President’s Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of PacifiCrim for 2012!

Following the highly successful annual conference in Geelong, there has been a great deal of activity in the Society, much of it behind-the-scenes, to do with administration and governance of the Association.

On 20 February 2012, a Special General Meeting was held in Melbourne at which a number of changes to the Society’s Rules were approved. These amendments were needed to acknowledge, in a more formal way, the importance of the ever-increasing New Zealand membership – with the Second Vice-President’s position now being specifically designated for a New Zealand Committee member. In addition, the Committee now includes two New Zealand representatives in addition to the New Zealand Vice-President. A number of other minor changes were approved concerning the functions and duties of Committee members. In addition, changes were made to the Society’s rules to enable us to have a credit card account and also to use online banking. New transaction authorisation procedures were agreed that will ensure that banking is undertaken both efficiently and securely. I would also like to thank Marie Segrave, for helping me to organise these new procedures. In May 2012, Marie tendered her resignation as Treasurer owing to competing demands on her time, and Noel Turner, a PhD candidate at Monash University, agreed to take over as Acting Treasurer until the next AGM.

A new ANZSOC Award has also been established to recognise an individual who has demonstrated outstanding, significant and sustained contribution to Australian or New Zealand criminology in one or more of the following areas: teaching and scholarship; advancing international appreciation of criminology through research and publications; or involvement in criminology in public life. The Distinguished Criminologist Award is made in recognition of the recipient’s lifetime contribution to criminology. Details of the eligibility criteria and judging procedures are explained on the ANZSOC website. The inaugural Award will be announced at the Auckland conference in November, following which the recipient will prepare an article for publication in our Journal reflecting on criminology during the period of their career. Hilde Tubex was principally responsible for drafting the rules for this Award. One other Award has been created to assist postgraduate criminology students resident in New Zealand to attend the annual conference. This will be given to a New Zealand postgraduate student who submits the best Abstract for the annual ANZSOC conference.

The other important initiative that has taken place since last September has been the call for expressions of interest for the position of Editor of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology. Sharon Pickering is nearing the end of her term as Editor in November and it is necessary for a new Editor to be appointed. More will be said later in the year about Sharon’s fabulous work as Editor during the important period of transition to SAGE as publisher. The Selection Committee is in the process of selecting a new Editor who will begin work in December 2012 for a three year term.

I hope that everyone has a productive and successful year, and I look forward to seeing you at the Auckland conference.

Russell G Smith
ANZSOC President

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The views expressed in PacifiCrim are those of contributors and do not necessarily represent those of ANZSOC Inc.
Secretary’s Report

This is my first newsletter as the Secretary of ANZSOC and the first for 2012. Previous Secretary Signe Dalsgaard gave me a great handover at the Geelong conference, where I enjoyed meeting other members of the Committee of Management both past and present. Thanks to everyone that attended the Geelong conference. During the conference the Society also held its Annual General Meeting. Members can find the draft minutes of the meeting and reports on the website.

As you will see from this issue of the newsletter, preparations are now well underway for the 2012 ANZSOC conference to be held in Auckland about which I am particularly excited. Abstracts and registrations are now open for the 2012 conference at www.anzsoc2012.org.

I’ve been kept very busy in my first few months as Secretary preparing for the Special General Meeting in February, updating the website, and introducing a number of new awards for 2012 among other things. Details of all our awards, including how to apply, can be found on the website.

There is a lot of other information at your disposal on the website including a special members area where you can get in touch with other members, review meetings, renew your membership – just remember to login. You can also update your details online to ensure we can stay in contact with you. We have also launched a new Facebook page so if you are on Facebook, remember to ‘like’ us!

Taking on the role of Secretary means that we have had a change of contact details, including new email addresses. I can now be contacted at secretary@anzsoc.org. Feel free to contact me anytime in relation to the Society and in particular with regards to your membership. The Secretariat only operates on Fridays so I will get back to you as soon as possible.

A friendly reminder that memberships will be due for renewal by 1 July and you will receive an email reminding you of your login details and instructions on how to renew them. Renew in time to ensure you continue to receive your copy of the Journal. For those of you who are not yet members, I would encourage you to join. You can complete a membership application form online at any time.

Once again, I look forward to seeing many of you in Auckland in November.

Kate Hancott
ANZSOC Secretary

PacifiCrim Editor’s Note

Welcome to the first issue of PacifiCrim for 2012, which is also my first as incoming PacifiCrim Editor. When I am not producing newsletters I am completing my PhD at Griffith University examining the role of strain and emotions on homicide. My research forms part of the Australian Homicide Project, which is a national ARC Discovery project examining developmental and situational pathways to intimate partner homicide.

One of my main priorities as incoming Editor was to create an Editorial Committee to assist in the creation and production of this newsletter. The committee consists of Rebecca Wallis and Chris Dowling from Griffith University, whose tasks are to assist in brainstorming topics, chasing down articles and solving technical issues. I am grateful for their dedication and hard work.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform readers of our plans for this newsletter. Our aim is to continue the good work of previous editors in providing information about ANZSOC, its members and activities. Additionally, we have also introduced some new features, such as opinion pieces and interviews with award recipients and other ANZSOC members.

As many will no doubt be aware, the 2012 ANZSOC conference will focus on the themes of crime, power and marginalisation. This issue of PacifiCrim will do the same. We have invited John Buttle from the Auckland University of Technology to discuss some particular issues criminologists face within the New Zealand context. Additionally, Elena Marchetti from the University of Wollongong provides her insights into conducting research with Indigenous Australians.

In this issue we also sit down with the two ANZSOC members who received the inaugural Discovery Early Career Researcher Award, Anna Eriksson and Tara McGee, to talk about their research projects and their plans for the future. Avid readers of PacifiCrim will of course find a number of recurring sections, such as the ANZSOC member profiles and the postgraduate and early career researcher corner.

PacifiCrim requires ongoing input from our ANZSOC members and we warmly welcome your contribution to the newsletter. The deadline for expressions of interest regarding content for the next issue of PacifiCrim is 27 July. If you would like to contribute, please contact me on l.eriksson@griffith.edu.au.

The next issue of the newsletter will be published in conjunction with the 2012 Auckland conference in November. I look forward to seeing you there.

