

# Legal Studies Newsletter

The University of  
Mississippi

Newsletter Date  
Volume 1, Issue 1

## Chair Notes

The Department of Legal Studies has again begun our newsletter in hopes of keeping you and our alumni more informed of current growth, needs, successes as well as seeking your support in moving the department to become nationally the best of the best. We are expecting additional growth and the creation of a terminal degree (PhD in Homeland Security) in the near future.

Currently the department is largest in the School of Applied Sciences at the University of Mississippi with a total enrollment of over 800 students. The Master of Criminal justice program has 65 students enrolled with another 35 students in the program, not currently enrolled. We have

13 faculty members including 2 lecturers, 3 instructors, 5 assistant professors, 1 associate professor, 2 professors and a number of adjunct instructors teaching in our programs including criminal justice, paralegal, and the graduate program. We also have a minor in legal studies with over 50 students enrolled. As is apparent from the above statistics, we have experienced tremendous growth with little additional funding or additional faculty and staff due in part to the economy and decreased state funding for state universities. We now offer the undergraduate degrees at the campuses of Oxford, Tupelo, Grenada, and Desoto. Grenada began its operation in fall of 2012 under the direction of our latest faculty member, Amy Vanderford. Terry Lyons is doing a great job with the Tupelo campus, and Jeff Johnson continues to oversee a successful program on the Southaven campus. Our undergraduate program offers the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with in the emphases areas of corrections, homeland security, and law enforcement and the Bachelor of Paralegal Studies. The Master of Criminal Justice has two emphases: Homeland Security and Criminal Justice. The Master of Criminal Justice is offered on the Oxford campus for traditional students and at the Desoto campus for nontraditional or executive cohort students.

The mission of the Department of Legal Studies is to provide quality education to students in a learning environment conducive to achieving excellence in meeting the complex challenges present in the dynamic justice-related services and professions. As a member of the School of Applied Sciences, we are dedicated to ensuring and extending service to our internal and external constituents to enhance learning. In this role the department has sponsored numerous conferences including the Federal Bureau of Investigation Command College cosponsored by the Mississippi Police Chief's Association, Mississippi Crime Stoppers, and the Mississippi Homeland Security Conference. The Mississippi Jail Academy and the Law Enforcement Officers part-time Training Academy are offered by the department and its partners. Our faculty led the School of Applied Sciences in the number of published books, peer- review articles, and presentations at academic conferences. Additionally, faculty have been involved in partnerships with other departments in obtaining grants that are service oriented not only within the United States, but in other countries as well. Service is yet another area where our faculty has excelled. Members of our faculty have been involved in revising the curriculum for the law enforcement training academies for the great state of Mississippi. The department has members who are on the boards of Mississippi Law Enforcement Standards and Training and the Mississippi State Board of Jail Standards.

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Recently I was elected as chair of the Mississippi Law Enforcement Standards and Training Board for a two-year term which I am pleased to serve with outstanding professionals of our state law enforcement and prosecutors community. I am proud to report that our students continue to find employment in local, state, and federal entities in a challenging economy and are serving along many alumni of our program here at Ole Miss. The cities of Madison, Oxford, and Ridgeland have recently hired a number of our undergraduate and graduate students and, we are grateful to these departments and others for providing our students the opportunity to serve. Many departments and federal entities are supporting our program with required internships, and we wish to thank them as well. Our department continues to attract quality students, both at the undergraduate and graduate level, and successfully matriculates these students for the workforce. Our legal studies student associations (LSSA for undergraduate, CJA for graduate students, and Alpha Phi Sigma or the national honor society for criminal justice students) play a critical role in our department and support the department with students who are willing to provide their time, leadership, and service which will serve them well in their future. We continue to review and update our curriculum to meet the needs of the legal studies profession and to provide our students with the most current changes to be implemented in the fall of 2013. Due to the tremendous growth of the department which requires additional resources, our alumni and friends are encouraged to consider supporting our programs and students with a contribution to our Justice Society (form attached to this Newsletter) or by some other method through the foundation here at the University of Mississippi. We want to thank those who presently support our program with their gifts. Your help is greatly appreciated by both faculty and students and will ensure the future quality of our Legal Studies here at Ole Miss.

