

**The Official Organ of the Criminal Justice
Section of CPA**

CRIME SCENE

**PSYCHOLOGY BEHIND BARS AND
IN FRONT OF THE BENCH**

Criminal Justice Psychology
SECTION OF THE CPA

CANADIAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from the Chair, <i>S. Jung</i>	3
Message from the Past Chair, <i>J. Cheston</i>	4
Annual Report on the National Associations Active in Criminal Justice (NAACJ), <i>P. Yates</i>	6
Award Recipients	7
J. Stephen Wormith Graduate Award Winner: Interview with Dr. Chantal Schafers, <i>A. Salerno-Ferraro</i>	7
Animated Interrogation Rights: Can a Multimedia Presentation Improve Youths' Comprehension of their Interrogation Rights?, <i>C. Lively & B. Snook</i>	9
Michael Seto – Accomplished Researcher, Respected Clinician, Revered Expert, and 2020 CPA Hebb Award Winner, <i>N. Fusco</i>	13
CPA's Annual Convention Goes Virtual	15
Spotlight on Policing	23
Canadian Framework for Collaborative Police Response on Sexual Violence, <i>E. Gittens</i>	23
Publications	24
Research Opportunities	25
Upcoming Conferences	26
Careers	26
Stay Involved!	27





Message from the Chair

Sandy Jung, Ph.D. R.Psych

Much has happened since the last issue, and the world we knew has changed significantly. I hope this finds you safe and healthy, along with your loved ones.

I had hoped to connect with many of you in person in Montreal, but since the CPA convention has been cancelled, I will patiently wait until next year's convention in Ottawa. Until then, CPA organized a virtual convention event and the CJP Section arranged a virtual Annual General Meeting. I was happy to 'see' many of you at these virtual events in the past few months.

The in-person convention had a great programme for criminal justice psychology content, and this was no small task to plan. Special thanks to both our Conference Program Coordinator, Dr. Joanna Kayfritz, and the reviewers who volunteered their time to review convention submissions. I strongly encourage those of you to submit again to the next in-person convention!

Several exciting announcements have been made recently. I am so delighted to see that the inaugural recipient of the J. Stephen Wormith Graduate Research Award is given to Dr. Chantal Schafers for her dissertation research at the University of Saskatchewan. I'm particularly touched by the fact that since 2013 Chantal was supervised by Dr. Wormith until his passing last year. It is also wonderful to see that one of our Section members, Dr. Michael Seto, is awarded the CPA Donald O. Hebb Award for

Distinguished Contributions to Psychology as a Science. Congratulations to these deserved award recipients!

Another recognition was also received by our Section. CPA recognizes the efforts that the Sections put into creating and maintaining their newsletters, since Section newsletters serve as an important communication tool to help keep members informed and involved in the Section and in CPA. Of the many CPA Sections who have newsletters for their members, our newsletter, Crime Scene, was recognized as the winner of the 2020 CPA Section Newsletter Award. Many thanks to Kyrsten Grimes who has been the Managing Editor of Crime Scene for the past few years!

The Section Executive has had two teleconference meetings, and one of the goals for this year is to re-shape the advocacy goals of the Section Executive and update the Terms of Reference to better reflect the ever-evolving criminal justice psychology field, or more specifically, what we do and where we should aim our attention.

There will be some changes to our Section Executive. Two of our Directors-At-Large will be stepping down this year, and these include Dr. Franca Cortoni after serving 5 years and Dr. Michael Sheppard after serving 7 years. We have appreciated their input and contributions over the years and thank them for serving on the Executive! Although Dr. Natalie Jones has been involved in the awards adjudication for a number



of years, she will be stepping into a newly created role as Awards Coordinator and away from her role as Membership Coordinator—a position in which she has served since 2007! Dr. Eleanor Gittens stepped into her Director-At-Large role last year and will be shaping her position to one we lost after Dr. Dorothy Cotton left the Executive—Police Psychology Coordinator. For a number of years, we have also had a vacant Review Editor position, and Christopher Lively has been elected to take on this role.

In the recent months, our section members have been receiving regular emails, and I hope that these have been useful or informative. I welcome your feedback on whether these emails are helpful, and if not, what information would be most useful to you and any suggestions on how we may improve these notifications in the future.

In close, managing the stress associated with what is going on in the world, worrying about the health of family and friends, and coping with the plethora of changes and learning associated with adapting our practices (e.g., electronic delivery of teaching or telehealth practices) has impacted our personal and professional lives. I believe we are still the same people with the same values and the same goals, so I encourage you to use the technology available to us (e.g., Webex, Google Teams, Skype, etc) to reach out to your network of colleagues and continue carrying out the important work that you have effectively been doing pre-pandemic. Take care of yourself and be kind to those around you.



Message from the Past Chair

Jim Cheston, Ph.D. C.Psych

Okay, well welcome to our new collective reality. The implications of COVID-19 are striking in how they have shifted our usual patterns of communicating, interacting, functioning and working. Virtual connection has adopted a much more prevalent place in our daily experience. The implications for the “new normal” as it evolves going forward are likely to be quite significant.

The COVID pandemic directly altered the way the CPA held the 2020 annual convention, previously scheduled to take place in Montreal. The convention was the first virtual annual convention in CPA history. The CPA Annual General Meeting was held virtually on Friday, May 29, 2020. The majority of the 2020 annual convention, including poster and paper presentations, took place virtually over the months of July and August. It was interesting and exciting to see this carried out; yet another opportunity for CPA to demonstrate an exceptional convention feat in an entirely new format.

I am sure that others in this edition are offering congratulations to our Crime Scene Managing Editor, Kyrsten Grimes, for having won the 2020 CPA Section Newsletter award. Full credit goes to Kyrsten for this award since she has been heroically managing Crime Scene singlehandedly. Christopher Lively has now been elected to fulfill the role of Crime Scene Review Editor, and he will be joining an award-winning Managing Editor in creating future



editions of our Section e-newsletter. Congratulations once again, Kyrsten!

