

AIC Newsletter

Summer 2000

Australian Institute of Criminology



J V Barry Library: Strategic Planning



J V Barry Library staff at their strategic planning day on 8 December.

The Institute's J V Barry Library is widely regarded as the foremost criminology collection in the country. In recent years it has undergone dramatic changes in terms of how staff work and the range of client services.

In 1997 the Institute acquired the *FIRST* library management system and in 1998 the Library's catalogue went online as part of the Institute's website.

The Library houses a major print collection, but increasingly staff are required to exploit and control publications available in an electronic format. The Library's work involves making regular contributions to the *Crimnet* email discussion list and continuing to develop *CINCH*, the *Australian Criminology Database*, as an index of Australian criminal justice subject matter.

Library staff are also closely involved in the management of the AIC website. In addition to promoting the Institute and its work, the site has developed into an important source of information on crime and criminal justice in Australia, with more than one million users expected to visit it this year.

With the wide and growing range of information services provided by the Library, late last year its staff decided to take stock and examine appropriate directions with a strategic planning day at the Australian National University.

The Institute's Research staff were surveyed on their requirements beforehand and the planning day itself was guided by Ms Brenda McConchie, Executive Director of AIMA Training and Consultancy Services Ltd.

Opening the event, Dr Adam Graycar presented staff with a vision statement on directions for the Institute and reflected on the environment in which the Library was operating.

Later sessions included consideration of a vision for the Library and the values required to fulfil the vision. The day concluded with discussions on development of a draft strategic plan "Bringing it all together" containing the vision, strategies and specific action.

Library staff agreed that the planning day was a useful and rewarding event, providing a forum to take stock and participate in developing a plan to guide future directions.

Art Crime

Authenticity and cultural heritage, and crime prevention issues were high on the agenda at the AIC's conference on art crime in Sydney last December.

The Federal Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Amanda Vanstone spoke about the importance of the art industry, the increasing accessibility of art, and the acceptance of contemporary art as an investment. However, she then went on to outline some of the downsides of this, particularly money laundering and the involvement of organised crime.

In the keynote address, AIC Associate, Professor Ken Polk from the University of Melbourne, outlined the large, complex and vigorous art market in Australia, and the winners and losers of stolen and forged art.

Dr Anna Kisluk, the Director of the Art Loss Register in New York emphasised the importance of addressing the trade in stolen art internationally, saying one of the key elements in stemming the illegal trade was the rapid dissemination of accurate information on stolen objects. The Art Loss Register enables police to secure arrests and convictions, and helps art buyers take steps to determine whether art is stolen.

Authenticity and consumer issues in Aboriginal art were covered by various speakers, including Karen Dayman from the Mangkaja Arts Resource Agency Aboriginal Corporation in the NT, Karen Brown from Karen Brown Galleries in Darwin, and AIC Associate Professor Christine Alder from Melbourne University.

inside this issue...

AIC Visitors and Staff Movements

Crime mapping project, Publications and Conferences

Roundtables

page 2

page 3

page 4

Visitors to the AIC

Gloria Laycock, Head of the Policing & Reducing Crime Unit at The Home Office in the UK (and currently Visiting Fellow, National Institute of Justice, Washington DC) made a presentation to AIC staff in October.

President Kyung Hoe Kim and Dr Insub Choi from the Korean Institute of Criminology visited in December to discuss strategic planning and executive management issues, as well as women in prison and other AIC programs.



President Kyung Hoe Kim (centre) and Dr Insub Choi (right) from the Korean Institute of Criminology meet with the AIC's Research Director, Dr Peter Grabosky (left). President Kim and Dr Choi met with AIC Director, Dr Adam Graycar in Sydney.

Two visitors from the Singapore Police, Miss Wong Puy Mun (Head, Research & Strategic Analysis Division) and Miss Jasmine Tang Bee Yen (Analyst, Research & Strategic Analysis Division) came to the AIC in November.

Stanley S.Y. Chung, the Hong Kong Police Liaison Officer in Australia visited the AIC in September.

Chief Inspector Maggie Chan, Hong Kong Police visited in October.

Irvin Waller, Director General of the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime, Montreal also visited the AIC.

Leonie Howe, a PhD Candidate from the University of Warwick, worked at the AIC for about three months concentrating on deaths in custody.

AIC Staff Movements



Left to right: Dr Emma Ogilvie, Meredith Bryant and Misty Cook.