Stephen Mallory, Interim Chair

## Executive Cohort Program

The Department of Legal Studies now offers the Executive Cohort Program (ECP) which is a graduate program specifically designed for professional/practitioners in the field of criminal justice, military, and homeland security who desire to earn an advanced degree. The ECP meets for three sessions during a calendar year.

A session consists of a two-week intensive classroom training where a graduate student can earn six hours of graduate credit. An ECP student must earn thirty hours of classroom credit in addition to six hours of thesis or practicum for a total of thirty-six hours.

The ECP is offered at the University of Mississippi Southaven campus in January, May and August. Our ECP students come from many government agencies such as: state police entities, federal law enforcement, U.S. military, local police departments and Sheriffs' offices.

If you are interested in this program please contact,

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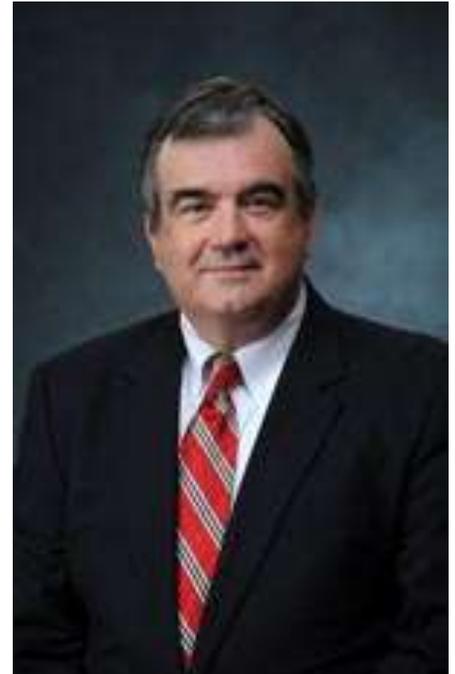
# Biographical Information

## Dr. Mike Wigginton Jr.

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Dr. Mike Wigginton, Jr. was born in New Orleans, LA. He joined the United States Air Force in 1968 where he served as a Security Police Military Dog Handler for four years. While he was enlisted in the USAF, he served two tours of duty in Southeast Asia at Phang Rang AFB and Camn Rahn Bay AFB in the Republic of South Vietnam. Following his honorable discharge from military service, he joined the New Orleans Police Department where he served as a patrol officer in the uptown area of the city. Following the NOPD strike, Dr. Wigginton joined the Louisiana State Police (LSP) where he served in patrol, narcotics and the criminal intelligence divisions. After serving for five years with the LSP, he joined the Drug Enforcement Administration as a Special Agent assigned to the Miami Field Division. While assigned to the Miami field office, he conducted numerous international drug smuggling investigations. After serving for five years with the DEA, Dr. Wigginton transferred to the U.S. Customs Service Office of Investigations and was assigned to the Office of the Special Agent in Charge, New Orleans

While working in New Orleans, he was assigned to Air and Marine Smuggling Unit, Office of Internal Affairs, Special Operations Unit, Exodus Investigations Unit and the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force. He retired from the U.S. Customs Service in January 2004. Upon retiring from government service, he earned his Ph.D. in Administration of Justice from the University of Southern Mississippi. Upon receiving his doctorate, he taught at SLU and Southeastern Louisiana University as an adjunct professor. In 2006 he was hired as an Assistant Professor at SLU, Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology. In 2008 he was hired as an Assistant Professor at the University of Mississippi, Department of Legal Studies where he also serves as the Graduate Coordinator and the Executive Cohort Program Coordinator. The Department of Legal Studies is fortunate to have the experience Mike brings to the classroom.



