



Welcome Back

CSG NEWSLETTER FALL 2022



Newsletter Staff
Mrs. LaVonda Evans
Editor



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A Note from the Editor...

Welcome back to campus and to the new academic year! We are blessed to have Dr. Justin Castro, History Chair, offer his talents as Interim Chair while Dr. Buford is on sabbatical. The addition of four new work study students will certainly help the main office, and two new graduate assistants join the ranks to help assist faculty. While the department has undergone several changes, CSG will continue to rise to the challenge of meeting the department – and the university’s goal – in making Every Red Wolf Count! Students are encouraged to stop by the CSG office with any questions or concerns they may have. It is my sincerest hope that everyone has a wonderful and productive semester!

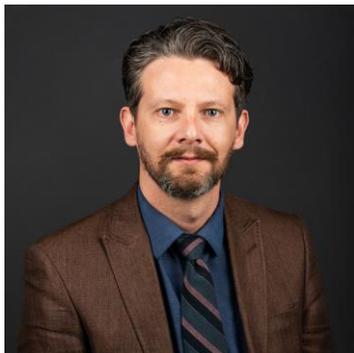


Wolves Up! 🐾

J. Wanda



A Note from the Interim Chair...



The start of the 2022-23 academic year brings with it challenges, changes, and a whole lot to celebrate and build upon. I am excited about the tangible energy filling our halls and classrooms. I want every student, faculty, and staff member to know that I am proud and amazed at your abilities and the real good you do for this university, the region, and beyond.

I am temporarily Interim Chair, and I come from an outside discipline, but I have already gotten to know and appreciate you, and I want you to know that every day I will fight tirelessly for the wellbeing of CSG, a department that amazes me in how much it accomplishes each and every semester.

Three particular points that are worth emphasizing are CSG’s immense diversity, the number of students and families we impact daily, and the cutting-edge topics that the department studies, writes about, and teaches. CSG is the most diverse faculty group in the university. This department is truly global. We have faculty from across the United States, but also from Nepal, India, Iran, and South Korea! If students want diverse perspectives, CSG is the place to be. This diversity is also represented in our students. CSG has more majors than any other department in our college. The majority of CSG students are women. Nearly 26 percent of CSG students are Black and 5.3 percent are Latinx. By comparison, 14 percent of the total student population at A-State is Black and 4 percent is Latinx. CSG faculty teach about race, gender, and sexuality. In terms of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, CSG is a department that shows its commitment every day. Department faculty examine pressing concerns facing our world. Together with students you study race and policing, child welfare, the criminal justice system, poverty, and social inequities. You all know this, but it is pressing and important work.

One thing I ask of you—our faculty, students, staff, and alums—is that you let everyone else know. Our dean, provost, and chancellor all say they want to hear from you. So, tell them what we do; tell them how important CSG is to this university and to the greater community. And let’s be sure to celebrate each other, our worthy selves and our worthy work.

Dr. Justin Castro
Interim Chair of CSG
Chair of the Department of History

You're Invited

A LECTURE FROM INVITED GUEST **ALICE DRIVER**

Fowler Center Drama Theatre, September 12, 6-7:30 p.m.

Journalist **Alice Driver** has spent the past decade reporting on femicide and gender-based violence in Mexico. She will share stories from the field about the ethics of interviewing and writing about victims and their families. In 2021, Mexico legalized abortion, and Driver will discuss the relationship between reproductive choice and violence against women. This discussion will be particularly relevant to post-Roe America.



Sponsors:

*College of Liberal Arts and Communication, History, School of Media & Journalism,
Heritage Studies, Criminology, Sociology & Geography, Communication,
Political Science, and English, Philosophy & World Languages*



CONGRATULATIONS
Spring 2022
Convocation of Scholars



Kathleen Chapman received the Department Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Masters of Arts – Criminal Justice.

Thesis: “A Quantitative Content Analysis of Political Bias Impacting Mass Shooting Coverage: Comparing a Liberal News Outlet with Gun Archive Data for the Time Period 2014-2020”

Annica Karlsson received the Department Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Masters of Arts – Sociology.

Thesis: “American and Finnish Parents’ Perceptions of the Distance Learning Experience During the 2020 Covid-19 School Closure”





Grace Nelson received the
Department Award for Outstanding
Undergraduate Student
Bachelor of Arts - Sociology

Not Pictured

Hannah Morgan received the
Department Award for Outstanding
Undergraduate Student
Bachelor of Arts – Criminology

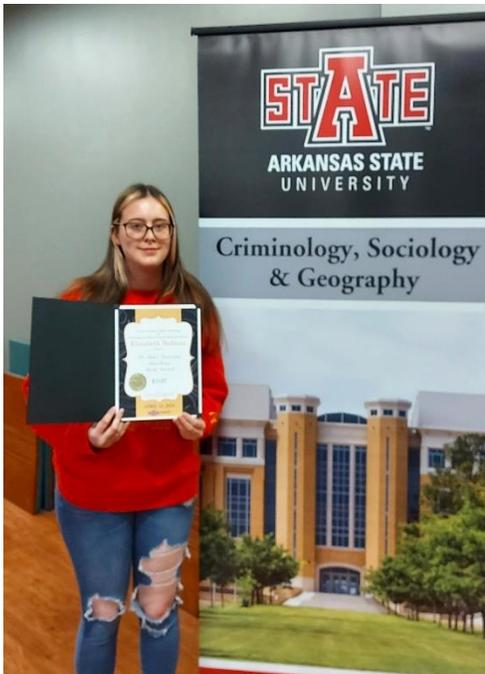
Jonetta Brunson was the winner of
the Dr. John C. Osoinach
Scholarship.



**Dr. Joseph Rukus
Memorial Book
Award**

Balyee Burns

Hyesun Choi



**Dr. Mary Donaghy
Book Award**

Elizabeth Hofman

Cori Hufstedler



Welcome to CSG!

Dr. Justin Castro (PhD, University of Oklahoma) is the chair of the Department of History. This fall, he is assisting the Department of Criminology, Sociology, & Geography as Interim Chair. We are very thankful for his support and assistance during this time. He is a scholar of modern Latin America whose research focuses on technology, engineering, and politics, especially in Mexico. He is the author of a number of peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and two books--*Radio in Revolution: Wireless Technology and State Power in Mexico, 1897-1938* (2016) and *Apostle of Progress: Modesto C. Rolland, Global Progressivism, and the Engineering of Revolutionary Mexico* (2019). He is the co-editor of *Technocratic Visions: Engineers, Technology, and Society in Mexico, 1876-1946*, an edited volume forthcoming on the University of Pittsburgh Press in 2022. He is currently working on a book titled *A History of Technology and Society in Latin America* (Johns Hopkins University, under contract). He joined the Department of History at Arkansas State University in 2013.



Dr. Banafsheh Aghayeeabhianeh, Temporary Assistant Professor of Sociology, received her master's degree in Social Sciences – Research from the University of Tehran, and her Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky. Her research focuses on international criminology and human development. She uses a quantitative methodology in her research. Her teaching experience is in human development and sociology courses. She also serves as a reviewer in peer-reviews journals.

CSG Graduate Assistants



Name: Sasha Burdsal
Major: Criminology & Criminal Justice
Year: Graduate School
Undergraduate Major: BA Criminology
Minor: Sociology
Minor: Management

Name: Meta Schlimpert

Major: Criminology & Criminal Justice
Year: Graduate School
Undergraduate Major: BA Criminology
Minor: Sociology



Name: Kaylee Crain
Major: History
Year: Graduate School
Undergraduate Major: BS Education

Name: Lawrence “Trey” Williams

Major: Criminology & Criminal Justice
Year: Graduate School
Undergraduate Major: BA Criminology



Name: Christopher Pitts
Major: Sociology
Year: Graduate School
Undergraduate Major 1: BA Criminology
Undergraduate Major 2: BA Sociology

CSG Student Workers



Name: Brianna Cooper
Major: BA Criminology
Minor: Psychology
Minor: Sociology
Year: Freshman

Name: Juleisha Phipps
Major: BA Criminology
Year: Sophomore



Name: Trevonte Taylor
Major: BS Business Administration
Minor: Sociology
Year: Sophomore

Name: Isabel Moore
Major: BS Psychology
Minor: Criminology
Year: Sophomore



Name: Jerry "Ryan" Nix
Major: BA Criminology
Minor: Sociology
Year: Senior

Name: Sarai Stubblefield
Major 1: BA Criminology
Major 2: BA Sociology
Year: Sophomore



Name: Sydney Morris
Major 1: BA English
Major 2: BA International Business
Year: Junior
Studying Abroad 22-23 in South Korea

Department Promotions



Mrs. LaVonda Evans was promoted to Administrative Specialist III at the beginning of the 2022-23 fiscal year. Mrs. Evans is the administrative support specialist for the Department of Criminology, Sociology, & Geography, which houses the largest student body in the College of Liberal Arts and Communications. Her role provides administrative assistance for four traditional programs and two AOS programs; The BA programs in Criminology and Sociology, the MA programs in Criminology & Criminal Justice, and Sociology, as well as the BA Criminology and BA Sociology AOS programs. Combined, her service is directed toward the department chair, 9 full-time faculty members, 4 part-time recurring adjuncts, 5 graduate assistants, and 6 student workers. She holds an AAS in Criminal Justice, a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in Criminology, Sociology, & Health, and a Master of Arts in Sociology. She is a homeschool mom of five (graduated two), and wife of 20 years. When she isn't wearing too many hats, she enjoys bingeing Netflix crime shows and blogging.



Happy Retirement



The CSG Department wishes the best to Dr. Bill Stroud, Professor of Geography, on his recent retirement. Dr. Stroud served the ASTATE community and the CSG department for 53 years. It has been a pleasure working with him. He is the true definition of hard work and dedication. He will be missed!

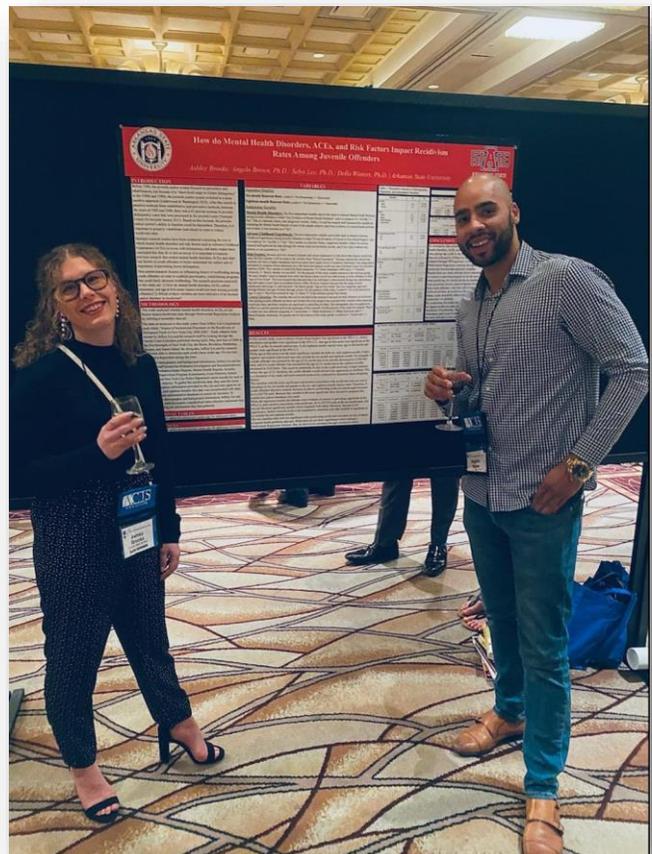
Presentations & Publications



Graduate Student **Ashley Brooks** (MA Criminal Justice) presented her research at the American Criminal Justice Sciences Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Thesis: “How Mental Health Problems, Adverse Childhood Experiences, and Other Risk Factors Impact Recidivism Rates Among Juvenile Offenders.”

CSG’s **Dr. Angelo Brown**, Assistant Professor of Criminology, was also in attendance at the ACJS and was Ashley’s Thesis Advisor



Presentations & Publications



Dr. Veena Kulkarni, Associate Professor of Sociology, presented at the Population Association of America Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Title: “Beyond intensive mothering: Racial/ethnic variation in maternal time with children”. As part of the Undergraduate Research Award for Spring 2021 with student John Dellorto, research was conducted on “The Prevalence and Patterns of the Hunger ‘Pandemic’: Cross National Comparisons, 2000-2021.” Dr. Kulkarni regularly contributes reports and op-eds in *The Hindu* and other news outlets.

Dr. Sanjeev Acharya, Assistant Professor of Sociology, presented at the Southwestern Social Science Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Title: “Nutrition transition and SES as a fundamental cause: An integrative approach to examine body weight among women in Nepal.” Most recently, Dr. Acharya co-authored an article published in *eClinicalMedicine*, part of *Discovery Science*. The article is titled “Maternal gender discrimination and child emotional and behavioural problems: A population-based, longitudinal cohort study in the Czech Republic.”



Dr. Angelo Brown, Assistant Professor of Criminology, presented at the American Criminal Justice Sciences Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. His work included “The Challenges of Working in a Jail During a Pandemic.”



RESEARCH IS FORMALIZED
CURIOSITY. IT IS POKING
AND PRYING WITH A
PURPOSE.

~ Zora Neale Hurston, (1891-1960)



From Left: Dr. Della Winters, Ashlynn Rippy, Baylee Burns, Brittney Ammons, Sasha Burdsal, Hye Sun Choi, and Dr. Averi Fegadel

Fall Meeting Dates & Location

September 29 – HSS 1041 – 7 o'clock pm

October 27 – HSS 1041 – 7 o'clock pm

December 1 – HSS 1041 – 7 o'clock pm

Meet the Criminology & Sociology Club Officers

Sasha Burdsal - President
Baylee Burns - Vice President
Ashlynn Rippy - Secretary
Hye Sun Choi - Treasurer
Brittney Ammons - Public Relations
Dr. Fegadel - Faculty advisor

Mission Statement

We are committed to building strong interpersonal relationships within our club and within our local community. Our goal is to create a more sustainable world and be better than we were yesterday.

Who We Are

Arkansas State University students pursuing various careers relating to criminology, sociology, and geography professions.

What We Do

Club officers promote interest in criminology, sociology, and geography via social connections. Members host discussion panels about society and how it relates to the criminal justice system, the sociological canon, and the Earth.

Where We Meet

Humanities & Social Sciences Building

Important Contacts

MA Sociology Program Director

Dr. Veena Kulkarni

vkulkarni@astate.edu

MA Criminology & Criminal Justice Program Director

Dr. Selye Lee

selee@astate.edu

Alpha Kappa Delta – Faculty Advisor

Dr. Sanjeev Acharya

sacharya@astate.edu

Alpha Phi Sigma – Faculty Advisor

Dr. Angelo Brown

angbrown@astate.edu

Criminology & Sociology – Academic Advisor

Justin Gibson

jgibson@astate.edu