

2019

# ANNUAL REPORT

*Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center  
College of Juvenile Justice & Psychology*



PRAIRIE VIEW  
A&M UNIVERSITY





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# Letter from the Interim Dean and Executive Director

*Dr. Camille Gibson*

Dear Friends,

The year 2019 passed so quickly! We started wide-eyed and energized to make a substantial difference in the lives of youth and their families, and by extension, to empower communities. We accomplished these goals!

In February, we participated in the Texas Legislative Black Caucus Summit in Austin, sharing on juvenile justice. In addition, attending the summit were undergraduate students chaperoned by Student Affairs staff and Judge Marian Elaine Jackson from Waller County. This invaluable time offered insights into the needs of persons throughout the state, including how to engage politically and become catalysts for positive change in local communities and beyond. Later, we hosted the annual Royce West Forum and Lecture Series featuring noted historian and Harvard professor, Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad. His talk focused on reversing the condemnation of Blackness and Brownness. This was in keeping with the Center's collaborative effort to address the achievement gap of many Black and Brown boys in Texas.

In April, we hosted our fourteenth annual research symposium, this time in partnership with other campus offices advancing student research. The Center also co-hosted the annual fall undergraduate research information program. This exposes students to external research opportunities and presents guidance on being competitive for paid research positions. Indeed, many of our undergraduate students were engaged in empirical research in 2019 with assistantship funding from the Office of Research Innovation and Sponsored Programs at the University. Their topics included subjects like emergency management communication and the reciprocal nature of the response to immigrants perceived as threats by segments of society.

As always, we continue to offer input on matters of state, local and national significance. For example, in summer 2019, Senator Royce West invited our college to offer input on the increasing violence in the Dallas area. We have remained engaged with communities in Dallas and Fort Worth since, recently garnering office space in the area. Other major community outreach initiatives included Dr. Terrence Allen and Associate Center Director Grady Paris' six-city research collaborative, offering mental health services to students in Sunnyside and various other programs in the Haverstock Apartment community in Houston.

The Center continues to offer national leadership on juvenile justice. In summer 2019, Center Director Dr. Susan Frazier-Kouassi and I spent time with the QEM network at the Annie E. Casey Foundation Office in Washington D.C. To our delight, one of the hosts was Nyla Wofford, an alumna from our psychology program and now a graduate student at Howard University. We were invited to offer other HBCUs guidance on effectively incorporating juvenile justice education into their curriculum.

In May, I joined a Prairie View team invited to Stanford University's d.School (the Hasso Plattner Institute of Design). I presented my work regarding community engagement in emergency management. In the fall 2019, Louis Ngamassi from the College of Business and I presented on a similar topic at a resiliency conference focused on post-Hurricane Harvey lessons learned. Collaborating with the faculty in Business, the College now shares a Minor in Crisis Informatics. My research on middle school student vulnerabilities online, led to a TEES grant effort on cybersecurity. Further, we have students and faculty in the College studying mass violence, mental health, and other topics of interest to the state.



To sharpen our vision, in fall 2018, we reconstituted and reactivated the Center's Advisory Committee. The committee expanded to become a College Advisory Committee that includes alumni. The committee elected former Texas representative, now University of Texas- San Antonio, education professor, Dr. Michael Villareal as its chairperson. This very passionate and knowledgeable group is excited and highly engaged. To more formally involve more of our alumni, we launched a WISR platform this fall called "Panther Connect." Within this platform, students can make contact with alumni and friends willing to offer career mentoring. We also launched into the use of virtual reality in instruction.

We continue to produce leaders in juvenile justice, criminal justice and psychology. Our students know the value of assisting those coming behind and being agents of change. We continue to serve through community outreach, trainings, and research. I remain amazed at how much gets done, given our size! We look forward to an even stronger 2020!

Sincerely,

*Camille Gibson*

Camille Gibson, Ph.D., C.R.C.  
Interim Dean & Executive Director

## Mission

The Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center and the College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology are committed to the reduction of juvenile delinquency and crime in the State of Texas, and strive to attain national recognition in the areas of education, research, and service in doing the following:

- conducting, coordinating, collecting, and evaluating research in all areas relating to juvenile crime and delinquency;
- providing a setting for educational programs relating to juvenile delinquency and crime, including degree programs at Prairie View A&M University and other educational programs such as continuing education and in-service training for criminal justice and social service professionals;
- serving as a state and national resource for information on juvenile delinquency and crime; and,
- developing community-based programs, policies, and strategies to address juvenile delinquency and crime and related social problems; and,
- creating partnerships, collaborative efforts, or outreach, public service, or technical assistance programs to assist communities, governmental agencies, or private entities to implement programs, policies, and strategies that address juvenile delinquency and crime and related social problems.

## COJJP Advisory Board Members

- Board Chair, Dr. Michael Villarreal, Education Faculty, University of Texas San Antonio, former member of the Texas House of Representatives
- The Honorable Royce West, Texas Senate
- The Honorable Borris L. Miles, Texas Senate
- The Honorable James White, Texas House of Representatives
- The Honorable Craig Washington, former member, Texas House, Senate and U.S. Congress
- Ms. Vickie Spriggs, Chief Executive Officer Texas CASA
- Ms. Joyce James, Joyce James Consulting, former Assistant Commissioner of Texas Child Protective Services Program
- Mr. Keith V. Branch, Assistant Deputy Director of Human Resources, Harris County Juvenile Probation
- Ms. Patricia Harrington, Director, Mayor's Anti-Gang Task Force, Houston
- Dr. Michael McFrazier, Dean, Prairie View A&M University College of Education
- Dr. Elba Garcia, Dallas County Commissioner, District 4
- Dr. Abdul Haleem (Robert) Muhammad, Student Minister, Mosque No. 45, Urban Planner, Houston
- Dr. Emily Knox, Senior Research Scientist, Texas Juvenile Justice Department
- The Honorable Carol Chaney, Judge, Waller County Court at Law
- The Honorable Aurora Martinez Jones, Associate Judge, Travis County District Court
- The Honorable Renee R. Betancourt, Judge, 449th District Court, Edinburg
- Dr. Akalita Ross, College Alumna, Clinical Psychologist
- Andre Evans, Esq. College Alumnus
- Lakisha Alomaja, Esq. College Alumna

## Research Grants

### Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station Cybersecurity Education Grant



In May 2019, Camille Gibson, Co-Principal Investigator did the winning pitch before a panel of judges to secure for her grant team, the Cyber Warriors a \$20,000 seed grant from the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station. The team consists of engineering faculty from within the Texas A&M University System and is mentored by Sunay Palsole at Texas A&M University. Its focus is on addressing cybersecurity workforce needs and practices. Gibson, who teaches a course in Computer Applications in Criminal Justice, brought this expertise, plus her research on the human aspects of people's engagement with technology to the project. The award is for two years.

## Research Symposia

### Summit on Improving the Outcomes of African American and Latinx Male Youth

The Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center and the Minority Achievement Creativity and High Ability (MACH-III) Center at Prairie View A&M University partnered to host a two-day Summit on Improving the Outcomes of African American and Latinx Male Youth on August 5-6, 2019. The summit provided stakeholders with a forum to exchange ideas and best practices, to learn different processes for organizational development and sustainability, and to hear from leading educational researchers about trends and educational challenges affecting African-American and Latino young males.

The August 5 keynote speaker, Dr. Luis Ponjuan, is an associate professor in educational administration and human resources development and research director of the Investing in Diversity, Equity, Access and Learning (IDEAL) research project at Texas A&M University. His social justice research agenda focuses on Latino male students, faculty members of color and STEM learning outcomes. In addition, Dr. Ponjuan is the co-founder of Project MALES (Mentoring to Achieve Latino Educational Success), a research and mentoring program developed to address the gender gap in Latino educational attainment. On August 6, Dr. Fred Bonner II, the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Endowed Chair in the College of Education at PVAMU, provided the keynote address. Dr. Bonner is the founding Executive Director and Chief Scientist of the MACH-III Center at Prairie View A&M University.

The first day of the summit focused on sharing best practices and learning about participating programs and community organizations. The following were represented at the summit: African American and Hispanic Institute for Males (Lone Star College at Kingwood), City of Refuge, Keep Kicking It, Inc., Minority Male Initiative (Houston Community College), Project MALES (University of Texas-Austin), ReDirect Diversion, Texas Knights of Pythagoras, Urban Enrichment Institute, and the Verizon Innovation Learning Camp (Texas Southern University, and the World Youth Foundation. The second day consisted of capacity-building training focused on assessment and sustainability led by Dr. Marvin Johnson.



