



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

USASK.CA/CFBSJS

Annual Report 2019-2020

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Message from the Director

After ten years of extraordinary achievements, Professor Steve Wormith left us much too early when he died in March 2019. May his soul rest in peace. He was the face we knew of the Centre for Forensic Behavioral Science and Justice Studies. Dr. Lisa Jewell stepped into those large shoes and navigated the path of transition successfully. On January 1, 2020, I assumed the position of Director of the Centre. Despite being one of the longest serving Executive Committee members of the Centre, representing the College of Medicine, the learning curve as Director was still steep. Supported by the excellent and competent staff and efficient Executive Committee members (H. Heavin – College of Law, C. Peternelj-Taylor – College of Nursing, R. Spiteri (College of Arts & Science), I am confident that an expert touch from me will propel our goals and maintain, possibly accelerate, the progress made over the past years.

After meeting with most faculty members and staff of the Centre, we embarked on a repositioning exercise. With help from an expert, we have started down the path of strategic planning. Thank you all for participating in the one hour discussions that gave birth to our strategic planning process. In the coming days, we will interview our stakeholders and form a working group to analyze the information and move the process forward.

The collaborative foundation of the Centre taps into the benefit of interdisciplinary research. We are strengthening the partnership and establishing relationships with stakeholders with similar goals and ideals. We are currently exploring a mutually beneficial research relationship with the Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research (NEIHR). This is a model on how we can transform research in justice, crime and health.

To strengthen interaction and collaboration between faculty, Centre and partners, we are launching a newsletter to profile the research done by faculty with a strong social impact outcome. Our first newsletter is due in September and staff will contact you to participate in describing your expertise and impact relevant research. Thanks for your anticipated participation.

The Forensic Centre collaborated with CSC to address cognitive deficits among older offenders and those diagnosed with FASD. With partial funding from SHRF, we completed a study screening older offenders and are preparing to complete dementia assessments. This research is the foundation for assessment based discharge planning whose value is its evidence base and cost efficiency. Public safety featured prominently as outcome for research supported by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Policing and Corrections. The Mental Health Strategy Court evaluation identified cost savings and adequate support for participants and professionals. It is my sincere hope that the recommendations will be implemented. The variety of research topics funded by the Centre is evidence of the importance the Centre and its partners place on public safety enhanced through reduced victimization.

During the last six months we have increased our membership and I am pleased to welcome our new members. The excellent staff in the Centre continue to be productive during these times. Our Postdoctoral Fellow (PDF), Dr. Ashmini Kerodal completed her assignment with us and I am pleased to announce and introduce you to Dr. Bryce Stoliker, our new PDF. He is a

perfect match for us and I look forward to continuing to conduct impact related research, given his background.


Dr. Lisa Jewell's longstanding contribution to the Centre was acknowledged when the university approved her promotion to Research Associate. With her leadership and efforts we were able to keep to the deadlines for all of our many projects. Our research officer Davut Akca has brought a scholarly 'itch' to the Centre. In a short while he published two articles and has participated in at least three grant applications. Our operations have been stabilized since Lorrie Sorowski took the position of Centre Coordinator. Thanks to Rahim Oraji, previous Research Officer, for his dedication and support to Centre projects. The Centre is blessed to have dedicated staff, who desire to interact more fully with faculty members. The Centre website now has a new look, with groupings of our research areas for ease of navigation. We are continuing to modernize the site. Please forward your feedback to the Coordinator.

The Ministry of Policing and Corrections renewed our collaborative research agreement for five years (2020-2025). This is an extremely good thing towards maintaining the stability of our research projects. The tripartite agreement on the Saskatchewan Police Predictive Analytic Laboratory, with Saskatoon Police Service and the Ministry of Policing and Corrections, was also renewed for another five years. This pioneering work sets the Forensic Centre and its partners in a path to address many research questions.

The CSC has started a process that will eventually lead to an ethno culturally relevant risk assessment tool/process directed specifically for Indigenous offenders. I believe, if done well, the research will ultimately contribute to putting a 'dent' on the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the CJS. The Forensic Centre is an active member of the research team along with University of Regina. Collaborations such as this are needed for the interdisciplinary work we do.

Lastly, a big thank you to everyone helping to move the Centre forward, especially the excellent staff and students working on projects, even during the summer. The task of rebranding and focusing on research that impacts the lives of people and the society has begun and I invite you all to support the endeavor.

