

# ACJS Juvenile Justice and Delinquency

Spring 2022

## Final words from the Outgoing Chair

Dr. Sherill Morris-Francis  
(2020-2022)



*The Juvenile Justice Section of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences promotes research, theory, and best practices for juvenile related concerns. Join the conversation!*

I have made it a habit to practice gratitude in my personal and professional journeys amidst successes and setbacks, sicknesses and health, joy and pain. So, let me start there.

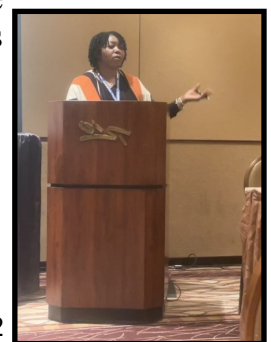
I thank the almighty for his grace and mercy: we have survived the pandemic. Over two years ago, our lives, indeed our way of life, changed dramatically. More than 430 million people worldwide have become infected with COVID-19, and more than 5.9 million have died. The challenges were significant. We see medical professionals challenged by lack of resources, we experience challenges in a highly polarized political climate, and more importantly, challenges by the rampant spread of misinformation and disinformation. But we survived!! Let us remember the loved ones we have lost and the families still grieving.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as Chair of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Section for the past two years. My thanks to all our members who have stayed with us over the years and to new members who have joined the Section - we wouldn't be a SECTION of ACJS without you!

I also want to take a moment to recognize the service of our Executive Board. It has been a pleasure to serve with them these past two years. Throughout this administration, we met three times as a group (virtually), many email exchanges, and numerous telephone calls as we managed matters pertinent to the life of this Section.

I would like to recognize and formally thank the Members of the Board.

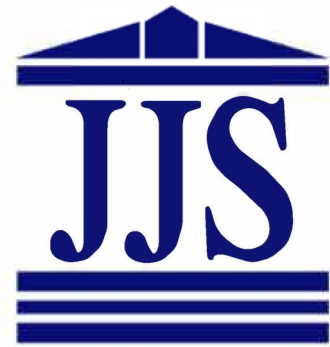
Dr. Kimberly S. Meyer, - Vice Chair  
Immediate Past Chair –Dr. Marika Dawkins  
Dr. Steven Dyer - Secretary/Treasures



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## Final Words (continued)

Dr. Robin Jackson – (Executive Counselor)  
Dr. Rochelle Cobbs - (Executive Counselor)  
Dr. Aimee Delaney- Executive Counselor  
AND  
Dr. J. Renee Trembley - Executive Counselor 2019-2021

How did we measure up this year? We did well amidst the challenges. Our meetings have all been fruitful – we agreed and disagreed respectfully on issues as we discussed the activities for the year. Our Awards and Recognition Committees did an outstanding job. This year, we recognized two of our members for their outstanding leadership and service to the Section. Unfortunately, we did not receive many entries for the Student Paper Competition, although we extended the submission deadline. We ultimately received one complete paper. Please encourage your students to participate in this competition. Our membership drive did not go as planned, but we added a few new members this year.

Although my tenure as Chair has ended, I will continue to ensure that the JJDS Mission and Goals are realized by serving in my role as Immediate Past Chair for the next two years. I implore you all to keep the Section alive and participate in activities as requested by the incoming Executive Board.

Again, I want to thank you all for entrusting me with this task and supporting me throughout my two-year term. BUT I am happy to pass the gavel over to **Dr. Kimberly S. Meyer**. But, as with many Chairs before me, the wheels of JJDS must keep going. Therefore, my commitment to the Board and the field of Juvenil Justice stands.

Thank you.



Dr. Sherill Morris-Francis chats with JJDS members at the section reception (2022 ACJS annual meeting in Las Vegas, NV).

Dr. Kimberly Meyer gives her incoming section Chair speech at the section meeting (2022 ACJS annual meeting in Las Vegas, NV).



## Welcome from the incoming Chair

Dr. Kimberly Meyer

Hello from Connecticut to all of our members, both new and returning! As I start my term as Chair of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Section, I'm encouraged by the

momentum established under Dr. Morris-Francis' term and promoted during our recent Annual Meeting. Our section is healthy and growing, and we have many ideas for ways to increase the benefits of section membership. Before starting on those, though, I have to extend my thanks to Dr. Sherill Morris-Francis for her leadership over the previous term. It's been an eventful few years, but I am grateful for her efforts to maintain the section and work on new initiatives.

As I mentioned during my address at the conference, I've been encouraged to hear the ideas our members have about benefits we could add to increase the value of section membership. During our meeting, I found myself repeatedly opening the agenda on my phone to jot all of your ideas down, but now we're at the time to start working on implementing those and getting members more involved. We are particularly interested in providing mentoring and networking opportunities: Please look for and respond to our calls for involvement over the next few months!

