



Welcome to the School of Criminology and Security Studies Newsletter, Fall 2024 edition. This newsletter is designed to provide students, staff, faculty, and our alumni with information about all the great things going on in our school.

**Fall 2024
Issue 14**

School of Criminology and Security Studies Hires New Faculty Member

Inside The Issue

Cybercriminology is the fastest growing program at Indiana State University, and continues to see significant growth and interest. In spring of 2024 the School of Criminology and Security Studies hired a new faculty member, Dr. Cassandra Dodge.



Prior to earning her degrees in higher education, Dr. Dodge enlisted in the United States Air Force and spent 4.5 years in Security Forces overseas. Her USAF career included performing roles in airbase and aircraft security and law enforcement across 23 different countries stationed in the UK, Okinawa, Japan, and the Horn of Africa.

After earning the rank of Staff Sergeant, she returned to her home state of Illinois and earned Bachelors and Master of Science degrees in Criminal Justice Sciences from Illinois State University in 2014 and 2016. While pursuing a career in digital forensics, she also minored in Information Systems as an undergrad.

Continued on next page.

- New Faculty Hire...1-2
- Presidential Scholars
Winners...3-4
- Dan Ralph...5-6
- Loomis appointed
as chief...7
- Sheriff Plasse...8-10
- Study Abroad...11-13
- Recruiting...14-15
- Student Awards...16-
17
- Faculty News...17
- School of Criminology
Career Fair...18
- Investigation Units...19
-20
- Alumni Corner...21

Continued from prior page.

She found a passion for academic research during her graduate studies at Illinois State, and she chose to pursue a PhD in Criminology at the University of South Florida. However, her original goals were never too far from her mind. While completing her PhD coursework, she also completed a graduate certificate in digital forensics. Moreover, her dissertation research focused on the role of anonymity providing techniques in facilitating various forms of online deviance. Following the completion of her PhD in 2021, Dr. Dodge joined the faculty of Georgia Southern University's Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology as an Assistant Professor and Digital Forensics Lab Coordinator.

This fall, she joined the faculty of the School of Criminology and Security Studies at Indiana State University in support of the Cybercriminology and Security Studies program. According to Dr. Dodge, one of the main draws of ISU is its focus on undergraduate student success, both in academics and in practical skills. "One of the difficulties I have witnessed students having in the past three years is getting agencies to give them the chance to work in the field of digital forensics. Students had the training, but not the practical experience. It's rare to have internships that allow students to get real-world experience in this field. The High Tech Crime Unit and other investigative labs at ISU present amazing opportunities for students in gaining experience and employment opportunities."

While self-described as an educator first, researcher second, Dr. Dodge does have several research agendas she actively pursues. Topics include: anonymity online, protection motivation theory applied to cyber hygiene practices, public perceptions of digitalism, and military sexual assault case prosecutions. She is also in the process of designing research on cyber hygiene challenges faced by university athletes. She encourages students who are interested in research to discuss opportunities to participate in the future.

As a recent transplant to Terre Haute, Dr. Dodge is still exploring ways to spend her free time. So far, that has included attending concerts and Indiana Fever games in Indianapolis, taking pottery classes at Deming Park, and she joined Community Theater of Terre Haute. Most days though, she enjoys reading at home in the company of her two senior corgis, Camden and Oaklie.

We would like to welcome Dr. Dodge to the School of Criminology and Security Studies and we look forward to getting to know her.

The School of Criminology and Security Studies
Welcomes Five Presidential Scholarship winners

Indiana State University is awarding the President's Scholarship to 22 incoming students, 18 freshmen and 4 transfer students, for the 2024-25 academic year. The scholarship provides full, in-state tuition and on-campus housing for a total four-year value of more than \$80,000 for freshmen and the value of full, in-state tuition for transfer students.

Indiana State University President Mike Godard: "I am delighted to congratulate and welcome our 22 President's Scholars to Indiana State University. Earning the President's Scholarship is an impressive achievement, reflecting the hard work and dedication these students have demonstrated throughout high school. I am confident that these exceptional Sycamores will make a significant and positive impact on our campus. I would also like to extend my gratitude to the University Scholarship Office and the Honors College for their tireless efforts in attracting such outstanding students to Indiana State."