Li Eriksson
PacifiCrim Editor
Since 2009 I have immensely enjoyed engaging with authors, board members, reviewers and readers of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology. In working with all involved with the process of reviewing and publishing in the Journal I am continually struck by the intellectual integrity, endeavour and generosity that marks the many hours that have been invested by so many of you over this time. An Editor is entirely beholden to authors seeking to submit their best work to their Journal and to the reviewers engaging diligently and fairly with the work. When I first took the position I gratefully acknowledged the work of my predecessors Professors Pratt and Mazerolle and over the three years my appreciation for their work has only grown. The support of my Associate Editors, Professors Mason and Goldsmith has been critical as has the role of Review Editor Dr Grewcock who I am sure you will agree has brought new life to the review section of the Journal.

But I cannot help but note that far more people were keen to buy me a drink three years ago than perhaps they are now. I assume that is the pinch of the Global Financial Crisis. In those three years the Journal has undergone some significant changes. Our shift to SAGE has improved the fortunes of the Journal immeasurably (well actually they now measure most aspects of the Journal – from the average time any single reviewer takes to return their review, to how many people have accessed (I like to think read) your article from any given region of the world). But as you all well know – in all the bibliometrics the Journal has gone from strength to strength. The ANZJC is well placed not only to consolidate these gains but improve on them under the next Editor. The ability of SAGE to publish and distribute your work throughout the world means literally tens of thousands are now reading your articles. Caroline Porter from SAGE deserves special mention and her crack team deliver an unprecedented level of service to the Journal and the Society.

Looking back over the past 10 issues the demographic of authors are changing. We are publishing more international work without compromising our responsibility to national, state and local concerns. I have worked closely with the excellent team involved with the ANZSOC PG/ECR day to ensure the Journal and the process of publishing is demystified for early career researchers and postgraduates. We have worked at international conferences to raise the profile of the Journal, especially the SAGE launch at ASC in San Francisco. We have gone online – making the management of the Journal more systematic and predictable. And on that front I must stop and pause to thank someone that so many of you have come to know over the email. Emma Colvin has been the most outstanding Managing Editor. She has professionalised the role of Managing Editor and in turn professionalised the Editorial team. Emma and I have met every week, usually of a Friday for nearly three years. My term as Editor should rightly be regarded as a partnership with Emma for her invaluable contribution to the process of Editing the Journal.

I am grateful to the Society, and especially the Committee of Management, for sharing my vision to internationalise the Journal when I took on this role, and in particular for their courage in moving to SAGE. I will look back fondly on my time as Editor.

PS Throughout the journey I have kept a careful record of significant activity in relation to the Journal for use in post retirement memoirs. These include but are not limited to: the criminologist most likely to spit the dummy at an unfavourable review; the criminologist most likely to reject; the reviewer that would recommend publication of a post it note; the criminologist most likely to submit a post it note for publication; the criminologist with the highest number of self-cites; the criminologist least likely to recuse themselves in a conflict of interest; the author most likely to send numerous emails USING EXCESSIVE CAPITALISATION to convince the Editor not to publish critiques of their work. However on advice from PacifiCrim lawyers I will continue to withhold these names. Anyone worried about this should remember I have about 30 years until I retire.

Sharon Pickering
ANZJC Editor

Submitting manuscripts to the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology

If you wish to submit a manuscript for the consideration of the Editor of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology please log in via the following link:

http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/anzjc

If you do not already have an account for the Journal you will need to create a new account. If you have any problems setting up an account or logging into manuscript central please contact Emma Colvin (emma.colvin@monash.edu).

Please note the Journal accepts articles between 6,000 and 8,000 words in length. Full details of our submission guidelines can be found at http://www.uk.sagepub.com/journals/Journal202004.

If you are interested in completing a book review for the Journal please contact our Book Review Editor, Dr Mike Grewcock (m.grewcock@unsw.edu.au).
“Public Criminologies: Crime, Power and Marginalisation”

2012 ANZSOC Auckland Conference
The University of Auckland
27-29 November 2012 (Tuesday to Thursday)

Preceded by the
One-Day Postgraduate and Early Career Researcher Conference
Auckland University of Technology
26 November 2012 (Monday)

The twenty-fifth (25th) annual ANZSOC conference will be held in Auckland, New Zealand, jointly hosted by the University of Auckland and the Auckland University of Technology.

Auckland is a vibrant, metropolitan city with easy access to vistas of breathtaking beauty. It is New Zealand’s largest city and is considered by many to be the gateway to the Pacific.

The theme for the 2012 conference is Public Criminologies: Crime, Power and Marginalisation. Keynote speakers for the conference include William Chambliss, Meda Chesney-Lind and Moana Jackson.

Registration and paper submission details are available on the conference website:

www.anzsoc2012.org
2012 ANZSOC Conference: Introducing the Keynote Speakers

Professor William Chambliss

Professor Chambliss has received numerous awards for his research and teaching including the prestigious Edwin H. Sutherland Award from the American Society of Criminology, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Sociological Association, the Bruce Smith Lifetime Achievement Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, the PASS Award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Sociology of Law Section of the American Sociological Association. In 1999, Professor Chambliss was awarded an honorary doctorate of law from the University of Guelph, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He has been recognised as an outstanding teacher by being inducted into the George Washington University Chapter of Golden Key International Honour Society and the National Honor Society for Outstanding Teachers. In the spring of 2006, Professor Chambliss participated in the Oxford Roundtable on Criminal Justice at Oxford University, England, and in March 2008 he delivered the Beto Chair Lecture in Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University. In May 2008, Professor Chambliss organised a workshop on state crime at the Onati International Institute for the Study of Law and Society in Onati, Spain which included papers by an international group of scholars from Europe, New Zealand, Asia, and America. He also presented two papers at the workshop: “International Drug Policy and State Crime” and “Prosecutorial Misconduct as State Crime” (with J. Jeffrey Chambliss). His upcoming publications include: State Crime in the Global Age (edited with Raymond Michalowski and Ronald Kramer: Willan, 2010) and a forthcoming criminology text (with Aida Haas) Criminology: Research, Theory and Practice (McGraw Hill, 2012).

Professor Meda Chesney-Lind

Meda Chesney-Lind, Ph.D. is Professor of Women’s Studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Nationally recognised for her work on women and crime, the author of seven books, she has just finished two books on trends in girls’ violence, entitled Beyond Bad Girls: Gender, Violence and Hype written with Katherine Irwin and Fighting for Girls co-edited with Nikki Jones. Fighting for Girls recently won an award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency for “focusing America’s attention on the complex problems of the criminal and juvenile justice systems.” She received the Bruce Smith, Sr. Award “for outstanding contributions to Criminal Justice” from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in April, 2001. She was named a fellow of the American Society of Criminology in 1996 and has also received the Herbert Block Award for service to the society and the profession from the American Society of Criminology. She has also received the Donald Cressey Award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency for “outstanding contributions to the field of criminology,” the Founders award of the Western Society of Criminology for “significant improvement of the quality of justice,” and the University of Hawaii Board of Regent’s Medal for Excellence in Research. Finally, Professor Chesney-Lind has recently joined a group studying trends in youth gangs organised by the National Institute of Justice, and she was among the scholars working with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s Girls Study Group. In Hawaii, she has worked with the Family Court, First Circuit advising them on the recently formed Girls Court as well as helping improve the situation of girls in detention.