We will also solicit applications for our three annual awards in the fall: Please share the awards with your students, and apply yourselves! We will have a new Service Award for someone working in the field of juvenile justice, which will hopefully be a great opportunity to share the work of our practitioner members.

My goal is always to expand our reach and get members more involved: If you have additional ideas, feel free to reach out to me or any board member: Our contact information is included on p. 4 of this newsletter.

**Mission Statement:** The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Section (JJDS) of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) brings together academy members with a particular interest in juvenile justice and delinquency. Our goals are:

1. To facilitate and encourage research and theoretical development related to these interests;
2. To promote communication between academics and practitioners in regard to research and theory; and,
3. To encourage organization of conference sessions related to juvenile justice and delinquency.

## Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Executive

### **Chairperson:**

**Kimberly S. Meyer**

Central Connecticut State University

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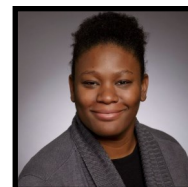


### **Vice-Chairperson:**

**Robin D. Jackson**

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### **Immediate Past Chairperson:**

**Sherill V. C. Morris-Francis**

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### **Secretary/Treasurer:**

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### **Executive Counselors:**

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**Aimée X. Delaney**

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# JJD Awards

## Tori J. Caeti Memorial (Young Scholar) Award: Dr. Caitlin Cavanagh

Dr. Cavanagh's research focuses on the impact of juvenile justice system involvement on adolescent development. One focus of Dr. Cavanagh's research has examined the role of parents and guardians in the etiology of juvenile offending and responses to justice system involvement, the impact of sleep quality on youth responses to confinement in secured facilities, and the roles of neighborhood and family contexts on the development of antisocial attitudes and behaviors, and how these contexts influence reactions to the legal system

Dr. Cavanagh's research has been funded by a number of agencies, including the National Science Foundation (NSF), Office for Victims of Crime, and the American Psychological Foundation. Her most recently funded projects are the development of screening tools to identify trafficked and exploited youth and to examine the impact of COVID-19 on youth and parents' experiences with the juvenile justice system. In addition, Dr. Cavanagh has 24 peer-reviewed publications in print or in-press, with a number of other non-peer reviewed scholarly works.

She has responded to the immediate needs of the local and national juvenile justice systems through her research, focusing on the plight of system involved youth and their families. She has also developed mentoring relationships with undergraduate and graduate students through her development of The Adolescent Development and the Justice System Lab (ADjust Lab), including guiding students in the best practices of translational action research through her ongoing collaborations with Ingham County, Michigan's juvenile justice system and in turning this research into theoretically informed peer reviewed publications and conference presentations.

Dr. Cavanagh is a gifted and well-rounded scholar and a tremendous person who will be a *leader in the field* of juvenile justice and delinquency for years to come. For these reasons, Dr. Cavanagh embodies the characteristics of the Tory Caeti Memorial Award.

~submitted by: Dr. Chris Melde, Michigan State University



The faculty of the Criminal Justice Department at the University of North Texas funds this award on an annual basis. The award consists of a plaque (paid for by ACJS/JJD Section) and \$1000.00 from the University of North Texas (UNT) faculty.

## **Service Award:** **Dr. Marika Dawkins** **Dr. Sherill V. C. Morris-Francis**

Shown is Dr. Marika Hawkins, outgoing immediate chair, giving the outgoing chair Dr. Sherill Morris-Francis her award.



Marika Dawkins was recognized for her leadership and service to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Section from 2018-2020. Dr. Dawkins was the Chair of this section from 2020-2021.



Dr. Morris-Francis was recognized for her leadership and service to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Section from 2020-2022. Dr. Morris-Francis was the Chair of this section from 2021-2022.

This award acknowledges and formally thanks section members who have made outstanding leadership and service contributions in different capacities to the Section. One award each year is reserved for the sitting Chair of the Section.

## **Student Paper Award:** **Ari Mathias Schroder**

Ari Schroder's, a Ph.D. Student at Prairie View A&M University, paper titled "Hunter Brittain, Racialized Media, and Police Violence: Centering White Victims Supports Racial Justice?" was awarded first placed, and will received a plaque and check for \$250.

Shown is Dr. Kimberly Meyers presenting Dr. Robin Jackson, the faculty mentor, with this award on behalf of her student.



**Congratulations to all the 2022 awardees!**

## JJD Section member publications

**Monell, J.M., & Muhammad, E.A.** (2022) Black Masculinity, Media Stereotyping and its Influence on Policing in the United States: A Functionalist Perspective. In: Baikady R., Sajid S., Przeperski J., Nadesan V., Rezaul I., Gao J. (eds) *The Palgrave Handbook of Global Social Problems*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Muhammad, E.A. & **Monell, J.M.** (2020) Policing and the Black Community: History, Reality and a Model for Change. In Martin (Ed.) *Africana Demography*: Brill Publishers.