As I noted above, the COVID-19 pandemic is having societal impacts that are changing the way we do things now, and how we will be doing things in the future. In terms of Criminal Justice Psychology, the area of our field in which I have spent most of my career, forensic assessment and treatment in correctional institutions, is being disrupted in numerous ways. The incidence of the virus in our federal penitentiaries and provincial correctional institutions resulted in inmates being released early, inmate visits being cancelled, correctional staff being exposed to another major stressor in their work, and inmates facing the prospect of being in a confined area into which the virus could be introduced.

In Ontario, the Ontario Correctional Institute, a dormitory correctional treatment facility where I worked for the past 11 1/2 years, was closed in late April and the offender residents sent to another correctional institution because of a major COVID-19 outbreak. Staff members, including psychologists, have been redeployed. It is difficult to determine when, if or how such a facility will be re-opened with post-COVID considerations of dormitory correctional settings. In short, this pandemic is having significant impact on corrections in Canada which will influence how corrections and correctional psychology will function, going forward.

I am remembering Dr. Keith McFarlane, who passed away suddenly and unexpectedly from a medical event on January 9, 2020. Keith was one of those correctional forensic psychologists who exemplified all that our area of psychology could offer. I knew Keith since graduate school back in the 1980's. He was an excellent clinical psychologist who devoted himself to practicing within correctional facilities, and then as the only Ministry staff psychologist working in the community, at parole offices in Ottawa. He contributed in so many additional ways: as a practitioner, lead and trainer for Critical Incident Stress as well as for Crisis Negotiation, as a

Crisis Program Evaluator, Associate Trainer at the Ontario Correctional Services College, Clinical Adjunct Professor at the School of Psychology at the University of Ottawa from 1999 to 2013 and within his work for the Ministry of the Solicitor General Ontario, he trained and mentored many psychology doctoral students. In addition to all that, Keith was an amazing individual who it has been such a pleasure to have known. All who knew him, including those countless offenders who benefitted from his work over the years, have gained much from his being and from his many contributions. Personally, I miss him greatly.

In closing, I hope that perhaps even more of you than usual were able to participate in some way in the first virtual CPA annual convention. This marks one of the many ways that psychologists in general, and Criminal Justice Psychologists in particular, are adapting to conduct our profession as we move through and beyond this pandemic crisis. And remember, we are less than three years away from N5, the 5th North American Correctional & Criminal Justice Psychology Conference!

Send us the abstract of your recently published paper for inclusion in an upcoming issue of *Crime Scene!*

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Annual Report on the National Associations Active in Criminal Justice (NAACJ)

Pamela M. Yates, Ph.D., R.Psych

The National Associations Active in Criminal Justice (NAACJ) is an organization that exists to support its diverse national member organizations in their efforts to provide leadership in various areas of justice. The mission of the NAACJ is to enhance the capacity of member organizations to contribute to a just, fair, equitable, and effective justice system.

Member organizations are diverse, and the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) has been represented by the late J. Stephen Wormith via the Criminal Justice Section for many years. Examples of NAACJ member organizations include the John Howard Society of Canada, the Native Counselling Services of Alberta, the Canadian Criminal Justice Association, and the Association des Services de Réhabilitation Sociale du Québec, to name just a few.

The goals of the NAACJ include contributing to the education of its member organizations, government, the voluntary sector, and the general public in relation to current and emerging criminal justice issues and enhancing capacity to address these issues. The NAACJ also acts to generate expertise and to serve as a catalyst for action, to provide collective support for member agencies, and to support consultation policy development.

During the Annual General Meeting of the CPA Criminal Justice Section, on June 1, 2019, I was surprised and humbled to be nominated and elected as the representative to the NAACJ as a Member-at-Large, and I am doing my best to fill Steve Wormith's shoes.

The NAACJ collaborates with Public Safety Canada and the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) through formal agreements, so my work began almost immediately with participation in an ad hoc committee to enhance communication regarding CSC's

community strategy. The goal of this committee is to increase public awareness about effective correctional practices, to communicate evidence and positive results, for example, regarding rehabilitation, and to shift dialogue about community corrections from one of punishment to one of correction.

Next, I attended my first Board of Directors' meeting of the NAACJ, held in Ottawa on November 27, 2019, where I was warmly welcomed by the group. The agenda was packed full of important work, so I can only provide a summary here. To begin, the group drafted a response to the invitation from the new Minister of Public Safety regarding concerns such as reforming the Criminal Records Act to include pardons for simple possession of cannabis and addressing cost-prohibitive fees for record suspensions (which replaced the previous system of pardons). The focus was also upon adequate resources for offenders under supervision in the community, such as access to affordable and appropriate housing and adequate mental health services. For example, as of 2017-2018, nearly 40% of CSC's population was under supervision in the community, yet only 6% of its budget was invested in community supervision.

Finally, with the arrival of the coronavirus pandemic, the NAACJ turned its attention to working with Public Safety, the Parole Board of Canada, and CSC to assist in facilitating reintegration of offenders into the community given the potential health risks of the virus in correctional facilities.

This is just the "tip of the iceberg" of this busy group's activities over the past year! I am privileged to be a part of such a committed group of individuals and organizations dedicated to corrections and justice and I am looking forward to continuing in this important role.

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AWARD RECIPIENTS



J. Stephen Wormith Graduate Award Winner: Interview with Dr. Chantal Schafers

Alisha Salerno-Ferraro, M.A.



The Executive of the Criminal Justice Psychology Section of the CPA is thrilled to announce the inaugural recipient of the J. Stephen Wormith Graduate Research Award, Dr. Chantal Schafers! This award was developed to recognize research excellence of graduate-level criminal justice psychology students. This is an especially exciting moment for us, not only because Chantal is most deserving of this award for her work evaluating a community-based intimate partner violence correctional program, but also because Chantal was one of Dr. Wormith's last graduate students that he had supervised.

Unfortunately, given the recent cancellation of the CPA convention, we were unable to present Dr. Schafers with this prestigious award in person. However, I had the pleasure of sitting down with her for a virtual interview to talk about her research, and what this award means to her.