## Ninth Annual Drug Symposium

For several years, the TxJCPC has been a valuable member of the PVAMU Drug Symposium team. In 2019, Grady Paris provided her legal expertise to increase PVAMU student awareness of the legal consequences of on-campus substance use. Angela Broadus, in collaboration with Dashiell Geyen, provided research expertise to develop, implement, and analyze a cross-campus survey of student substance use. Over two hundred students (n = 236) responded to questions about their personal use of illicit substances, including first use, reasons for use, family history of substance use disorders, methods for obtaining alcohol, types of drugs used, and beliefs about specific drugs such as marijuana, opioids, Adderall, and Provigil. PVAMU students learned the outcomes of this research during an interactive game.

## Research Projects

### Texas Child and Family Study (Statewide Research Collaborative)

After more than a year of traveling around the state and establishing working relationships with community members and local, county and state child -serving agencies in each of six cities, the Center's Research Collaborative is set to begin a multilevel pilot project.

This project will to bring together caring community members across the state in the interest of children and families involved in and/or at risk of being involved in the juvenile justice system. The joining of research, practice and community activism is the model of change the Center has identified to create a path to success for youth in under-served and vulnerable communities.

Dr. Terrence Allen and Associate Center Director Grady Paris are spearheading the project and have met with community gatekeepers and elected officials in Dallas, Tyler, Austin San Antonio, Hempstead and Houston. In each location, they have reached out to the community and formed a community advisory council. They have also met with county agencies such as Juvenile Court, the District Attorney's Office, and the Public Defender's Office, plus local school districts, police departments and state agencies including the Department of Family and Protective Service and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. What is unique about the Collaborative is that everybody is operating under the same set of principles and are sitting at the table with the same expected outcome of helping youth toward success.

The Center is proud to take the lead on this statewide community effort and has identified three specific areas of interest unique to children and youth in different stages of their social development: 1) Youth who are vulnerable to the Juvenile Justice System are one target population. 2) Another focus area is adjudicated youth; and, 3) youth who have been discharged from a county or state institution after serving their commitment.

Prevention projects will examine how to increase protective factors and reduce risk factors for youth vulnerable to the juvenile justice system. These projects will target elementary school age children. Post-adjudication intervention projects will help youth who are under the supervision of the court and focus on the effectiveness of services provided to them. In addition, re-entry aftercare projects will examine critical variables that impact youths' chances of being productive citizens after they are no longer involved in the delinquency system. The objective of intervention and aftercare is to examine models of intervention that may lead to a reduction in the rate of recidivism. The Center's goal is to develop and establish evidence-based programs that effectively address systemic problems related to juveniles and delinquency.



# Publications

## In print

- Cihan, A.**, Reidy, T.J., Sorensen, J. & **Chism, K.A.** (2019). Assessing the developmental patterns of visitation on prison misconduct: do visitation patterns matter? *Criminal Justice Studies*, DOI: 10.1080/1478601X.2019.1692009
- Cihan, A.**, & Tittle, C. R. (2019). Self-control, sanction threats, temptation, and crime: Examining contingencies of self-control in a cross-national context. *Crime and Delinquency*, 65(4), 555–580. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0011128718824939>
- Cihan, A.**, & Sorensen, J. R. (2019). Examining developmental patterns of prison misconduct: An integrated model approach. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 63(14), 2406–2421. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X19849565>
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- Cintron, M.** (2019). Kesha. In G. Robertiello (Ed.), *Sexual Harassment and Misconduct: An Encyclopedia*. ABC-CLIO/Greenwood/Praeger: Westport, Connecticut.
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- Cintron, M.**, Dawkins, M., **Gibson, C.**, & Hill, M.C. (2019) “The Talk” regarding minority youth interactions with police. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*, 17:4, 379-404, DOI: 10.1080/15377938.2019.1646687.
- Dunn, R., **Allen, T.**, & Whitt, A. (2019). Race and policing in Ohio: The loss of hope cross the river Jordan. In R. Tighe & S. Ryberg-Webster (Eds.), *Continuity and Change: legacy Cities amid Decline and Revival* (pp. 129-143). Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: University of Pittsburgh Press.
- Gibson, C.**, Dawkins, M., & **Stoddard, D.** (2019). The circumstances of Afro-Jamaican women and their experiences of intimate partner violence. In A. Kalunta-Crumpton (Ed.), *Violence against Women of African Descent: Global Perspectives*. (pp. 285-302). Lexington Books.

- Gibson, C., Davenport, S., Fowler, T., Harris, C. B., Prudhomme, M., Whiting, S., & Simmons-Horton, S.** (2019). Understanding the 2017 “Me Too” movement’s timing. *Humanity and Society*, 43(2), 217–224. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1177/0160597619832047>.
- Gibson, C., & Williams, F.** (2019). Understanding the impetus for modern student activism for justice at an HBCU: A Look at Personal Motivations. *Urban Review*, pp. 1-14. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11256-019-00527-0>.
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- Idrogo, J. V., & Yelderman, L. A.** (2019). Cognitive-Experiential Self-Theory. In V. Zeigler-Hill, & T. K. Shackelford (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Personality and Individual Differences*. New York: Springer.
- Kethineni, S.** (2019). Book Review: *Fake goods, real money: The counterfeiting business and its financial management*. *International Criminal Justice Review*. First published online <https://doi.org/10.1177/1057567719838023>.
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- Mathew, M.V.** (2019). War on drugs, 1971 -2000s. In J.J. Wilson (Ed.), *50 Events that Shaped African American History, An Encyclopedia of the American Mosaic*. ABC-CLIO.
- Ouassini, A., & **Ouassini, N.** (2019). Kill 3 million and the rest will eat of our hands: Genocide, rape, and the Bangladeshi War of Liberation. In F. Jacob (Ed.), *Genocide and Mass Violence in Asia*. (pp. 40-58). Berlin, Germany: DeGruyter.
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- Ouassini, N.**, & Ouassini, A. (2019). Criminology in the Arab world: Misconceptions, nuances and future prospects. *The British Journal of Criminology*, <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azz067>
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**Shigemoto, Y., Banks, A., & Boxley, B.** (2019). Gender differences in the interaction effect of community resources and attitudes toward seeking professional help on posttraumatic stress, depression, and posttraumatic growth. *Journal of Community Psychology*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.22287>.

**Simmons-Horton, S. & Gibson, C.** (2019). Girls and the school-to-prison pipeline. In F. Bernat & K. Frailing (Eds.), *The Encyclopedia of Women and Crime*. DOI: 10.1002/9781118929803.

**Wilson, D., Asby, A., & Bryant, C.** (2019). Evaluation of the relation among moral foundation, criminal justice and perception of terrorism in college students attending HBCU. In J.L. Conyers Jr. (Ed.), *African Americans in Higher Education: Africana Studies*. Routledge Taylor and Francis Group, UK.

**Yelderman, L. A., Joseph, J. J., West, M.P., & Butler, E.** (2019). Mass shootings in the United States: Understanding the importance of mental health and firearm considerations. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 25(3), August, pp. 212-223. DOI: <https://DOI.org/10.1037/law0000200>.

## Presentations

**Allen, L., & Harris, K.** (2019, April). Going from mentee to mentor while still a student. Symposium presented at the Annual Southwestern Psychological Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM.

**Allen, L. & Harris, K.** (2019, October). Perceived parental and teacher academic support on the educational attainment of low-income African American females. Poster presented at the Annual Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

**Allen, T.** (2019, June). Summary Report: Assessment of Dallas Crime Increase. Senator Royce West Town Hall Meeting, University of North Texas, Dallas, TX.

**Allen, T.** (2019, August). Policing in America. Organizer and Discussant. Society for the Study of Social Problems. New York City, New York.

**Banks, A. N. & Shigemoto, Y.** (2019, April). Examining the impact of community resilience on psychological distress after Hurricane Harvey. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.

**Boxley, B. & Yelderman, L. A.** (2019, April). Moral disengagement and voting behavior. Paper presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.

Brewer, W., **Yelderman, L. A., & Yelderman, Jr., J. C.** (2019). Beyond the designated monitor well: How monitoring water levels in domestic wells and sharing results with owners improves understanding and encourages cooperation presented at the Geological Society of America Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ.

**Butler, D. D., & Gibson, C.** (2019, April). Tensions between motorcycle clubs and law enforcement. Paper presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.