New appointments

Dr Emma Ogilvie has been appointed as Criminology Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow. Her initial project examines the phenomenon of stalking and Australian law. Misty Cook joins as Publications Officer/Editor and Meredith Bryant has been appointed a Research Assistant.

Recent departures

Three long-serving staff members recently left the Institute after contributing a combined total of nearly fifty years of service. We wish them all well in their future endeavours and gratefully acknowledge their contributions.

Kerry Feldman joined the AIC in 1975 and holds the record for the longest term of employment at the Institute. Kerry initially worked in publications and for the past eight years operated the Institute's switchboard.

Dr Francois Debaecker joined the AIC in 1987 as IT Manager. From a handful of PCs, he developed a sophisticated computer network, serving staff and the criminal justice community with Internet and related services.

Merril Thompson joined the AIC in 1988 as Managing Editor. She developed a range of publications that established the AIC as a major Australian publisher in the field. She was most recently Executive Officer, Research.

We also thank Rowena Conroy and Jane Love for their service.

Crime Against Small Business



AIC staff processing a mountain of survey forms completed by small businesses across Australia. The survey is part of a study to develop data on the incidence and impact (both financial and psychological) of crime against small business. When results have been analysed they will be communicated to the small business sector and AIC stakeholders.

Publications

Research and Public Policy series

The following titles have been released since our last newsletter:

No. 20: *Juveniles in Australian Corrective Institutions 1981-1998*, by Carlos Carcach and Glenn Muscat. ISBN 0 642 24118 X, 61 pp, retail price \$15.

No. 21: *Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA): A Brief Description*, by Toni Makkai. ISBN 0 642 24136 8, 30 pp, retail price \$15.

No. 22: *Violence in the Workplace*, by Santina Perrone. ISBN 0 6422 4132 5, 115 pp, retail price \$20.

These books can be purchased from the AIC by using the enclosed order form. A cheque or credit card number must accompany your order. Books and Trends & Issues papers will be invoiced if the orders are sent to Bibliotech (contact details on back page).

Trends & Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice series

Titles from this series are listed in the enclosed order form. If you'd like to be notified as new papers are released, please email your email address to Front.Desk@aic.gov.au.

Other publications

Australian Crime: Facts and Figures 1999 is the second issue in this annual series. It is available from the AIC's website at www.aic.gov.au/stats/facts99, or by phoning 02 6260 9221 (one copy free).

New Websites Launched

The AIC has developed and launched websites for two organisations.

www.apcca.org

The Asian and Pacific Conference of Correctional Administrators (APCCA) is an annual conference of correctional administrators employed by the Governments in the Asian and Pacific Region. The conference has, with one exception, been held every year since 1980.

www.npeab.gov.au

The National Police Ethnic Advisory Bureau (NPEAB) was established in 1993 under the auspices of the Australasian Conference of Police Commissioners. It receives and disseminates information to assist the delivery of police services for a multicultural Australia. It also aims to assist Police Services throughout Australia to provide police and ethnic community policies, programs and initiatives in line with national standards.

Crime Mapping Project

The first task of the Crime Mapping Project established by the AIC will be to produce an Atlas of crime in Australia, which will be launched at the first national Crime Mapping Conference in Australia to be held by the Institute in September.

The Atlas will contain key features; crime maps; residential stability; socio-economic inequality and disadvantage; bivariate crime maps; a technical appendix and glossary.

Data in the Atlas for each State and Territory will cover: break and enter (by dwellings and by non-dwellings); motor vehicle theft; armed robbery; unarmed robbery and assault.

Conferences

Coming in 2000

Crime in the Professions, 21-22 February, University of Melbourne.

Transnational Crime, 9-10 March, Rydges, Canberra.

3rd National Gambling Regulation Conference, 11-12 May, Rex Hotel, Sydney.

Reducing Criminality: Partnerships and Best Practice, 31 July - 1 August, Novotel, Perth.

Fraud Prevention and Control, 24-25 August, Legends, Gold Coast.

Mapping Crime: Adding Value to Crime Prevention and Control, 20-21 September, Mineral Foundation, Adelaide.

Mental Health and Criminal Justice, 16-17 October, Carlton Crest, Melbourne.

Women in Corrections: Staff and Clients, 31 October - 1 November, Hindley Parkroyal, Adelaide.

Motor Vehicle Theft, 30 November - 1 December, Adelaide.

Stalking, 7-8 December, Landmark Parkroyal, Sydney.

Coming in 2001

4th National Outlook Symposium: New Crimes, New Responses, 21-22 June 2001, Rydges, Canberra.

