Our Third Annual Criminal Justice Teach-In A Great Success

By Ms. Cindy Moore, M.A.

On February 20 and 21, the Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies program proudly hosted its third annual “Great HCC Criminal Justice Teach-In” at the Ybor City Campus YPST Building. This annual, two day event is patterned after the national Great American Teach-In and features leaders of local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies. The Great HCC Criminal Justice Teach-In provides a unique opportunity for our students to learn, first hand, about the operation of various criminal justice agencies and entities which represent law enforcement, corrections, probation, prosecution, criminal defense, and the court system. In addition to the day-to-day operations of the agencies, our guest speakers also shared with our students their own career journeys, contemporary issues facing criminal justice agencies, and importantly, demonstrated to our students how their education at HCC may potentially lead to specific careers within these agencies. Each speaker allowed time for students to ask questions.

Our speakers included: Rocky Brancato, Director of Training, Hillsborough County Public Defender; Robert O’Neill, U.S. Attorney, Middle District of Florida, who spoke of his professional journey and encouraged our students to be willing to get out of their comfort zones in order to achieve their professional aspirations; Morris Silberman, Chief Judge, Florida 2nd District Court of Appeals; Kevin Richardson, Special Agent, Public Information Officer, ATF, who provided our students with valuable information regarding career opportunities with the ATF; Michael McPherson, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Tampa Office, FBI; Alex Hall, Branch Chief, Federal Public Defender, Middle District of Florida; Virginia Hernandez-Covington, U.S. District Court Judge, Middle District of Florida; Major Dennis Post, Southwest Regional Commander, Florida Wildlife Commission, who presented a dynamic video highlighting the various roles of his agency.

Rick Ramirez, Special Agent in Charge, Tampa Region, F.D.L.E., provided testimony about his career path, highlighted opportunities with F.D.L.E., and reminded students of how choices made today will impact the future. Jane Castor, Tampa Police Chief, shared professional experiences, highlighted the accomplishments of the agency in partnership with the community, and provided encouragement to students interested in a law enforcement career.

Our other speakers included Shelly Tomlison, Deputy Circuit Administrator, Community Corrections, FDOC; Thomas McFayden, Director, Central Region Residential Facilities, F.D.J.J.; and Captain Wellinger and Detective Richard, H.C.S.O.

The 2013 Great HCC Criminal Justice Teach-In was a tremendously successful event and an excellent opportunity to expose HCC students to local, state, and federal agencies. The faculty of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies program will continue to offer students this opportunity to connect with criminal justice agencies and intersect educational goals with specific career objectives and invite the larger HCC community to continue to share in this exciting annual event.

Ms Cindy Moore is a full time member of the faculty of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies Program.
By Judge Nick Nazaretian

In our last edition, we described the arraignment process that a defendant goes through. Our article today will focus on the appointment of counsel process. This procedure is also conducted at the arraignment. A defendant can hire private counsel to represent them through the trial process. There are lawyers that specialize in the practice of criminal law. These lawyers usually will charge according to the serious nature of the charges. The time a case will take also will have some bearing on the amount charged. Many defendants have to choose whether to bond out of jail or use their funds to hire a private lawyer. The choice most defendants make is to use their funds to bond out of jail. This may result in the defendant having to declare them self indigent. This declaration, once accepted by the court, will entitle the defendant to represent them through the trial process.

The Public Defender Office’s main duty in the criminal justice system is to represent indigent individuals charged with crimes in the State of Florida. The Public Defender system can be traced back over 50 years ago to the U.S. Supreme Court case of Gideon v. Wainwright, 1963. In that case, Clarence Gideon was arrested for a felony breaking and entering with the intent to commit petit larceny in Panama City, Florida in 1961. The trial judge did not appoint Mr. Gideon counsel and after the trial (in which he represented himself), he was found guilty and sentenced to 5 years in prison. Mr. Gideon, while in prison, wrote his own post conviction pleadings and eventually his case was heard by the U.S. Supreme Court. The U.S. Supreme Court ultimately reversed his case and sent it back down to the trial court for re-trial. Mr. Gideon was retried, this time with a lawyer, and he was acquitted. After Gideon was decided, the 1963 Florida Legislature established Florida’s present public defender system. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black was quoted in this case to have proclaimed that “Lawyers in criminal courts are necessities, not luxuries”.