Moana Jackson

Moana Jackson is a New Zealand Māori lawyer specialising in the Treaty of Waitangi and constitutional issues. A graduate in Law and Criminology from Victoria University of Wellington, Moana practiced law and then took up the teaching of Māori language. He undertook further study in the United States before returning to New Zealand to conduct research for the then Justice Department report “The Māori and the Criminal Justice System: A New Perspective, He Whaipaanga Hou”, published in 1988. Moana was the director of the Māori Law Commission and has worked extensively overseas on international indigenous issues, particularly the drafting of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He was appointed Judge on the international People’s Tribunal in 1993, sitting on hearings in Hawaii, Canada and Mexico. Moana teaches in the Māori Law and Philosophy degree program at Te Wānanga o Raukawa and wrote about restorative justice in a 1996 report called “Māori and the Criminal Justice System”. Moana is of Ngāti Kahungunu, Rongomaiwahine and Ngāti Porou descent.
How can Criminology as an Academic Discipline Engage with Criminalisation and Marginalisation in Aotearoa?

At a quick glance it is easy to assume that crime is not such a problem and that the criminal justice system is exemplary in Aotearoa (New Zealand). Many would consider that the land known for its statutory support of restorative justice would have a fairly liberal criminal justice system where prison would be an outdated concept only used as a last resort. Many would also expect that the use of the Treaty of Waitangi in the Tino Rangatiratanga discourse that expresses the Maori right to govern themselves would mean a less racially biased approach to indigenous issues regarding criminal justice. Furthermore, New Zealand’s image as a rural paradise often infers that crime is relatively absent. While there may be a modicum of truth to these assumptions, like any modern society New Zealand has its social problems to contend with.

New Zealand’s criminal justice system is harsher than most when it comes to the number of people incarcerated. As a percentage of the population, New Zealand incarcerates at higher levels than Australia, England and Wales, and the other European countries. The resultant overcrowding has led to an expensive prison building program, and the adoption of “three strikes and you are out” legislation would seem to ensure that these new prisons will be filled to capacity. It is also the case that people are being incarcerated for longer periods of time.

Racial prejudice is also a problem in New Zealand. The most notable example of this in recent times was the use of the Terrorism Suppression Act by the New Zealand Police to conduct raids on the Tuhoi Iwi (tribal group). This, and the fact that Maori peoples are overrepresented in incarceration rates as a percentage of the population, attests to the levels of racial profiling that bias New Zealand’s criminal justice system. Furthermore, a similar bias is present where Pacific peoples and other immigrant groups are concerned. Like many jurisdictions it is the poor and marginalised that shoulder the brunt of incarceration while the wealthy and powerful are for the most part ignored by the criminal justice system.

While the bias in the criminal justice system cannot be attributed to any single political party it is notable that the latest national government’s conservative agenda is adding considerably to these problems. The national government has been loudly championing the idea of a liberal criminal justice system, while facilitating more draconian responses to crime. This has made it difficult for social commentators to target an appropriate response because to challenge the government’s approach to crime would interfere not only with their draconian notions but the more liberal aspects of their stance as well. This political strategy has enabled statutes that support harsher sentencing to be passed with relatively weak resistance from social commentators.

Academics and other informed commentators need a more sophisticated understanding of how and when to interact with the media and policy makers. One of the main problems with seeking informed opinions on crime and the criminal justice system in New Zealand is that, with only eight universities and three criminology degree courses in the country, it is not easy to locate an appropriate expert. It is also the case that academic interactions with the media can prove to exacerbate incorrect assumptions made about crime when academics speak outside of their topic of expertise or are misquoted by the media.

In New Zealand, right wing criminal justice advocacy groups like the Sensible Sentencing Trust have had a considerable impact on criminal justice policy, with little opposition to their draconian position on crime. The “hang them high” approach to criminal justice has greater prevalence in the public psyche. The Howard League for Penal Reform appears to have neglected the need to engage with the public on criminal justice matters leaving the Rethinking Crime and Punishment project to forge the first line of defence against the use of misinformation about crime. The challenge for the discipline of criminology in New Zealand is how to effectively engage in public debates about criminal justice.

John Buttle
Auckland University
of Technology

John Buttle is a Senior Lecturer at Auckland University of Technology. He gained his Ph.D. in Criminology from the Centre for Comparative Criminology and Criminal Justice in the School of Social Sciences at the University of Wales, Bangor in the United Kingdom.

John’s current research interests revolve around police reform in New Zealand and Indonesia, examining what is known about rural crime and policing, gaining greater understanding of police legitimacy as well as systems of police accountability, and examining the public perception of crime and the police. One of John’s more recent interest is studying the use of restorative justice in cases of sexual violence.

John is one of the conference organisers of the 2012 ANZSOC conference.
Conducting Research with Marginalised Groups

The place to begin is to think about what is a ‘marginalised group’. The way it is defined depends entirely on the context within which one is considering the placement of a group. The Oxford Dictionary Online defines ‘marginalised’ as ‘to remove from the centre or mainstream; to force (an individual, minority group, etc.) to the periphery of a dominant social group; (gen.)’. Being marginalised is therefore usually synonymous with being disempowered but whether a group of people is disempowered in one particular situation may be quite different to their level of empowerment in another. For example, gay men are currently marginalised when it comes to marriage laws, but they are not usually considered economically marginalised. This degree of marginalisation and contextualisation of the issue in question will inevitably impact on the manner in which a researcher approaches their task.

