Criminal Justice Today

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Criminal Justice Students and Faculty Join the TPD 5k Memorial Run

By Paul Rocha

On Saturday October 9th, 2010, the Tampa Police Department and the Gasparilla Distance Classic Association jointly hosted the 16th Annual 5k - 1 mile walk/run Tampa Police Memorial at Lykes gaslight park directly across from TPD police headquarters. The purpose of the walk was to support all fallen officers of TPD. The money collected went to benefit the Tampa police memorial scholarship program.

The event was kicked off by Tampa police swear members lowering themselves from the top of police headquarters and releasing the Nation’s flag. Citizens sung the star spangle banner as it was played. About fifteen students from Hillsborough Community College’s Criminal Justice Program along with Criminal Justice instructor Dr. Darwin Driggers joined in.

Others that participated included police officers from all across the State of Florida including Tampa Police Chief Jane Castor, Hillsborough County Sheriff’s deputy trainees and many of Tampa’s citizens, young and old, including Tampa’s Mayor Pam Iorio. Members of the Tampa Police Department Explorers program passed out water to participatants at the half way mark. Blue shirts were handed out to all those that participated.

Our New Faculty

Welcome our new criminal justice faculty, effective Spring 2011:
Judge Walter Heinrich
Lt. David Goodman, TPD
Lt. William Harnett, TPD
James Malone, J.D.

Greetings to our readers:
Welcome to the second issue of HCC’s Criminal Justice Undergraduate Studies Program newsletter, Criminal Justice Today. This is a collaborative effort of the faculty and students of our program and hopefully will have something of interest for everyone.

Dr. Michael T. Reichard, Editor and Program Manager

Announcements

The Criminal Justice Program has added the following internships:
Tampa City Fire Marshal Florida Parole Commission Florida Highway Patrol Salvation Army Probation

Criminal Justice Web Site
hccfl.edu/cj

Paul Rocha is a Criminal Justice student and President of the Criminal Justice Student Association.
The Criminal Justice Student Association
What’s Going On....

The Criminal Justice Student Association is creating a lot of new excitement and new events for the Spring 2011 semester. There are tentative plans to go to a Florida State Prison for a tour in Bushnell, Florida. We did this last year towards the end of the year and it was very successful...and this year we are sure it will be even more successful.

Also, on January 28, 2011, we will be partnering with the City of Tampa -Tampa Beautification Program under the Parks and Recreation Department. During this event, the club members will be part of the clean up program at McKay Bay Nature park...from 8:00am to 12:00pm.

Near the end of January we are hoping to have an event with guest speakers from various law enforcement agencies.

For more information about the CJSA, contact Dr. Darwin Driggers at ddriggers@hccfl.edu

Probation... Electronic Monitoring of Offenders

By Michael Cotignola

Electronic Monitoring of criminal offenders on probation, parole, and house arrest is becoming a very popular tool for probation and parole officers. The history of electronic monitoring of criminal offenders dates back to 1983 when Judge Jack Love ordered a probation violator in New Mexico to submit to the new technology he stumbled upon. Since this time, the use of this tool has become very sophisticated. Today, there are two types of electronic monitoring used on criminal offenders.

The first type tells if an offender is in an assigned place such as home or work. The electronic devise is placed in the residence or assigned location and it sends a signal to an ankle bracelet the offender wears. If the bracelet and electronic device read each other the other the officer gets an alarm that the offender is where they are supposed to be. If the electronic device is not reading the bracelet the officer gets an alarm stating the offender is not where they are supposed to be.

The second type of electronic monitoring is GPS technology. This allows officers to track an offender’s actual whereabouts twenty-four hours a day. Offenders are provided with a GPS monitor they must wear. Officers can set up zones where offer’s can/can’t go and get alarms if they go places they are not supposed to be. The officer will get an alarm if offenders are not home for curfews or tamper with the equipment in any way. This type of technology is being utilized today primarily for sex offenders around the country and is mandatory as a condition of probation or parole under Florida’s Jessica Lunsford Act. It can also be ordered by a judge if they feel someone poses a risk to the community but they do not want to incarcerate the offender. Currently, there are approximately 250 sex offenders on GPS monitors in Hillsborough County who are supervised by the Florida Department of Corrections.

Michael Cotignola is Senior Probation Officer with the State of Florida. He holds a Master’s degree in Criminal Justice and is one of our Adjunct Professors.

TPD 5k Run - A Students Perspective

By Daniel Rangel

I thought that the TPD 5k-1 mile run/walk was a great event. It was our CJSA’s first major event. Even thought there was a long line to get the number in order to run, it was well worth it. After I got my number, I met with Dr. Driggers, Andrey, Andy, Paul and a few others from our CJSA. We put our hands over our hearts and sang the National Anthem while bagpipes were playing and SWAT repelled down TPD head-quarters with our nation’s flag. Then there was a moment of silence and the event began. With music playing from my ipod touch, I concentrated on the race while trying to run ahead and take pictures of our group. At the halfway point everyone was provided with water and I crossed the finish line with a time of 44 minutes and 56 seconds. Even though I was exhausted, I felt good knowing that it was for a good cause and that the families of the fallen officers will be taken care of. We all formed a line to get snacks and water and waited for the award ceremony.