I hope you had a great summer and are looking forward to a productive fall.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Mela', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Mansfield Mela
Director of the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

Who We Are

The Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies was established at the University of Saskatchewan in 2011 to foster interdisciplinary research, education and community engagement related to crime, justice and corrections. The Centre draws on a wealth of expertise spread across the Colleges of Arts and Science, Law, Medicine and Nursing, and partnerships with the Correctional Service Canada and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections and Policing (formerly the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice). The Centre is a gateway to information, knowledge and inquiry into the vast and multifaceted social, justice and health-related issues that impact the criminal justice system and that influence the care, treatment and rehabilitation of offender populations, including but not limited to, Indigenous peoples, women and youth.

Centre Staff

Dr. Mansfield Mela, M.Sc., FRCPC, MBBS, FWACP, MRC (Psych), Director of the CFBSJS and Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Saskatchewan/forensic psychiatrist, Regional Psychiatric Centre, Saskatoon. Dr. Mela's research focuses on biopsychosocial aspects of forensic mental health, with specific interests in the areas of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, forgiveness, spirituality, and ADHD. He brings a clinical perspective and helps guide the idea of utilizing knowledge from research in conjunction with other individuals' contribution to achieving evidence-based practice.

Lisa Jewell, B.Sc. (Hon.) Psychology, M.A. and Ph.D. in Applied Social Psychology, joined the Centre as a Research Officer in 2013 and is currently the Research Associate. Dr. Jewell has 15 years of experience with research and program evaluation and is a credentialed evaluator through the Canadian Evaluation Society. Through her research, Dr. Jewell endeavors to ameliorate social conditions that detrimentally affect marginalized populations. She is the Principal Investigator of numerous Centre projects, including the Northeast Youth Violence Reduction Partnership.

Joanie Crandall (on leave), B.A. (Hon.), B.Ed., M.A. Ph.D., Centre Coordinator, provides management, research and administrative support for all Centre activities. Prior to joining the Centre in 2014, Dr. Crandall worked in instructional design and educational media and as an educator and administrator with Grades K-12 students in both urban and remote (First Nations and Inuit) communities as well as at the college and university level. She is also a facilitator of Instructional Skills Workshops and a lecturer for the College of Education.

Lorrie Sorowski, Acting Centre Coordinator, provides management, research, and administrative support for all of the Centre's activities. Lorrie is currently completing a Bachelor of Commerce degree. Since 2003, she has worked on campus in several administrative roles with the Colleges of Education, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, and Law joining the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies in 2019.

Rahim Oraji –Bachelor Degree in Physics, Master’s Degree in Physics (Cosmology and General Relativity), Master’s Degree in Agricultural and Bioresource Engineering (USask), Master’s Degree in Computer Science (USask), Ph.D. in Physics and Engineering Physics (USask). Dr. Oraji was with the Centre as a Research Officer until September 2019 when he moved to British Columbia to start as a faculty member at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT). His area of expertise is mainly machine learning, data mining, and data analysis.

Davut Akca, B.A. Criminal Justice, M.A. Criminology, Ph.D. Forensic Psychology, joined the Centre as a Research Officer in 2019. Dr. Akca’s research interests fall within the domains of investigative interviewing, risk terrains of criminal events and crime mapping, radicalization, Islamophobia, hate crimes, and criminal network analysis. Before his graduate studies, he served as a ranked police officer and crime analyst in the Anti-Organized Crimes Department of the Turkish National Police for five years.

Ashmini Kerodal, B.Sc. in Management Studies, M.Sc. in Criminology and Criminal Justice, and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice, joined the Centre in 2018 as a postdoctoral fellow. Dr. Kerodal’s research utilizes complex data management and statistical analysis to study far-right extremism and hate crimes, evaluate criminal justice programs, validate and reduce racial disparities in risk assessment instruments, and develop strategies to reduce the use of jail and pretrial detention on low-risk populations. She is the lead researcher on the Older Offenders Dementia study, RPC’s FASD Pilot Project evaluation, RPC’s Admissions Study and the Saskatoon Mental Health Strategy Court cost and outcome evaluation.

The Centre was led by **J. Stephen Wormith**, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Psychology and former Research Chair in Forensic Psychology (1999-2005) until his death on March 28, 2019. Dr. Wormith’s research interests pertained to the assessment and treatment of offenders, including particular offender groups such as young offenders, sexual offenders, and gangs. He consulted with corrections departments in Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Canada; served in court as an expert witness on matters of offender assessment and treatment; and conducted training in offender risk assessment in Canada and internationally.