- Cintron, M. & Gibson, C.** (2019, October). Patterns in the radicalization of youth in the United States. Paper presentation at Conference on Prioritizing Caribbean Security in the 21st Century: Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Terrorism, University of the Southern Caribbean, Port of Spain, Trinidad.
- Cintron, M., & Sanchez, G.** (2019, October). Immigration to El Norte: A content analysis of Mexican Corridos. Paper presentation at the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice, Houston, TX.
- Columb, C.** (2019, February). A little bird told me: The effect of activating an implicit association between women and birds on political decision-making. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.
- Columb, C.** (2019, March). A little bird told me...Consequences of holding an implicit association between women and birds. Invited talk at the annual Brown Bag series at Texas A&M University Psychology Department, College Station, TX.
- Druses-Gibbs, K. & Jackson, R.** (2019, April). School to prison pipeline in Texas: A review of policies, procedures and possible reform efforts. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Encarnación, L. N. & Yelderman, L. A.** (2019, April). Effect of religious beliefs and contexts on perceptions of ex-offenders. Paper presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Franklin, T., Martin, P., & McField, A.** (2019, April). The Black Lives Matter Movement within African American churches: Are we unapologetically Black and outspoken Christians? Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Frazier-Kouassi, S.** (2019, July). Leveraging partnerships and capacity to conduct meaningful research and ensure sustainability. Presented at the Second Professional Development Workshop for Criminal Justice Faculty and Administrators at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in the Mid-Atlantic Region. Presenter and facilitator. Washington, DC.
- Frazier-Kouassi, S.** (2019, November). Strategies for successful recruitment and retention of minority elders: An NIA priority area. Panelist at the Gerontological Society of America 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Freeman, K. & Yelderman, L.** (2019, April). The effect of stepfathers on self-perception and familial support. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Gibson C.** (2019, February). Pipeline: Juvenile Justice Reform. Texas Legislative Black Caucus (TLBC) 2019 African American Summit. Austin, TX.
- Gibson, C.** (2019, May). Technical briefing--Lessons learned from community engagement. Design Thinking for Resilience Workshop with the Stanford Urban Resilience Initiative and the d.school, Stanford University.
- Gibson, C.** (2019, July). Panelist: Scholar perspectives on practice-focused juvenile justice curriculum reforms: Opportunities for advocacy, social change, and incorporating race-equity lens and youth development framework in the curriculum. Quality Education for Minorities Network (QEM) Professional Development Workshop, Washington DC.

**Gibson, C.** (2019, October). Invited interviewer of Judge Alberto Gonzalez, 80th United States Attorney General. Conference keynote speaker. Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice Conference. Houston, TX.

**Gibson, C.** (2019, October). Infusing technological tools and information in criminal justice education. Paper presented at the meeting of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice Conference. Houston, TX.

**Gibson, C.** (2019, November). Strategies to combat recent crime and violence developments in the Caribbean. Roundtable panelist. American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, November 2019, San Francisco, California.

**Gibson, C. & Simmons-Horton, S.** (2019, March). Youth devotion to technological socializing Research. Horizon Seminar Series, Prairie View, Texas.

**Harris, C. B., & Whiting, S.** (2019, April). The status of gender-responsive rehabilitative services for juvenile offenders in Texas. Paper presented at 14th Annual College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.

**Harris, C. B., Whiting, S. R., & Kethineni, S.** (2019, April). The status of gender-responsive rehabilitative services for juvenile offenders in Texas. Paper presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.

**Harris, K. & Allen, L.** (2019, October). Moderating mental health symptoms in African American emerging adults. Poster presented at the Annual Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

**Harris, K. & Allen, L.** (2019, October). Using technology to address emerging adults' mental health challenges. Paper presented at the Annual Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood Conference, Toronto, Canada.

**Harris, K., & Martin, P.** (2019, March). The relationship between theological orientations and mental health. Southwest Commission on Religious Studies & American Academy Southwest Regional Conference, Irving, Texas.

**Harris, K., McField, A., Wray, J., & Martin, P. P.** (2019, March). African- American faith-based mental health education and awareness initiative: Evaluation report on lessons learned. Southwest Commission on Religious Studies & American Academy Southwest Regional Conference. Irving, TX. [Katina Harris, Discussant].

**Harris, K., Wray, J., McField, A., Salim, S., & Martin, P. P.** (2019, June). African American faith-based communities and university partnership: Faith-based communities promoting mental health and recovery. Paper presented at the 17th Biennial Conference of the Society for Community Research and Action Division 27 American Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

**Herron, C. & Caldwell-Gunes, R. M.** (2019, April). The relationship between parental involvement, self-esteem, and identity among Black male adolescents: Implications for treatment and intervention. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.

**HoSang, M.** (2019, June). A Journey to Success Conference. Oral Presentation at the Corequisite Courses Conference, Houston, TX.

**HoSang, M.** (2019, October). Active learning and technology based Instruction: Innovative math strategies. Oral presentation at the College Academic Support Programs 2019 Annual Conference, Waco, TX.



- Jackson, R. & Gibson, C.** (2019, November). University students' marijuana use: Differences by gender. American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- Jefferson, D. & Gibson, C.** (2019, April). The cyclical nature of immigration moral panics in the United States. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Joseph, J., & Cintron, M.** (2019, March). Student and faculty perceptions concerning campus carry legislation in Texas. Paper presentation at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Baltimore, MD.
- Kethineni, S.** (2019, March). Cryptocurrency associated criminal activity, and legal and security regulations. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. Baltimore, MD.
- Kethineni, S.** (2019, May). Rape crisis in India: Legislative reforms. Presented at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Vienna, Austria.
- Kethineni, S.** (2019, August). 86th Legislative Update: Criminal Justice Updates. Presented at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Texas Southern University.
- Kim, S. Y., **Shigemoto, Y.**, Neduvelil, A., & Grzywacz, J. (2019, August). Stability of work-family enrichment: Is it just being happy or having certain personality traits? Symposium paper presented at the 127th Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.
- Lawrence, T. I., & Yelderman, L. A.** (2018, November). Parole and public attributions and actor observer hypothesis presented at the 15th Annual TAMUS Pathways Student Research Symposium at West Texas A&M University, Canyon, TX.
- Lawrence, T. I., & Yelderman, L. A.** (2019, September). The extent to which emotions, political orientations, and attributions impact perceptions of rehabilitation presented at the Southern Criminal Justice Association Annual Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Lawrence, T. & Yelderman, L.** (2019, April). Emotions, information processing styles, and parole decisions. Paper presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Lewis, J. & Wilson, D.** (2019, April). The Alpha Excellence Academy. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Love, K. M. & Wilson, D.** (2019, April). Psychology of Black hair, myths, and self-respect. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Martin, P. P., Harris, K., McField, A. Salim, S., Todd, N., Yelderman, L., & Barnes, S.** (2019, August). Theology and Community Psychology: Relevancy to person-environmental fit, research and practice. 17th Biennial Conference of the Society for Community Research and Action Division 27, American Psychological Association, Chicago, Illinois. [Dr. Nathan Todd, Discussant].
- Ngamassi, L. & **Gibson, C.** (2019, September). Information and communication technologies for disaster management: A research and education agenda. Resilience Rising: Hazard and Recovery Conference, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

- Paris, G. M.** (2019, February). Collaborating with a purpose: Effective truancy reduction. 2019 At-Risk Youth National Forum, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.
- Paris, G. M.** (2019, September). Effective Parent and School Engagement. 2019 Annual Justice of the Peace, Precinct One Forum, Austin, Texas.
- Prud'homme, M.** (2019, April). Impact of trauma informed care on youth outcomes for those in the juvenile system. Paper presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Richards, S. N., & Broadus, A. D.** (2019, April). Level of education and attitudes toward addiction: Implications for treatment providers. Oral presentation at the Southwestern Psychological Association, Albuquerque, NM.
- Sundaravadivelu, D., Miriyam, T. N., & Kethineni, S.** (2019, October). Hate crime in India: A content analysis. Paper presented at the 2019 Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice, Houston, TX.
- Thomas, A. & Davis, T.** (2019, April). Community dynamics and social media utilizations for emergencies in a rural Texas county. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Washington, E. & Joseph, J. J.** (2019, April). Faculty and staff perceptions regarding carry conceal legislation at a Historical Black College. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Whiting, S., & Harris, C. B.** (2019, November). Gun-related violence and open carry laws in Texas. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Williams, C., & Martin, P.** (2019, April). Chance the Rapper: Reexamination of the spiritual socialization of Chicago's native son. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Woods, J., & Yelderman, L. A.** (2019, April). Examining the role of mitigating and aggravator factors in parole release decisions. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.
- Yelderman, L. A.** (2019, March). Religious priming effects on support for court-mandated public shaming presented at the American Psychology and Law Society's Annual Conference, Portland, OR.
- Yelderman, L. A.** (2019, April). Risk or reward: Inmates' emotional expression and parole release outcomes presented at the Southwestern Psychological Association's Annual Conference in Albuquerque, NM.
- Woods, J. & Wilson, D.** (2019, April). Effects of psychological attitudes in African American college students. Poster presented at the Prairie View A&M University 14th Annual Research Symposium, Prairie View, TX.