Today, the majority of criminal defendants facing criminal charges here in Florida have Clarence Gideon to thank for the system in providing them representation for their criminal cases. Prior to my years on the bench and as a prosecutor, I had the honor to serve as an assistant public defender in Pinellas and Pasco counties. I began my legal career as a young public defender. The experiences and education I received as a public defender remain with me today, and, I have no doubt, these experiences have helped me in my previous job as a prosecutor and my current job as a Judge.

Regardless of whether you hire a lawyer or one is appointed for you, the right to counsel is a fundamental right that every criminal defendant has in our criminal justice system. While a defendant has the right to defend himself (Pro Se), the defendant must be warned by the trial court for re-trial. Mr. Gideon was retried, this time with a lawyer, and he was acquitted. After Gideon was decided, the 1963 Florida Legislature established Florida’s present public defender system. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black was quoted in this case to have proclaimed that “Lawyers in criminal courts are necessities, not luxuries”.

In my next article, we will continue our journey through the criminal justice system discussing the criminal discovery process.

Nick Nazaretian is an Adjunct member of the faculty of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies Program and is a Circuit Court Judge in Hillsborough County.
Gain Valuable On-the-Job Experience While Completing Your Criminal Justice Degree

For students interested in this program, go to the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) website, www.joinhcsco.com and select the appropriate tab for Reserve Deputy. The website provides information about all qualifications for this position and an apply now tab. Prior to applying for this position, the candidate must complete either the CJBAT or FBAT test. To take this test, contact Cindy Green at Hillsborough Community College to schedule yourself via email at cgreen@hccfl.edu. This is a State of Florida mandated test for all sworn personnel. The cost of the test is $40.00. The test is also offered at other certified colleges throughout the State of Florida. After completing one of the required tests, the student should go to the above HCSO website, Reserve II Deputy, Apply Now Page. Complete an on-line profile, and complete the pre-screen questionnaire and submit. The applicant will then be contacted and invited to complete the PAA (Physical Abilities Assessment).

Get a head start on your law enforcement career now by becoming a member of the HCSO law enforcement community as a Reserve II Deputy.

Dorothy Flair is a Reserve I Deputy with the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office assigned to Recruitment and Screening and a former full-time Deputy.

Profiles of our Alumni... LaToyia Brim

By Ms. Cindy Moore

LaToyia Brim. LaToyia graduated with an Associate of Science degree in Criminal Justice in the Spring of 2013. Upon graduation, LaToyia enrolled at the University of South Florida where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. While at HCC, LaToyia was a dynamic academic leader in the classroom and a member of the Criminal Justice Student Association.

In addition to her commitment to academic success, LaToyia has worked full-time while completing her studies at HCC and USF. She is also the mother of 3 children and has two grandchildren whom she enjoys spending time with. When asked to reflect on her experiences at HCC and what advice she might offer future students, LaToyia stated that her experiences at HCC have provided her the tools to be continuously academically successful. She stated that her professors encouraged her to be determined and self-focused. She explained that the structure of many of her HCC courses mirror that of her current coursework in terms of syllabi expectations and the rigor of examinations. LaToyia would advise students at HCC to actively network with professors, student peers, and those who students may interact with through internships as this will be very useful in the future. She also recommends that students take advantage of study groups, campus based academic resources, and refrain from “overloading” oneself. LaToyia suggests that following such advice allows students to remain focused and reach goals.

Although LaToyia’s time is balanced between school, work, and family, she is also committed to preparing for the LSAT. Upon completion of her Bachelor of Science degree, LaToyia intends to enroll in law school. Her goal is to become a defense attorney whereby she will focus on either criminal law or entertainment law.