To be considered for the President's Scholarship, candidates must meet two of the following three criteria: a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.8 on a 4.0 scale, a score of 1270 SAT or 27 on the ACT, and a rank in the top 10% of their senior class. For the Transfer President's scholarship, candidates must have a cumulative transfer GPA of at least 3.7 on a 4.0 scale, as well as a minimum of 24 completed, transferrable credits (non-remedial coursework).

Dean of the Honors College, Dr. Greg Bierly: "We are thrilled to welcome the incoming class of President's Scholars to campus this Fall. These are immensely talented students who have earned their scholarships through a highly competitive process.

We look forward to the leadership and energy they will bring to our campus and are excited that they have chosen to begin their professional journeys at Indiana State University". The University Scholarship office in collaboration with the Honors College, starts recruiting highly-achieving students immediately after their admission to the university. The winter interview day events are an important recruitment event and yield valuable opportunities for the incoming class.

Continued on next page.

Continued from prior page.

Meet the recipients in the School of Criminology and Security Studies:

Xavier Marnell is the son of Angela and Michael Marnell, and is from Corydon, Indiana. Xavier is a graduate of Corydon Central High School and is coming to Indiana State University to pursue his degree in Intelligence Analysis through the College of Arts and Sciences.

Erin Walters, daughter of Kimberly and Brian Walters, is from Seymour, Indiana. She is a graduate of Columbus East High School and plans to pursue a degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice within the College of Arts and Sciences at Indiana State University.

Sky Wood is the daughter of Jeff and Angela Wood. She is from Indianapolis, Indiana, and graduated from the Indiana Academy for Science. She will be majoring in Intelligence Analysis within the College of Arts and Sciences at Indiana State University.

Cheyenne Crider is a Cybercriminology and Security Studies major from Winamac, Indiana. After obtaining her degree from Indiana State, she is interested in finding employment with the state or federal government; her career aspiration is to serve as a Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics specialist.

Ben Deckert, from Terre Haute, Indiana, is pursuing his degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice at Indiana State. After obtaining his degree he intends to pursue employment as a Corrections Officer, and later achieve his longer-term goal of finding a career with a federal government agency like the FBI or DEA.

Congratulations to all the winners and welcome to Indiana State University.

(From Indiana State University News Release).

Dedication of the Robert E. Casey Cybercriminology and Intelligence Analysis Laboratory

On October 24, 2024 Indiana State University and the School of Criminology and Security Studies celebrated the naming of the Robert E. Casey Cybercriminology and Intelligence Analysis Laboratory, located in Holmstedt Hall.

Several Dignitaries, faculty, and students were on hand for the celebration. The event honored long time alum, and current Indiana State University President of the Board of Trustees, Robert Casey. Mr. Casey has a long-standing history with the School of Criminology and its director, Dr. DeVere Woods.

Indiana State University President Mike Godard discussed how the lab represents “Indiana State University’s commitment to providing students with hands-on experience in the ever-evolving fields of cybersecurity and intelligence.”

Mr. Casey noted the importance of supporting Indiana State University in the creation of the lab and how meaningful it is to him. He also said that Indiana State’s mission of empowering students to thrive aligns with “my vision for a future where education and innovation shape our world. It’s an honor to play a part in this transformative endeavor.”

Director Woods talked about the longtime friendship that he has had with Mr. Casey and the significant impact of Mr. Casey’s contribution to the School of Criminology, its faculty, and students. Director Woods discussed how a meeting with Mr. Casey led to the idea of creating new programs, such as Intelligence Analysis, which also led to the idea of the Cybercriminology degree, as well. Mr. Casey returns to ISU from time to time to talk with faculty and students about his work experience and the criminal justice field. His contribution to our school and students is invaluable.

