Accomplishments of PhD Students in the Department of Criminology, Law & Society, 2016-17

Award Winners

Michelle Smith Pontell Award (recognition of outstanding accomplishments in graduate study)

Rylan Simpson has excelled at all aspects of his graduate studies; he is a well-rounded scholar. His empirical research on policing has been published in excellent journals, he regularly gives well received guest lectures in courses in addition to his outstanding work as a TA, and he links to the community through all the work he has done presenting to various police agencies, thus garnering him attention and requests for presentations as far away as Brisbane, Australia.

Gilbert Geis Award (recognition of excellence in research)

Dallas Augustine has demonstrated a consistent ability to work hard, think critically, and build on her prior graduate and work experience to design and complete an ambitious research project. She interviewed dozens of formerly incarcerated people upon their release from jail or prison in Orange County. Her in-depth, qualitative analysis of the cognitive process of "recovering" from criminal behavior and imprisonment has revealed that the formerly incarcerated struggle as much with keeping work as with finding work, shifting the focus of debates about re-entry success in important ways. Not only is Dallas' research and teaching work within the School of Social Ecology fundamentally oriented towards community engagement and impact, but she has also played an active role volunteering in local Orange County communities to facilitate community members' access to legal and health resources.
Arnold Binder Award (recognition of outstanding service contributions)

Sofia Laguna has demonstrated exemplary service to the department, UCI campus and community. At the department level she has played a key role in development of the new doctoral-level race and justice emphasis. Additionally, she was key student member of our graduate admissions process this past year. Many prospective students commented on how helpful and informative she was. Sofia has mentored students both within and outside of the department, thus earning her recognition for her mentoring two years in a row. For the community at large, Sofia has provided service by volunteering at the Orange County needle exchange in Santa Ana.

Kitty Calavita Award (recognition of best second-year project)

Chris Contreras submitted his second year paper “A Block-Level Analysis of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries and Crime in the City of Los Angeles”. This paper was published in Justice Quarterly, 2016. This outstanding research looks at the effect of marijuana dispensaries on crime rates within socially organized blocks. Chris’s timely contribution provides some much needed analysis for states as they look to revenue sources through legalization of marijuana.

We’ve been getting peer-reviewed publications!

- **Barragan, Melissa**

- **Bartos, Bradley**
• Branic, Nicholas

• Chavez, Ernest

• Chesnut, Kelsie

• Conner, Emma

• Contreras, Christopher

• Dunbar, Adam

• Gravel, Jason

- Kim, Young-an

- Magidson, Mark

- Maziarka, Kristen

- Newark, Carol

- Pitts, David

- Renner, Matthew

- Sherman, Nicole
• Simpson, Rylan

We’ve been getting other publications!

• Bartos, Bradley

• Branic, Nicholas

• Chavez, Ernest

• Gravel, Jason

• Hanink, Peter

• Magnus, Amy

• Mejia Mesinas, Analicia
  o Mejia Mesinas, Analicia. “Student’s Taking Action: High School Student Activism in Los Angeles”. In Sarah Pickard and Judith Bessant, eds. Re-Generating
Politics: Young People and New Forms Politics in Times of Crises. Palgrave Macmillan

We’ve been writing (and sometimes getting!) external grants

- Barragan, Melissa
  - UC Consortium on Social Science and the Law, Summer Fellowship. Award: $2,233. Title: An Ethnographic Study of Gun Violence Dynamics in Three California Cities
- Chesnut, Kelsie
  - Law and Society Travel Subsidy - $500, "A qualitative examination of (non)compliance in high-violence communities"
- Gerlinger, Julie
  - National Institute of Justice, Graduate Research Fellowship Program in the Social and Behavioral Sciences: $32,000. Title: Structural Inequality in School Discipline: Regulating Intolerance in Public Schools
- Gonzalez, Gabriela
  - Ford Foundation Pre-doctoral Fellowship. Ford Foundation/National Academy of Sciences- $24,000
  - Law and Society Association. International Meeting Student Travel Grant- $500.
- Greenbaum, Rosa
  - NSF GRFP, $34,000, NA
  - UCCSSL Summer Fellowship, $2,333, NA
- Mejia Mesinas, Analicia
  - Law and Society Graduate Student Travel Award, $500
- Renner, Matthew
  - 2 year contract from The CA Dept. of State Hospitals, ~$550,000, Discrete Events Simulation Model for CA DSH Population
- Roesch-Knapp, Andrew
  - UC Consortium on Social Science and Law Summer Fellowship amount: $2,233. Project title: The Production of Preventative Knowledge
- Torres, Jose
  - 2017, Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Award Recipient. National Science Foundation.