Congratulations! HCC is proud of what you have accomplished and our faculty look forward to witnessing your continued success.
April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month…

Time to Take Back the Night

By Dr. Mindy Neal

Every two minutes someone in the United States is assaulted.
Sexual assault occurs in 10-14% of all marriages.
17% of men and 25% of women are or will be victims of sexual assault in their lifetime.
80% of victims are under 30.
90% of young women involved in prostitution were sexually abused as children.
80% of victims are assaulted by a known acquaintance.
Only 5-20% of sexual assaults are actually reported to police.

Statistics from the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay (citing Rid of my Disgrace, by Justin and Lindsey Holcomb)

The above are powerful statistics that shed light on an often overlooked problem in our country. However, in April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, in collaboration with the Sexual Violence Task Force of Tampa Bay, shined a bright light on the issue by hosting Tampa Bay's annual Take Back the Night event. Take Back the Night is an interactive event that creates awareness, empowers survivors and educates the community about sexual violence. For over 35 years in the United States, Take Back the Night has symbolized hope, healing and resiliency for an end to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and all other forms of sexual abuse. The Sexual Violence Task Force of Tampa Bay continues to write this history with Tampa's annual free event, Take Back the Night, at Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park. This year's event was held on Sunday, April 21, 2013. The goal was to empower, to stand in solidarity and to bring awareness to the Tampa Bay community.

Members of HCC's Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies Program were in attendance. The events this year included:

4:00 – Music, Clothesline Project, Resource and Children's Fair
6:00 – Ceremony, Men's Pledge, March
7:00 – Candlelight Vigil, Survivor's Speak-Out

Dr. Mindy Neal is a full time member of the faculty of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies Program.

For students interested in learning more about domestic and family violence, the HCC Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies Program offers the following courses:

- Domestic & Sexual Violence, CCJ 2685, Taught by Professor Jada Bush
- Introduction to Victimology, CCJ 2013, Taught by Dr. Mindy Neal
- Human Behavior in Criminal Justice, CCJ 2191, Taught by Professor Cindy Moore

We also offer Criminal Justice Internships at the Spring of Tampa Bay

Criminal Justice Internship CCJ-2940,
Contact Dr. Michael Reichard
Crisis Center of Tampa Bay

By Dr. Mindy Neal

The Criminal Justice Student Association (CJSA) hosted the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay on March 27, 2013. Marilyn Bray, Outreach and Empowerment Coordinator for the Crisis Center, spoke to the students for approximately an hour about the services provided by the Crisis Center as well as about sexual assault in particular as April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Ms. Bray explained that the Crisis Center is the first stop for help, hope and healing when someone has experienced a traumatic event or is in crisis. They can help you deal with the devastating trauma of sexual assault or abuse, domestic violence, financial distress, substance abuse, medical emergency, suicidal thoughts, emotion or situational problems. The Crisis Center is there 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Dial 2-1-1 and you will receive free, confidential crisis counseling, along with referrals to a Crisis Center or over 3,500 other community resources.

Some of the services the Crisis Center provides are:

- Free crisis counseling and referrals
- Suicide prevention and support for at-risk individuals and their families
- Specialized trauma counseling and therapy for children, adults and families who have experienced abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence, recent loss of a loved one or any type of emotional trauma
- Forensic examinations, crisis counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual assault
- Case management and financial counseling for families with children
- Telephone reassurance calls and daily safety checks for low-income, socially-isolated elderly and disabled adults
- Educational programs and workshops that focus on emotional wellness customized for organizations, employee groups, volunteers or professionals

TransCare Medical Transportation Services – Emergency mental health and basic life support ambulance services. Available 24 hours a day by dialing 9-1-1.

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Did You Know:

From 1930 through 2012, a total of 5,179 executions were carried out in the United States.

43 executions were carried out in the U.S. during 2012, continuing a downward trend that began in a decade ago.