Mr. Casey started his career as a Houston, Texas police officer, before becoming an FBI Special Agent, and rising through the ranks to the executive management level. After retiring from the FBI, he became Chief Security Officer at Eli Lilly and Company.

The event was well attended and showed the importance of our alums and their willingness to give back to the university and the School of Criminology and Security Studies.

Dedication of the Robert E. Casey Cybercriminology and Intelligence Analysis Laboratory



(L-R) Leslie Casey, Sophia Brown, Bob Casey, President Mike Godard at the dedication of the Robert E. Casey Cybercriminology and Intelligence Analysis Laboratory.



The Cyber-Intel lab



Mr. Casey giving remarks at the dedication.

Dan Ralph

School of Criminology and Security Studies Alum Returns to ISU

In April 2024 School of Criminology and Security Studies Alum, Dan L. Ralph, a retired FBI agent, visited the ISU campus. Dan met with faculty and spoke to several classes about his time in law enforcement. Dan is a 1974 graduate of ISU, with a B.S. in Criminology.



The bulk of his 37 year law enforcement career was with the Indianapolis Police Department and the FBI. After his first year at IPD he was awarded Rookie of the Year, based on having made numerous felony arrests, including 14 armed robbers. Dan was subsequently promoted to Detective and assigned to Sex Crimes, where he maintained a 100% conviction rate in caseloads averaging 60-plus cases per year. He was selected Officer of the Year (twice), and promoted to Detective Sergeant in the Homicide Division. While there Dan supervised a Homicide Investigation Unit while also carrying the same caseload as each of the Unit Detectives. Most of the cases attracted local and/or national media attention and coverage, but one in particular received rather extensive coverage. A 55 gallon barrel from out of state had been surreptitiously placed in a storage warehouse, and after a week, employees found it to be leaking noxious fluids. The warehouse manager opened the barrel and discovered that it contained a decomposing female corpse, which was covered with 600 pounds of concrete. Since murder cases were assigned to Homicide Detectives on a rotation scheme, the case was assigned to a Homicide Detective in another unit. After about 2 1/2 weeks, he had not made any progress. The Captain of the Homicide Division then elected to re-assign the case to Dan, and he managed to solve it in 3 days. The barrel and its victim had originated in Texas, so the FBI indicated an interest, and he briefed their office accordingly. Subsequently they recruited Dan for a Special Agent's position, and a few months later he was offered that position. Dan reported to Quantico 9 days later.

After completing training at Quantico, Dan was transferred to Phoenix, Arizona, and assigned to the Division's Drug Squad. He instituted an investigation into large scale cocaine smuggling, which resulted in the first ever federal conviction of U.S. Border Patrol Agents for smuggling and distributing cocaine into the United States. The ring included a well-known Scottsdale dentist, and his sister, both of whom were arrested and convicted. A federal judge later released the Border Patrol Agent ringleader on bail, and he fled the country. About a year later, Dan located him in New Zealand and travelled there to initiate his arrest by the Auckland Police, to begin the extradition process, and to seize luxury goods obtained with drug profits, including an ocean-going yacht. He was convicted in U.S. District Court and sentenced to 27 years in federal prison.

Continued on next page.

Dan Ralph

School of Criminology and Security Studies Alum Returns to ISU

Continued from prior page.

Later in Phoenix, Dan was promoted to Supervisory Special Agent, and established a Violent Street Gang Task Force. Sniping attacks against uniformed police officers by gang members had severely wounded 3 officers, as gang murders rose 700 percent in one year. The task force put together felony criminal cases against hundreds of violent gang members, causing a measurable drop in violent crime, and a substantial drop in gang killings. Dan received several awards from the FBI, the Phoenix Police Department, and the City of Phoenix, including the City of Phoenix Excellence Award, two years in a row. Dan personally briefed the Director of the FBI concerning these cases.