**Delaney, A.X.** (2021). *Norms of violence: Violent socialization processes and the spill over effect for youth crime*. New York: Routledge. <https://www.routledge.com/Norms-of-Violence-Violent-Socialization-Processes-and-the-Spillover-Effect/Delaney/p/book/9780367254889>

**Webb, P., Savard, D., & Delaney, A.** (2020). The color of confinement: Examining youth exoneration decisions and the critical race theory. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*, 18(3), 206-237. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15377938.2020.1754990>

Brubaker, S. J., & **Cleary, H. M. D.** (advance online publication). Connection and caring through a therapeutic juvenile corrections model: staff and youth resident perceptions of structural and interpersonal dimensions. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X211065586>

Brubaker, S. J., & **Cleary, H. M. D.** (advance online publication). Conceptualizing and contextualizing treatment orientation: A mixed-method analysis of juvenile correctional staff under a therapeutic model. *American Journal of Criminal Justice*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12103-021-09612-1>

**Cleary, H. M. D.,** Guarnera, L. A., Aaron, J., & Crane, M. (2021). How trauma may magnify risk of involuntary and false confessions among adolescents. *Wrongful Conviction Law Review*, 21(3), 173-204.

Baek, H., Lee, S., **Posadas, C. E.,** and Kwak, D. (2022). "Parental Management on Juvenile Delinquency through Low Self-control and Misconception." *Deviant Behavior; Online First on April 2022* <https://doi.org/10.1080/01639625.2022.2061390>

Baek, H., Lee, S., and **Posadas, C. E.** (2022) Poor Parenting on Underage Drinking through Frustration and Impulsivity," *Crime & Delinquency; Online First on January 2022*. DOI: 10.1177/0011287211064789

**Delaney, A.X.** (2021). The victimizing effect of violent socialization: Intimate partner use of coercive sexual practices transnationally. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X21994064>

**Delaney, A.X.** (2021). Intersections of childhood victimization experiences, gender, and power: The makings for sexual coercion? *International Criminal Justice Review*, 31(2), 106-121. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1057567720982655>

**Delaney, A.X.** (2020). Larry Nassar Scandal. In *Sexual Harassment and Misconduct: An Encyclopedia* (pp.162-165). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.

Bantley, K. A., Koski, S. V., Greenebaum, J., Merenstein, B., & **Meyer, K. S.** (2021). A 'Ruth-less' court in the 21st century: How the loss of RBG may hurl progress toward women's equality back to the Dark Ages. *Women's Rights Law Reporter*, 42, 157-171.

Russell, K. N. & **Dawkins, M.** (2022). Hidalgo County Snapshot: Juvenile Probation Population, Demographics, and Referrals. {Data Brief}

# Research and Projects

Lynnell Talbert, Grand Rapids Community College, developed a Juvenile Residential Services Course. To learn more about this, read the article here:  
[https://www.schoolnewsnetwork.org/2022/03/07/course-to-help-students-learn-to-best-serve-detained-youth/?utm\\_source=School+News+Network&utm\\_campaign=3a6185b30c-Mailchimp\\_Email\\_Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_8af2d3c0ed-3a6185b30c-143672625](https://www.schoolnewsnetwork.org/2022/03/07/course-to-help-students-learn-to-best-serve-detained-youth/?utm_source=School+News+Network&utm_campaign=3a6185b30c-Mailchimp_Email_Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_8af2d3c0ed-3a6185b30c-143672625)

Dr. Aimée X. Delaney, Worcester State University, was awarded a \$250,000 Local Drug Crises Grant from the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*) with the Raymond Coalition for Youth to research and implement preventative measures that will de-normalize youth substance use in any form and leads to the reduction of misuse and abuse. The mixed methodology includes surveys, interviews, and evaluation.



Dr. Rita Pavone discussed her research “Health and Wellbeing of Loved Ones in Prison: The Need for an External Oversight” at the Virtual 2021 ACJS Annual Meeting. This was a qualitative phenomenological psychological study of perspectives on unresolved complaints about physical and mental health issues experienced in the prison system. She also presented research at the Virtual Conference of Academic Research in Education (CARE) in March 2022, titled “The Adaptation of Pedagogical Methods for Adult Higher Education in Virtual Learning for an Optimal Level of Performance.” This study used a direct observational method aimed at verifying whether adapting pedagogical approaches in the context of virtual learning would produce an optimal level of learner performance. Dr. Pavone is a 2019 Alumna of the ACJS Doctoral Summit.