# Thomas A. Crowe Outstanding Faculty Award

This year's recipient of Thomas A. Crowe Outstanding reward is Dr. Linda Keena. She is currently actively engaged in teaching, scholarship and service and her accomplishments in these areas are meritorious. As a faculty member, Dr. Keena demonstrates a strong work ethic and an unrivaled passion to connect with and lead students. While she was hired to teach our undergraduate corrections courses, in the past two years, she has also contributed to our graduate program by teaching Research Methods and CJ Theory as well as teaching Introduction to Criminal Justice, Introduction to Corrections and Criminal Justice Ethics in the Core Curriculum. Dr. Keena aggressively involves students in classroom discussions and activities and challenges them with writing projects, research papers, and exams. Students regard her as rigorous but fair and often comment about her openness, professionalism and ability to integrate her personal experiences to the classroom. Her teaching extends well beyond the traditional classroom. During the past two years, Dr. Keena has shown innovation in developing three face-to-face courses (including a Comparative Criminal Justice Study Abroad course), revamping some of the department's individualized learning courses, incorporating technology into her instructional repertoire by creating three online courses and two Independent Study courses, and attending at least twelve teaching-related workshops. Dr. Keena has also generated an admirable record of service to her department, university, profession and the community. In 2011, she served as a member of the UM 2020 Strategic Planning Service Working Group. Dr. Keena currently serves on department committees. Additionally she is a requested trainer for the Federal Bureau of Prisons and an active member of several professional criminal justice organizations. She delivers a servant leadership series to police, churches, coaches and athletes throughout the country.

Despite the distance involved, Dr. Keena is a volunteer in Corrections for the State of Missouri and serves as advisor to a maximum security prison's Restorative Justice (RJ) Programs in Missouri, Mississippi and Belize. In that capacity she assists inmates in designing and implementing service programs to voluntarily contribute back to the society they harmed. In September 2011, Dr. Keena was selected by Gov. Haley Barbour to participate in the 2011-2012 Delta Leadership Institute Executive Academy, a year-long leadership development program designed to prepare leaders to collaborate regionally to lead change in Mississippi Delta.



*Congratulations!*

# Ole Miss Washington Interns Thrive in Washington DC

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Since 2008 UM Washington Internship Experience (WIE) students have excelled during their time in Washington, but their efforts are paying off even after they return home. Program participants gain real-world work experiences, develop skills employers demand, and bring their hands-on understanding of D.C. back to their programs of study. Jennifer Jackson, a Criminal Justice graduate student, was a 2012 WIE summer intern at the American Correctional Association. She was accepted to the program at the suggestion of Jeff Johnson. While in DC at the end of the summer, we met with her supervisors at the ACA, and they were very pleased with her performance, and the experience seemed to be quite enriching for Jennifer as well. We've posted the video on Facebook, Twitter, and on the Outreach website.

Link to the video: <http://vimeo.com/51074410>

## FLETC College Intern Program

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The FLETC College Intern program provides a unique opportunity for college students majoring in Criminal Justice, Criminology, or a related field of study from across the country to participate in a Federal Law Enforcement training environment. Each year 12 week three intern sessions are conducted at the FLETC exposing selected interns to world-class training, broadening their horizons and helping to develop a foundation for a career in federal law enforcement. Interns, after being selected to participate in the highly selective program, are assigned to a mentor from one of the FLETC's training divisions or partner organizations. The FLETC College Intern Program stresses flexibility and creativity by encouraging interns to experience everything FLETC has to offer to further their education and career goals, while making professional contacts. Whitney Hameth, a first- year graduate student at the University of Mississippi has been selected to participate in this program. Whitney went through a rigorous application process and was selected among the best to participate in this program. She will be participating in the legal division which consists of 7-10 students. At the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> week she will graduate.

Congratulations to you, Whitney Hameth



## 2012 Outstanding Instructor Award

Dr. Carl Jensen, Director of the Center for Intelligence and Security Studies (CISS) and an Assistant Professor in Legal Studies, received the International Association for Intelligence Education's 2012 Outstanding Instructor Award in May. The award, given to one exceptional educator each year, was presented to Jensen during the organization's recent international conference in Washington, D.C. Dr. Jensen retired from a 22-year-career in the FBI and joined the university's faculty in 2007 after working for a year as a Senior Behavioral Scientist at the RAND Corporation.

CISS maintains close ties with the intelligence community and offers high-performing students a minor in Intelligence and Security Studies (ISS). Recently, the Director of National Intelligence named CISS a Center for Academic Excellence. This prestigious award brings with it funding for educational program development, study abroad opportunities, and summer workshops for high school students. Officials in the intelligence community have named UM's ISS minor a "best practice model" in intelligence education.



*Congratulations!*

## ROBERT LANGLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Oxford law firm Tannehill & Carmean PLLC, has contributed \$20,000 to the Robert Langley Memorial Scholarship endowment at the University of Mississippi. The scholarship is to be awarded to an Ole Miss student majoring in criminal justice, helping students who wish to serve the community, as Langley did.