# Education and Community Engagement

## *“Dialogue for a Safer Dallas” Town Hall Meeting*



In response to a disturbing increase in the number of homicides recorded in Dallas, beginning January 2019, Texas State Senator Royce West requested of Dr. Terrence Allen, Research Scientist from the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View A&M University to develop a plan of action using best practices as a guide to address crime and community transformation. To meet this challenge Dr. Allen conducted a focused community assessment. He interviewed more than 20 Dallas residents from the South Dallas community.

During the course of interviewing members of the community, there were several questions asked, but four questions were posed to everyone:

What do you think is the reason for this recent surge in crime?

The most common responses were focused on drug use and distribution; gangs; lack of police presence and lack of parenting and male presence which was the most common.

What do you think can be done to resolve crime in the city?

The most common themes were: bolstering family support systems; increasing employment opportunities for young people and increasing police presence and community involvement.

What was the city like 25 years ago?

Almost everyone that responded, “Nothing has changed”

Do you think crime in this city is child or adult focused?

Most residents believed the crime problem is a combination of adults and children. Those who say children pointed to gangs and drug related crimes as being catalysts.

Based on the information collected, Dr. Allen developed a list of recommended next steps. These recommendations were specific to the city of Dallas to transform the social conditions in the city’s most troubled areas. In his report to Senator West, he listed six recommendations including:

- Rebuild the community infrastructure as a way to stabilize the social structures.
- Develop an inclusive oversight concept that will allow the people to have a voice and be active in the day-to-day decisions that affect them.
- Engage a full employment plan to include a way to prepare everyone for viable employment, irrespective to his or her station in life.
- Develop a coordinated service delivery system that will make people aware of existing services.
- Implement a community beautification initiative in the areas with the most blight.
- Enhance political cohesion, which is imperative to successfully implement a community change plan.

Dr. Allen presented his findings and recommendation to the residents of Dallas at a town hall gathering convened by Senator West on June 22, 2019.



## 14th Annual Research Symposium

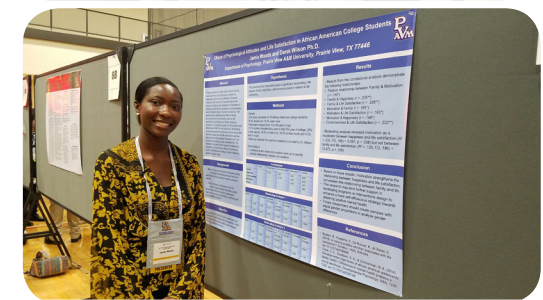
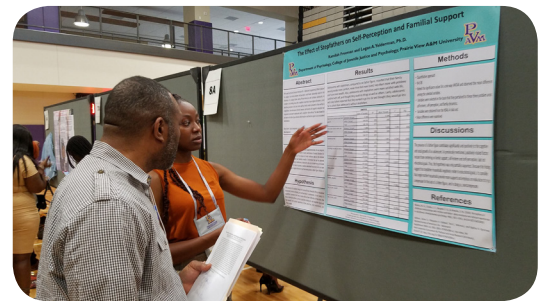
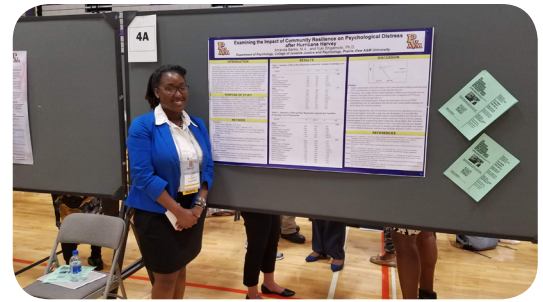
The College of Juvenile Justice & Psychology's 14th Annual Research Symposium had a few new twists this year. First, the symposium joined the Office of Research, Innovation, and Sponsored Programs in its inaugural 'Research Week.' The Research Week included a showcase of faculty research (held at the new Welcome Center) as well as a final awards ceremony for both faculty and student research (held in the Don Clark auditorium). Secondly, the Research Symposium moved to a new location. In the past, the symposium has been held in the Don K. Clark building. However, due to a greater participation of students this year, the symposium moved to the Student Recreation Center. This new location offered ample room for poster displays, oral presentations, lunch, and networking. There were 112 posters and 40 oral/panel presentations; many of which were entered into the judging for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Every college at the university participated, as well as Texas Southern University, Blinn College, and Texas A&M University. The symposium could not have been the success it was without the support of a working committee comprised of faculty and staff across campus, faculty judges representing many departments, and last but not least the financial support of colleges and units. This symposium provides an encouraging learning environment for research novices and all students – both undergraduate and graduate, in the midst of experienced researchers. Student involvement in research with a faculty mentor has been demonstrated to be one of the key high-impact experiences that can enrich a student's undergraduate experience. We hope to continue to offer this opportunity for students to learn and to grow.

The poster winners were:

- 1st place: Kierra Brossette (Mechanical Engineering); Faculty Advisors: Dr. Stephanie Burrs & Dr. Grace Abolaji, "Characterizations of Bio-sensing Transduction Platinum Layer for Improved Performance of Nanoparticles Use across Different Applications"
- 2nd place: Kolada Adelaja (Agriculture), Faculty Advisor: Dr. Peter Ampim, "The Evaluation of Vegetable Amaranth in Southeast Texas"
- 3rd place: Jeremy Daniels (Mathematics), Faculty Advisor: Dr. Indika Rathnathungalage, "Impact of the Sample Size and the Number of Covariates in Regression Analysis"

The paper winners were:

- 1st place: Stephen Aisabokhae (Community Development), Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tiffany Thomas, "Mentoring as a Tool for Fostering Personal Development among Youths in Uganda with Emphasis on Ages 11 -18. Case Study: Uganda Women's Network (UWONET) –School Mentorship Program 2018"
- 2nd place: Pranay Krishna Katari Haribabu (Mechanical Engineering), Faculty Advisor: Dr. Ziaul Huque, "Comparison Study of Structural Health Monitoring of Wind Blade Using Numerical Simulation between ElastoDyn and BeamDyn"
- 3rd place: Jennifer Bourgeois (Administration of Justice, Texas Southern University), Faculty Advisor: Dr. Howard Henderson, "Racial Disparity in Harris County Independent Public School Districts."



### *Third Annual Undergraduate Research Information Session*

The Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center in partnership with the Office of Undergraduate Research (Office of Research, Innovation, and Sponsored Programs) held the Third Annual Undergraduate Research Information Session at the Don Clark Building from 9am – 4 pm on Monday, October 21, 2019. This year's event introduced new elements including a workshop geared towards faculty, "Research Mentoring of Undergraduates" provided by Dr. Logan Yelderman (Psychology Department). Additionally, four workshops were provided for the undergraduates to help them to build a strong and competitive application to the myriad of summer research programs available to them throughout the country. Workshops, held throughout the day for the students, included:

- Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Dr. Thomas Nguyen, ORISP);
- Writing a Strong Personal Statement (Mr. Steven Thomas, Michigan State University);
- Research Process and Abstract Writing (Dr. Quincy Moore, Honors Program & Biology Department);
- Future Public Health Leaders Program (Ms. Hallie Williams, University of Michigan); and,
- Scientific Outreach and Writing Workshop (Dr. Thomas Wilkie, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center).

Another new element this year was to have the various representatives of the summer programs host information tables throughout the day in the rotunda area of the Don Clark building. Situating the programs physically in this space increased opportunities for students to stop, ask questions, and gather information. This element was especially positive as the increased numbers of classes from different departments resulted in significant foot traffic throughout the day.

The following programs were represented:

- Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT)-CURE Summer Undergraduate Program (Kari Brewer Savannah, MD Anderson Cancer Research Center, Houston, TX)
- Summer Undergraduate Research Program (Mary Ann Wolfe, Texas A&M University College of Medicine, Bryan, TX)
- Summer Research Opportunities Program of the Big Ten Academic Alliance Universities (Steven Thomas, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI)
- Summer Research – Early Identification Program (Medeva Ghee, Brown University, Providence, RI)
- Summer Health Professions Education Program (Robert D. Spears, University of Texas Science Center, Houston, TX)
- Future Public Health Leaders (FPHLP) (Hallie Williams, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI)
- Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) (Nancy Strange; MD Anderson Cancer Research Center; Houston, TX)
- Office of Undergraduate Research (Grace Abolaji; Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, TX)
- Cancer Prevention Research Training Program (CP RTP) Summer Research Experience (Kava L. Lewis; MD Anderson Cancer Research Center; Houston, TX)

Finally, two of the program representatives: Hallie Williams (Future Public Health Leaders Program) and Steven Thomas (Summer Research Opportunities Program of the Big Ten Academic Alliance Universities) gave presentations to individual classes during their stay on campus.