Dr. Don Gala presented a research paper titled “School safety and firearms: Considering alternatives” at the 59th Annual Meeting of ACJS. This research He advocated an “intervention equals prevention” approach at Grade 6 through Grade 8. He developed a 28-question instrument (reliability coefficient of .98), published in 1994, that could identify students who have a propensity toward serious violent behavior ( $p=.001$ ). With intervention and a mental health plan through a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Don believes that we could decrease the possibility of school violence that results in the loss of life. The mental health plan would include parent(s) and the student’s teacher in the mental health plan, which would require their participation, if considered necessary by the Psychologist.

Shown are JJDS members socializing at the section meeting and reception at the 2022 ACJS annual meeting in Las Vegas, NV.





## News around the JJD Section

**Dr. Jack Monell**, Winston-Salem State University, was elected to the Faculty Senate Chair. He also serves as the At Large Member of the Executive Committee for the UNC Faculty Assembly. He is a Whisenton Public Schols Fellow, for the Kettering Foundation, Joffe T. Whisenton & Associates. Dr. Monelle was awarded the MLK Building the Dream Award from Winston-Salem State & Wake Forest Universities, and the Citizen of the Year Award from the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, Psi Phi Chapter. Congratulations!

Welcome to new JJD member **Dr. Hayley Cleary**, Virginia Commonwealth University. A psychologist by training, she studies police interrogation, psychology and the legal system.



**Melanie Palacios Soderstrom, J.D.**, accepted a tenure track Assistant Professor position in the School of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Texas State University to begin Fall 2022. She is currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Central Florida and will defend her dissertation this summer. Congratulations!

**Dr. Kimberly Meyer**, Central Connecticut State University, received the OER Pioneer of the Year Award from the Student Government Association in May 2020. Congratulations!

**Dr. Aimée X. Delaney**, Worcester State University, was awarded the 2021 Regional Fellow Award from the Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences. This award is presented annually to a member who has made significant contributions to scholarship in criminal justice education as demonstrated through published works, scholarly papers, and accomplishment in teaching, grants, and other related professional activities. Congratulations!

**Dr. Kevin Courtright**, Edinboro University, was selected as the 2021 Faculty Member of the Year! The Faculty Award recognizes a faculty member who consistently exhibits exemplary teaching skills, presents a well-developed personal philosophy of teaching, and demonstrates mastery of their discipline. Congratulations!



Dr. Courtright was interviewed recently for the *NVIVO Podcast Series - Between the Data*. This podcast series talks to qualitative researchers (who use NVIVO qualitative data analysis software) about their innovative research methods, applied practices and personal insights. His interview (Episode 36: Making Research Methods Relevant to Undergraduate Students) can be found by linking to: [Resources for Data Analysis Software Users | NVivo](https://www.qsrinternational.com/resources-for-data-analysis-software-users/) (qsrinternational.com)

## Research Highlight

### Mental and Behavioral Health Among Juveniles

In today's climate, mental health has become a topic of importance as it relates to juveniles. There has been an increasing number of juveniles who are detained or facing some form of incarceration with unmet mental health needs. A meta-analysis by Vincent and colleagues (2008) suggested that at some juvenile justice contact points, as many as 70 percent of youths have a diagnosable mental health problem (*OJJDP*, 2017). Addressing this issue relates to raising awareness of one's mental health condition and providing proper treatment such as mental health services that pertains to that particular individual's development. The key here is for juvenile justice centers to prioritize treatment rather than punishment depending on the severity of one's criminal activity/involvement. Integrating programs that seek to promote healthier alternatives other than detainment creates a cycle that is better and more effective. Along with mental health services, alternatives such as community-based programs and recreational activities can foster a healthier and safer lifestyle for these individuals. Research illustrates that mental health resources are lacking in many communities which provides causation for juveniles to become involved within the criminal justice system. The research indicates there are shared risk factors for mental health issues and juvenile justice involvement; however, the research is less conclusive about whether mental health problems increase the odds of youth involvement in the justice system or whether being a part of the justice system increases youths' mental health problems (*OJJDP*, 2017). The goal is to collaborate with other multidisciplinary treatment teams which centers on preventing juvenile delinquency and fostering rehabilitation.

#### Reference

2017, July. Intersection between Mental Health and the Juvenile Justice System. *OJJDP*. Retrieved from [https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/model-programs-guide/literature-reviews/intsection\\_between\\_mental\\_health\\_and\\_the\\_juvenile\\_justice\\_system.pdf](https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/model-programs-guide/literature-reviews/intsection_between_mental_health_and_the_juvenile_justice_system.pdf)

~submitted by: Gloria Okere, Texas Southern University

Editor: Aimée X. Delaney, Worcester State University