incarceration rates around the world makes this a particularly timely and policy-relevant study. A second proposal under development will use linked administrative data from a Queensland, Australia, birth cohort to identify the precursors of child maltreatment perpetration. Given gender differences in the nature and course of child maltreatment, the project will also focus on how gender influences the onset of child maltreatment. The project specifically aims to identify key system contacts (e.g., criminal justice system, healthcare, mental healthcare, and child and family services) that precede the onset of child maltreatment perpetration and might provide opportune windows for prevention and intervention.

- Timothy (Tim) Hart served as the Nevada SAC Director from August 2006 to January 2013. The Nevada SAC is located at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he was also an Associate Professor in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Prior to joining the faculty at UNLV/serving as SAC Director, Tim worked as a statistician for the Bureau of Justice

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Arizona

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Receives Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Grant

The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) was awarded a $374,408 grant by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance under the Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP): Data-Driven Multidisciplinary Approaches to Reducing Rx Abuse. The PDMP grant program provides funding to localities and tribes to assemble a local collaborative effort of public health and criminal justice professionals to support innovative ways to use PDMP and other data to inform prevention, treatment, and enforcement efforts.

The grant to ACJC will be used in Maricopa County to build on the successful work that the Arizona Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Initiative has already accomplished in pilot counties—Yavapai, Pinal, Graham/Greenlee, and Mohave County. ACJC will be working with Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care and the Maricopa County Department of Public Health to support community-based substance abuse coalitions in their implementation of the Rx Initiative. Specifically, Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care, which is the Regional Behavioral Health Authority for Maricopa County, will oversee the work of the community-based substance abuse coalitions and the Maricopa County Department of Public Health will facilitate access to county-level data to inform implementation of the Arizona model.

Arizona, like most states in the country, is not immune to the prescription drug epidemic. From 2005 to 2012, the rate of emergency department cases related to prescription pain reliever misuse or abuse in Arizona has nearly tripled from 693 per 100,000 emergency department discharges in 2005 to more than 1,800 per 100,000 in 2012. The number of infants born with neo-natal abstinence syndrome also doubled from 150 infants in 2008 to 333 in 2013.

The Arizona Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Initiative is a data-driven, multidisciplinary approach that utilizes community-based substance abuse coalitions as the agents of change. With oversight and support from a core group of senior-level staff from the Governor’s Office for Children, Youth, and Families, Arizona Department of Health Services, Arizona Board of Pharmacy (the agency that oversees Arizona’s prescription monitoring program), and Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, the Arizona Rx Model takes advantage of the social capital that exists in the target county substance abuse coalitions and complements it with a strategic and targeted infusion of limited cash resources to implement the following five strategies:

1) Reduce illicit acquisition and diversion of prescription medications;
2) Promote responsible prescribing and dispensing practices;
3) Enhance Rx drug practices and policies among law enforcement;
4) Increase public awareness and patient education about Rx drug misuse and abuse; and
5) Enhance assessment and referral to treatment.

In 2013, Arizona’s Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Initiative was awarded the 2013 Western Region Outstanding Criminal Justice Program Award by the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA). Each year NCJA recognizes five states whose criminal justice programs most effectively address crime-related issues within their communities in terms of innovation and delivery of concrete results. More information about Arizona’s Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Initiative can be found at: http://www.azcjc.gov/acjc.web/rx/default.aspx

Illinois

Illinois to Add Conviction Statistics to Web-Based Tool

Supported by a State Justice Statistics (SJS) grant from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) has begun work on a project to provide online access to conviction statistics based on the aggregation of criminal history records from 1993 through 2013, along with Illinois prison admission statistics based on Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) data for the same period. A web-based tool is already being built to allow access to arrest statistics derived from Illinois criminal history records. Conviction and corrections data will be added to this tool to allow users to choose various geographic categories and offender characteristics to produce tabular and graphic outputs.

