Strategic Plan - 2015

Vision:

To be the premier professional organization for all state justice researchers and statistical analysis centers that promotes the use of statistical data and research to guide policy and practice, creating a more effective and responsive criminal justice system in the states.

Mission:

The mission of the Justice Research and Statistics Association is to promote the effective and efficient administration of criminal and juvenile justice through the objective analysis of data and the dissemination of research that informs policy and practice.

Goals & Objectives:

1. **Achieve sustained membership growth by defining targeted categories of membership with appropriate benefits.**
   - Identify why individual members both join and leave the Association;
   - Determine why Statistical Analysis centers do not join the Association;
   - Evaluate membership trends; and
   - Create a membership structure appropriate for States, institutions, individuals and students with associated benefits for each.

2. **Build relationships and create or enhance alliances with both current stakeholders and potential key partners to maximize external support of JRSA and SACs.**
   - Foster relationships with academicians and other experts in various areas of criminal justice and secure their cooperation and support in key Association and SAC research and policy initiatives;
   - Seek and form mutual collaborations with key national and state justice-related entities (i.e., SACs and other state justice researchers and justice organizations) to foster sustainable communities of practice; and
   - Build relationships with both national and state research and policy communities to advance evidence-based criminal justice policy.

3. **Promote the use of research in criminal and juvenile justice policy and planning.**
   - Develop a plan for seeking funding and/or other supports and coordinating with the Relationships Committee as necessary;
   - Identify research priorities for the Association for FY2016; and
   - Implement strategies to encourage and support the inclusion of multiple SACs in research projects conducted on behalf of or in conjunction with the Association.
4. **Build the capacity of JRSA and the SACs to foster relationships, access new data sources, manage data, conduct analyses, inform criminal and juvenile justice policy and expand the use of evidence-based practices.**

   - Develop a SAC technical assistance and capacity-building plan for the Association for FY2016;
   - Adopt innovative ways to provide training and technical assistance to SACs, including interactive methods and approaches that allow for in-depth exploration of specific topics (e.g., online courses, conference seminars, etc.);
   - Develop recommended standards of minimum acceptable competence/performance for SACs; and
   - Provide guidance to SACs for developing relationships, research opportunities and effective dissemination strategies at the state level.

5. **Disseminate the Association’s and SACs’ work in an efficient and timely manner.**

   - Identify methods to harness new communication technologies for the betterment of the Association and the SACs and develop plans for the implementation of these technologies; and
   - Identify ways to disseminate more effectively the work of the JRSA and the SACs in a timely manner to specific audiences being attentive to their unique needs.

6. **Elevate the brand of JRSA to a position of prominence in the criminal and juvenile justice community.**

   - Conduct innovative and sound outreach with other agencies and organizations in order to heighten awareness of the work of JRSA and its members;
   - Assess the adequacy of current JRSA print and digital products in meeting the needs of key stakeholders, partners and criminal and juvenile justice planners and decision makers; and
   - Develop and/or enhance the website of the Association as an information hub serving the Association’s members, partners and customers.