The Office of Research, Innovation, and Sponsored Programs and the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center provided support for this event.





## 2019 Royce West Forum & Lecture Series

On April 4, Prairie View A&M University's Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center, in collaboration with the President's Office, hosted the Annual Royce West Forum and Lecture Series. The keynote speaker this year was Harvard Historian Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad who discussed Building Youth Capacity: Reversing the Condemnation of Blackness and Brown-ness. A panel followed, moderated by Endowed Professor of Political Science Dr. Melanye Price, with panelists Emmet Campos of University of Texas-Austin's Project MALES and Abdul Haleem Muhammad (Robert S. Muhammad) of NTE Planning Consultants and Mosque 45 in Houston. Each speaker referenced the importance of a knowledge of history as the state prepares for an inevitably more diverse future.

"This year's forum was the Center's official start of an initiative at the university to address the negative trajectories of too many Black and Brown boys in Texas, in terms of outcomes," said Dr. Susan Frazier-Kouassi, Director of the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center. "The speakers charged the audience to examine the policies that contribute to these dynamics while exposing youth to possibilities through mentorship."

Texas Senator Royce West, who joined the group electronically, also encouraged careful monitoring of outcomes toward effective change.



## The Gavel Series

February 2019 marked six (6) years since the Gavel Series began. Since the inception of this series, we have had a thriving community partnership with Judge M. Elaine Jackson, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3 Waller County and Elton Mathis, District Attorney of Waller County. Over the years, the partnership has collaborated with PVAMU's Student Government Association, Office of Student Engagement, and the Office of Career Services to sponsor specific classes addressing issues on voting and voter education designed to satisfy the desire for knowledge and understanding the voting process. The Gavel Series also has included forums featuring candidates running in local and statewide races. The Series is particularly focused on relevant issues that affect both the internal and external campus community. For example, it provided a platform for Waller County community leaders and citizens to discuss the pros and cons of the Waller County Jail Bond Referendum and its impact on the

community. These forums appear to be successful in increasing voter participation at the polls.

Topics for classes are based upon audience input. Over the six (6) years, this "user friendly" format for providing free legal education to the citizens of Waller, its contiguous counties, and the University community, has featured classes on Entertainment Law, Paternity Support and Responsibility, Social Media Safety, Drug Charges and Punishment, Social Security and Disability, Student Financial Aid and Abuse, Gangs, Drugs and Family Violence, Immigration Law, Business Organizations, Wills, Trusts and Guardianships, Tax Law Basics, Law Enforcement Stops and De-Escalation, Holiday Blues: Your Mental Health, Search and Seizure, Divorce, Lending Abuse, Small Claims Court, County Government, Consumer Protection, and Elder Law. Landlord Tenant Law will be the subject of our February, 2020 series. We expect a great student and community turnout.

## *Blackstone Pre-Law Society*

The Blackstone Pre-Law Society under the guidance of Grady M. Paris, Esq. and Nathan K. Mitchell, Ph.D. continues to be a premier student organization that provides opportunities for greater familiarity with the legal system, its institutions, professionals and concepts. The organization's primary objective is to increase the enrollment numbers of culturally responsible Black and minority undergraduate students being accepted into Law school by preparing them with LSAT prep and tools for Law school success, especially in the crucial first year.

Lawyers on Review forums were hosted throughout the year where members of the legal profession shared their professional experiences with Blackstone members. Individuals participating in these forums included Tiffany Bradshaw, Waller County Supervising Assistant District Attorney; Courtney Dickey, Counsel for the State of Texas for Child Protection Courts and a PVAMU alumna; Attorney Lee Van Richardson of Waller County and the Honorable Craig A. Washington who is also a PVAMU alumnus. These forums fostered an opportunity for members to understand the realities of a legal career along with an overview of the skills and values important to preparing for a legal education and career in law.



Twenty-five (25) Blackstone student members visited UNT Dallas College of Law. While visiting the school, members met with faculty, students, admission, financial aid officers and attended a mock First Year Law class, which was the highlight of their visit. Law school admission officers and faculty from The University of Kentucky, North Carolina Central University School of Law, South Texas College of Law, University of Houston Law Center and Texas Tech University School of Law traveled to campus to meet with members. Students from all disciplines across the University campus were invited to each of these events. In Novem

ber 2019, Texas Tech University School of Law Professors Dwight McDonald and John Watts visited campus along with Shawn Adams of their Office of Admissions. Prior to their visit, Professor Watts sent case studies for members to prepare in advance for the Mock First Year class they conducted during their visit.

Prior to their visit, Professor Watts sent case studies for members to prepare in advance for the Mock First Year class they conducted during their visit.

A LSAC 2019 Law School Forum was hosted in Houston and it was an opportunity for our members to meet with over 100 Law schools from around the country as well as to attend workshops germane to law school admission including finance, writing personal statements and numerous other topics. These are the type of engaging experiences that prepare members for law school admission and the rigorous "first year experience."





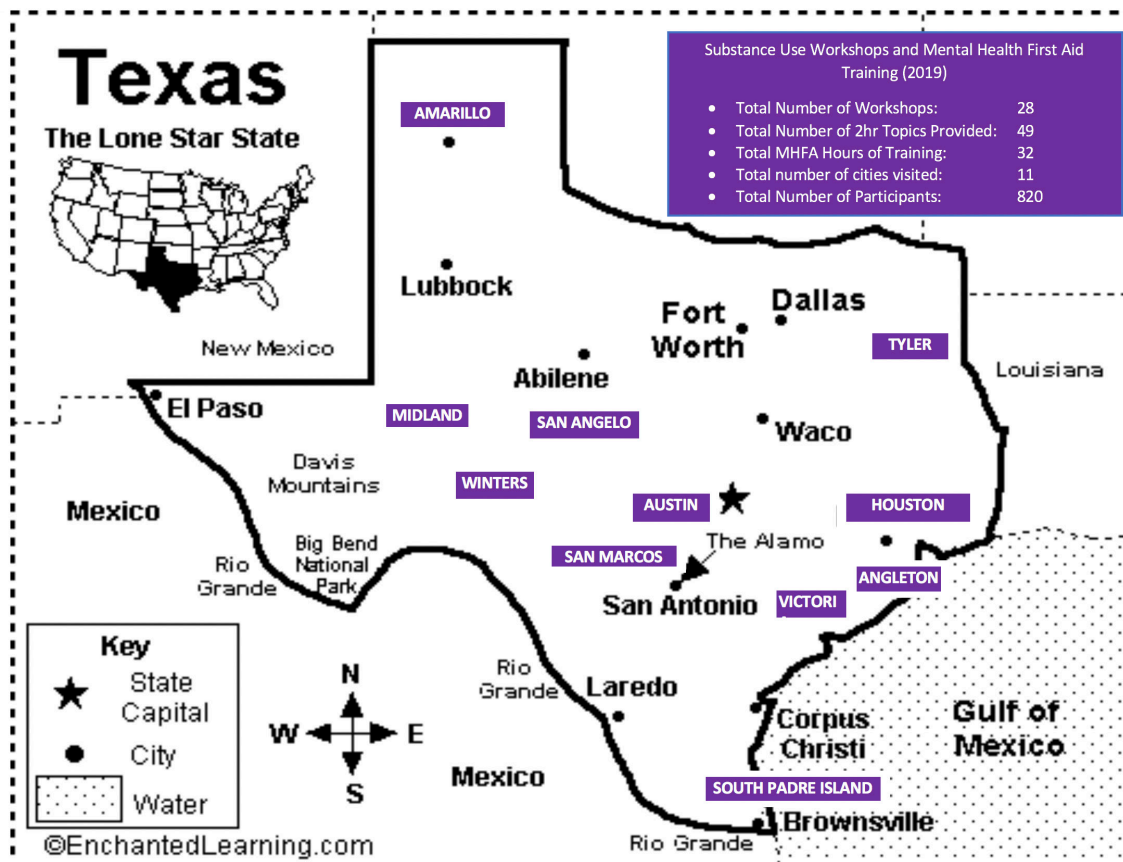
## Training for Substance Use Prevention among Teens

In order to help adolescents become successful (and sober) adults, it is essential that juvenile custody staff (e.g., probation and detention officers), school counselors, teachers, resource personnel, and other adults who work with children understand the complex, relapsing brain disease called addiction. Prevention education addresses this need with a “focus on helping people develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills they need to make good choices or change harmful behaviors” (SAMHSA<sup>1</sup>, 2019). The Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center offers such prevention education.

In direct accord with the mission of the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center (TxJCPC) to provide “educational programs such as continuing education and in-service training for criminal justice and social service professionals,” Dr. Angela Broadus developed 11 face-to-face educational workshops to provide continuing education (CEU) and in-service training for criminal justice and social service professionals. Each two-hour workshop addresses relevant topics regarding substance use, misuse, and use disorders among adolescents, age 12-17. In 2019, Dr. Broadus provided 28 face-to-face and webinar workshops, with 875 Texas adults receiving training in substance use, co-occurring disorders, and mental health first aid. These adults included juvenile probation and detention officers, staff from the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, the Texas Juvenile Detention Association, and the Juvenile Justice Association of Texas, school district counselors and resource officers, law enforcement, substance use and mental health counselors, and parents of teens.

Although the numbers trained seem large, the TxJCPC is reaching only a fraction of those needing information about adolescent substance use and mental health issues. To increase accessibility to all Texas adults, the TxJCPC began work in summer 2019 to translate the face-to-face workshops into an electronic format. This project utilized new, interactive website platforms that work with off-campus participants, voice-over actors, graphic designers, website developers, and multiple university staff. To date, we have successfully translated two of the modules and await funding to continue the project. This very involved process should be completed in 2020.

<sup>1</sup><https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/prevention>



## *New to the College! Virtual Reality Lab*

In summer 2019, Dr. Camille Gibson had the opportunity to tour Valdosta State University's new Virtual Reality lab. Criminal Justice faculty member, Dr. Bobbie Ticknor, set up the lab to serve the entire campus. Fortunately for Valdosta, Dr. Ticknor had a career as a software developer before deciding to pursue a doctorate in Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati. On Gibson's return from the tour, she resourced VR initiatives in the College for classroom instruction and possible Center trainings. This pilot venture into the VR world involves one high-tech Vive Pro Station and various headsets. The technology was introduced to faculty and staff at the summer faculty retreat. Virtual reality will allow students to experience simulated interactions and settings. The next phase of VR-assisted instruction will involve developing the content design skills of interested faculty and staff. This will allow faculty to inexpensively share experiential learning that happens on international travel and field trips with students unable to attend these learning adventures. Students will also be able to practice interactions with virtual persons toward their career success, such as interviews and handling crises. We remain on the cutting edge in instructional quality.

## Partnerships

### *Legislative Update 2019*

The Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center (TxJCPC) and the Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy, Inc. (ECI) have continued their partnership to report highlights of the Texas Legislative sessions. The Report on the Texas Legislature 86th Session: An Urban Perspective was released August 2019. This report covers issues of particular concern to the urban community and highlights traditionally disenfranchised and underserved communities. In this 86th Legislature's Regular Session, 10,877 bills were introduced with 4,581 being passed. Of those bills passed, 50 were vetoed and 144 became law without Governor Abbott's signature.

The Report covers legislation on the following subject matters: Criminal Justice and Procedure, Juvenile Justice, Family Law, Guardianship and Disabilities, Wills, Estate and Probate, Elections, Property, Human Trafficking, Child Protective Services, Wealth, Education, Wrongful Convictions, Domestic Violence and Litigation.

On August 6, 2019, TxJCPC and ECI along with the Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the Houston Lawyers Association and the NAACP Houston Branch hosted the 86th Texas Legislative Session Update conference on the campus of Texas Southern University. Lawyers attending this event earned 6.0 continuing legal education units by the State Bar of Texas. Professor Sessa Kethineni of the Justice Studies department in the College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology presented on the Criminal Justice legislation.

This report has been well received and is, in the words of retired Judge Bill C. Littlejohn, a recipient of the report, "...an impressive useable report. This is a compilation that can be referenced nationally by all."

### *Parent Engagement Training*

The Parent Engagement Training program is a comprehensive intervention/prevention training series designed to reduce and/or prevent school truancy and other habits that may lead to youth delinquency or incarceration. The training series empowers parents to become meaningfully engaged in the lives of their children. Parents attend a training track comprised of four (4) consecutive two (2) hour training sessions: a) Communication: Talking "at" or Talking With, b) Effective Parenting, c) Effective Advocacy, and d) Parental Involvement: Parents Being Present. Grady M. Paris, Esq. conducted this training in Travis County at Travis County Justice of the Peace Court, Precinct One, and in the Elementary schools throughout the county.

The training conducted at the Elementary schools targets parents of pre K through 5th grade students only and specifically addresses excessive unexcused absences, leaving school early and arriving excessively late. These training sessions have

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*been well received by school administrators and the parents who have attended. Fifty sessions were conducted in 2019 with more than 610 individuals trained.*

*The Center through Attorney Paris' efforts provided grant writing technical assistance to the Hempstead Independent School district (HISD) for a grant submitted to the Juvenile Justice Criminal Justice Division of Governor Abbott's office. HISD was awarded the grant (\$94,791) that provides funding for Truancy Prevention/Intervention personnel and educational programs to improve the district's responses to truancy at the high school level. Attorney Paris will conduct Parent Engagement training at Hempstead High School and continue to provide technical assistance throughout the one-year grant award cycle.*

## *Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center Creates Pathway to PVAMU for Haverstock Hills Families*

In August 2018, Terrence Allen, Ph.D., left The University of Texas at Austin and joined Prairie View A&M University's College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology as a research scientist in the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center (TJCPC). He arrived from the capital city intending to work with a low-income community to improve its quality of life.

"One of the things I wanted to do when I came here was to identify a community that was inundated with social problems," Allen explained. "I wanted it to be a very-defined community, like a housing project. And Haverstock, although it's not a public housing project, is still a defined area."

Haverstock Hills is a 700-unit apartment complex in northeast Houston on Aldine Bender Road near the intersection of North Interstate 69 and Texas Beltway 8 East. Since being built in 1972, the low-income complex has had a history involving crime and drugs.

"It really doesn't get any positive attention. So, nobody is going there to help anyone. If anything, people are going there to make arrests or somehow disparage the community," Allen said.

To help, the TJCPC created a partnership with Haverstock Hills called the Prairie View-Haverstock Venture (PV-HV). Residents provided input to help formulate plans for the services and the trainings that the TJCPC would provide.

"We've already shared with the administrative staff for Haverstock some of the programs that might work, and they were ecstatic," said Allen. "Our goal is crisis intervention. We're thinking of ways to give the residents hope and demonstrate how we can breathe life back into the community with an appreciation for research."

Associate Center Director Grady Paris said, "We know there are a great number of children and adults who live in Haverstock who are on probation and have been convicted, or adjudicated if they are juveniles. And developing programs that address juvenile delinquency, health awareness, academic achievement, including college preparatory programs and services, will strengthen families and address social-related problems."

Officials with the company that owns Haverstock are excited about the venture.

"My initial hope is that as many residents as possible are introduced or reintroduced to the greatness that is PVAMU, and the life-changing institution is only 45 minutes away," Program Director and Public Relations Coordinator Rodney Waites said about the partnership. "My long-term goal is that these middle and high school students will know that, 'Hey! We're on a plan. We have a relationship with the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View A&M University.'"

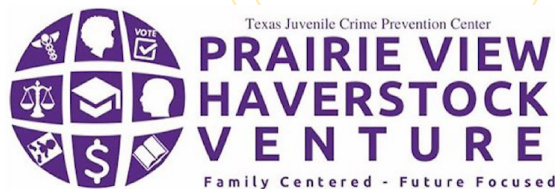


## *Prairie View Haverstock Venture Town Hall Meeting*

The first official event of the Prairie View Haverstock Venture was a town hall gathering on November 19, 2019. This gathering attracted a diverse group of more than 50 residents from the complex. The purpose of the gathering was to give voice to the concerns of residents and share with them the framework of the project. The discussion was highlighted by explaining the origins of the project and why Haverstock was selected by the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center (TxJCPC) as the ideal community to invest its resources.

Dr. Allen and Grady Paris lead a spirited discussion that centered on the targeted services that the TxJCPC plans to deliver to the residents. Residents were excited to learn about the Educational Enhancement concept that featured three targeted groups: elementary school age children and middle and high-school students. The Haverstock Scholars and College Express ideas will prepare and provide an opportunity for residents to matriculate as students at Prairie View A&M University. A Family Empowerment concept aimed at young parents was introduced and well received by residents. They also talked about a Community Engagement concept that is aimed at providing legal support and information regarding their civic responsibilities such as voting and community advocacy. The other topic of discussion was Health and Beauty Wellness which focused on gender specific health concerns and how to address the stress and anxiety that is often associated with living in communities that have been neglected.

The residents in attendance expressed their appreciation and enthusiasm for the willingness of Prairie View to provide needed support and help to them. The impact of the project has stretched into the community to solicit partners including the Aldine ISD.





## *Hempstead Independent School District Partnership*

The TxJCPC collaborated with Hempstead High School on a \$120,000 Truancy grant submitted to the Juvenile Justice Criminal Justice Division of Governor Greg Abbott's office. This grant was awarded and will provide for Parent Engagement training classes along with additional resources needed to prevent and to reduce truancy.

Austin Independent School District. The TxJCPC collaborated with AISD in their \$120,000 Truancy grant submitted to the Juvenile Justice Criminal Justice Division of Governor Greg Abbott's office. This grant will also provide Parent Engagement training classes along with other resources to the district to reduce and prevent truancy.

A proposal submitted to AISD to provide District Wide Professional Development Services totaling \$64,175.00 was accepted and the Center has been added to the list of acceptable Professional Development service providers for the District.

## *Pro-Vision Academy*

The TxJCPC and COJJP collaborated with Pro-Vision on plans to implement research-based holistic wellness support strategies consisting of, but not limited to, community outreach collaborations, family and youth care initiatives, PVAMU student service-learning engagement projects, periodic Pro-Vision student workshops, onsite PVAMU education enhancement activities, and program evaluation services and training. This year, doctoral students in the Clinical Adolescent Psychology doctoral program began practicums on-site at the academy offering therapeutic services to students.

## *Children At Risk (CAR)*

Children At Risk is a non-profit organization that serves as a catalyst for change to improve the quality of life for children through strategic research, public policy analysis, education, collaboration, and advocacy. TxJCPC partners with CAR and the Texas Medical Center Library on the production and publication of the Journal of Family Strengths, an open-access, double blind, peer-reviewed journal published.

## *Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network*

The Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network invited Drs. Camille Gibson and Susan Frazier-Kouassi to participate in their second professional development workshop from July 15- 16. The purpose of this professional development workshop for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in the Mid-Atlantic was to increase their capacity to undertake responsive curriculum reforms, conduct research on equity in juvenile justice, and pursue external funding opportunities. Dr. Ivory Toldson, President and CEO, QEM Network began the 2-day workshop with a welcome, introductions, and a review of the workshop. The remainder of the workshop was devoted to panel and plenary sessions from various network participants including Bowie State University, Coppin State University, Delaware State University, Howard University, University of the District of Columbia, and Virginia State University. The QEM Network received a one-year seed grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation to coordinate and facilitate a community of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) faculty who are committed to education and research to advancing socially conscious juvenile justice reform. Historical relationships between the Black community and law enforcement officials in conjunction with recent national events underscore the need for juvenile justice training, research, programs, and advocacy at HBCUs.



## COJJP Globetrotters

### *Comparative Criminal Justice Systems in Egypt*



During Spring Break 2019, Dr. Camille Gibson, Interim Dean of the College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology and Professor of the course CRJS 4963 Philosophy of Crime, led a student study tour to Egypt. Students from majors in psychology, architecture, and communications had a chance to learn about the Black Pharaonic era and its influence on ideas of crime, justice, guilt, human dignity, and care in the western world. The students were able to share in dynamic discussions given their varying disciplinary perspectives. They learned about the movements of people, the development of religious ideas, industry, architecture, and construction, the genesis of medical instruments, history, and politics emanating in Egypt that have influenced the globe. In Cairo, the group visited the Pyramids of Giza, the Museum of Cairo, and various ancient temple sites.

They later flew to Aswan to tour places like the Abu Simbel Temples, which were constructed by Ramesses II for himself and his primary wife, Nefertari. Traveling by ship on the Nile River, the students were able to spend time in a Nubian village, tour a botanical garden, and then move on to Luxor to explore the Karnak and Luxor Temples and the Valley of the Kings. The lessons focused on the leadership and politics of King Tutankhamun, Queen Hatshepsut, Ramesses II, and Queen Nefertari.

“The visit was a life-changing experience and, for most of the students, their first international experience,” said Gibson. “We found the Egyptian people to be very welcoming. It was a thrill to be in Africa. Everyone should visit this part of the world.”

## *Council of American Overseas Research Centers Award*

Dr. Nabil Ouassini, an assistant professor in the Department of Justice Studies won an award from the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) to participate in an international faculty development program in New Delhi from December 2019 to January 2020. The award will allow Dr. Ouassini to participate in an intensive capacity building and curriculum development program. Based in New Delhi, he will also visit Jaipur and Lucknow to understand how environmental pressures, social, cultural and economic factors impact aspects of life in India.

## *United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Session*

Dr. Sessa Kethineni, a professor in the Department of Justice Studies attended the 28th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime. May 20-24, 2019 in Vienna, Austria. Serving as an American Society of Criminology UN representative, she received part of her trip’s funding from the American Society of Criminology and additional support from PVAMU’s Faculty Innovation and Enhancement Program (FIE).

At a side event session, Dr. Kethineni presented *New Approaches to Addressing Trafficking and Sexual Violence against Women and Children*. Her topic focused on the *Rape Crisis in India: Legislative Reforms and Their Impact on Women and Children*. She discussed why sexual violence against women and children is a concern in India by highlighting that the Indian National Crime Records Bureau statistics recorded 38,947 rape cases in 2016, with many of the victims being under the age of 18.

“To address the crisis, India has introduced measures to expedite the prosecution of cases by requiring states to establish Fast-Track Special Courts (FTSC),” said Kethineni. “The Ministry of Law and Justice proposed the creation of over 1000 fast-track courts in the country to reduce pendency of cases and redesign the court atmosphere to make it victim friendly. Despite these legislative reforms, many victims experience humiliation when they report the incident to the police and medical professionals.”

Kethineni’s presentation provided an assessment of the impact of FTSC on victims and in delivering justice.



## Doctoral Dissertations

- Sherri Simmons Horton. Perceptions and Experiences of Dual-Status Youth and Professionals. Chair: Dr. Camille Gibson
- Donna Ossorio. Kinship and Non-Kinship foster Care Placements: Placement Stability, Academic Attainment, and Delinquency. Chair: Dr. Sessa Kethineni
- Justin Joseph. An Examination of Conduct Disorder's Predictability of Gang Membership. Chair: Dr. Camille Gibson

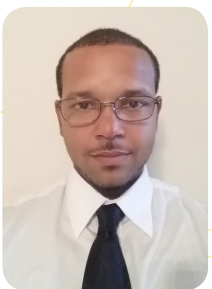
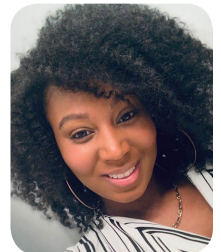
## New Hires



**Dr. Brandon Sylvester** is a Licensed Psychologist trained in Clinical Psychology including psychotherapy, psychological assessment, and supervision of Masters and Doctoral-level clinicians. Dr. Sylvester brings with him over 10 years of experience working with adolescents and adults who present with a vast array of mental illnesses. Dr. Sylvester utilizes his training in Cognitive-Behavioral, Dialectical-Behavioral, and Acceptance and Commitment therapies to help adolescents and adults of various cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds to recognize, face, and ultimately overcome life's burdens. Dr. Sylvester also brings with him over 5 years of experience as the Clinician of Harris County Juvenile Probation's Drug Court and Gang Court teams. In this role, he was responsible for the initial and on-going assessment of

criminogenic, biopsychosocial needs, and family dynamics; as well as developing, implementing and moulding treatment plans. In his current role as Clinic Director, Dr. Sylvester draws from his training and experience as a practitioner and supervisor to oversee the training of doctoral students at PVAMU's Psychology Clinic. The on-campus Psychology Clinic affords doctoral students the opportunity to develop and refine their clinical acumen while providing high quality therapeutic and assessment services to the local Waller County community.

**Ms. Shantaé Motley** is the coordinator of the Bachelor of Science degree with Criminalistics Concentration, which started fall 2019 at Texas A&M University's Rellis Campus in Bryan, Texas. This degree is offered in Bryan by the Justice Studies Department at Prairie View A&M University. Ms. Motley's research interests include adverse childhood experiences, substance use, parental incarceration, juvenile sex offenders, and teen dating violence.



**Mr. Alfred Clark** is a native of San Antonio, TX and has called Houston, TX home since 2006 after graduating from the prestigious Texas Southern University. A financial professional with over 8 years in accounting, team management and financial services, Alfred is also an effective communicator with the exceptional ability to convey information to both internal and external parties. He is the Budget Specialist for the College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology. With talent for conceptualizing, planning and executing financial and accounting programs and process improvements, Alfred plans to sustain and build his institutional impact with his strong work ethic, problem-solving skills, ability to multi-task and a commitment to the organizational objectives at Prairie View A&M University for years to come.