My involvement with marginalised communities has mainly been with Indigenous Australians, who, regardless of their current situation, have no doubt lived the experience of being a member of a marginalised community. The focus of this thought-piece is therefore on working with Indigenous communities, which for me started with my PhD research on the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody in 2000, but which now involves researching Indigenous sentencing courts and their use in sentencing partner violence offenders. There are, of course, many ethical considerations that need to be addressed when conducting research with Indigenous (and other marginalised) communities, including a need to ensure that appropriate cultural protocols are followed. In order to do this, it is important to include the involvement of an Indigenous researcher or advisory committee on the project. Their input into the research projects I have been involved in, has always been informative and has lead me to adopt practices and processes that I may have otherwise not considered important. I have also learnt that applying for ethics approval via a university Human Research and Ethics Committee (HREC), although seemingly tedious and time consuming, is a crucial component of refining the topic and methodological approaches that will be used. Due to the fact that researchers can obtain ethics advice from their respective HRECs and from texts that have been published on the topic, I am going to focus the rest of this thought-piece on the beliefs and practices that have shaped and influenced my research practices when working with Indigenous communities.

My goal has always been to adopt feminist and decolonising research approaches when interviewing participants, which first and foremost requires building a rapport with the people being interviewed. Developing a relationship of trust takes time and commitment, but without it, it is unlikely that research involving working with Indigenous communities will be very productive. Building this relationship involves taking the time to meet with members of the community to canvas their ideas and thoughts about the proposed research project. Feminist and decolonising approaches also require the researcher to be aware of the fact that ‘research is not an innocent or distant academic exercise but an activity that has something at stake and that occurs in a set of political and social conditions’ (Tuhiwai Smith, 1999, p. 5). With this in mind I tend to offer a certain amount of self-disclosure about why I am interested in the topic being researched and what personal experiences affect my views regarding the disadvantage and oppression of Indigenous people. Aside from this over-arching goal and practice, I have over the years realised that there are three main values and ways of behaving that are for me crucial in working with the people who have been so kind and generous in giving me their time and knowledge:

(1) Respecting the participants and their community, and maintaining a sense of humility: I always enter the space of the person or people I am interviewing, with the sense that I am the ‘other’, that my knowledge is limited, and that I owe whatever I learn to the person or people with whom I am interacting;

(2) Asking the right questions: Questions need to be framed in a way that makes sense to the participant, which for my research has required the input of members of the community in which I am working; and

(3) Ensuring the existence of reciprocity: There is always an opportunity to provide a positive reciprocal action, whether it is present in the underlying intention of the research or whether it is offering assistance that you know can be easily given.

Working with minority groups can often involve juggling a variety of tasks and having to deal with differing opinions (both from within and outside the minority community). Despite this, I have always found the work immensely rewarding, mainly because of the people I’ve met and friendships I’ve formed, and because I hold onto the hope, that one day, my research will help to make a difference.

References:

Elena Marchetti
University of Wollongong

Elena Marchetti recently joined the Faculty of Law at the University of Wollongong as a Research Professor. She was previously an Associate Professor at Griffith University, Brisbane.

In 2009, Elena, together with Professor Kathleen Daly and Dr Jackie Huggins were awarded a five-year ARC Discovery Grant to research the use of Indigenous sentencing courts in sentencing partner violence offenders. Elena was also awarded a five-year Australian Research Fellowship as part of the project. Elena’s other research interests include Indigenous and feminist critiques of criminal justice processes, and access to justice for minority groups.
ANZSOC

**Distinguished Criminologist Award**

The ANZSOC Distinguished Criminologist Award is awarded each year to an individual who, in the opinion of the judges, has demonstrated outstanding, significant and sustained contribution to Australian or New Zealand criminology in one or more of the following areas: teaching and scholarship; advancing international appreciation of criminology through research and publications; or involvement in criminology in public life. The award is made in recognition of the recipient’s lifetime contribution to criminology.

In February each year, the current President and immediate Past-President of ANZSOC (together with the current New Zealand Vice-President if the current President or immediate Past-President are not from New Zealand), shall compile a short-list of suitable candidates for receipt of the Award. The names of these individuals along with their full curricula vitae and brief statements of the grounds for their selection, shall be circulated amongst the full Committee of Management, in confidence, for consideration and decision by 1 April annually. The decision shall not be announced publicly until the Award is presented at the annual conference, although the winner shall be notified, in confidence, once the decision has been made. The names of all unsuccessful candidates shall remain confidential. Current ANZSOC Officers and Committee members are ineligible to receive the Award during the term of their office, although past Officers and Committee members may be considered. Previous winners of the Award are also ineligible, although previous unsuccessful candidates may be considered for an Award in future years. Posthumous Awards will not be given.

Only one Award will be given each year, unless exceptional circumstances exist, and the Committee may decide not to give an Award in any given year. The Award is decided by a majority decision of the Committee of Management with the President having an additional deciding vote in the event of an equal vote by the Committee.

The winner of the Award will be presented with a Certificate at the Society’s next annual conference and will be expected to contribute an article for publication in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology reflecting on criminology during the period of their career in Australia and or New Zealand. Candidates for receipt of the Award are not required to make any application.
Criminology at AUT University

The Department of Social Sciences at Auckland University of Technology (AUT) was the first to offer criminology as a subject in Auckland/New Zealand in 2008. The extensive and continuously growing criminology programme offers students a wide variety of interesting papers.

The Bachelor of Arts Criminology is a double major enabling the study of criminology while also majoring in another subject. It provides students with a comprehensive introduction to the field of criminology, drawing upon the theory and practice of both national and international contexts. Students explore crime and its control in New Zealand and other jurisdictions, and gain a broad understanding of criminological matters. During their first year pupils take papers that provide them with the necessary skills in writing and research preparing them for specialised criminological studies in year two and three.

Papers offered in the programme include: Understanding Crime; Crime and Deviance; Prisons and Punishment; Policing and Society; Police and Crime Prevention; Understanding Restorative Justice. The compulsory Cooperative Education paper (unique to AUT) gives students the opportunity to apply their academic skills in an authentic workplace environment. Students reflect on their vocational goals as well as the processes and outcomes of their particular project. Unsurprisingly, many graduates have found employment with their supervising workplace.

The criminology programme has already produced its first postgraduate students. Masters student Rodgers investigated Competing Moral Panics; PhD student Tunufa’i studies Samoan attitudes towards crime; and PhD student Takacs researches Māori and Romani Juvenile Justice.

Currently, three academic staff members are dedicated to teaching the criminology programme at AUT University. Dr Robert Webb has a background in sociology and criminology. In his research he explores connections between criminology and state criminal justice policies that are applied to Maori; crime and safety issues for Maori in Auckland; and Maori criminogenic needs and risk factors. Dr John Buttle gained his Ph.D. in Criminology at the University of Wales. John’s current research interests revolve around police reform in New Zealand and Indonesia; rural crime and policing; police legitimacy; systems of police accountability; public perception of crime and the police. Dr Antje Deckert gained her doctorate in law from the European University Viadrina in Germany. Her understanding of criminology is strongly influenced by her legal background. Her research interests include the sociology of criminal law and punishment; the diverse role of violence in the criminological context; media and crime; and criminology – its academics and students.