Alisha: Chantal, congratulations on being the inaugural winner of this award! Tell us a bit about why you decided to apply for this award, and what this award means to you.

Chantal: This award means so much to me. Dr. Wormith was my academic advisor and mentor for the nearly six years I was in graduate school pursuing my doctorate. He passed away just over a month before I defended my dissertation. It was remarkably



difficult to finish that last step without him, and I hope that this award is a way of honoring him and the work we've done together. I am happy this award exists as part of his legacy.

A: It seems very fitting you are the inaugural winner of this award, given that Dr. Wormith was your supervisor. Is there anything you'd like to share about Dr. Wormith?

C: Having Dr. Wormith as my supervisor was a true privilege. He was brilliant and welcomed big ideas. He had a high standard for quality research and carried it out in a way that was thoughtful, creative, and thorough. He was remarkably humble, and his work seemed motivated by a sincere academic interest and desire to further the knowledge and understanding of the field. He was a great mentor; he had faith in his students and empowered them to pursue their own ideas and to learn from doing. To top it off, he was kind, funny, and an excellent conversationalist. You would think a person with these many qualities might be intimidating. Yet, walking into his office, he would invite you to clear a paper-covered chair as he swirled his coffee-stained mug, kicked back, rested his feet on his desk, and put his guest at ease.

A: Tell us about the research that won you this award.

C: It was applied research conducted at a forensic outpatient clinic. Our participants were men who were enrolled in an intimate partner violence (IPV) correctional group program. Our intention was to learn more about how to promote program engagement and retention, reduce and manage IPV risk, and prevent and predict recidivism. We wanted to know more about static and dynamic offender characteristics as well as the interpersonal dynamics between group members and program facilitators. Data collection consisted of reviewing participant files, administering participant and facilitator questionnaires over different timepoints, and collecting recidivism outcomes with an average 15-month follow-up. We measured static and dynamic responsivity factors (e.g., self-efficacy, motivation for treatment) and treatment processes (e.g., group cohesiveness, therapeutic alliance, treatment satisfaction). Our findings had implications for how service providers might tailor treatment to individual characteristics (e.g., certain risk profiles) and the often-changing expression of specific responsivity factors and participant responses to group interventions. The predictive and dynamic properties of IPV

risk were also explored, which carry implications for risk assessment, service planning, and case management. For instance, our findings suggested that IPV risk is dynamic and that the pre- to post-treatment changes were meaningful with regards to future reoffending. I am working on publishing a couple manuscripts based on this research – stay tuned!

A: Now that you've completed your PhD, what is next for you?

C: I keep pretty busy working as a psychologist at the Regional Psychiatric Centre in Saskatoon, a job that is both interesting and rewarding. I was a sessional lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan last fall and I am looking forward to more teaching. Having completed my PhD, I am taking the time to slow down here and there by walking my dog, catching up with friends and family, doing yoga, cooking, and spending as much time as I can outside.

A: Is there anything else you'd like to say about your research or this award?

C: I am so grateful to have had Dr. Wormith as a mentor. I want to thank him first and foremost for his guidance and encouragement. He is sorely missed. There are many others who I would like to thank. My committee members, including Dr. Mark Olver, Dr. Brian Chartier, and Dr. Phil Woods, helped shepherd this research along with their feedback. Dr. Olver encouraged me to apply for this award and was particularly helpful in the preparation of the manuscript submitted. I am very thankful for the clinicians and participants who were essential to collecting this data. Of course, thank you to my family members and friends for their support.

Chantal, on behalf of the Executive, congratulations and we wish you all the best in your future endeavours. We look forward to reading your published work in the near future!





Christopher Lively is the recipient of the 2019 CPA Student Research and Knowledge Dissemination Grant

Animated Interrogation Rights: Can a Multimedia Presentation Improve Youths' Comprehension of their Interrogation Rights?

Christopher J. Lively, M.Sc. and Brent Snook, Ph.D.

Youths' developmental immaturity, susceptibility to comply with an authority figure, and lack of cognitive ability to navigate a complex interrogation puts them at a disadvantage when subjected to an interrogation (Eastwood et al., 2014; Owen-Kostelnik et al., 2006). The challenges of an interrogation can become compounded further if youth are not armed with a full understanding of their legal protections during this consequential interaction. Unfortunately, research shows that it is rare for a youth (12-17 years of age) to understand their interrogation rights fully after being presented these rights at the outset of a police interrogation (Freedman et al., 2014; Grisso, 1981). The lack of understanding appears to be due, in part, to the fact that these rights are written using legalese (e.g., "duty counsel"), requires the youth to have a high reading level ability, and exceeds the suggested amount of information that can be processed in working memory (Eastwood et al., 2015; Rogers et al., 2007). Further concerns about the lack of protections for youth arise when one considers recent research showing that there is no standardization in the way that police deliver youth interrogation rights – that is, there is inconsistency in how interrogation rights are

delivered to youth and how well they are explained to them in actual interrogations (McCardle et al., 2020). Taken together, these findings suggest that a new delivery approach may be warranted to improve upon the outcomes of current practices.

When young people struggle to understand their interrogation rights, a host of negative outcomes can occur. First, youth may make uninformed decisions (e.g., waive rights without realizing the repercussions); this creates a trickle-down effect whereby the youth is exposed to coercive police tactics, may end up providing self-incriminating evidence, and may not have their lack of comprehension detected (if at all) until reaching court. Second, case law (e.g., *R. v. L.T.H.*, 2008) states that police need to demonstrate that the youth understood their interrogation rights. In other words, if understanding by a youth is not verified, then any statement by the youth can be deemed inadmissible during court. Third, if an innocent youth is jailed, then the real offender is still at large in the community. Conversely, if a guilty youth provides self-incriminating evidence, but a lawyer is able to demonstrate that the youth did not comprehend their interrogation rights, then the guilty youth could be re-

leased back into the community. Thus, the need to ensure youth have their interrogation rights delivered to them appropriately and in understandable terms is clear.