AIC Director of Research elected to international board

Dr Peter Grabosky has been elected as Deputy Secretary General of the International Society of Criminology.

He serves on the Society's Governing Board with other international specialists from Europe, Asia, South Africa, North and Latin America.

AIC Roundtables

Correctional Populations: Issues for Management (No. 29), 7 October 1999, Melbourne

Main speaker, Roger Haley, Head of the Population Management Unit for the United Kingdom Prison Service, presented the findings of a recent study which described the changes in the UK prison population over the decade 1988 to 1997. This was followed by an analysis of the comparative Australian data by AIC Research Analyst Anna Grant.

Prison Officers and the Use of Discretion (No. 30), 8 October 1999, Melbourne

This roundtable was chaired by AIC Associate, Dr Rick Sarre who spoke on *Prison Programs and What Works?* The guest speaker was Dr Alison Liebling from the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University who is currently conducting a large study on prison officer discretion and the operation and effect of the use of such discretion within certain UK prisons.

Young Men and Violence Prevention (No. 32), 16 November 1999, Canberra

This roundtable was planned by AIC Research Analyst Dr Margaret Cameron in preparation for the Violence Prevention Summit in December. Initiated by Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator the Hon. Amanda Vanstone, the Summit consulted young men from around Australia on violence prevention. Chaired by Dr Adam Graycar, this roundtable consisted of academics in the fields of sociology and psychology, and practitioners of psychiatry and youth work in the areas of young men and violence. The participants advised the organisers on the focus of the Summit and identified questions to discuss with the young men to attempt to understand their self-perception, fears and concerns, the structure of violence amongst young men, and intervention points.

Preventing Environmental Harm (No. 33), 7 December 1999, Canberra

Dr Peter Grabosky chaired this session which brought together representatives from industry, government and non-government organisations to discuss various strategies for improving environmental performance of industry, and for the prevention of harm to the environment. Specifically, it sought to identify best practice examples of Australian prevention strategies based on information, self-regulation by industry, commercial influences, and incentives and awards. The roundtable formed part of a National Crime Prevention project undertaken by Dr Grabosky and Frances Gant. *Improving Environmental Performance, Preventing Environmental Crime* is planned for publication in the AIC's Research and Public Policy series.

Interpersonal Violence (No. 34), 10 December 1999, Adelaide

This roundtable was held in conjunction with a number of South Australian Government agencies (Human Services, Police, Corrections, Education). The changing demography of violence was analysed, and intervention strategies for each agency were discussed.

Alcohol, Young People and Violence (No. 35), 13 December 1999, Canberra

Paul Williams, Dr Toni Makkai and Siobhan Hennessy organised this roundtable, which was attended by 15 participants. While the causal link between alcohol and violence is not fully understood, the overwhelming evidence is that the two are proximate. Violence is more likely to occur in the presence of alcohol consumption, and levels of alcohol consumption and violence are known to be higher among young persons than the general population. The aims of the roundtable were to

highlight new empirical data and innovative interventions in the criminal justice system, and to inform the National Alcohol Strategy currently being finalised. The AIC tabled the Trends and Issues paper, *Alcohol-related Social Disorder and Rural Youth: Part 1 – Victims*, by Paul Williams. All papers presented will be published in the Research and Public Policy series in March.

The Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS): ACT Results (No. 36), 9 December 1999, Canberra

The AIC and the Australian National University's National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health organised this roundtable. The IDRS is an annual triangulated study of illicit drug use patterns involving key informant interviews, analyses of routinely collected drug-related administrative and survey data, and surveys of injecting drug users. The aims of the roundtable were to provide feedback to key informants and data providers; to launch the draft ACT report; and to compare ACT trends with national results. The roundtable presentation by Paul Williams can be viewed on the AIC website at www.aic.gov.au/conferences/other/illicit/index.html.

AIC CONTACTS

GPO Box 2944
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Tel: +61 2 6260 9221
Fax: +61 2 6260 9201

Email: Front.Desk@aic.gov.au
Publications: aicpress@aic.gov.au
Library: jvbarry@aic.gov.au
Conferences: conference@aic.gov.au
Home Page: <http://www.aic.gov.au>

All publications can be purchased from the AIC with credit card authorisation or by cheque (use order form enclosed).

If you need to be invoiced contact:
BiblioTech, ANUTECH Pty Ltd
GPO Box 4, CANBERRA ACT 2601
Tel: +61 2 6249 2479
Fax: +61 2 6257 5088
E-mail: books@bibliotech.com.au