The International Homicide Investigators Association's Award for Excellence was presented to Dan in 2012 after he successfully re-investigated the 1973 kidnapping, rape and murder of an FBI agent's daughter. The case had previously been investigated by literally hundreds of FBI agents, over a 35 year period, without success. The victim had been kidnapped from an airport parking lot in Tucson, Arizona, and months later her skeletonized remains had been found in a shallow grave on Fort Huachuca, a U.S. Army base situated on the international border with Mexico. There were no witnesses, no physical evidence, no viable DNA, and only one partial fingerprint found on her vehicle's windshield, which had no matches. Dan developed new investigative avenues, reviewed roughly 35,000 pages of the file and other records, and conducted roughly 300 interviews in 7 states, which allowed him to eventually identify the subject, who was indicted, tried, convicted, and sentenced to life without parole. The FBI asked him to stay two years beyond his mandatory retirement date to complete the trial in U.S. District Court, which he agreed to do. The case was the subject of an Investigation Discovery channel episode.

We would like to thank Mr. Ralph for coming back to ISU to talk with our students and faculty, and share his stories of his career after graduating ISU and his interesting cases.

Indiana State University Names Ian Loomis as Chief

From Indiana State University communications.

Effective September 30, 2024, Indiana State University alum Ian Loomis will lead Indiana State University's Police Department as Police Chief and Director of Public Safety. The appointment comes after a thorough, comprehensive search.



"I am honored to be your new Police Chief at Indiana State University. My focus will be on creating a safe and secure environment through strong community relationships, open communication, and proactive engagement," said Chief Loomis.

Loomis brings decades of law enforcement experience to Indiana State University. He has been a member of Indiana State's Police Department since 2005, serving as a Patrol Officer, Corporal, Sergeant, and Captain, and was the Interim Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police as of May 11, 2024. He previously served the Vigo County Sheriff's Department as a Deputy Correctional Officer and the Sugar Creek Fire Department as a firefighter/E.M.T.

Loomis' achievements include being recognized as the 2008 Kevin Artz Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award, 2018 Indiana State University Presidents Medallion recipient, four-time recipient of the Indiana State University Police Department Life Saving Award, 26-time recipient of the Indiana State University Police Department Police Star Award, and 15-time recipient of the Indiana State University Police Department Exceptional Service Award.

Loomis graduated from Indiana State University with a degree in Criminology and from the FBI National Academy (Criminal Justice/Investigations).

Congratulations to Chief Loomis on his appointment.

Plasse named Sheriff of the Year by training retreat youth ranch
Tribune Star, Jan 8, 2024, by: David Kronke

Vigo County's John Plasse was named "Sheriff of the Year" by leaders of the Indiana Sheriffs' Youth Ranch, a training retreat in Brazil, [Indiana] for future law enforcement officers, at-risk kids, young witnesses, and victims of crime. Plasse served as the group's volunteer board president and heads ISYR's fundraising, construction and programming.

"Under Vigo County Sheriff John Plasse's leadership this past year, ISYR saw tremendous growth and student engagement," Minier said. Minier said Plasse's first year as board president saw new facilities and new partnerships come to fruition:

- Construction of the United Auto Workers 933 Youth Cabin and the Dr. Everett Clark Youth Cabin. Each bunkhouse will accommodate 10 students and two adult chaperones during overnights, weekend retreats and weeklong leadership academies.
- Hosting Indiana's first-ever joint Sheriff & Police Cadet Academy for high school students wanting to pursue public safety careers in Clay, Parke, Putnam and Vigo counties.
- Hosting college students from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, DePauw, Eastern Illinois, Indiana, Indiana State and Vincennes universities to expand higher education partnerships. Dozens of ROTC cadets bivouacked at ISYR where they learned first aid, radio communications, land navigation, and other leadership skills.

Sheriff Plasse was a graduate from the School of Criminology and Security Studies and had contributed often to events for the School and students. Sheriff Plasse passed away in July of 2024.



It was with great sadness the School of Criminology and Security Studies learned of the passing of Criminology Alum and supporter Sheriff John Plasse. Sheriff Plasse remained involved with the school of criminology over the years, coming back to campus to talk with students about law enforcement and his career since graduating. Please see his obituary below.