The criterion for awarding the scholarship is: A full-time student majoring in Criminal Justice, currently in the School of Applied Sciences. Recipient shall have financial need and a minimum grade point average of 2.25. Selection is made by a committee comprised of the Dean of the School of Applied Sciences, the Chair of the Department of Legal Studies, and a Criminal Justice faculty member or any 3 members in equivalent positions as designated by the Dean. There was a recipient for the 2011-2012 academic years in the amount of \$1,000. The award for 2012-2013 will be awarded at the banquet.



## Columbus B. Hopper Scholarship

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Dr. Hopper was born in North Carolina. After service in the United States Army, where he excelled in baseball, he attended Gardner-Webb College, received his Bachelor of Arts from Furman University, a Master of Arts from the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, and a PhD from Florida State University.

As a Professor of Sociology, he instructed such classes as Penology and Deviant Behavior. As a member of the University's graduate faculty, he served on the majority of Master of Criminal Justice degree committees.

In 2005, the Department of Legal Studies asked Dr. Hopper to be our first Guest of Honor at the First Legal Studies Honors Banquet. Today, the highest honor by the Department.

The criteria for awarding the scholarship is: Recipients will be full-time Legal Studies majors who are classified as seniors with at least a 3.75 GPA. A list of eligible students will be requested from the assistant to the dean of Applied Sciences. Recipients will be selected by the Department of Legal Studies faculty scholarship committee and approved by the chair of the department.



## Chief Richard M. Popernik Scholarship

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Richard Popernik received his bachelors and masters degree from Ole Miss. He enjoyed his time that he spent here. His family has started a memorial scholarship in his honor.

The scholarship is to be used exclusively by the Department of Legal Studies. Currently funded at \$25,000.00, the family hopes that the former students, professional associates, and personal friends of Chief Popernik will also be willing to help increase this level of funding. If you wish to participate, please make your donation to THE OLE MISS FOUNDATION and put "For the Richard Popernik Scholarship Fund" on the designation line.



## Meet our newest faculty member- Amy Vanderford

Amy Spencer Vanderford

Ms. Vanderford graduated from Corinth High School, Corinth, MS and attended Northeast Community College, transferred to the University of Mississippi, and graduated in 1998 with a Bachelor of Political Science degree. She then pursued a career with the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics in 1998 and attended the 16-week MBN Training Academy at Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, MS. In 2003, she was hired by the Mississippi Delta Community College as Director of the Law Enforcement Training Academy. Amy joined the University of Mississippi in 2012 fall semester. She is currently teaching Process and Policy, Communications for Law Enforcement, Drug Investigations and Serial Murders and Criminal Profiling.



## The University of Mississippi Legal Studies Student Association

The LSSA is an undergraduate organization that is committed to ensuring advanced learning for Legal Studies students in an effort to aid in students' success in the criminal justice and paralegal occupations, post-graduation. The Ole Miss Legal Studies Student Association (LSSA) is a group of Ole Miss Criminal Justice and Paralegal students as well as students in the Center for Intelligence and Security Studies program. We are dedicated to enriching the undergraduate experience in Legal Studies and Intelligence by sponsoring many events throughout the school year, to include the Legal Studies Career Fair and the Legal Studies Awards Banquet, as well as socials and picnics for our members. This membership adds excellent material to a resume, the ability to network outside traditional channels, and recognition from professors within the department. Effectively, we are an excellent way to prove to the professors and future employers of your motivation and work ethic, while helping develop the UM CJ Undergraduate Program. We invite criminal justice and intelligence professionals to attend our events which allow students to network and broaden employment opportunities by providing a forum for students and professionals to interact with many and diverse backgrounds. The 2012-2013 committee consists: President- Andrew Jenkins, Vice-president- George Jackson and Secretary- Ty'Kereia Stubbs

The relationships formed as a result of being a part of this dynamic organization will not only form life long friendships, but serve as a foundation for your professional networking base. Also key to your future, by participating in this organization, you will have taken the first step in establishing interpersonal relationships with important members of the Criminal Justice community by active participation in the career fair. You will no longer be lost in the sea of faces; you will stand out as a motivator and leader. As an officially recognized student organization of Ole Miss our only boundaries are those we set upon ourselves. The possibilities are endless; we just need you to participate. Please come be a part of this exciting experience and make your voice heard.