The impetus of this project is to make Illinois statewide criminal justice statistical information more readily accessible in as much detail as possible. ICJIA already makes various statistical datasets available at the county level on its website, along with various data exploration tools. The completion of the Web-Based Criminal Justice Statistics Tool over the next year will provide users with greater access to detailed information from the various case-level criminal justice data-sets while preserving the confidentiality of the individual records. ICJIA staff will also collaborate with research staff from IDOC to examine historic corrections data and develop a methodology for submitting that data to the National Corrections Reporting Program.

Kansas

Kansas SAC Contributes to Justice Reinvestment and Veterans Mental Health Efforts

Justice Reinvestment Initiative. In 2013, the Kansas legislature passed HB 2170, a
Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) Act that provides significant reforms for sanctions involving technical violations of probation. With assistance from the Council of State Governments, the Kansas Sentencing Commission created and proposed bill language consistent with evidence-based practices to allow for swift and certain sanctions in the form of two- to three-day jail stays, increasing to 120- or 180-day intermediate sanctions with the Department of Corrections prior to revocation of an offender’s probation. The Commission was authorized by the bill to monitor the implementation of JRI. After receiving feedback from interested parties throughout the state during the first year of implementation, the Commission drafted a bill reflecting that feedback and the HB 2170 legislation was amended in 2014. Senate Substitute for House Bill 2448 provides those amendments that seek to streamline and strengthen JRI. A summary of the 2014 Senate Substitute for House Bill 2448 is presented here.

Veterans Treatment. The passage of HB 2655 in the 2014 session enables eligible offenders who are veterans to be ordered to receive mental illness services in any treatment facility or program operated by the U.S. Department of Defense, the Federal Veterans’ Administration, or the Kansas National Guard. The bill provides specific eligibility criteria for an offender whose sentence would be in a presumptive probation range. At a hearing prior to sentencing, the defendant must meet the following criteria to be considered by the court for treatment:

- Served in a combat zone while in the U.S. Armed Forces as certified by the Kansas Commission on Veterans’ Affairs;
- Received an honorable discharge or general discharge under honorable conditions;
- Suffers from mental illness; and
- The mental illness was caused or exacerbated by service in a combat zone.

If the court determines that the veteran is eligible for treatment and meets the requirement under the alternative sentencing provision of 2003 SB 123, the court may order treatment at those federal facilities listed above.

Staff of the Kansas Sentencing Commission have contacted federal mental health personnel and were assured that these personnel are eager to assist the state’s veterans by providing adequate treatment at the federal care facilities. To further assist practitioners, the Commission has partnered with the Office of Judicial Administration (OJA) and placed two sample forms drafted by OJA on the KSC website for use. As one of its statutory duties, the Commission is assisting stakeholders through education efforts to enable implementation of new and amended laws that affect them. Commission efforts include its quarterly newsletter, legislative updates, and presentations to the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers to provide overviews and insights into the annual changes in state criminal law.

Publications. In September 2014, the Kansas Sentencing Commission published the Ten-Year KDOC Inmate Custody Classification Projections FY 2015 through FY 2024.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts SAC Collaborates on Study of Forensic Evidence and Criminal Justice Outcomes in Sexual Assault Cases

Massachusetts General Law (Chapter 112, §12A½) requires the reporting of all cases of rape and sexual assault where the victim sought medical treatment, regardless of whether the case was reported to police. To fulfill this requirement and facilitate uniform reporting by medical providers across the Commonwealth, the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee developed the Provider Sexual Crime Reporting (PSCR) Form. After a victim has presented in a medical facility, the care provider is required to complete the PSCR Form, which is then shared with local law enforcement and submitted via facsimile to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, where all information is recorded and maintained in a master database housed at the Office of Grants and Research.