Criminology at the University of Auckland

Criminology is a relatively new subject at the University of Auckland, established in 2009, with the first postgraduate courses offered in 2011. Undergraduates earning a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree can major or minor in criminology. Postgraduates can earn BA honours, postgraduate certificates in Arts, and Master of Arts degrees in the subject. While approval for the conferral of PhD degrees is being sought, postgraduates can study criminological topics within the sociology PhD programme.

Taught within the department of sociology, with other courses offered from related disciplines, criminology at the University of Auckland tends to focus on theoretical approaches (especially penal policy and issues of social inequality). Undergraduate courses in the major include: Debates in Criminology; Contemporary Issues in Punishment; Issues in Criminal Justice; and Criminology: The Indigenous and the Global. Postgraduate courses include: Criminological Theory; Advanced Issues in Penology; and Contemporary Criminology.

Half of the permanent staff members from the University of Auckland’s department of sociology have research and teaching interests related to criminology. They represent a broad array of topics including prisons, courts, and youth justice:

- Dr. Bruce Cohen (mental health, crime, drugs, subcultures)
- Dr. Vivienne Elizabeth (gendered identities, family violence, intimate relationships, custody disputes and academic identities, qualitative research)
- Professor Alan France (youth transitions, youth crime, youth and (sub)culture, youth and new media and youth and policy)
- Dr. David Mayeda (Pacific Island studies, juvenile delinquency, violence prevention, masculinity studies, sociology of sports, qualitative methods)
- Dr. Tracey McIntosh (religion, death and dying, crime and extreme marginalisation)
- Dr. Alice Mills (prisons and imprisonment, non-governmental organisations and provision of public services, mental health in prisons, gender, crime and criminal justice, reintegration and desistance from crime, the role and importance of prisoners’ family relationships, and qualitative and mixed methods research)
- Dr. James Oleson (criminology, criminal justice, criminal law, sentencing, penology, psychology and crime, genius, deviance, crime and popular culture)
- Dr. Lane West-Newman (critical legal studies, emotions, racism and identity, fashion and art, social theory)
Snapshots from the 2011 ANZSOC Conference

Professor Laureen Snider opened the 2011 ANZSOC conference with a plenary address titled ‘Criminalizing the Algorithm? Stock Market Crime in the 21st Century’. Professor Snider’s presentation exhorted all present to shine criminology’s torch on the widespread harm caused by financial actors and institutions. Examples she gave were the harm wreaked by the subprime mortgage crisis in the USA and the collapse of Icelandic banks during the global financial crisis. This certainly reflected the theme of the conference, as stock market activity at the global level can contribute to a great deal of harm at the local level.

Continual advances in technology serve to keep stock market trading outside the ambit of thorough regulation. For example, practices such as ‘high frequency trading’ and ‘dark pools’ evade regulation due to the inherent complexity of the processes, and the large amount of expertise and capital invested by the companies that use these practices. Governments lack comparable expertise and budgets to effectively monitor these types of activities. This can be contrasted with the levels of surveillance by business organisations over both their employees and customers.

Further, the limited regulation that governments do manage to achieve (such as automated alert systems) is outside the framework of crime, which Professor Snider argues leaves criminology abstracted from a leading cause of social harm. Therefore, Professor Snider’s presentation called for the engagement of criminologists in debates about both the harm caused by financial actors and institutions, and regulatory frameworks targeted at preventing such harm.

Anita Mackay
Monash University

Keynote speaker Dr Adam Tomison, Director of the Australian Institute of Criminology, presented the Institute’s recent research into crimes against international students in Australia. The address linked into one of the key themes of the Conference, namely ‘how global developments shape and are shaped by local issues’. Dr Tomison discussed how media coverage and anecdotal evidence concerning apparent racially motivated attacks against international students in Australia had increased levels of fear amongst this population group, and their families overseas.

Using Department of Immigration data against police records of victimisation from 2005 – 2009, Dr Tomison’s team estimated the rate of recorded victimisation of international students against the Australian population, using ABS crime-victim datasets. Some of the key points arising from the research was that while racial targeting could not be ruled out, there is nothing to suggest that international students are signalled out on account of their race. In fact, the results revealed that it is likely that an over representation in the night time economy, particularly for male Indian students, are better indicators of victimisation than racial targeting. The full report can be found in the AIC publication database.

These findings will hopefully help to dispel global media sensationalism concerning the safety of international students in Australia. Dr Tomison highlighted that this was the first time the Department of Immigration had made administrative data of this nature available to the AIC. Understandably, the presentation of this trailblazing research was a treat for all attendees at the afternoon plenary session on day 1 of the Geelong conference, and also served as a triumphant homecoming for Dr Tomison.

Kylie Doyle
Flinders University

On the second day of the ANZSOC conference 2011, the keynote address was presented by Professor Reece Walters from the Queensland University of Technology. Drawing on discourses of harm, power and violence Professor Walters drew attention to an area of harm that is often absent from criminological discussions. Highlighting the human costs of air pollution he challenged Criminology, as a discipline, to expand its boundaries and engage with new, emerging harmful acts that have consequences not just locally but globally.

Professor Walters examined the negative effects of air pollution within the framework of ‘eco-crime’ and environmental justice. He presented a critical exploration of the Kyoto protocol, an international agreement regarding air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, and highlighted the shortcomings of existing mechanisms of regulation and enforcement of declared air pollution targets. Professor Walters called attention to the lack of neutrality in current arrangements which clearly favour economically prosperous countries by allowing carbon credits to be exchanged/purchased. He suggested that an ideological shift is required, one that extends the discourse around environmental harm to feature the language of crime. Professor Walters argued that rather than using words like ‘exceed’ or ‘non-compliance’ it is necessary to conceptualise environmental harm as systemic violence because it leads to widespread death and morbidity. The keynote address was well received by conference attendees and left delegates pondering the big questions of the criminological discipline.