John Plasse's Obituary

Sherriff John A. Plasse, 60, of Terre Haute, passed away Wednesday July 24, 2024, surrounded by his family. John was born October 2, 1963 in Terre Haute to Eli John Plasse and Violet Marie Traverse Plasse. He was a 1982 graduate of Terre Haute North High School and a 1990 graduate of Indiana State University. Sheriff Plasse was elected Vigo County Sheriff in 2018 and began his term of office January 1, 2019, was reelected and began his second term in 2023. Sheriff Plasse retired in November 2017 as a Sergeant Major with the 38th Infantry Division in the Indiana Army National Guard where he served for 34 years. Sergeant Major Plasse has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (9), National Defense Medal (2), Afghanistan Campaign Medal (3), Global War On Terrorism Medal, Expeditionary Medal, Global War On Terrorism Medal, among many others. Sergeant Major Plasse was inducted into the Association of Marksman in the National Guard Shooters Hall of Fame in 2018 and is one of the few double distinguished military marksmen in the world. Sheriff Plasse retired from the Terre Haute Police Department in 2018 after 33 years of service including his last 11 years as Chief of Police. During this time, he was assigned to the uniform division, criminal investigation division, juvenile division and Vigo County Drug Task Force. While with the Terre Haute Police Department, Sheriff Plasse was promoted to Sergeant and Lieutenant and later appointed as Chief of Police January 1, 2008. He was honored as The Exchange Club of Terre Haute Officer of the Year in 2001, First Financial Bank Officer of the Year in 2003, and received various awards during his tenure at THPD. Sheriff Plasse was or has been a member of the following organizations: United Way of the Wabash Valley Board Member, Boys and Girls Club of Terre Haute Board Member, Happiness Bag Board Member, Hamilton Center Board Member, Indiana Sheriff's Association Board Member, Indiana Sheriff's Youth Ranch Vice President, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 972 Life Member, American Legion Post 104, AMVETS, Fraternal Order of Police (Past President), Association of Marksman in the National Guard, National Sheriff's association and International Association of Chiefs of Police. Sheriff Plasse is a past member of Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police, National Tactical Officers Association, International Tactical Officers Training Association, International Union of Police Officers Association, International Police Training and Consulting Services, LLC.

Continued on next page.

Continued from prior page.

Since serving as Sheriff, he has been awarded 2021 Wabash Valley recovery community public official of the year as well as an Honor Guard recognition in 2024. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Julie Plasse. He is survived by one son, Ryan Plasse of Terre Haute, two daughters; Bryttany Dunkley (Jeremy) of New Goshen and Dylaney Plasse of Terre Haute. One brother, Robert David Plasse (Diane) of Louisiana, one sister, Carol Jones of Terre Haute. Three grandchildren, Brynley, Bryley and Bentley, as well as his Mother and Father in-law, Georgia and Jerry McIntyre of Terre Haute. He is also survived by his sister in-law and brother in-law, Jennifer and Mark Boyll, nephew, Jaden Brown (Sarah) as well as nieces; Kyleigh Shell (Trevor), and Kaleigh Riley (Corey) as well and several additional nieces and nephews. Services are Monday, July 29, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Hulman Civic Center, 200 North 8th Street, Terre Haute, IN 47809. Visitation will be from 12:00 p.m. Noon until service time at 2:00 p.m. Burial will follow at Highland Lawn Cemetery in Soldiers Circle. Pastor Billy Joe Henry will be officiating. The family suggests that in lieu of flowers that contributions be made to your local Animal Rescue of choice. Arrangements under the direction of Greiner Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.greinerfuneralhome.com