We’ve been writing (and sometimes getting!) internal grants

- Bland, LaBreonna
  - Graduate Division Fellowship - $5,000
  - CLS Department Fellowship - $5,000
- Chesnut, Kelsie
  - UCI AGS Travel Grant - $400, Summer 2016 Conference funding
• **Echols, Courtney**  
  o Nevin Graduate Endowment Fellowship, University of California, Irvine, 2016-2017, ($5,000.00)  
  o Criminology, Law & Society Department Fellowship, University of California, Irvine, 2016-2017, ($5,000.00)

• **Gerlinger, Julie**  
  o Social Ecology Dean's Dissertation Writing Fellowship: $11,832. Title: Structural Inequality in School Discipline: Regulating Intolerance in Public Schools

• **Gravel, Jason**  
  o UCI Social Ecology Dean's Dissertation Writing Fellowship ($11,831)  
  o UC Irvine Data Science Initiative Fellowship ($13,000)

• **Hanink, Peter**  
  o $1000, School of Social Ecology, Dissertation Data Collection Stipend for Spring 2017  
  o $1000, Center for Engaged Instruction, Pedagogical Fellowship  
  o $400, AGS, Travel Grant

• **Magnus, Amy**  
  o Kugelman Research Fellowship – UCI Center for Citizen Peacebuilding, 2016-2017 ($2,500)  
  o 2017 Pedagogical Fellowship ($2,000)  
  o *Awaiting news about the Faculty Mentor Program, 2017-2018 Kugelman Research Fellowship, and UCI Initiative to End Family Violence Graduate Student Fellows Program

• **Mejia Mesinas, Analia**  
  o UCI DECADE Conference Travel Award, $1000

• **Sherman, Nicole**  
  o Public Impact Distinguished Fellow - $12000, Reintegrating an “Army of One”: Understanding the Culture and Mechanisms in Veterans Treatment Courts

• **Wo, James**  
  o Professional Development Fellowship for Winter Quarter, CLS, 2017.  
  o Dean's Dissertation Writing Fellowship for Fall Quarter, Social Ecology, 2016

• **Yang, Fei**  
  o Social Ecology Dean’s Advancement Fellowship for Diversity Students, UCI School of Social Ecology, $11,831.50, Behind the Camera: Understanding the Politicalization of Police Violence through the Debates about Police Body-Worn Cameras

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**We’ve been getting external awards!**

• **Contreras, Christopher**  
  o Western Society of Criminology: 2016-2017 Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition Honorable Mention  
  o Finalist for the UCI Graduate Division's Faculty Mentor Program (FMP) fellowship
• Dunbar, Adam
  o Student Paper Award, Division of Experimental Criminology, American Society of Criminology
• Kim, Young-an
  o Outstanding Student Paper Award, Korean Society of Criminology in America (KOSCA)
• Laguna, Sofia
  o Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship Honorable Mention 2017

We’ve been getting internal awards and other accomplishments!

• Contreras, Christopher
  o Graduate Student Mentoring Award 2017
• Dunbar, Adam
  o Public Impact Fellowship; Social Ecology Dean’s Dissertation Writing Fellowship; People’s Choice Award, Associated Graduate Student Symposium
• Hanink, Peter
  o Pedagogical Fellow award, presented at Celebration of Teaching In Recognition of Teaching Excellence & Service to the Academic Community
• Magnus, Amy
  o Tom Angell Fellowship Nominee
• Simpson, Rylan
  o UCI Campuswide Grad Slam Finalist
  o Judges’ Award at UCI AGS Research Symposium
  o UCI Social Ecology Poster Session Winner
  o UCI AGS Travel Grant
• Torres, Jose
• Wo, James
  o Gil Geis Award for excellence in research by a graduate student, 2016
• Yang, Fei
  o Graduate Student Mentoring Award, Spring 2016
Congrats to our graduates as they head off to new locales!

Adam Dunbar - TBD

Natalie A. Pifer - Assistant Professor, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Rhode Island

Julie Gerlinger - Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Oklahoma

Pao-Yang (Puma) Shen – Assistant Professor, Program in Criminology, National Taipei University
Nicole Sherman - Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice, Cal State University Chico

Anjuli Verma – Assistant Professor, Department of Politics, University of California, Santa Cruz (via Presidential Postdoc)

James Wo - Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa