

INTRODUCTION

INSTITUTIONAL BACKGROUND

California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) is one of the youngest and fastest growing of 23 campuses comprising the CSU system, one of the largest public university systems in the nation. Founded in 1965 with approximately 500 students, CSUSB currently services about 17,500 students, distributed among 70 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, housed within five colleges: Business and Public Administration, Education, Humanities, Natural Sciences, and Social and Behavioral Sciences. The University's externally funded grants and contracts are under the fiscal management of the 501 (C)(3) auxiliary, the Foundation for CSUSB. During the past fiscal year, 164 proposals were submitted and over \$18 million in awards was received and managed by the Foundation.

Currently, CSUSB has a diverse student body; 69 percent of the student body is comprised of minority students. The ethnic composition of this population has been officially recognized and, the university has been designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution with over 30 percent of its students of Hispanic origin. In addition, 65 percent of the student body is female and the median age of undergraduates is 21 and graduate students are considerably older (median age is 31). According to surveys conducted by the registrar's office, many of our students are first generation students from low-income families.

DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Criminal Justice Department is one of nine departments in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Its mission is to investigate and solve crime and disorder problems, in collaboration with criminal justice professions and other academic disciplines, through evaluation, research, and service.

Striving to provide the highest quality, scientific-based evaluation in the field, the Department offers a variety of applied and theoretical courses. These courses offered at the undergraduate and graduate levels, are in the areas of police corrections, law, crime, and paralegal studies. Many of our graduates work with a number of criminal justice departments and agencies, and they make a significant contribution to those agencies' successes.

The faculty in the Department of Criminal Justice are actively involved in research in a range of areas: drug courts, juvenile probation programs, community policing, police traffic stops as they relate to racial profiling, drug enforcement and treatment, police personnel practices, women prisoner rights and issues, gender issues in law enforcement, police administration, hate crimes, terrorism, and constitutional law issues. Faculty are highly productive, publishing in the leading legal and criminal justice scholarly journals,

writing nationally recognized textbooks, and authoring technical reports for criminal justice agencies.

The Department has an exemplary record of service. Faculty members work closely with many criminal justice agencies in the service area on real problems affecting community safety and crime. The faculty serve on committees and hold office in criminal justice professional agencies, such as the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, the Western Society of Criminology, and the Western and Pacific Criminal Justice Association.

Of the nine departments within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, the Department of Criminal Justice is the second largest in terms of declared majors. The department consists of 11 full-time faculty and several part-time lecturers. It offers a broad array of courses leading to a Major in Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice with available options in Paralegal Studies or Crime Analysis. In addition, a graduate degree may be earned in Master of Arts in Criminal Justice.

Presently there are approximately 60 active graduate students and over 1,000 undergraduate majors. (For more information about the department please refer to the departmental website at <http://criminaljustice.csusb.edu>).

CENTER FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH

Under the umbrella of the Center for Criminal Justice Research, faculty from the Department of Criminal Justice sustains an active and diverse research portfolio. The Center was officially created in 2001 by Drs. Sechrest and Bichler. Presently, the Center is led by Dr. Gisela Bichler. Due to its wide-ranging research program, the Center is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and technology.

The mission of the Criminal Justice Research Center (CJRC) is to provide expertise and research assistance, through grants and contracts, to criminal justice agencies and organizations working to address criminal justice issues. Activities include: the development of funded research projects involving faculty and students that focus on criminal justice policy issues concerning local and regional agencies; program evaluation including community impact studies; and, special research targeting at-risk population like the homeless, and juvenile delinquents. By contracting to provide expert research and evaluation assistance to community groups, nonprofit organizations, and criminal justice agencies, the center aims to map the way to more effective criminal justice services.

Currently, the Center is engaged in a number of evaluation projects. These evaluation projects are principally funded through contracts with local government agencies. Recent projects include: a large multi-faceted evaluation of juvenile diversion programs administered by the Riverside Juvenile Probation Department and funded under the Riverside County Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (A.B. 1913); and two programs funded by the California Board of Corrections under the San Bernardino County Mentally Ill

Offender Crime Reduction Grant – SPAN and PASSAGES. Several other completed projects are on file in the Center as are reference materials.

In addition to the evaluation research program, the Center supports an applied research program, of which the Crime Analysis Division is a significant factor. This division was founded in June 2001 to specialize in crime analysis, including geographic and network analysis; it is led by Dr. Gisela Bichler. The lab aims to: provide a comprehensive problem dissection from which solutions can be developed; assist agencies and community groups in the process of developing solutions; conduct evaluations of crime prevention strategies; and disseminate best practices. Completed projects include: a study of the impact of geography on youths involved in the Police Action Counseling Team project in Palm Desert (California); a study of racial profiling for the Riverside Police Department; studying juvenile mobility in Riverside County; analysis of crime opportunity surfaces and repeat victimization for commercial burglary, automobile theft, street robbery and street-level narcotics traffic in Lexington, KY; and, problem-oriented policing projects with the Chula Vista Police Department, the Anaheim Police Department, and the Palm Springs Police Department.