Daniel Rangel is a Criminal Justice student and Treasurer of the Criminal Justice Student Association.
Our Courses - A Preview... Investigative Cycle

By Kenneth Minton

Have you wanted to take a class which covered the entire spectrum of a criminal investigation? This class combines elements of classes in crime scene/forensics, report writing, criminal investigations, and courtroom testimony.

If you want to study everything from the crime scene processing to the police report to the investigation to the courtroom all in one class, you can do so with the Investigative Cycle/ Crime Scene to Court course, CJE-2611.

This course is a weekend class meeting on two weekends, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. It features a mock crime scene, preparing an investigation report, and a mock trial, with students performing the roles of defense attorney, prosecutor, expert witnesses, complainants, police officers, etc.

The course emphasizes three phases: the crime scene process, the investigative process, and the courtroom process. It is very “hands on” and includes both team work and individual work.

Whether you plan to be a CSI, police officer, lawyer, federal agent, or just have an interest in how the investigative process works from beginning to end, this might be the class for you.

Please Note

The Criminal Justice Program Spring 2011 course Schedule is now available at:
http://www.hccfl.edu/yc/cjt/schedules.aspx

Kenneth Minton is an adjunct professor with the HCC Criminal Justice Undergraduate Studies Program. He has experience in military and civilian criminal investigations and crime scene investigation.

Peggy Vaughan Passes Away...

Peggy Vaughan, former HCC Criminal justice instructor, passed away this past week. Ms. Vaughan received Masters Degrees in Criminal Justice from USF and Illinois State University. She joined HCC in February 1988 as the Coordinator of the Corrections Academy. After 10 years, in August 1998, she joined the criminal justice undergraduate faculty and served until her retirement in August 2005. She was 69 years old.

Our Instructors... Profiles of your Faculty...

Mr. Richard McCafferty, Jr., is a retired Special Agent of the U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). During his NCIS career, Mr. McCafferty conducted and supervised criminal, counterintelligence and counterterrorism investigations at home and in many foreign countries. Most recently, he conducted counterterrorism investigations in Kuwait and conducted interrogations of detained terrorists at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Mr. McCafferty is also retired from the U.S. Air Force Reserves after 28 years of active and reserve duty, including four years as a police officer in the USAF Security Police and 24 years as a Special Agent with the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in history in 1978 from Saint Leo University and a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Troy University, in 1982, with honors.

In addition to teaching at Hillsborough Community College, Mr. McCafferty also teaches criminal justice courses for Saint Leo University.

A Note of Interest

Our new Direct E-Mailing Program that will allow us to communicate directly with all of our criminal justice majors, is coming soon!
Our Instructors... Profiles of your Faculty...

Cindy Moore is an Advisor and Instructor for the Department of Criminology at the University of South Florida. She received her Bachelor's degree (1993) in Psychology and Criminology and Master's degree (1998) in Criminology from USF. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Psychology. She has extensive teaching experience and has served as an instructor for various departments on the USF campus as well as St. Leo College.

Her area of specialty is Criminological Theory, Research Methods, Juvenile Justice, and Criminal Psychology. Ms. Moore has also served in an administrative capacity at both the University of South Florida and the Georgia Institute of Technology where she assisted with the development and implementation of a comprehensive student support and counseling program.

Cindy Moore, M.A.

Criminal Justice in Action - Crime Stoppers

By Lisa Haber, M.A.

Crime Stoppers is a community-based program, which is designed to bring law enforcement, the news media, and the citizen together in an effort to combat crime and make the community a safer place to live. It is a safe, effective outlet for the citizen to provide much needed information on crime and criminals. If an arrest is made based on the caller's information, the caller is eligible for a reward of up to $1,000 depending on the seriousness of the crime and the quantity and quality of the information. The funds used for paying the rewards comes strictly from donations, not tax dollars.

In June 1977, just one year after the very first "modern day" Crime Stopper program was formed in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the Central Florida Crime Line Program registered as a Florida corporation, making it one of the earliest such programs in the world and first of its kind in Florida. Not long after, other programs began forming throughout the state such as Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers, Crime Stoppers Council of Broward County, Crime Stoppers of Palm Beach County, and Crime Stoppers of Miami Dade. In 1988, Crime Stoppers of Tampa Bay was formed to service the citizens of Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Citrus, Hernando, Highlands, Desoto and Hardee counties. Today, Crime Stoppers of Tampa Bay services the communities of Hillsborough and Pasco counties after helping many of its original counties in establish their own, local Crime Stoppers programs.