Centre Consultants

Daniel Anvari, B.Sc. in Mathematics, M.Sc. in Mathematics and Education, M.Phil. in Mathematics, Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics (System Dynamics), joined the Centre as a half-time Research Officer in March 2015 and remains as a consultant to the Centre. Dr. Anvari also possesses a Master’s certificate in Project Management. His research experience mostly focuses on predictive data analytics, business intelligence, and computer modeling, particularly applications of Multiple-Criteria Decision Making Algorithms and Fuzzy-Logic based Decision Support Systems.

Carolyn Camman, B.A. (Hon.) in Psychology and Criminology and M.A. in Applied Social Psychology, joined the Centre as a Research Officer for 2013-2015. Carolyn has over six years of experience conducting evaluation and applied research in a variety of areas, specializing in working with criminal justice-related organizations in Saskatchewan. Their main interests are in program evaluation and organizational capacity building. In 2015, Carolyn began working as a consultant for the Centre providing evaluation support and expertise for the Restorative Action Program.

Myles Ferguson, Ph.D. in Psychology, J.D., provides research support to the Centre. Dr. Ferguson has completed reports for several governmental and community-based organizations that address issues of community concern including public health and safety, public policy, and Indigenous issues and forensics, among other areas. He also has an interest in program evaluation research and has participated in several evaluation projects involving programs for at-risk Indigenous youth.

Medhi Ghasemi, Ph.D. in Algebra and Optimization joined the Centre as a Postdoctoral Fellow in 2015 and since transitioned into being a consultant to the Centre. He has a B.Sc. in Mathematics and a M.Sc. in Logic with a focus on complexity classes of computable functions. Dr. Ghasemi's research experience is mainly on applications of the moment problem in optimization, machine learning, statistical learning and data analysis and has worked on the Missing Persons Project.

Susan Mulligan, B.A. (Hon.) in Political Studies and M.A. in City Planning, joined the Centre from January 2017 to June 2018 as a Research Officer. Ms. Mulligan worked for the Institute of Urban Studies (IUS) at the University of Winnipeg as a Senior Research Associate for ten years, examining inner city and community development issues. Since 2010, Susan has worked as a consultant providing research and development services to a wide range of agencies, primarily located in Manitoba.

Chad Nilson, B.S. and M.A. in Criminal Justice, M.S. and Ph.D. in Political Science, joined the Centre as the Inaugural Research Fellow for 2012-2015. As a consultant, he is actively involved in a number of the Centre's research and evaluation activities, including the development of process and output indicators for the Community Mobilization initiative in Prince Albert and Saskatchewan's Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime strategy. Dr. Nilson has a diverse history of research, evaluation and program development for federal, provincial and First Nations government.

Centre Members

Centre members are recruited from faculty and/or other researchers within the University of Saskatchewan community who are actively involved in justice and forensic-related research and practice. Government and community partners are also welcome to hold Centre membership and participate in Centre activities and events, although only University of Saskatchewan faculty are able to elect members and hold positions on the Centre Executive Committee.

The Centre is proudly comprised of faculty members representing the Departments of Psychology, Sociology, Computer Science, Indigenous Studies (College of Arts and Science), and the Colleges of Education, Law, Medicine, and Nursing, as well as community members who have ties to the University of Saskatchewan. The breadth of its membership is a testament to the vast array of expertise that exists at the University of Saskatchewan and in the community and to the strong potential for meaningful interdisciplinary engagement and collaboration. Information about faculty and community members can be found [HERE](#).

Executive Committee

The Centre Executive Committee consists of the Director and faculty representatives elected from and by the Centre's faculty membership. The Executive Committee works with the Director to develop and implement strategies to foster interdisciplinary research, promote public awareness, engage external partners, encourage faculty and student involvement, as well as to approve processes related to internal programs, and oversee Centre budget and finances. Current Executive Committee members include:

- **Heather Heavin, B.Sc., LLB, LLM., College of Law.** Professor Heavin is the Associate Dean, Research & Graduate Studies at the College of Law. She graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a Bachelor of Science (Hons.) in 1992 and Bachelor of Laws (Magna cum laude) in 1996. After clerking to Chief Justice Bayda of the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal, she practiced with the firm of MacPherson Leslie and Tyerman in their Regina office. She completed her Masters of Law at Harvard in 2003 and has been on faculty at the University of Saskatchewan since that time. Professor Heavin is an award-winning teacher and is engaged in teaching and researching in the areas of international trade law, business law and dispute resolution, contract law and oil and gas law.
- **Cindy Peternelj-Taylor, RN, B.ScN., M.Sc., Ph.D.(c), DF-LAFN, College of Nursing.** Professor Peternelj-Taylor has extensive experience in professional role development for students and nurses who practice with vulnerable populations in forensic mental health and correctional settings. Professor Peternelj-Taylor's research interests include issues that emerge within the therapeutic relationship. She is the Editor of the Journal of Forensic Nursing and the Chair of the Custody and Caring Conference.
- **Dr. Raymond Spiteri, Computer Science, College of Arts & Science.** Professor Spiteri obtained a Ph.D. from UBC in Mathematics (Institute of Applied Mathematics) in 1997. He obtained a B.Sc. (Hons.) in Applied Mathematics (Theoretical Physics) from UWO in 1990. His areas of research are numerical analysis, scientific computing, and high-performance computing. As a numerical analyst, he has been afforded the luxury of being able to be an equal opportunity employer. He actively collaborates with physicists, chemists, geologists, and engineers of various flavours as well as psychologists, criminologists, and marketers. He also has a long record of industry collaboration with companies, both large and small. Professor Spiteri is also the President-Elect of the Canadian Applied and Industrial Mathematics Society. He was Principal Investigator for Saskatchewan and member of the Executive Committee for the WestGrid High-Performance Computing Consortium from 2005 to 2014. He held the position of Mitacs Regional Scientific Director for Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba from 2008 to 2012. He was also a Mitacs Project Leader from 2004 to 2012.

Advisory Board

Established during 2011-12, the Centre Advisory Board consists of invited University and non-University representatives and is Chaired by the Vice-Dean, Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work, College of Arts and Science, as designate of the Vice-President Research, University of

Saskatchewan. The Board provides input and advice on a range of issues fundamental to the long-term viability of the Centre, including but not limited to research and programming initiatives, policies and partnerships.

Board members include:

- **Dr. Jack Gray (Chair)**, Vice-Dean Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work, College of Arts and Science
- **Ms. Delphine Gossner**, Director of Applied Research and Development, Research Implementation Branch, Government of Saskatchewan
- **Dr. Camelia Adams**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, College of Medicine
- **Dr. Olajide Adelugba**, Psychiatrist and Clinical Director, Regional Hospital, Regional Psychiatric Centre (Prairies), Correctional Service Canada
- **Mr. Morgan Hackl**, Chief, Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services, City of Saskatoon
- **Dr. Emily Snyder**, Faculty Member, Department of Indigenous Studies, College of Arts and Science
- **Sgt. Nick Smyth**, Manager, Regina Violent Crime Analysis Sections, RCMP F Division
- **Dr. Leslie Anne Keown**, A/Senior Research Manager, Research Branch, NHQ, CSC
- **Mr. Eric Michael**, Acting Executive Director, Willow Cree Healing Lodge
- **Dr. John Weekes**, Director, Research and Academics, Waypoint Research Institute, Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care
- **Members of the Executive Committee of the CFBSJS**

What We Do

The Centre seeks to foster and facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration across three domains: *Research and Evaluation*, *Education and Training*, and *Community Engagement*. A summary of Centre activities over the past year within each of these domains is provided below.

Information about current projects can also be found [HERE](#)

Research and Evaluation

Projects Sponsored by Correctional Service Canada (CSC)

Identifying Dementia and Other Age-Related Needs of Older Offenders at the Regional Psychiatric Centre

This study seeks to screen for dementia in older inmates and identify the extent to which CSC is accommodating older offenders institutionally and in discharge planning. The pilot project is taking place in RPC with the potential to expand the study to CSC facilities in the Prairie Region. This project is partially funded by a Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) Collaborative Innovation Development Grant (valued at \$49,976). A

proposal for Phase II to conduct a complete dementia assessment of inmates screened in Phase I is currently being developed.

Evaluation of the Regional Psychiatric Centre's Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Pilot Project

This project consists of an evaluation of the Regional Psychiatric Centre's Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) pilot project, which will assess inmates eligible for release within 12 months for FASD, and implement a treatment plan for all assessed inmates. This process evaluation includes interviews with the FASD pilot team, document review and case plan monitoring to determine the extent to which treatment recommendations are implemented, pre-/post analysis of inmates' incident reports, and analysis of the FASD assessment results.

Regional Psychiatric Centre Admissions Study

This study analyses 15 years of RPC admissions and discharge data to identify the inmate profile; changes to the inmate profile over the 15-year period; the effectiveness of RPC's psychiatric treatment; and differences in recidivism outcomes by age, ethnicity, diagnosis and gender. A manuscript is being developed with descriptive findings.

