



USF Criminology: We're Killing it!

Update from the Chair
Dr. John Cochran



Three events have had an enormous influence on department life over the last two years: COVID, the consolidation of three separately accredited universities/departments in the USF system into one, and the passing of our colleague and previous chair, Dr. Mike Leiber.

Despite these events, which both added burdens and depleted resources, I am of the mind that the faculty, staff, and students in the department stayed the course, shouldered on, and we collectively have continued our advancement up the ranks among graduate programs granting Criminology/Criminal Justice degrees. Perhaps the most prominent evidence of our collective growth is the department's rise in the US News and World Report rankings from #22 to #18! We also welcomed several new faculty: Ms. Amber Oderinde (Instructor), Dr. Colby Valentine (Instructor), and Dr. Roberta (Birdy) O'Malley (Assistant Professor).

To see what else the department has been up to over the last few years, visit our website: <https://www.usf.edu/cbcs/criminology/index.aspx>

Criminology Faculty in the News!

Dr. Thomas Hyslip, a Cybercrime instructor, was on the Red Table Talk show with Jada Pinkett Smith and Willow Smith discussing cyberstalking. Click [here](#) to see the episode.



Dr. Peter Massey, a former detective and director of our Forensic Studies & Justice program on the St. Petersburg campus, shared his law enforcement expertise with media and the public in regards to the Gabby Petito case. Click [here](#) to read the article.

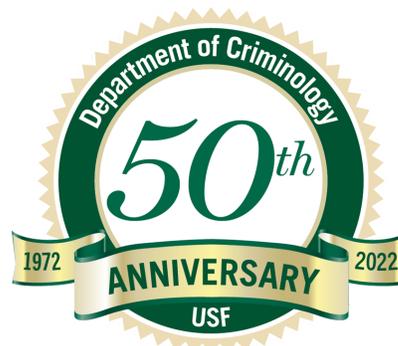


Dr. Bryanna Fox led an update on the City of Tampa's Community Task Force on Policing. Her work since the death of George Floyd has resulted in 17 findings/policy changes for the Tampa Police Department. Click [here](#) to read the article, or [here](#) to see the findings.



Celebrate our 50th Anniversary with us!

We are kicking off the Department of Criminology's 50th anniversary celebration in Fall 2022! To keep up with the festivities and receive news on upcoming events, use the link to register and follow us on Twitter (@USFCriminology). [Stay in touch!](#)



Associate Professor Selected for Fulbright Award

Dr. Kevin Wang was selected as a 2020-21 U.S. Fulbright scholar to teach American justice institutions and conduct research on people's perceptions of the police in Taiwan at National Taipei University. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural

Affairs, the Fulbright Program is devoted to increasing mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. Dr. Wang plans to return to his host institution in Taiwan in the summer of 2022 to work with research partners and graduate students and establish a long-term collaboration.



Criminologist is Rated Most Influential Scholar

Dr. Lorie Fridell was ranked the #8 most influential scholar in policing in the last 50 years by Academic Influence. The full article is available [here](#).



Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Joan Reid

As a mental health counselor in the early 2000s, Dr. Joan Reid – alumni of USF and Associate Professor of Criminology on the USF St. Petersburg campus – saw firsthand the devastating effects of human trafficking. In September 2021, the USF Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Risk to Resilience Research Lab and Data



Depository officially opened on the USF St. Petersburg campus.

[Learn more](#)

Student Spotlight: Xavier Burch

Xavier Burch is a doctoral candidate at USF, with a focus on crime and politics and crimes of the powerful. He earned his Master's degree from USF and his Bachelor's degree from Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida. He seeks to add to the field of Criminology by shining more light on the actions of politicians, the political effects on certain groups (race & gender), and the political effects on crime.



[Learn more](#)

Cybercrime Interdisciplinary Behavioral Research Laboratory

The Cybercrime Interdisciplinary Behavioral Research Laboratory, or C.I.B.R. Lab, is housed within the Department of Criminology at USF. The C.I.B.R. Lab is focused on the study of both the motivations and methods of offenders, as well as, the impact to their victims and its implications.

[Learn more](#)



Center for Justice Research and Policy

The Center for Justice Research & Policy (CJRP) at USF hosts an interdisciplinary team of scholars and practitioners focused on the study of crime, violence, and criminal and social justice policy. It is the first of its kind in Florida, recently approved by the Board of Governors as a state-level center. The CJRP's goal is to apply rigorous research and evaluations to enhance the evidence base of policing, corrections, and court practices.

[Learn more](#)



10th Annual Wall of Fame Induction Ceremony



Publications

Our rate of peer-reviewed article publication greatly exceeds the national average among Ph.D-granting criminology/criminal justice programs where we are ranked in the top 2-3. Annually, the faculty and graduate students in the Department of Criminology publish an average of approximately 80 peer-reviewed articles; we also several publish books, over a dozen book chapters, and numerous other published documents each year.

To see our list of publications, click [here](#).

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