# AΦΣ Alpha Phi Sigma

The Criminal Justice Honor Society



# AΦΣ

Let knowledge increase, let justice prevail.

# Alpha Phi Sigma

The Criminal Justice Honor Society



## Undergraduate Requirements:

- Completed three full time semesters
- A minimum GPA of 3.2
- A minimum of four courses in the criminal justice field

### Mission

to promote analytical thinking, rigorous scholarship and life long learning; to keep abreast of the advances in scientific research; to elevate the ethical standards of the criminal justice professions and to sustain in the public mind the benefit and necessity of education and professional training.

### Goals

The Goals of Alpha Phi Sigma shall be to honor and promote academic excellence; service; leadership and unity.

## Graduate Requirements:

- A Minimum of four courses completed in the criminal justice field
- A minimum GPA of 3.4

- The only Criminal Justice Honor Society
- Membership is open to undergraduates, graduates, and juris doctorate students
- Can increase your pay grade with the Federal government

### Academy of Criminal Justice Science Affiliation

- Alpha Phi Sigma holds its national conference at the annual ACJS meeting
- The Academy's support of Alpha Phi Sigma serves to enhance its purpose - the recognition of scholarly achievement in the field of criminal justice

It is an HONOR to be proud of



## Alpha Phi Sigma's ONE TIME

\$75.00 dues includes:

- Chapter fees
- National fees
- Certificate
- Cords
- Pin



# The University of Mississippi Criminal Justice Association- CJA

The UMCJA is a graduate student association organization affiliated with the UM Criminal Justice Graduate program. We provide direct assistance with special, events related to the department and act as the student figurehead for our department. In addition to our meetings and social events, we are looking to expand the benefits to our members. Currently, the UMCJA is responsible for logistics in relation to our lecture series, awards banquets, department wide social events, and support local philanthropic causes. Additionally, the UMCJA seeks out conferences for graduate students to attend to augment their education.

The 2012-2013 committee consists of: President- Shawn Parrish, Vice –president- Jessica Vinson, Secretary-Cal Crawford, Treasurer- Megan Weaver, Historian- Andrea Brown.

UMCJA membership adds excellent material to a resume, the ability to network outside traditional channels, and recognition from professors within the department. Effectively, we are an excellent way to prove to the professors and future employers of your motivation and work ethic, while helping develop the University of Mississippi Criminal Justice Graduate Program.

The UMCJA does not discriminate based on race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or age. The only requirement is that a member is a graduate student in good standing with the university.



## Criminal Justice Association





**Requirements:**  
To be a member, you must be a graduate student in the Criminal Justice Master's Program.  
Dues are \$50 for one year or \$25 per semester.

**Benefits of Joining the UMCJA:**

- Networking with law enforcement professionals
- Resume building
- Continued contact with previous and new Criminal Justice students
- Social events with current students
- Research experience outside of the classroom

The University of Mississippi Criminal Justice Association is the student association affiliated with the UM Criminal Justice Graduate Program. We provide direct assistance with special events related to the department and act as the student figurehead for our department.

Program of Study – Homeland Security



Program of Study – Criminal Justice



# The Season of Giving



As a professor at Ole Miss and a Sunday school teacher, I have found that teaching a subject often results in significant increase in wisdom regarding the subject matter. During the Christmas break, I think we all should consider what we are doing in support of people and programs we care about. It seems as if there is often a gap between our intentions and actions. During this season of giving, I ask that you consider giving of yourself, time, and resources to others and things such as programs that you think are worthy. I know you will discover, as I did, that it is really better to give than to receive and in doing so you will find true peace, joy, and contentment that cannot be found in any other way. I wish you a Merry Christmas, joy and peace for the upcoming year.

Stephen L. Mallory, CSM, PHD

## Giving Form



THE SCHOOL OF APPLIED SCIENCES GIVING SOCIETY FOR LEGAL STUDIES

I/We will support The Society with a gift of  \$5,000 (one-time payment)  \$5,000 over 10 years (at \$41.67 monthly)  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check made payable to:  
The University of Mississippi Foundation

Payroll Deduction of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per pay period for a total contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ starting on \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my credit card for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MasterCard  Visa  American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (required for all pledges) \_\_\_\_\_