Renee Zahnow
University of Queensland

The 2011 keynote speakers together with the 2011 conference conveners Ian Warren and Darren Palmer
Forthcoming Conferences

25th ANZSOC CONFERENCE
November 27 - 29, 2012
Auckland, New Zealand
http://www.anzsoc2012.org/

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
November 14 - 17, 2012
Chicago, IL
http://asc41.com/annualmeeting.htm

EUROCRIM 2012
12TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ESC
September 12 - 15, 2012
Bilbao, Spain
http://eurocrim2012.com/

14th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR JUSTICE RESEARCH
September 9 - 12, 2012
Rishon LeZion, Israel
http://www.isjr.org/conferences/

BRITISH SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
July 4 - 6, 2012
University of Portsmouth, UK
http://www.britsoccrim.org/annualconference.htm

STOCKHOLM CRIMINOLOGY SYMPOSIUM
June 11 - 13, 2012
Stockholm, Sweden
www.criminologyprize.com
Editor’s Note: In 2011 two ANZSOC members, Anna Eriksson and Tara McGee, were awarded the inaugural nationally competitive Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards (DECRA). The award is funded by the Australian Research Council and aims to: support and advance promising early career researchers; promote enhanced opportunities for diverse career pathways; focus research effort in the National Research Priority areas to improve research capacity and policy outcomes; and enable research and research training in high quality and supportive environments. In this issue of PacifiCrim we sit down with Anna Eriksson and Tara McGee to ask them about their research projects and what lies ahead of them for the next three years.

Anna Eriksson

Your research project is entitled “Othering in penal policy and practice: a cross-national study of imprisonment in Australia and Sweden”. Tell us more about this.

The underlying questions that I want to explore further are ‘why do we punish’ and ‘why do we punish differently’. The latter question is one which I have explored together with Professor John Pratt over the last three and a half years, and we are currently putting the finishing touches to a co-authored monograph titled Contrasts in Punishment: An Explanation of Anglophone Excess and Nordic Exceptionalism. The book addresses the question as to ‘why’ the practices of punishment differ so much between countries like Australia, New Zealand and England, in comparison to Sweden, Norway and Finland. Essentially then, the DECRA takes the book as a starting point, and extends it by trying to explain how and through what mechanisms these different practices manifest in contemporary penal practice. The study is ambitious in scope, and will include variables located both within the prison and within larger society that can explain the social processes of a punitive versus a non-punitive society. Empirical research will explore how ‘othering’ of prisoners as individuals, and of prisons as institutions are achieved in Australia and Sweden. The overall aim of this research is to more fully understand the interaction between the prison environment, staff, and inmates in different penal environments (maximum, medium, minimum security), and how the nature and quality of such interaction mediate social distance in two national contexts. The argument is located at two levels: the micro-social environment within the prison (‘inside the walls’), and at the macro-social level of wider society (‘outside the walls’).

What does it mean for you to receive the DECRA?

Receiving the DECRA means that I get to undertake my dream project, and am provided with the time and financial resources to do so. This is an amazing opportunity that will undoubtedly have a significant, positive and sustained impact on the rest of my career.

Who are some of the academics and researchers that have influenced you over the years? How have they influenced you?

I have been very fortunate to have met, worked with and been mentored by some extraordinary academics in the last ten years. Starting with Professor Kieran McEvoy who was my PhD supervisor at Queen’s University Belfast (QUB) and Professor Shadd Maruna, whom I first met at Cambridge and then at QUB when he moved over. Both are incredibly hard working and productive, but always had time for a chat and some encouraging words along the way. In short, it was a situation of ‘watch and learn’. Importantly, being able to spend so much time in Northern Ireland also taught me that crime is politics, at every level, but also that one can, and indeed should, challenge ingrained ‘truths’. In this regard Professor Phil Scraton, also at QUB, was and is a major inspiration. Post PhD, the major influence has been Professor John Pratt, and I am so very grateful that he had enough faith in me to include me in the very exciting project that we are now undertaking. Above all, our collaboration on Contrasts in Punishments has taught me what an extraordinary amount of work needs to be undertaken to produce each section of a book like that. It has been, and continues to be, exciting, frustrating at times, and above all, humbling. John Pratt is an extraordinary scholar, and to be able to have him as a mentor has had a profound impact on my career. Thirdly, Professor Yvonne Jewkes at Leicester University, whom I have had the privilege to know and work with for the last couple of years. A brainstorming session with her (over sushi and excellent wine in Melbourne in 2011), provided the final pieces to the DECRA project, and her support and enthusiasm for my work and for me as a person has made an enormous difference.

What do the next three years look like for you?

Busy! Apart from the DECRA, I am also involved in a few other large research projects, supervision of a number of PhD students, as well as the normal service positions on committees and so on. However, what the DECRA provides is a structure, certainty and clear goals for the next three years, which is a very privileged position to be in. In practical terms, the next three years contains lots of reading and writing, development of new research instruments, and fieldwork in Australia and Sweden, which I am very much looking forward to.

How do you think your project may affect policy and practice?

As an hobby idealist and a critical criminologist, I hope to be able to propose a model of practice that can reduce social distances in institutions of punishment, and as a result, increase prison and staff well-being, reduce threats and violence, and decrease risk of recidivism. In short, if we have to use prisons (and I think we can use them a lot less), then at least let’s try to ensure that we employ the most humane and respectful practice we can. Prisons should be the deprivation of liberty, and only that, not a place where extrajudicial punishment is practiced as a matter of routine. So instead of looking towards countries like the US and say ‘look, we are not doing so bad at all in comparison to them’, let’s challenge ourselves and look at systems against which we compare quite poorly. Not that the Scandinavian countries are ideal, they also struggle with a lot of issues. But they do things sufficiently different for us to be able to ask some very important questions as to ‘why’ and ‘how’. Can things be improved? Absolutely. All it takes is political courage and leadership. Simple, right?

Anna Eriksson
Monash University
Tara McGee

What does it mean for you to receive the DECRA?

It means that I now have to do all the research that I proposed in my application! I am, of course, very excited to be a recipient of the DECRA. The program of research that I proposed in my application was first developed in 2008 and thankfully I heeded the advice I received at the time of my unsuccessful grant applications over the following years to 'never, never, never give up'. Continuing to refine and improve my ideas and track record has really paid off; but I must confess there were some good doses of 'why do I bother' anguish in amongst all that too. At a practical level the DECRA allows me to focus my attention on progressing my research for the next three years with momentum that would not be possible in my standard teaching/research/service academic role. Furthermore, it provides me with funding for research assistance, travel to work with a mentor in the UK and some funding support to present my research at international conferences. It is a great privilege to have this research-only time and I am particularly indebted to Professor David Farrington for working with me to develop the ideas in the proposal and Professor Ross Homel, Dr Belinda Hewitt and Professor John Germov for their close and detailed reading of and feedback on the grant application.