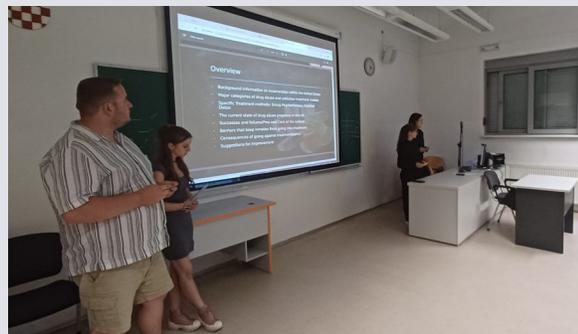


School of Criminology and Security Studies Students Study Abroad

In early summer 2024, ten ISU crim students studied abroad with Professor Decker at the University of Zagreb in Croatia. During their two weeks at the University of Zagreb, the students went on field trips, heard lectures from local experts, and did research presentations for classmates from the University of Zagreb. Following their two week, intensive class, the group enjoyed two weeks of European travel, visiting Ljubljana, Slovenia; Budapest, Hungary; Bratislava, Slovakia; Vienna, Austria; and Munich, Germany. Highlights of the post-class travel included many historical sites, churches, and the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site.



Criminology study abroad group touring the Croatian Police Academy.



Criminology master's student Taylor Gray and undergraduate students Ross Hendrickson, Ellie Martz and Ash Kopf at the University of Zagreb giving a research presentation on drug treatment in U.S. prisons and jails.

School of Criminology and Security Studies

Students Study Abroad



Criminology master's student Shelby Koch and undergraduate students Kyandra Zerrusen, and Chelsey Varnadore at the University of Zagreb giving a research presentation on drug treatment programs in U.S. probation and parole.



Criminology master's student William Hamlin and undergraduate students Alex Clark and Eliza Montgomery at the University of Zagreb giving a research presentation on drug courts in the U.S.

School of Criminology and Security Studies
Students Study Abroad



Criminology study abroad group touring the Lepoglava maximum security prison in Croatia.



Criminology study abroad group eating at a restaurant run by the Lepoglava maximum security prison to provide vocational opportunity for prisoners.

The School of Criminology and Security Studies Recruiting Efforts Continue

The School of Criminology and Security Studies continues recruiting efforts at area high schools, two-years colleges, and various other events. Our Criminology Preview Days have proven to be highly successful with students and parents. We now host two such events each semester, attended by dozens of prospective students and parents who get to meet with faculty, tour the Cyber-Intel and Crime lab, have lunch, and tour campus. We would like to thank our admissions department for their assistance with organizing these events. Other events include visits to area high schools, often for college-career days or actual classroom visits to talk about our three majors and programs.



Dr. Gallagher and Senior Instructor Travis Behem at Terre Haute North High School Career-College Day event.



Dr. Gallagher and Dr. James at the Mattoon High School College Days.



Dr. James, Senior Instructor Behem, and Dr. Gallagher at Bedford North Lawrence High School. They spoke with students who were studying criminology and interested in pursuing their education further.

Recruiting



Pictured front row, L-R: Dr. Chris Gallagher, Graduate student Carla Morales and Undergrad student Riley Murphy attending the College Day Event at Sullivan High School.



Pictured L-R, Dr. Gallagher and Dr. Grimes at the Monroe County College Fair.

Student Awards

The School of Criminology and Security Studies 2024 outstanding senior is Monica Julissa Cuadra. She is the daughter of Ignacio and Agustina Cuadra and hails from East Chicago, Indiana. Monica is a double major in Criminology and Criminal Justice and Cybercriminology and Security Studies. While maintaining a 3.8 GPA, Monica has also been an intern in the School of Criminology and Security Studies' cutting-edge new digital forensic units. From January 2022 through February of 2023, she was one of the original interns in the Jail Intelligence Unit (JIU) unit. As an intern in the JIU unit, Monica was trained to use a variety of software to review the jail calls and "chirps." Monica then advanced to work with the High-Tech Crime Unit (HTCU) which performs digital forensics on real-world criminal cases to assist area police agencies. As such, she is a sworn digital forensic investigator for the Vigo County Prosecutor's Office and has investigative powers while on duty. Monica has also been a member of the Academy of Criminal Justice Association's professional co-ed fraternity, Lambda Alpha Epsilon (LAE) since fall 2021. She is currently president of LAE where her duties include creating events, overseeing members attendance at meetings, and arranging for guest speakers to present to the group.