**Ms. Terrie Williams** is the new Administrative Associate in the Department of Psychology. She recently moved from Philadelphia to Houston to be closer to family. Ms. Williams previously worked for Merck as a Senior Administrative Technician.



**Ms. Marsha HoSang** joins us from the Office of Academic Engagement and Student Success from previously being the Developmental Education Mathematics Coordinator at Prairie View A&M University. She is a curriculum developer, writer, designer, master teacher, and professional development consultant for the State of Texas. Miss HoSang's present research centers around developmental math education and how to nurture student insight by use of active and technology enhanced learning.



## Rising Stars: Student Alumni



“The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won’t. It’s whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere.” -- Barack Obama

Perseverance and action have propelled Ms. Kirsten L. Budwine to the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center’s Rising Student Star status, 2019. She is a May 2019 graduate of Prairie View A&M University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Ms. Budwine’s ultimate goal is to become a successful Constitutional lawyer focusing on the laws, rights, and relationships established by the United States Constitution fighting for those whose rights have been stifled by injustice. She is walking in her purpose having been accepted into two Law schools thus far. She will begin Law school fall, 2020.

Ms. Budwine worked two years as an undergraduate student assistant in the Center assisting with research designed to conduct state-wide training to reduce juvenile delinquency; inputting and analyzing participant data collected pre and post training sessions; assisted in the planning and implementation of several major Center projects including the Royce West and Annual Research Symposium. Her role in working with the Gavel Series to sponsor several critical candidate forums and the controversial Waller County Jail Bond Referendum was pivotal. The quote attributed to the Roman philosopher Seneca, “Luck Is What Happens When Preparation Meets Opportunity” is a befitting description of Ms. Budwine’s successful journey.

While attending the University, Ms. Budwine was engaged in activities that supported her internal and external community. She chartered IGNITE at PVAMU and held the office of Vice President. She was Vice President of PVAMU’s Student Governmental Affairs Executive Board, treasurer of the Blackstone Pre-Law Society, mentor for incoming freshman in the Panther Advising Leaders (PALS), Senator of Parks and Recreation Student Government Association at PVAMU, member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars; and, in her freshman year at PVAMU she was the Freshman Justice for the Student Government Association.

Her interest in constitutional law, the legislative process and voting rights propelled her to seek opportunities that would engender her experience in these arenas. Thus she obtained employment with us at the Center, and earned internships with Judge M. Elaine Jackson, Justice of the Peace, Precinct Three of Waller County and as well as a Congressional Internship in the U.S. House of Representatives with Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II. Subsequently, and while she continued to be enrolled as a full-time student, Ms. Budwine became the Campaign Manager of Judge Jackson’s 2017-2018 campaign. Judge Jackson secured an overall victory by capturing 64.75% of the votes in Waller County. In this capacity, Budwine managed a campaign team of thirty people, which included interns, volunteers and supporters.

Since June of 2019, Ms. Budwine has been a Governmental Affairs Associate at Next Wave Strategies in Houston, Texas.

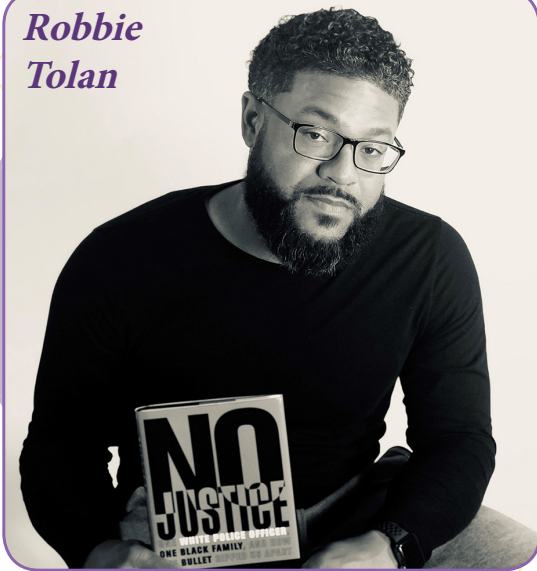
In the words of Lorenzo Dunn / Philip Bailey / Maurice White of Earth, Wind and Fire - -

“You’re a shining star, No matter who you are, Shining bright to see, What you could truly be.”

The Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center encourages all students, staff, faculty, administrators, parents and the community to recognize the rising stars within our midst.



## Robbie Tolan



Robbie Tolan's criminal justice degree from Prairie View A&M University is over ten years in the making, but what happened during a significant portion of that time was not a part of Tolan's overall plan." I played baseball here at Prairie View and helped my team to win PV's first-ever SWAC [Southwestern Athletic Conference] Championship back in 2006. The Washington Nationals drafted me the next year. In 2008, I came home for the holidays, and my cousin and I went on a late-night Jack-in-the-Box run. But when we got back home, we were confronted by the police, and I was accused of stealing my own car," said Tolan.

According to Tolan, the situation quickly escalated. He said the officer ordered him and his cousin to the ground. In hearing the commotion, Tolan's parents came outside, and shortly after, ten-year Bellaire police veteran, Jeffrey Cotton pushed his mother against the garage door. "When that happened, I jumped up from the ground, wanting to protect her. But in trying to do so, Officer Cotton shot me. He thought I was reaching for a weapon.

I didn't have a weapon. I just wanted to defend my mother," said Tolan.

A bullet was lodged in Tolan's liver (where it remains today), but miraculously, he survived.

"And all I could think about was wanting to document this journey. So, I started writing," said Tolan.

In May of 2010, a jury reached a verdict of not guilty in Tolan's case, and Cotton was acquitted. Tolan's family filed a federal civil lawsuit. That suit was later settled for \$110,000.

"In my book, I go through everything that happened with a fine-tooth comb," said Tolan. "In fact, on the same night

I was shot, there were two other black men shot by police officers in two other cities. But those men lost their lives. My book, 'No Justice,' talks about what happens after the cameras and social media protests go away. I'm continually striving to fight for justice for all."

Dr. James Wilson Jr., associate provost at PVAMU, stepped in to help when Tolan decided to return to "The Hill" to finish his degree. "There was a process to readmitting Tolan, but I wanted to do what I could to assist, Wilson said. "His story is a triumph of stories. It's history. Robbie is going to give back to this institution forever, because unlike Sandra Bland [a PVAMU graduate who was found dead in jail following a confrontational traffic stop], Robbie is living and breathing. He can do his part to educate, encourage, and inspire his peers."

Tolan said, in coming back to PVAMU, "I wanted to finish something I started. I have a deep love and appreciation for PV. I've gotten so much favor here. Every professor, dean, staff, and faculty member I've come across has had my back. And I wholeheartedly agree, 'PV Produces Productive People.'"

Tolan wants to use his platform to speak on injustices nationwide. He aspires to start a foundation to help families who are going through the same thing.

"It's not just about telling my story, but it's about ensuring that people remember," Tolan said. "Life is kind of like baseball. It's unpredictable. Some things happen that can be hard. But if you look at it correctly, life can be a beautiful thing."

(original written by Marchito Shilo, PVAMU Office of Marketing and Communications)

## *Xavaier Oliphant*



Legacy, faith, justice, and wisdom are four principles that he stands by... words or maps that have guided Xavaier Oliphant along the road of success. Xavaier obtained his Bachelor's degree in Psychology at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) in 2015, and subsequently his Masters at Texas A&M University at College Station (TAMU) in the field of Public Health with a concentration in Healthcare Informatics. Xavaier is currently working in the field of Healthcare informatics for DELL Technologies. He plans to further his education by pursuing a doctorate degree in public health.

While at Prairie View, Xavaier felt the need improve himself holistically, encouraging himself to seek out mentors that could enhance his career development and to give him proper guidance. As a result, he applied and was selected from a nationwide pool of applicants as a fellow in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Undergraduate Public Health Scholars Program. The internship is organized by the Division of the Office of Minority Health Equity of the CDC. Xavaier interned at the CDC for two consecutive summers; first at the University of Michigan Public Health Leaders program; and then for a subsequent summer at the Morehouse College Project Imhotep. The CDC 10-week summer program is designed to expose and encourage underrepresented college students to consider careers and leadership roles in public health.

In both programs, the experience Xavaier gained had a positive impact on his decision to pursue a career in the field of public health. The challenges that he faced early in his life have been used as incentives to push him forward towards a bright future, he will not forget where he came from nor lost sight of his goals. As a rising star, Xavaier wants "to encourage future students with the advice to network, meet new people... dreams do come true, but only when we wake up, get out of bed, and give our best to make them happen."



*Panther Statue near the Memorial Student Service Center*



**Prairie View A&M University**

*Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center  
College of Juvenile Justice & Psychology*

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