Fortunately, research has demonstrated that comprehensibility of youth interrogation rights can be increased with modifications to the way these rights are delivered. For example, Eastwood and colleagues (2016) were able to increase comprehension levels in youth from 40% (e.g., Eastwood et al., 2015; Freedman et al., 2014) to 80% comprehension by using short sentences, chunking sections, using fewer words overall, simplifying language, explaining each key right multiple times, ensuring an overall low reading, and listing the number of rights explicitly to aid recall (see Eastwood & Snook, 2012). However, 80% is not 100% comprehension, and research from the cognitive psychology and multimedia learning literatures suggests that comprehension can be increased further.

The *multimedia effect* is one of the most established and supported principles of learning (Halpern et al., 2007; Mayer, 2009; Pashler et al., 2007). Broadly, it states that individuals learn better from materials using words and graphics rather than words alone. Decades of studies on the multimedia effect have come to the same robust conclusions: people who receive a multimedia lesson consisting of words and pictures perform better on subsequent knowledge transfer tests than those who receive the same information in words alone (e.g., Mayer, 1989; Mayer & Anderson, 1991, 1992; Mayer et al., 1996; Moreno & Mayer, 1999, 2002). Research has also suggested that using words and graphics is particularly important for teaching concepts to learners who have low knowledge of the domain rather than learners who have high knowledge of the domain (Kalyuga et al., 1998, 2000). Such findings suggest that the multimedia effect may be helpful for a naïve youth (i.e., person with low knowledge of interrogation rights) during an interview setting with a police officer (i.e., person with high knowledge of interrogation rights).

The multimedia effect is based on cognitive load theory, which concerns working and long-term memory. When an individual is attempting to understand information or complete a task, they can process only two or three items of information at once. An individual's total cognitive load is comprised of all the information their working memory is handling at one time. Cognitive load can be broken down into three subtypes: intrinsic, extraneous, and germane cognitive

load. Intrinsic cognitive load is the mental effort expended due to the complexity of the material and the method in which it is presented; the resources it takes to understand the material. Extraneous cognitive load is any mental energy distracted from processing the information or task at hand, such as environmental distractions or poorly designed instructions. Germane cognitive load is the cognitive resources left to convert the information into learned material (see Sweller, 2010). That is, the information is taken from working memory and stored into long-term memory (i.e., learning). To maximize learning, materials presenting a novel concept to learners should strive to decrease intrinsic and extraneous cognitive load and increase resources available for germane cognitive load. Said differently, the information should be simplified as much as possible, and external distractions should be minimized. It is important that content creators take these limitations into consideration when creating learning materials (Kirschner, 2002; see Mayer, 2005).

Given the multimedia effect's apparent applicability to novices, it seems probable that presenting interrogation rights to youth in multimedia format could lead to greater understanding than the standard approach (i.e., an officer reading the youth their interrogation rights verbatim). With the aforesaid psychological learning theory and reported findings from the published literature on youth interrogation rights comprehension in mind, the goal of this research is to increase the protective value of interrogation rights for youth by improving their understanding of these rights through a multimedia presentation. To achieve this, youth interrogation rights will be presented to participants in a multimedia presentation style and their understanding will be assessed through a follow-up comprehension test.

Specifically, Experiment 1 will test various conditions of the multimedia presentation on an adult convenience sample to ensure the manipulations work as intended (i.e., pilot test of content validity). Experiment 2 will replicate Experiment 1 with a sample of community youth to ensure that the multimedia presentation conditions are age appropriate (i.e., experimental test of content validity). Findings from these Experiments will determine which multimedia presentation condition yields maximum comprehension. Experiment 3 will compare this particular multimedia presentation condition to the standard interrogation rights delivery approach using a sample of young offenders to assess the effects on comprehensibility (i.e., experimental test of generalizability).



References

To our knowledge, this work will be the first to examine a new multimedia-based method for presenting youth interrogation rights. It will also help ensure that all stakeholder parties are protected appropriately and will give rise to a standardized approach in how interrogation rights are presented to youth in Canada. We look forward to sharing our findings from this research program with the academic community, criminal justice practitioners and agencies, and youth rights organizations (e.g., the Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth; see Northwestern University, 2020) to contribute toward policy reform in police interrogations of youths. This research is being supported by the Canadian Psychological Association's Grant for Student Research and Knowledge Dissemination awarded to the first author. We are grateful to the Canadian Psychological Association for supporting people-focused research aimed at enhancing the administration of justice. Together, through this work we can help ensure that citizens of all ages, culture, and backgrounds are safe, secure, and protected appropriately.

Authors note

Christopher J. Lively is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Psychology (Experimental Psychology program) at Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NL. His research interests pertain to exploring investigative interviewing questioning practices in the criminal justice system, examining issues impacting alibi assessments, and improving the comprehension of interrogation rights for youth suspects.

Brent Snook is a Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychology at Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NL. He conducts research aimed at improving the criminal justice system. Specifically, he studies decision making in legal settings, investigative interviewing, and the effect of pseudoscientific practices on the administration of justice.

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Michael Seto – Accomplished Researcher, Respected Clinician, Revered Expert, and 2020 CPA Hebb Award Winner

Nina Fusco, Ph.D., C. Psych

Dr. Michael Seto is the recipient of this year's Donald O. Hebb Award that recognizes Distinguished Contributions to Psychology as a Science. Michael has always had rock star status in my books; after all, how many other psychologists get invited to speak before the Pope *and* to give a workshop at Facebook? His contributions to forensic psychology – specifically to the understanding of paraphilias, internet sexual offending, and mentally disordered offenders – certainly make Michael deserving of this award. My respect and admiration for him have only grown as I have had the pleasure of collaborating with him at the Royal Ottawa Health Care Group. It was my honour to interview Michael to celebrate this momentous achievement.

It turns out Michael happened upon forensic psychology by chance. He explained, “I basically did almost everything wrong in that whole process [of applying to grad school]. So, for example, I only applied to a few programs instead of what people are told – that you have to apply to a lot of programs to be competitive. I basically applied to schools out east because I wanted to get away from the west coast and I didn't want to go to the States. I got accepted into some of them and I picked Queen's literally on reputation. I got in, and it was only once I got to Queen's that I realized that there was this forensic psychology powerhouse there with [William L.] Marshall, Howard Barbaree, [Vernon] Quinsey, and [Roderick] Lindsay at that time.”