In 1998, the Hillsborough County School Board approved the establishment of a Campus Crime Stoppers program in every middle and senior high school. Between November 1998 and September 2010, the Hillsborough Campus Crime Stoppers Program assisted in the clearing of 1390 criminal cases resulting in 1090 arrests and the recovery of property and narcotics valued over $176,000. So far, the program has helped take 231 weapons including 14 firearms out of our public schools. In July 2010, the program was credited with providing information to law enforcement from an anonymous tipster that is believed to have prevented a school shooting that was being planned for the Fall 2010 school year at Leto High School.

How does it work? Put simply, it is a three part approach to solving the crime problem. Crime Stoppers relies on cooperation between the police, media, and general community to provide a flow of information about crime and criminals.

Calls are received on the local Crime Stoppers Tip phone which does not provide caller ID and conversations are not recorded. The tips are passed to an investigating officer. By guaranteeing a caller’s anonymity, Crime Stoppers allows the caller to give information in a positive atmosphere without the prospect of retribution. By offering cash rewards for information leading to indictment or arrests, the program encourages otherwise reluctant callers to provide information. Tipsters can now give tips online. Tipsters also have the option of sending an anonymous crime tip via a text message from the tipster's cell phone. To send a text message tip from a cell phone, text "CSTB plus your message" to CRIMES (274637).

Does Crime Stoppers actually work? Crime Stoppers of Tampa Bay averages approximately 31 solved felony cases and 10 arrests per month. Since the program’s inception in 1988, Crime Stopper’s has assisted law enforcement in clearing over 8,300 criminal cases, effecting over 2,500 arrests, recovering property and narcotics valued at almost $6 million and has approved payments of over $900,000 in rewards. Crime Stoppers can be found in all 50 states and 23 foreign countries.

Lisa Haber is Deputy with the Hillsborough Sheriff’s Office and coordinates the Tampa Bay Crime Stoppers. She is also an adjunct professor with the HCC Criminal Justice Undergraduate Studies Program.
What’s Going On
On-Line Degrees

The HCC Criminal Justice Undergraduate Studies Program now offers fully On-Line Degrees in Criminal Justice.

You can now get your A.S. or A.A.S. in Criminal Justice as well as you’re A.A. Justice Administration completely On-Line without ever attending a classroom.

For more information go to:
http://www.hccfl.edu/yc/cjt/online-program.aspx

What’s Coming Up
CJSA & CJT Activities

The Criminal Justice Student Association is planning two events for January 2011:

1) On January 19, 2011 there will be a tour of the Florida State Prison at Bushnell.

2) On January 28, 2011 in partnership with the Tampa Beautification Program, CJSA will participate in a clean-up at McKay Bay Nature park from 8am-12 pm/ noon.

Please contact Dr. Darwin Driggers if you are interested.

Criminal Justice Advising

NEW COURSE SUBSTITUTIONS

The Criminal Justice Undergraduate Program has added many new elective courses over the past few years and more are slated to be offered by next year as well.

Newly added elective courses generally do not appear on a student’s advising guide and therefore advising and computer audits often don’t count those toward your degree. Those new courses will count toward your degree; however, you will need to ask advising to do a substitution.

REMINDER

Don’t Forget.....
Use the Criminal Justice Web Site for all your advising needs:
hccfl.edu/cjt

REMINDER

The Criminal Justice A.S. Degree is one of seven A.S. Degrees which can transfer to Public Universities toward a Bachelors Degree.

Degree Coding... Errors and Solutions

Dr. Michael Reichard

Imagine that you are ready to graduate. You have taken every class you believed was required for your degree and you proceed to advising to apply for graduation. When they check your records, they tell you that you are missing all kinds of classes. Perhaps you leave angry or disappointed and start taking extra classes. Then you find out that advising had you coded for the wrong degree and that’s why they told you to take business law when you are a criminal justice major.

Every day students accessing the HCC computer system and students going to advising to determine the classes they need to take end up with incorrect information because HCC has them coded for the wrong degree program. Sometimes the error is because a student changed their “major” without updating their degree choice. Sometimes advising has miscoded a student and sometimes students make the wrong selection based on incorrect information.

These errors can result in students taking unnecessary classes and having their graduation delayed. Each of our students should check with admissions or advising to make sure they are coded in the correct degree. Students when changing their “major” should also go and update their degree selection.

The Criminal Justice faculty can assist you

Michael Reichard is the Program Manager of the Criminal Justice Undergraduate Studies Program.
Our Mission

The Criminal Justice Technology Undergraduate Studies Program is an undergraduate college program at Hillsborough Community College in which students can earn an Associate in Science Degree, an Associate in Applied Science Degree, a College Credit Certificate, as well as an Associate in Arts Degree in various Criminal Justice fields. Our graduates are preparing for careers in law enforcement, corrections, probation, the court system, and law.

The Criminal Justice Technology Undergraduate Program offers students a broad background in history, philosophy, organization, management and operation of the criminal justice system. This Program can be the start of a career in law enforcement, probation, corrections, crime scene and law.

We are on the Web
hccfl.edu/cjt

CJT joins TPD 5K Memorial Run ...

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