Your research project is entitled, “Offending across the life-course: Testing developmental and life-course theories of crime”. Tell us more about your project.

There are many different explanations for why people start and stop offending. My research will draw on a range of Australian and international data to determine which explanations provide the most accurate description of why people engage in offending and the processes which lead offenders to stop offending.

The overall goal of this research is to reconcile competing explanations of why people start and stop offending while taking into consideration the impact of situational and contextual factors. This project will use the best evidence available from longitudinal datasets around the world, to conduct theoretically framed, rigorous tests of data. It will focus on questions that ask why people start offending as adults, why some children desist from their problem behaviour as adolescents, and what impact neighbourhoods have on offending. This research aims to advance knowledge via the generation of rigorous empirically based theoretical statements which explain the development of offending over the life-course.

What are some of the implications for policy and practice that may come out of your project?

I have come to learn how important it is that crime prevention policy is based on the best theory and evidence possible. During my time working in Queensland government, I saw that policy makers are challenged when presented with conflicting empirical evidence and theoretical arguments. This research attempts to begin a movement beyond these conflicts to distil exactly which elements of developmental and life-course theories of crime can be generalised across data sets and which are unique to particular social, historical and geographical contexts.

Tell us about the next three years

The next three years look fabulous! Criminology at Griffith University is a great place to be. We have a fantastic team of people, doing really interesting research at Griffith. Being part of such a vibrant and collegial workplace is one of the things that makes me excited about the next three years as an ARC DECRA research fellow. I have two supportive mentors at Griffith, Professors Paul Mazerolle and Ross Homel, who are leaders in my area of research. Also, for three months each year, my DECRA budget will fund me to go back and stay at my college, Wolfson College, and work with the main mentor on my DECRA project, Professor David Farrington, at the Institute of Criminology, at the University of Cambridge.

Who are some of the academics and researchers that have influenced you over the years? How have they influenced you?

There are so many people who have influenced and shaped my career. I think it all began by working with an amazing multidisciplinary group of researchers led by Professor Jake Najman at The University of Queensland on the Mater University Study of Pregnancy. It was from working as a research assistant, then doing my PhD, and progressing to having my own research projects as part of the MUSP that I think I really learnt the 'doing research' part of big longitudinal research projects. It was Jake who first introduced me to Professor Paul Mazerolle, who was newly arrived in Australia and later became my PhD supervisor. Paul was the first person I met who knew about all the 'developmental criminology stuff' I was reading and he assisted in guiding me through that body of knowledge. Another extremely influential person in my career has been my former employer, turned mentor and collaborator, Professor John Germov. He has been the most influential in assisting me to understand how to negotiate an academic career. At some point during my PhD, I also contacted Professor Terrie Moffitt to ask her for clarification on some of the finer points of her theory. Her long and detailed responses to my questions were very influential in how I progressed my PhD research. Terrie has since become a great mentor and collaborator. In fact, she provided a crucial turning point in my career by taking my CV to Professor David Farrington in Cambridge and suggesting that he work with me. It was this introduction that led to my successful application British Academy Visiting Fellowship position that provided me with funding to go and work with him in Cambridge. Working with David assisted me to think more clearly about the contradictions I noticed in my reading of developmental and life-course theories of crime. And it is David's foundational work in this area that has paved the way for the research funded by my DECRA. While I think that I have fairly strong ideas of my own about my research direction, these people and many others have supported and guided my career to this point. When writing to his rival in 1676, Issac Newton is said to have written, "If I have seen a little further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." Me? Well I am not so sure I have seen much of anything yet. But thanks to these 'shoulders' and a good dose of my own blood, sweat and tears, the vision I have for my research, for the next three years at least, is clear.

Tara McGee
Griffith University
ANZSOC Member Profile: James Oleson

I am a senior lecturer at the University of Auckland, having come to New Zealand from the United States in June 2010 to help lead the programme in criminology. Since arriving, I have taught undergraduate courses in penology and the criminal justice system and postgraduate courses in criminological theory and contemporary criminology.

Professionally, I have followed what might charitably be described as a “zigzag” path. I earned my B.A. in psychology and anthropology from St. Mary’s College of California, my M.Phil and Ph.D. in criminology from the University of Cambridge, and my J.D. from the law school at the University of California, Berkeley. Between 2001 and 2004, I taught criminology and sociology at Old Dominion University, in Norfolk, Virginia, and was selected as the 2004 “rising star professor” and the 2005 distance learning professor of the year. I also was selected as one of the four U.S. Supreme Court Fellows for the 2004-05 year, with placement at the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. At the end of the fellowship, I was appointed as Chief Counsel to the federal courts’ newly-formed Criminal Law Policy Staff, providing advice in matters of sentencing, offender re-entry, the probation and pre-trial services system, and federal criminal law.

I remain interested in sentencing issues. In January 2011, I published “Blowing Out All the Candles: Some Thoughts on the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984,” critiquing the U.S. sentencing guidelines and advocating for a sentencing information system that would provide judges with empirical data about the risks of recidivism. But this approach is not without hazards. In “Risk in Sentencing: Constitutioanlly Suspect Variables and Evidence-Based Sentencing,” I noted that many of the risk factors associated with increased risk of reoffending (e.g., race, age, and gender) are not legally permitted under other circumstances. Furthermore, while risk factors may justify increased punishment under a theory of incapacitation, those same risk factors may justify decreased punishment under a just-deserts theory.

I am also revisiting my Ph.D. research on the crimes of genius (IQ = 132+). Conventional criminological wisdom suggests that offenders have IQ scores about half of a standard deviation below average (~92), but my recent analysis indicates that high-IQ subjects reported higher than average rates of prevalence, incidence, and arrest for eight violent crimes, although they reported lower than average rates of conviction. I am now studying this data for a variety of other offences, including sex crimes, drugs, and professional misconduct.

I have also been fortunate enough to join ANZSOC and to serve as the Committee of Management representative for the 25th annual conference, to be convened this year in Auckland and co-hosted by the University of Auckland and Auckland University of Technology. We look forward to welcoming other ANZSOC members to Auckland.

James Oleson
University of Auckland

ANZSOC Member Profile: Fiona David

I have always had a fascination with migration, crime and human rights. Perhaps this was a reaction to my upbringing in Perth, at a time when it seemed perfectly normal that my parents had never travelled overseas, and my local Chinese restaurant was burnt down by the white supremacist, Jack van Tongeren. I have been fortunate enough to make a career out of considering how these three things - migration, crime and human rights - fit together.