CSC-related Research

Several projects were identified as potential opportunities for the Centre and CSC to enhance their research collaboration. It is notable that several of the [faculty](#) and [student](#) research awards granted are in areas that are of relevance to CSC and other correctional agencies. Thus, although these projects are not conducted by the Centre *per se*, they represent additional corrections-related research that is jointly sponsored by CSC and the Centre, and that contributes to the shared goal of supporting research that is of potential benefit to CSC and its programs and services.

Projects Sponsored by Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections and Policing

Northeast Youth Violence Reduction Partnership

This Northeast Youth Violence Reduction Partnership (NYVRP) is a five-year project (April 2015 to March 2020) funded by the National Crime Prevention Strategy to develop and evaluate programs and services for high-risk youth in three northeastern Saskatchewan communities, with the aim of reducing youth offending and creating safer communities. To date, the Centre has completed a formative evaluation examining the first three years of the NYVRP and process evaluation examining the fourth year of the program. We are currently in the final stages of completing the final evaluation report, which examines program delivery, as well as the impact the program had on the youth and communities involved. This evaluation includes multiple data sources, including a document review,

database/casefile review, a community stakeholder survey, interviews with staff and stakeholders, a photoelicitation study with the youth, youth participant surveys, cost analysis, pre-post analysis of risk assessment data, and pre-post analysis of RCMP data.

Police Remand Risk Assessment Tool

This project involves the analysis of court and correctional data to assess the need for remand. Cleaning data, validating data, and matching data between court and correctional centres are completed. Furthermore, in order to facilitate extracting data from various datasets, an index table was created. Research on the project was complete July 2019 and the Centre has had some preliminary discussions on how it may help this project advance in the future. This project is ongoing.

Other Projects

Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Orientated Research Project at RPC

The Centre has been invited to participate in a project intended to result in patient-oriented research at CSC. The project is supported by the Saskatchewan Centre for Patient Oriented Research (SCPOR) and is in the initial stages of engaging CSC to participate in a patient-oriented research project. The team is currently focused on identifying competencies for conducting patient-oriented research in forensic settings and developing strategies for engaging forensic patients in research. This project is ongoing.

LSI-Machine Learning Research Project

We continue to work on the application of techniques from Machine Learning to the Level of Service Inventory (LSI) risk/needs assessment tool for recidivistic behaviour. We are happy to report the recent conditional acceptance of a paper to appear in a special issue of the prestigious journal Criminal Justice and Behavior on the life and contributions of Dr. Steve Wormith. We have demonstrated some ways in which human application of the LSI tool can be enhanced through machine learning. There is still much work to be done, and much work is on-going. Perhaps the most exciting direction is in analyzing the way in which a certain LSI score is reached to improve the predictive outcomes and determine more effective interventions.

Saskatoon Mental Health Strategy Court Evaluation: Phase 2

The project includes two parts as follows: 1) a process evaluation utilizing surveys and interviews conducted with professionals involved in the Saskatoon Mental Health Strategy (MHS) Court; and 2) a pre-/post cost and outcome evaluation analyzing data on the initial cohort of the MHS Court obtained from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections and Policing, the Saskatoon Health Region, and Saskatoon Police Service. The technical reports for the process evaluation, as well as the cost and outcome evaluation are complete and available on the Centre's website.

Saskatchewan Crime Survey

During 2014, the Centre developed and administered the Saskatchewan Crime Survey to examine Saskatchewan residents' perceptions of crime, feelings of safety and fear, and victimization experiences. To provide insight into the dark figure of crime (i.e., the number of crimes that go unreported), the survey also explored whether respondents had reported any crimes experienced to the police and their reasons for not doing so, where applicable. The Saskatchewan Crime Survey was re-administered in 2016 with the help of the Social Sciences Research Laboratories (SSRL) on campus. Both the 2014 and 2016 surveys were partially funded by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police 'F' Division. Data analysis of these surveys is ongoing in many formats (e.g., a Psychology honour's thesis project in April 2019 used the SK Crime Survey data and focused on fear of crime).

Risk Factors for Youth Violence and Gang Involvement: Phase 2

The Centre is working on a meta-analysis and meta-synthesis related to the major risk factors associated with the onset and maintenance of youth violence and youth gang involvement for three age groups of interest: 6-11, 12-17, and 18-24. The portion of the meta-analysis pertaining to gang involvement was presented at the 2019 Canadian Psychological Association convention. Final data clean-up of meta-analysis database is still underway. This project is ongoing.