The influence of Michael's work has extended far beyond the traditional realm of academia. In 2012, Michael was invited to give a talk to the Facebook team. He told me how knowledge translation has always been a priority for him, “way before it became a buzzword in scholarship”. He recognized that his audience “was never just other researchers” and that his work needed to reach the field in a different way for it to be meaningful. Hence his active presence in the blogosphere. He said, “I always advise this to students and people that I train: think about what you are interested in and then try to focus on the most unexplored part of that. The frontier.”

Michael had an even more non-traditional career milestone when he was invited to a roundtable conference at the Vatican in 2017. He described it as “a pretty interesting experience”, being only his second time in Rome and speaking to a global audience. He presented to a group that was made up mostly of “policy makers, government or NGOs, or those kind of international and national agencies”. He humbly characterized it as a “very different and very neat” experience... and he even got to meet the Pope – a rare occurrence indeed for a forensic psychologist.

Even with trips to Facebook headquarters and the Vatican, what Michael views his personal highlight of his career to be is much less glamorous. He told me that his “favourite thing to do” was writing books. He said, “I really like that long form thinking, really having the room to explore your ideas and integrate



your knowledge of the topic or topics. It's weird because it's not something that's clearly for a hospital-based psychologist position or an academic; the tradition in psychology is not so book-driven. In some areas of scholarship it is, but in psychology I'm sure most people would say it's more about the peer-reviewed journal publications. I've done that too, of course, but highlight-wise, it's been the books. The books kind of represent milestones as well – very broadly speaking, they kind of encapsulate periods of what I was focusing on. The first book was the first edition of *Pedophilia and Sexual Offending Against Children*. That represented the first part of my career. The second book was when I was getting interested in online offending – ironically, becoming much better known for that and still probably most known for that. The third thing is seeing the field evolve. I felt good about writing the second edition. It's pretty substantially different.”

Given his illustrious and successful career, I asked Michael to offer some advice to those early in their careers. He offered this: “Notwithstanding recognizing that a lot of it has to do with chance and opportunity, and things that are beyond what's in one's control, [...] thinking strategically about what they want to focus on. It's not just about finding something that's a hot topic or more likely to be funded. It has to be something that you care about, that you're interested in as well. In my experience, people are interested in multiple questions and multiple topics. It's important to make a choice of what to focus on, and definitely not taking every opportunity even early on. I think that people think that you should take whatever you're invited to or offered early on, but everything is an opportunity cost. It would be okay to say no to a book chapter invite or going to a conference if it makes sense for you.”

He also encouraged those who are early in their careers to “really look for and not be shy about embracing mentors”. He said to seek out people who “have experience and skills” in the areas that correspond with your interests. He explained that “you can have more than one mentor with different strengths and different skills and experiences”, and urged those

starting out in their careers to actively seek out and approach potential mentors. He added, though, “the other thing that I would advise people is that there is no one path to success and no one path to happiness in this line of research or line of work.”

Since the Hebb prize is awarded in recognition of leadership and inspiration, I asked Michael who inspires him most. He said, “One thing being in the area that I am, I've been really impressed with some of the advocates in the sexual abuse prevention world. They're amazing people – people who have had their own experiences, where it's affected their families, even with that they have this grace and power. If I ever get, and I sometimes do get cynical about public policy in this area, I am reminded that there are people that are really passionate and committed to making things better. In terms of people in forensic psychology, certainly someone I've been inspired by is my former Ph.D. advisor, Vern Quinsey, who received the Hebb award in 2008. He modeled a bunch of qualities that I admired, such as a willingness to say things that aren't popular and being a true empiricist. It's funny, when somebody works in both clinical and research, it's not only a balance of how you spend your time, and the clinical informing the research and the research informing your work. There's also this balance that you need to have between the personal qualities of the person. It's hard to do the clinical work if you're not a true believer. You need to be a true believer that your client can change and you need to be a true believer in what you're doing, and that's part of the impact. [The clients] see you truly believing what you're doing and really engaging them. But then you have to find a way to do that while simultaneously maintaining the skepticism of a good scientist by wondering: what is the evidence for that, how much impact am I having, is this actually evidence-based practice, how will I know if the fidelity is there, etcetera. He does that well. Also, for a lot of profs, students are in the second tier of priorities. I've heard horror stories. But Vern, no matter how busy he got or all the things that were going on in his career, he always had time for you. One of the things that has always stuck with me about him was that. He was big on weekly coffee meetings if you wanted



that. From what I remember at least, you sent him something, he would get back to you in days. I've tried to do that with my own students. I don't want them to feel like I'm somehow part of the obstacles they have to overcome to go on to build their own careers. I want them to think I'm always going to be reliably available to them."

Congratulations to Michael on this formal recognition of his success. The path that he has forged through happenstance and deliberate choices has had a far-reaching impact. Thank you, Michael, for being a pioneer



Congratulations to Our Award Winners!



CPA'S ANNUAL CONVENTION GOES VIRTUAL



Amidst our new reality, CPA held a two-month virtual series in lieu of the usual three-day convention

Without the time and effort of volunteers to review Convention submissions each year, it would be impossible to maintain the quality of the Convention content.

This year is no different, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the following individuals for their effort and expertise that they contributed to reviewing 2020 CPA Convention submissions to the Criminal Justice Section: Natalie Jones, Keira Stockdale, Karl Hanson, and Joe Camilleri.



CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION'S 2020 VIRTUAL SERIES

JULY 6TH TO AUGUST 28TH, 2020

Criminal Justice Psychology
SECTION OF THE CPA

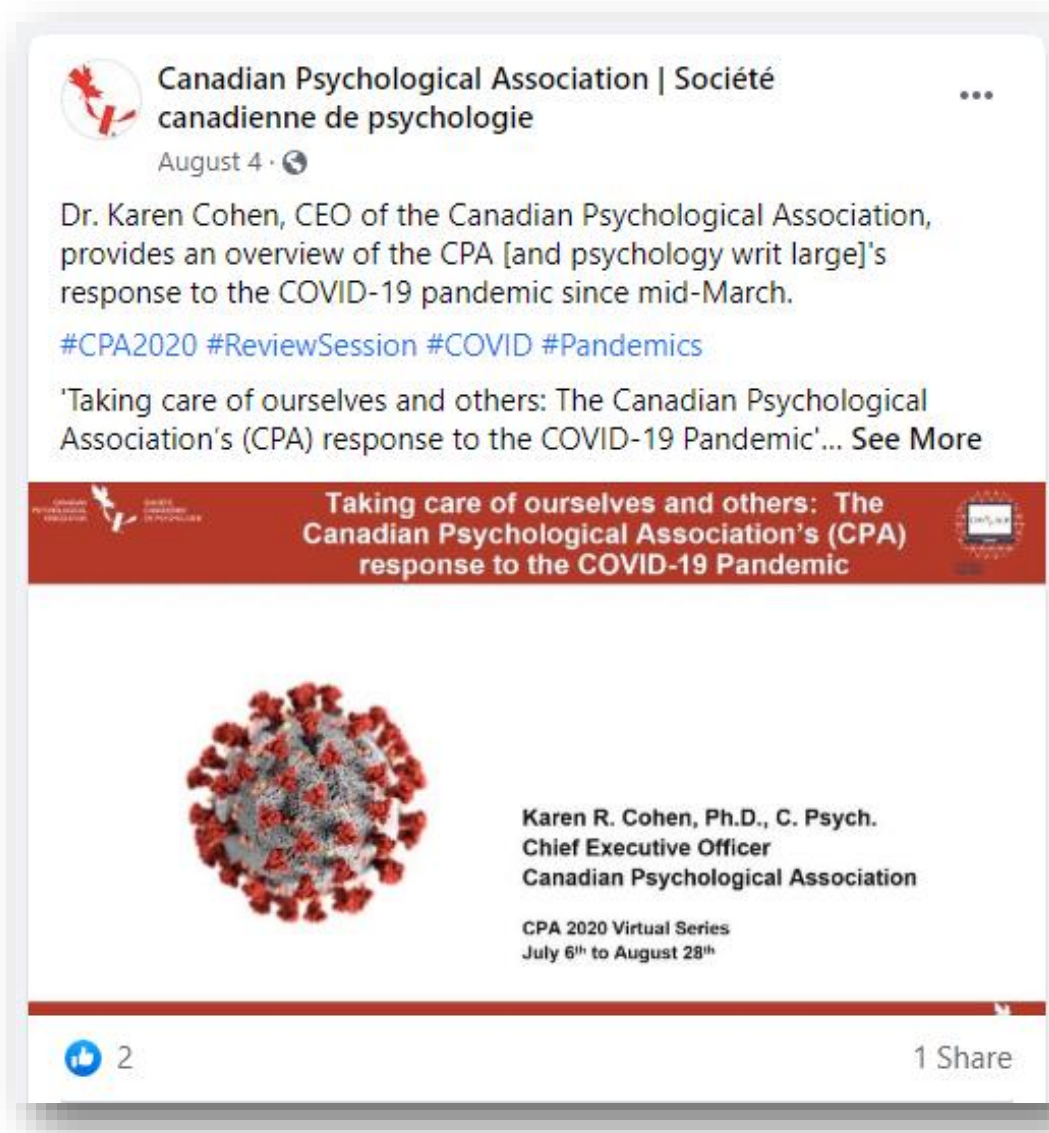
CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



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There was a series on the biopsychosocial impacts of COVID-19 and pandemics



Check out the latest issue of *Psynopsis* focused on COVID-19 related issues:

<https://cpa.ca/psynopsis/>

A Few Presentation Highlights from the Criminal Justice Section



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...

July 21 · 🌐

Coming up at 2 pm ET today: Live Q&A with Dr. Tamsin Higgs based on the #CPA2020 Symposium

'Severe sexual violence against women'

"The target audience for this symposium is those tasked with making recommendations in the complex cases of the perpetrators of severe sexual violence - for whom the available evidence base suffers important shortcomings."

Watch the symposium here, then tune in for the Q&A session

<https://eventmobi.com/cpa2020/agenda/d39138e5-dbea-442c-8e39-017d30562b3f/e06efe43-9df2-4bcc-9d98-6434621e6bdf>

Validation of a multifactorial model of sexual sadism

GAUTHIER, A., PROULX, J., GUAY, J.P. &
GARANT, E. (2020)




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July 15 · 🌐

TOMORROW: Live Q&A as part of [#VirtualCPA](#) for the [#CriminalJustice](#) [#12MinuteTalk](#)


'Improving interactions between the police and people with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Perspectives from the ASD community'

Presented by Alisha Salerno-Ferraro and Regina Schuller


Watch the symposium & register for the Q&A here:
<https://eventmobi.com/cpa2020/agenda/d39138e5-dbea-442c-8e39-017d30562b3f/d145fc3f-f70b-43a5-926d-fe63a271e5b5>

Improving interactions between the police and people with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Perspectives from the ASD community

Alisha C. Salerno-Ferraro, M.A., York University
Regina Schuller, Ph.D., York University


VIRTUAL 2020

▶ 0:01 / 11:31

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July 14 · 🌐

"With anti-social traits, I found low honesty-humility, low agreeableness, and low conscientiousness. All were as hypothesized, except emotionality was not significant."