From the Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, University at Albany, SUNY

For A Complete List of Criminal Justice Textbooks:

http://www.hccfl.edu/yct/cjt/for-students/textbooks.aspx

REMINDER
A.S. Programs now have an Advisor located at the YPST Building:
Jodi Haller
Room 138

Teach-In Pictures Continued From Page 1

Robert O’Neill, U.S. Attorney, Middle District of Florida, addresses our students, staff, and visitors at our Criminal Justice Teach-In

Morris Silberman, Chief Judge, Florida’s 2nd District Court of Appeal at our Criminal Justice Teach-In

Rick Ramirez, FDLE Special Agent-in-Charge, Tampa Bay Region at our Criminal Justice Teach-In

Jane Castor, Tampa Police Chief at our Criminal Justice Teach-In
What’s Coming Up
Criminal Justice Activities

Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies
Look for an expansion of our Homeland Security course offerings come Fall 2013

What’s Going On
Criminal Justice

Alpha Xi Delta
Guest Speaker was Les Joughin
Event took place on Monday, April 22, 2013

CJ News

Criminal Justice Student Shirts Available
Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies Program students can purchase program based HCC logo polo shirts at the Ybor City Campus bookstore. The cost is $26.70 including tax.
See our web site at:
http://www.hccfl.edu/yc/cjt/for-students/cjt-store.aspx or contact the Ybor City Bookstore for more information.

CONGRATULATIONS
CJSA New President Clarinette Edwards

Dr. Mindy Neal was recently elected by the College-wide faculty as Vice Chair of HCC’s Academic Affairs Committee for a two year term beginning Fall 2013

Advising Notes

SEMINARS COURSE
Seminars in Criminal Justice has been renumbered from CCJ-1935 to CCJ-2935. Additionally, the Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies Program will begin offering multiple Seminar topics. Different Seminar topics will have different course numbers. For instance:
CCJ-2935 is Seminar on Criminal Justice Topic: Federal Criminal Investigations
CCJ-2936 is Seminar on Criminal Justice Topic: Introduction to Street Gangs
Students can take and get credit for both Seminars classes since they have a different number.

Our Instructors… Profiles of your Faculty

DAVID C. HARDY, M.A., J.D.,
David C. Hardy received his Bachelor’s Degree from Providence College in 1989, his Master’s Degree in Education from Boston College in 1992, and his law degree from Suffolk University Law School in 2000. He has taught GED, ESL, and violence prevention to inmates at the Suffolk County House of Correction in Boston, MA and high school and middle school social studies and Spanish. Mr. Hardy served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Honduras, Central America where he trained hundreds of police officers and Justices of the Peace on legal reforms and assisted local governments draft new laws. After working in a law firm that specialized in personal injury law, Mr. Hardy served as an Assistant State Attorney in Tampa. He is a graduate of the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys’ Association’s DUI Course and the National District Attorneys’ Association’s Trial Practice Course. In 2010, the Florida Bar designated Mr. Hardy as a Board Certified Expert in the area of Criminal Trial Law.

Guest Speaker Highlight

It is with gratitude that the Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies program acknowledges FBI Special Agent Nick Nance. Special Agent Nance visited with both the Field Studies and the Careers in Criminal Justice classes during the Spring 2013 term. Special Agent Nance provided students with information on various roles with the FBI including Special Agents and Professional Staff careers. Nance also spoke about his personal career journey, the realities of federal law enforcement, specific issues that students may want to consider as they prepare themselves for their professional future. Thank you, Special Agent Nance, for sharing your time and experiences with our students.
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.

Practicum Course Applications

In order to graduate, A.S. students are required to take (1) CCJ-2910, Directed Research and (2) CCJ-2940, Criminal Justice Internship, or CCJ-2949, Criminal Justice Field Studies.

Students wishing to register for these courses must submit an application in advance of registering. Applications should be submitted at least 3-6 months in advance to guarantee a seat. Applications for Directed Research should be submitted to Dr. Neal and applications for the Internship and Field Studies should be submitted to Dr. Reichard. Students are not allowed to register for these courses until their application is approved.