Other Criminology and Security Studies scholarships awarded this year are:

The Officer Brent Long and Fallen Officers Memorial Scholarship given to an Indiana resident, Criminology major who intends to pursue a career in law enforcement. This year's recipient is Terre Haute North graduate and Vigo County resident Zoe Cunningham, who has interned with the Terre Haute Police department and plans to pursue a career in policing.

Continued on Next Page.

Student Awards

Continued from Prior Page.

The Michael E. Reese Excellence in Criminology Scholarship given to a student passionate about Criminology who is pursuing a Degree in Criminology & Criminal Justice, Cybercriminology and Security and Security Studies, or Intelligence Analysis in the College of Arts and Sciences with preference given to first generation students from Lake County, Indiana. This year's recipient is Jamya Applewhite, a sophomore 21st Century Scholar from Merrillville, IN.

The Dr. William Nardini Memorial Scholarship in Criminology & Criminal Justice is given to a junior or senior Criminology major in honor of Dr. Nardini who was a long-time professor and department chair. This year's recipient is Logan Streible, a junior from Atwood, IL.

Miss Indiana State University

Congratulations to Junior Suzy Head who was crowned as the 2025 Miss Indiana State University. She is an Intelligence Analysis major in the School of Criminology and Security Studies. The Competition was held on October 25, 2024.

Faculty News

Dr. Robert Girod has published two peer-reviewed journal articles in Summer of 2024.

"Understanding War Crimes Trials;" *Global Security and Intelligence Studies Journal*; (Summer 2024).

"Clausewitz Philosophy 'On War': A Comparison of Patton and Rommel;" *Global Security and Intelligence Studies Journal*; (Summer 2024).

Dr. Girod's seventh book, *Law Enforcement and American Policing: History, Culture, Methods, Practices, Tactics, and Techniques*, Kendall-Hunt Publishing; 2024. ISBN: 9798385138845, is also being released this year, in August 2024

School of Criminology and Security Studies Career Fair

On April 1, 2024 the School of Criminology and Security Studies hosted its annual career fair. We had a strong agency turnout, hosting over 50 agencies. Students were able to talk with agency representatives about careers in various fields within criminology and criminal justice, as well as learn about what these agencies are looking for in employees. We would like to thank the staff at the Sycamore Banquet Center for making this event a success as well the ISU Career Center staff.



An Update on the Student Investigative Internships at Indiana State University

High Tech Crime Unit

Since 2021 select students in the School of Criminology & Security Studies have processed hundreds of cases involving digital forensic evidence for local police agencies in hundreds of cases. This evidence has been used in several different types of felony investigations, ranging from crimes against children to homicide cases. While these cases were originally limited to agencies here in Vigo County, a significant grant through the state has established this unit as one of ten High Tech Crime Units in Indiana. As a result, these investigators now process digital evidence for cases from eight different counties in the Wabash Valley: Vigo, Clay, Putnam, Parke, Vermillion, Sullivan, Fountain, and Hendricks.



The state grant also makes this the only paid internship among our four investigative units. These students are sworn investigators through the Vigo County Prosecutor's Office, and gain both certifications and investigative experience that have proven invaluable when they enter the job market upon graduation.

Jail Intelligence Unit

Since 2022 select students in the School of Criminology & Security Studies have been collecting and analyzing jail intelligence. With very few exceptions, this unit is dedicated to felony investigations in Vigo County, and has assisted detectives with the Terre Haute Police Department, the Vigo County Sheriff's Office, and the Indiana State University Police Department. These investigations have encompassed a wide variety of felony cases, and have included several homicide investigations. Feedback from local agencies and from the Vigo County Prosecutor's Office on the quality of work done within this unit has been extremely positive.



Although these students are not sworn investigators, they do sign non-disclosure agreements and conduct their investigative work in a secure facility. Students must interview successfully for this unit, and must maintain a 3.5 GPA to remain in the unit. This is an unpaid, but highly-rewarding internship. And with very few exceptions, experience in the Jail Intelligence Unit is required before students will be considered for either the High Tech Crime Unit or the Cold Case Homicide Unit.

Continued on next page.