- Jennifer Roters

#VirtualCPA Week 2 #VirtualGimme5 #ServingCommunities

Criminal Justice Psychology: 'Higher-order personality structure: Psychopathic, antisocial and borderline personality traits examined'

<https://eventmobi.com/cpa2020/agenda/d39138e5-dbea-442c-8e39-017d30562b3f/eedd56d5-d8d7-4174-b815-255b89c6200f>

Brock
University

Faculty of Graduate Studies

Higher-order personality structure:
Psychopathic, antisocial and borderline
personality traits examined

Jennifer Roters
June 2020

Canada
150

Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

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July 30 · 🌐

'Bias in the Legal System: How Race and Confessions Impact a Verdict'

#CPA2020 #PrintedPoster #CriminalJusticePsychology

"This study provides evidence that racial bias does exist within the Canadian judicial system as well as a persisting ambiguity about false confessions."

- Keely Lainchbury and Megan R Udala, UBC

<https://eventmobi.com/cpa2020/agenda/d39138e5-dbea-442c-8e39-017d30562b3f/82decb20-dcf5-43be-826f-e0d529441cc1>



Bias in the Legal System:

Keeley Lainchbury, BSc H

Introduction

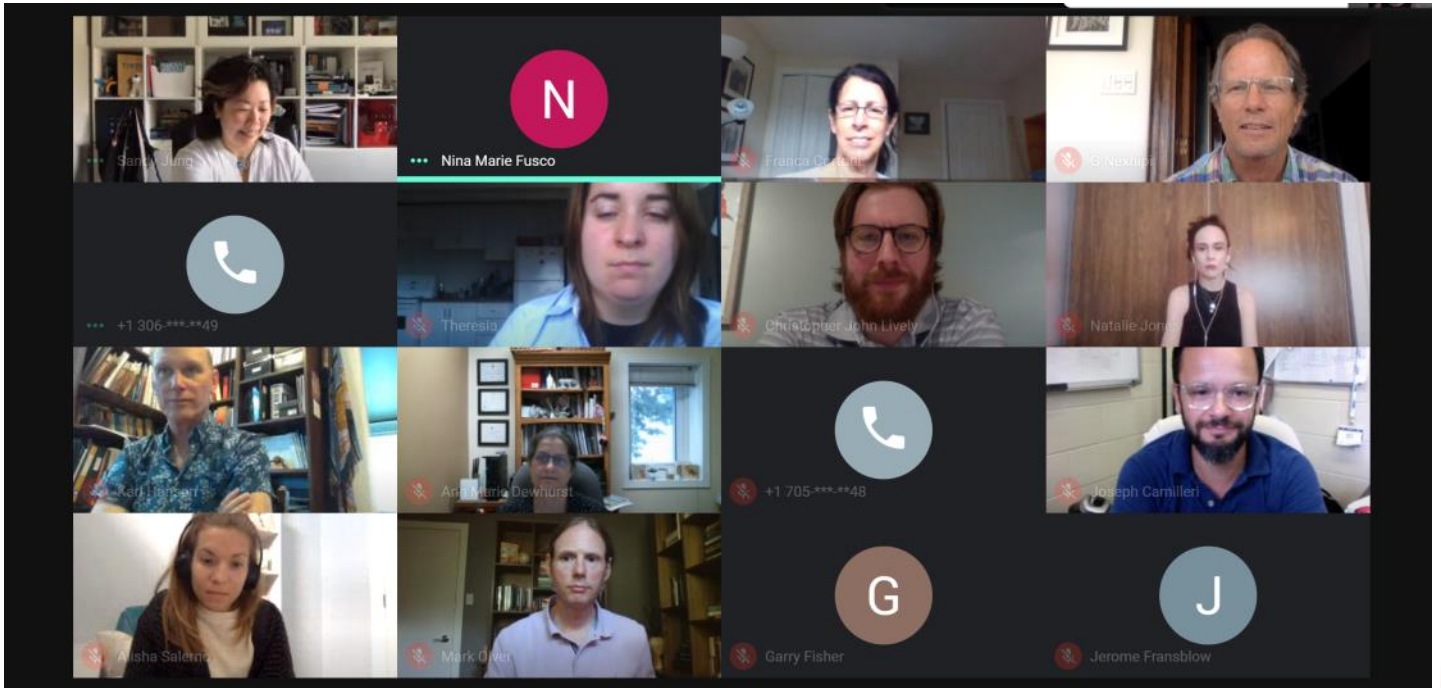
- Friedman (2000) highlighted that while a jury is presumed to apply justice correctly, often, the assumption of innocence is violated before the trial simply due to biased jurors, or



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Our Section's Annual General Meeting Also Went Virtual



Oops! Some people were not smiling...





That's better!



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SPOTLIGHT ON POLICING



Canadian Framework for Collaborative Police Response on Sexual Violence

Eleanor Gittens, Ph.D.

Sexual assault is the only crime in Canada that is not declining and has remained stable over time. However, it is important to note that the vast majority of sexual assaults aren't reported to the police. In fact, 5% of all sexual assaults are reported to the police with this percentage steadily decreasing by about half at every stage as the cases move through the justice system. Victims of sexual assault chose not to report the crime for a myriad of reasons (e.g., guilt, embarrassment, fear of repercussions). As such, those victims that chose to report the offense are brave and should be treated with the necessary care and attention in each stage of the process of prosecution. This was the impetus for the Canadian Framework for Collaborative Police Response on Sexual Violence.

In December 2019, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) launched a Canadian Framework for Collaborative Police Response on Sexual Violence. The launch date was of great significance as it was the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women, which serves to commemorate annually the tragic mass shooting that prematurely ended lives of fourteen young women at the L'Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal on December 6, 1989. The national framework provides Canadian police services with guidelines that support and reinforce evidence-based, trauma-informed, and victim-centered sexual violence investigations.

The CACP adopted a three-pronged approach that sought to address the gaps in police practices related to the investigation of sexual violence. The first took a closer look at the classification of founded and unfounded criminal incidents in the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey in an effort to address issues in data quality and reporting. The second involved the development of police training in order to promote trauma-informed investigations; this stage is ongoing. The third was the creation of the framework in order to support and improve the investigation of sexual violence.