Beginning in 2012, through a grant by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the Research and Policy Analysis Division, which houses the Massachusetts Statistical Analysis Center, entered into a partnership with researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign, St. Xavier University, and Fisher College to undertake an analysis of PSCR data from 2008 – 2010. To access all of the necessary datasets and link forensic data between victim and offender, the research team called upon the Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab, the Boston Police Department Crime Lab, and various municipal and campus police departments for assistance. This project, which concluded in mid-2014, examines several different facets of the data, including variations in forensic evidence collection between specially trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) and non-SANE medical personnel, variables that may encourage or discourage a victim from reporting the crime to police (i.e. victim-offender relationship), and criminal justice outcomes. The final report is available from NIJ via the link: https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/248254.pdf

Maryland

Greg Coster Named SAC Director in Maryland

In September, Greg Coster was appointed Director of the Maryland Statistical Analysis Center (MSAC), which is located within the Maryland Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP). He joined the MSAC in April 2011 as the Statistical Analyst and Research Assistant. He holds a B.S. in justice and law administration from Western Connecticut State University (law enforcement concentration), and an M.S. in criminal justice from the University of Baltimore (law enforcement concentration). Mr. Coster’s professional career
began as a law enforcement officer with the Department of Homeland Security, United States Coast Guard. In 2006, he finished his Coast Guard career assisting the Baltimore Area Staff Judge Advocate with criminal and civil litigation investigations. Prior to joining MSAC in 2011, he was the Deputy Director of Security for Arundel Mills, Maryland’s largest entertainment complex and casino. His desire to become more involved in criminal justice programming and collaboration led him to GOCCP in 2011. As a member of MSAC, Mr. Coster has worked closely with GOCCP and law enforcement partners to collect, analyze, and publish criminal justice data to support criminal justice and public safety in Maryland. He also serves as the GOCCP Coordinator for the Annapolis, Cambridge, and Salisbury “Safe Streets” crime reduction programs. The objective of Safe Streets is significant violent crime reduction through seamless coordination, consistent interagency collaboration, and information sharing by focusing on that core group of offenders who commit the majority of violent offenses locally. From 2011–2013 Mr. Coster was the principal investigator for and author of MSAC’s first completed empirical study since the SAC moved to GOCCP in 2007—a program evaluation of the Maryland Violence Prevention Initiative, Maryland’s most intensive parole and probation supervision program.

Minneapolis

Minnesota SAC Releases Three Reports

In the last three months the Minnesota SAC published three reports describing recent studies and their findings.

Youth in Minnesota Correctional Facilities: Responses to the 2013 Minnesota School Survey

The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) is a comprehensive questionnaire administered every three years to students in grades 5, 8, 9, and 11 in Minnesota public schools. The survey includes a wide variety of questions related to youth attitudes, behaviors, and health indicators. Questions reflect a range of protective factors, including connectedness to school, family, and community, as well as risk factors such as drug and alcohol use, violence, and victimization. The survey originated in 1989, with the most recent administration occurring in 2013.

A unique subset of Minnesota students are those receiving an education outside of the “mainstream” school setting, including youth placed in juvenile correctional facilities. Minnesota has both secure (locked) juvenile facilities and non-secure facilities. The goal of this report was to examine how youth in correctional facilities who took the 2013 MSS responded similarly or differently to the survey than a matched sample of youth from the mainstream student population. Differences between the two student groups can provide information on what challenges youth in correctional facilities are facing that might have contributed to their involvement in the juvenile justice system and out-of-home placement. The responses of youth in correctional facilities can provide valuable information to Minnesota’s youth facilities regarding residents’ past experiences with victimization, trauma, chemical use and mental health concerns, and inform prevention and intervention efforts as well as other programming and service needs.

Analysis of survey responses showed that youth in correctional facilities who participated in the 2013 Minnesota Student Survey reported statistically higher risk-taking beliefs and behaviors coupled with lower protective attitudes and beliefs than a matched sample of mainstream peers. The report displays results in numerous graphs and highlights major findings. Implications of the findings are also discussed.

Law Enforcement in Minnesota Schools: A Statewide Survey of School Resource Officers

Police agencies have long had a role in service to schools. Traditional activities have included periodic patrols, responding to calls for service, and criminal investigations of offenses involving youth. Only in the last 20 years has assigning law enforcement officers to schools on a full-time basis become a widespread practice.

These partnerships between schools and law enforcement agencies are driven by local needs, and the motivation behind the school resource officer (SRO) program may differ from community to community. Similarly, two communities may have the same goal for their SRO programs, but employ different strategies or emphasize different roles for their officers. Minnesota has no agency or organization responsible for the certification, monitoring, or evaluation of SROs and little information exists about their number, location, or characteristics. The goal of this study was to gather the most comprehensive information on Minnesota SROs to date. The study utilized a statewide survey of law enforcement agencies followed by a comprehensive survey of individual SROs to collect information on the prevalence and characteristics of Minnesota SROs, including the number, location, and demographic characteristics of the officers; the types of schools in which SROs serve; the qualifications necessary to be selected for SRO positions; prior law enforcement experience and specific SRO training, and typical duties performed by SROs. The report concludes by offering broad recommendations to enhance the quality and consistency of SRO programs in Minnesota based on the survey responses and on a review of recommended practices.

Human Trafficking in Minnesota

In 2005, the Minnesota Legislature passed Minnesota Statute 299A.785 requiring the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to complete annual studies on human trafficking in Minnesota. Specifically, the statute requires this report to include:

- Numbers of arrests, prosecutions, and successful convictions of traffickers, and those committing trafficking-related crimes
SAC NEWS, continued

- Information on the number of trafficking victims, demographics, the method of recruitment, and the method of discovery
- Trafficking routes and patterns, states, or countries of origin, and transit states or countries
- Methods of transportations used in trafficking
- Social factors that contribute to trafficking

Human trafficking, by its very nature, is a hidden crime whose victims often go unidentified, misidentified, or undisclosed. In addition, when victims are correctly identified and assisted, there is no systematic or centralized way to count them. Therefore, assessing the level of victimization in Minnesota is difficult. For this report, as in the past, data were gathered from service providers and law enforcement through an online survey. Additional information on trafficking and trafficking-related crimes was compiled by the State Court Administrator’s Office. Online surveys were completed by 99 service providers and 187 law enforcement officers across the state, constituting 67% of the service providers surveyed and 50% of law enforcement agencies across the state. There is no requirement that service providers and law enforcement respond to this survey. Therefore, this report is not definitive, as it does not reflect the experiences of all Minnesota service providers and law enforcement agencies.

State Statistical Analysis Centers: What Are They and What Do They Do?

Statistical Analysis Centers (SACs) are state agencies or units that…
- collect, analyze, and disseminate criminal and juvenile justice data that are used to inform policies and programs
- conduct policy-relevant research
- design and implement automated information systems
- conduct objective analyses of statewide justice policy issues

Where Can I Find Out What SACs Are Working On?

SAC Spotlight
To understand the critical role SACs play in informing justice policy in their state, visit the JRSA home page where SACs are highlighted one at a time in the SAC Spotlight. The SAC Spotlight Archive contains all previous SAC Spotlights for easy reference.

Infobase of State Activities and Research (ISAR)
ISAR, a comprehensive online clearinghouse, contains information on SAC research and activities across a broad range of justice issues. ISAR is searchable by state, key word, and date.

SAC Publication Digest
The SAC Publication Digest contains abstracts of reports produced by SACs, with links to the full reports.

These reports cover a wide array of topics and analysis approaches for justice data at the state level. Report abstracts are arranged alphabetically by state in the first section, and clickable titles listed by key word in the second section link to the abstracts.

JRSA Forum
JRSA’s quarterly newsletter provides updates on the latest SAC research and activities, as well as periodic in-depth reports on specific SAC projects.

SAC Websites
SACs currently exist in 52 U.S. states and territories. JRSA provides a list of SAC directors, locations, and website links on its website, making it easy to find individual SAC websites and the wealth of information they provide.