Continued from prior page.

Cold Case Homicide Unit

Since 2023 a very select number of students in the School of Criminology & Security Studies have been collaborating with detectives from the Vigo County Sheriff's Office on specific cold case homicide investigations. A new homicide case is chosen each semester, and these students focus on creating a digital case file from old documents using ocular recognition software. They also meet with case detectives every two weeks during the semester, until concluding their efforts with a completed digital case file and a full presentation of the case to both detectives and local prosecutors.



These students are sworn investigators through the Vigo County Prosecutor's Office, and must maintain a 3.5 GPA to remain in the unit. This is an unpaid, but highly-rewarding internship. Each student is limited to two semesters in the unit, in order to provide this unique investigative experience to as many as possible.

Human Trafficking and Intelligence Unit

Since 2023 select students in the School of Criminology & Security Studies have been using open source intelligence to investigate instances of human trafficking. This unit was originally made possible by a grant from Operation Underground Railroad (OUR), which funded both computer equipment and lab space. In addition to human tracking, this unit has also provided intelligence and support to deputy prosecutors prior to voir dire in major trials.



Much like those students working in the Jail Intelligence Unit, these students are not sworn investigators, but also sign non-disclosure agreements and conduct their investigative work in a secure facility. Students must interview successfully for this unit, and must maintain a 3.5 GPA to remain in the unit. Also like the JIU, this unit is a stepping stone for those interested in either the High Tech Crime Unit or the Cold Case Homicide Unit.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Indiana State University has as its major goal to discover new knowledge and to assist the community in solving problems while providing all of its students a sound liberal arts education with a focus on understanding criminal behavior, the criminal justice system, mechanisms of social control and their relationship to society. Students electing to major in criminology and criminal justice are prepared for careers in the criminal justice field as well as for entry into law school or a graduate program in criminology or a related discipline. The wide variety of courses offered enables each student to determine his or her program in terms of interests and aspirations. An integral part of the criminology and criminal justice program is the internship which allows students to gain a clearer understanding of criminal justice agencies.

Indiana State University School of Criminology and Security Studies
207 Holmstedt Hall
Terre Haute, IN 47809
Phone: 812-237-2192
Fax: 812-237-2407
E-mail: ISU-Criminology@indstate.edu

ALUMNI CORNER

Our alumni continue to make a difference and influence their communities. For example, alums may be found serving in numerous local, state, federal and international police and corrections positions, or working as probation and parole officers, attorneys, academics, and other jobs. Many have served as judges, wardens, sheriffs, police chiefs, or directors of prominent positions such as NCIS, Regional FBI, Department of Homeland Security and other notable positions. We are proud of our alumni, their achievements, and the impact they have made both domestically and globally.

We want to hear from our Alumni. Please contact us and tell us how Indiana State University influenced your career since graduation. Also let us know if you would be interested in coming back to campus to speak to our students. Email Travis.Behem@indstate.edu with your story.

We are looking forward to bringing back guest speakers and events for the spring of 2025. Please check our webpage for future updates. www.indstate.edu/cas/ccj.

Keep up with all the current news and information from ISU and the School of Criminology and Security Studies.

See next page for easy to scan QR codes to connect and follow us.

The School of Criminology and Security Studies newsletter is produced and designed by Senior Instructor Travis Behem. Editing: Travis Behem, Dr. DeVere Woods. Dr. Christian Gallagher. Contributors: Professor Lisa Decker, Senior Instructor Travis Behem, Dr. Gallagher, Dr. Jason James, and Dr. Dodge.

Comments and corrections may be emailed to: Travis.Behem@indstate.edu.

Connect with us on Social

School of Criminology and Security Studies



Criminology &
Criminal Justice



Intelligence Analysis



Cybercriminology &
Security Studies



CONTACT

School of Criminology and Security
Studies
Holmstedt Hall 210
620 Chestnut St
Terre Haute, IN 47809
Phone: 812.237.2192
Fax: 812-237-2407
ISU-Criminology@indstate.edu



facebook

LinkedIn

twitter