The framework was developed by a working group of Ontario police leaders. It has since been endorsed by the CACP as a national framework for each police service in Canada to adopt and adapt according to their respective legislative context. The framework encourages a response that takes into consideration how these traumatic events impact victim memories, reactions, and behaviours. It calls for investigations to include the development and implementation of a comprehensive and collaborative response inclusive of sexual violence case reviews. The reviews can also retrospectively examine previously closed cases for new intelligence and probable grounds. These reviews will serve to inform future investigation and as such, this work will continue to evolve in the ongoing development of best and appropriate practices for police response on sexual violence.

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PUBLICATIONS



Recently Published Abstracts

Hogan, N. R. (in press). Critical considerations in the development and interpretation of common risk language. *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13218719.2020.1767719>

Existing risk communication procedures are marred by various well-documented problems and inconsistencies. The Council of State Governments' Justice Center (United States) developed a five-level system for risk and needs communication, to standardize these procedures and to provide a common risk language. Introduction of a common language could constitute a dramatic shift in criminal justice processes, with wide ranging impacts. This article provides a critical review of the system and its suitability for application to various risk assessment functions. Issues discussed include: applicability to specialist and generalist offending behaviour, the characteristics of suitable instruments, statistical and conceptual priorities, barriers to precision in language, and conceptual issues related to changes in risk level. A thorough understanding of each of these issues is necessary to apply the system to new contexts and populations, and facilitate straightforward and precise risk communication. Absent further elaboration of the system, many problems with risk communication will persist.

Jung, S., Faitakis, M., & Cheema, H. (2020). A comparative profile of intimate partner sexual violence. *Journal of Sexual Aggression*. doi:10.1080/13552600.2020.1722268

Sexual violence is prevalent in abusive relationships and yet, has received substantially less attention than physical violence in relationships or sexual violence, in general. The present study compared intimate partner sexual violence (IPSV) with non-sexual intimate partner violence (IPV) and sexual violence against other non-intimate partner victims on demographic data of perpetrators and victims, offence and police reporting features, and the perpetrators' criminal history and recidivism. Sexual and violent assaults reported to local law enforcement that led to an arrest were randomly selected. Analyses revealed that IPSV occurrences took longer to report compared to the other violent occurrences. However, IPSV was similar to IPV occurrences in that weapons were rarely involved, occurrences were more likely outside of the downtown area, and perpetrators were younger. These findings contribute to our limited knowledge about IPSV perpetration and highlight avenues for future exploration in the literature.



RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES



Therapist Perspectives on Building Therapeutic Alliance, Including Clients with a History of Criminal Behaviour

There is a call for research participants that has been approved by CPA's R2P2 (<https://cpa.ca/science/r2p2/>). Please find information for this study below:

Description: We are exploring the role of therapeutic alliance with clients of varying presentations, including clients with a history of criminal behaviour. Psychotherapy often involves building a therapeutic alliance and research suggests that the strength of the alliance is associated with treatment outcomes for a range of client presentations and therapeutic modalities. However, treatment is complex and it is still unclear how the therapeutic alliance is perceived by therapists in different contexts and with different clients, especially clients who have a history of criminal behaviour. To assess this we have designed an online Qualtrics study with vignettes that describe various client presentations including clients with an offending history and participants will be asked questions regarding development and prioritisation of the working alliance as well as interpersonal style for each vignette. To show our appreciation for time and expertise taken we will be donating AUD \$5.00 for every survey completed to a charity of the participant's choice.

International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services

The International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services is collating resources related to how different agencies are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic when providing care of justice-involved persons with mental illness. The IAFMHS is soliciting your collaboration to compile policies, practices, procedures, testimonials, research and legislation around the globe related to the COVID-19. They ask for you to contact them (iafmhs@sfu.ca; Ashley.lemieux.pinel@ssss.gouv.qc.ca), if you have any information regarding publicly available practice, policy, or legislative changes around the world.



UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Conferences that are Going Virtual

Saint Mary's University will be holding a virtual Forensic Psychology Conference on Sept 25. More details: <https://smu.ca/academics/departments/psychology-conferences-and-events.html>

The 39th Annual Research and Treatment Conference sponsored by the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers will be held online for the first time ever! This conference will offer symposia, workshop presentations, poster sessions, discussion groups, and advanced clinics relating to issues in both victim and perpetrator research and treatment. There will be many great keynotes including CPA Section Member, Dr. Michael Seto, along with many great presenters. See <https://www.atsafromhome.com> for registration and for more details.

The International Forensic Psychiatry Lecture Series, hosted by McMaster University and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, is a weekly educational webinar series that provides engaging and innovative topics on Forensic Psychiatry. More details: <https://www.forensicpsychiatryinstitute.com/>

CAREERS

Have You Checked Out the Job Openings on the CPA Website Lately?

If not, here are some positions that may interest you:

- ◇ The Ministry of Children and Family Development, located in Coquitlam BC, is looking for a Psychologist for the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre
- ◇ The Ministry of the Solicitor General is looking for a qualified candidate to fill the newly created role of Commander, Healthy Workplace Bureau, Chief Psychologist with the Ontario Provincial Police

For a complete listing of career opportunities, see <https://www.cpa.ca/careers/>



STAY INVOLVED!

We are looking to fill one vacant position on our Executive:

- ◇ **Director-at-Large, Membership Coordinator:** Maintains record of section membership list, provides regular updates to membership via electronic delivery, and promotes/develops Section benefits to membership.

Individuals interested in this position are encouraged to submit a statement of interest and CV to the Section Chair, Dr. Sandy Jung (sandy.jung@macewan.ca).

Contribute to *Crime Scene*:

We are always looking for the latest news, events, research, or commentaries that may be of interest to our members! We accept a wide range of submissions and encourage both professionals and students to consider contributing in English and/or French.

Students, this is a great opportunity to boost your CV!

If you have ideas for submission or questions, please contact the Managing Editor, Kyrsten Grimes (kyrsten.grimes@mail.utoronto.ca).

Do you have ideas, comments, or suggestions?

Feel free to contact any member of our Executive team—we want to hear from you!

Don't forget to check out our Website: <https://cpa.ca/sections/criminaljusticepsychology/>

Thank you for supporting the Criminal Justice Psychology Section!