Today, as a lawyer and researcher, I specialise in evidence-based responses to migrant smuggling and human trafficking. My work has literally taken me from Libya to Lao PDR, and many countries I had never heard of growing up in Perth, such as Djibouti, Ethiopia and Malta.

Working primarily as an independent consultant, I am fortunate that I tend to get work on fairly long term projects. For example, I worked as the Research Coordinator for the Asia Regional Trafficking in Persons Project for 4 years, and I have undertaken research consultancies with the AIC off and on for more than 5 years. Nonetheless, my work varies considerably from week to week. It can involve everything from interviewing human trafficking investigators in Indonesia (as part of the ARTIP project) to giving expert testimony as part of Australian legal proceedings (with Salvos Legal). I really value the independence that comes with being an Independent Consultant, although at least once a week I do wish for the simplicity of a "normal job"!

I'm currently engaged by UNODC in Vienna to draft a set of Model Legislative Provisions to implement the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which is forcing me to get much more familiar with the intricacies of this Convention. I am also lucky enough to be working with another Australian colleague, Dr Andreas Schloenhardt, along with other colleagues from Italy, Mexico, France, Japan as well as Interpol and other UN agencies. This follows on from earlier work I did, as the Principal Drafter of the UNODC Model Law on Migrant Smuggling, a legal tool that has now been translated into five languages. In addition to my consultancy work, I am currently a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for International and Public Law at the ANU College of Law, where I am writing a book on the International Law of Migrant Smuggling with Dr Anne Gallagher.

I often get asked "how did you get into what you do". The answer is simple - I had a burning interest in the issues I now work on, I ignored the people who said I should do corporate law subjects, and I looked instead for people who could help me understand the issues I was in fact interested in. This led me to Simon Bronitt (my fantastic honours supervisor as an undergrad), Peter Grabosky (my equally fantastic supervisor at the AIC) and the world of ANZSOC and criminology. Thanks to this, I have a career that while often exhausting is always fascinating and rewarding.

Fiona David
Australian National University
Postgraduate and Early Career Researcher Corner

News from the 2011 PG/ECR Conference

ANZSOC has always encouraged and promoted research conducted by students and new scholars, and the ANZSOC Postgraduate (PG) and Early Career Researcher (ECR) Conference is one example of that commitment. Last year the 5th PG and ECR conference was held in Geelong and attracted 60 participants from all walks of academic life both nationally and internationally, including honours and PhD students, early career researchers and senior academics. The day was a huge success and participants particularly valued the collegial atmosphere and the networking opportunities.

The papers presented on the day showcased the diversity of research topics prevalent in Australian and New Zealand criminology. As a result of the substantial increase of abstracts submitted compared with previous years we decided to introduce a poster session, which was held during lunch. This session was well received among participants and generated a wealth of discussion. In between the high quality presentations and posters a number of early career researchers and senior academics talked about life after the PhD and also provided valuable publishing tips. We would like to thank Professor Sharon Pickering, Professor Chester Britt, Dr Lorana Bartels, Dr Jesse Cale, Dr Anna Eriksson and Ian McGinn for their invaluable contribution to the success of the day.

The 2011 PG and ECR Conference was also the setting for the inaugural Monash Postgraduate Prize, given to the most outstanding presentation of criminological research by a postgraduate student either by paper or poster. All participants were eligible to vote and the winner of the 2011 prize was Helena Menih, who presented her PhD research on homeless women.

In previous years the PG and ECR Conference has been organised by the ANZSOC Student and Early Career Researcher Sub-Committee. For the first time ever this responsibility was handed over to an organising committee consisting of postgraduate students. We are honoured to have been entrusted with the responsibility of organising this eventful day and we hope that future organisers will have as much fun planning and executing the day as we did. We look forward to this year’s PG and ECR Conference in Auckland and hope to see you all there.

Li Eriksson (Griffith University), Andrew Groves (Flinders University) and Laura Wilson (Monash University)

2011 Monash Postgraduate Prize Winner
Profile: Helena Menih

How did it feel to win the Monash University Postgraduate Award?

To win such an award is an acknowledgment of my work, the work of my supervisors Dr Kate Smith and Professor Philip Stenning, and the support from the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University.

For people to recognise the importance of my project is of great significance. My research aims to contribute to the field and to policy debates on female homelessness, and ultimately make a change in homeless women’s lives. After all, the theory will be grounded in their lives.

Tell us about your current line of research? How did you originally become interested in it?

I have always been interested in working with marginalised populations, thus when it was time to write a research proposal for my PhD I discussed my interests with my supervisor. From the start I insisted that I wanted to research women and that I wanted to do a qualitative study. I have always done research that was challenging, so I had the same mind set for my PhD research. At first I was a bit lost for ideas and then my supervisor suggested homelessness and I started working on a proposal.

Overall, there is little known about homeless women’s experiences, however the few studies that do exist suggest that women may be doubly disadvantaged on the street: first, for being homeless and second, for stepping outside the traditional social role.

My research will not only provide necessary explanations about women and homelessness, but it will also provide information for early intervention to policy makers, government and non-government institutions, women groups, and advocates.

Where do you see yourself going professionally?

I see myself working in an area that will allow me to combine the expertise I gained from my studies in Anthropology and Criminology. A great start would be a research or teaching position at a university that has a strong criminology focus.

2012 PG/ECR Conference Invitation

The 6th ANZSOC PG and ECR Conference will be held on Monday 26th November 2012. It will take place at the AUT University Nga Wai o Horotiu Marae (a carved meeting house) and therefore provide participants with a unique cultural experience. A traditional welcoming ceremony (powhiri) will launch a day that focuses on speakers sharing their knowledge of professionalisation and keys to success for postgraduate and early career researchers. Participants will have opportunities to network and share their experiences, and can present their research within workshops or in poster format. Postgraduates are also welcome to present their research at the main conference. Note that postgraduate students can only present their research once; either at the postgraduate conference or at the main conference. For more information check out the website www.anzsoc2012.org or email adeckert@aut.ac.nz.
ANZSOC Officers and Committee of Management

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Full membership
(residing in Australia, New Zealand or the South Pacific)
AUD 155 (annual)
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(only available to full-time students residing in Australia, New Zealand or the South Pacific)
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Electronic journal access membership
(online journal access only; all other membership benefits apply)
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Mail: Secretary ANZSOC, Australian Institute of Criminology, GPO Box 2944, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia
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