Where Are They Now from page 9

Statistics (BJS), a program analyst for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and a research analyst for the Hillsborough County (Florida) Sheriff’s Office. At BJS he worked in both the Law Enforcement and State Courts Statistics Units as well as the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) Unit. While at BJS, Tim authored/co-authored numerous federal reports, including Violent Victimization of College Students, 1995-2000 (NCJ-196143), Reporting Crime to the Police, 1992-2000 (NCJ-195710), Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics, 1999 (NCJ-184481), and Felony Defendants in Large Urban Counties, 1996 (NCJ-176981). While at the DEA, Tim worked in the Statistics Services Section, analyzing search and seizure data and developing action reports and policy recommendations based on this research. At the local level, he was the principal investigator for the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office’s 2005 and 2006 community surveys.

Tim served as principal/co-principal investigator on several projects funded by state and federal grants while at UNLV, including awards from the National Institute of Justice, BJS’ State Justice Statistics (SJS) program, and the American Statistical Association. Funding from the 2009 SJS grant was used,

See Where Are They Now? page 14
Where Are They Now from page 13

for example, to create and administer an online data collection tool designed to gather arrest-related deaths in custody (ARDC) information from Nevada’s law enforcement agencies. Following its implementation, all but one agency in Nevada used the online tool to provide the Nevada SAC with their ARDC data. The data collection project earned the Nevada SAC the 2010 JRSA Technical Innovation Award.

After leaving UNLV in 2013, Tim and his family moved from the U.S. to Australia so that he could join the faculty of Griffith University’s School of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Since then he has continued his research in areas of geographical information systems (GIS), survey research, victimization, and applied statistics. When not at work, Tim enjoys spending time with his family and exploring all that Australia has to offer.

Are there any former SAC Directors you would like to catch up with? Let us know who you would like to see featured next in “Where Are They Now?”

JRSA Begins New Projects from page 1

Assessing Technical Assistance by OJP Diagnostic Center to States and Localities

JRSA will be working with the Office of Justice Programs’ Diagnostic Center (OJPDC) to assess projects undertaken by the OJPDC. The purpose of the OJPDC is to facilitate the translation of data and research into public safety and criminal justice policy and practice at the state, local, and tribal levels. The Center provides technical assistance to states and localities that emphasizes data-driven diagnosis of public safety and criminal justice issues and customized strategies based on evidence-based solutions. The Center is managed for OJP by Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH).

JRSA will be helping BAH to assess the results of their technical assistance engagements with states and localities. JRSA has developed a Performance Assessment Framework that will serve as the basis for developing and implementing assessment plans for each technical assistance engagement. The framework calls for the development of an Individual Assessment Plan for each engagement that includes measures, a data collection and analysis plan, and a summary report.

For more information about the project, contact Dr. Stan Orchowsky at sorchowsky@jrsa.org. To contact the OJPDC, email contact@OJPDiagnosticCenter.org.

Evaluation of Domestic Violence Housing Programs in DC

JRSA is in the beginning stages of conducting an evaluation of four housing programs for domestic violence and crime victims in Washington, DC. The housing programs are funded by the District of Columbia’s Office of Victim Services, which also provided JRSA with funds for this project. The goals of the project are twofold. First, using both quantitative and qualitative research methods, JRSA will explore common performance measures, process standards, and goals for each of the four housing programs. Through site visits, JRSA staff will review existing practices, as well as policies and procedures, in order to highlight the similarities among the housing programs. Interviews with a select number of staff and clients will provide a deeper understanding of each program from the perspective of both personnel and clients. JRSA staff will also review each program’s database system to determine whether each program has the capacity to conduct an outcome evaluation. The second goal is to utilize the information gathered through the evaluation to gain a better understanding of the extent to which these housing programs fit together to provide a continuum of housing services to victims of crime in the District of Columbia. The evaluation is anticipated to be a two-year project.

For more information about the project, contact Dr. Stan Orchowsky at sorchowsky@jrsa.org.