Faculty Research Grants

The Centre offers research development grants with support from CSC to faculty members whose research investigates a topic of crime, justice or corrections from a social science, health science, legal, management or interdisciplinary perspective. In 2019/20, the following grants were awarded:

Criminogenic and Mental Health Needs in Individuals on 810 Recognizances in SK
Keira Stockdale, Adjunct, Department of Psychology and Terri Simon, Government of Saskatchewan
(\$10,000.00)

Locked Out: Exploring "Illegal Act" Evictions in Saskatchewan
Sarah Buhler, College of Law
(\$8,263.00)

Examining Online Hate Speeches in and about Saskatchewan: A Computational Linguistics Perspective
Zhi Li, Department of Linguistics and Roy Ka-Wei Lee, Department of Computer Science
(\$9,000.00)

Education and Training

Graduate Student Research Awards

The Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies provides support for University of Saskatchewan graduate students whose academic and/or research interests pertain to the areas of crime, justice, and corrections. Project-specific funding helps student researchers cover the direct cost of research activities.

Students granted a Research Award during the 2019-20 year are shown below:

Research Award Recipients 2019-20

University Athletics and Sexual Assault: Can Bystander and Consent Education Promote Change? (2020)

Brittany Thiessen, M.A. student, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Science
(\$5,722.40)

An Examination of Risk-Need Profiles among Saskatchewan NCR Acquittees (2020)

Sydney Rine, Ph.D. student, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Science
(\$5,980.00)

Using a Story Completion Task to Investigate Law Enforcement Personnel's Perceptions of Persons who Experience Intimate Partner Abuse (2020)

Kelsi Toews, Ph.D. student, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Science
(\$5,389.00)

A Community-based Approach Towards a gender-informed Mental Health Assessment Process for Women in Canadian Prisons (2020)

Maria Cruz, M.A. student, Department of Sociology, College of Arts and Science
(\$3,180.00)

Mother and Father Blaming in Child Sexual Abuse Cases (2020)

Jessica Zagrodney, Ph.D. student, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Science
(\$1,000.00)

Technological Developments: Impact on the Interface of Human Interactions (2020)

Mohammad Abdulai, Ph.D. student, Department of Sociology, College of Arts and Science
(\$5,380.00)

Toward a Greater Understanding of the Assessment, Prevention, and Psychological Correlates of Animal Sexual Abuse (2020)

Alexandra Zidenberg, Ph.D. student, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Science
(\$2,250.00)

Postgraduate Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections

In collaboration with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections and Policing, the Centre established a Postgraduate Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections at the University of Saskatchewan in 2012. Targeted to senior managers employed in the field of corrections, this two-year applied training program emphasizes advanced knowledge and professional skill development and evidence-based practice in the areas of offender assessment, case management, clinical supervision, program evaluation and research. Program instruction is shared by Senior Clinical Directors from the Ministry of Corrections and Policing, as Professional Affiliates of the Department of Psychology.

Undergraduate and Graduate Research Training and Supervision

During 2019-20, as usual annually, the Centre contributed to the training and supervision of several undergraduate and graduate students from multiple disciplines. The students gained experience with hands-on data collection, analysis and research report writing experience and contributed to the successful completion of these projects.

Community Engagement: Fostering Academic and Public Dialogue

Centre Website

The Centre's website is a key means of further engaging with the local, national and international criminal justice and research communities. The website contains information on the Centre members' research interests, Centre funding programs, events, past and current projects and reports, local news stories and links to Centre members' media presence. The website was recently completely revamped by graduate student Mohammad Abdulai, Ph.D. student in the Department of Sociology, College of Arts & Science. View the website [HERE](#).

Violence and Aggression Symposium

Each year, the University of Saskatchewan, in conjunction with the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Correctional Service Canada, hosts either the Violence and Aggression Symposium or the International Custody and Caring Conference. These alternating conferences bring together researchers and professionals working in the criminal justice, corrections, and forensic mental health fields, and provide opportunities to explore current theories, research and practice related to the care, treatment and rehabilitation of offenders and issues unique to working in forensic and correctional environments.

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Violence and Aggression Symposium in Dr. Steve Wormith's memory under the themes of Risk Assessment and Trauma-Informed Care was cancelled and rescheduled to June 13-15, 2021. The planning committee had worked hard since summer 2019 and, thankfully, much of the [2020 program](#) will be carried forward.

Conference Sponsorship – Custody and Caring

In October, 2019, the 16th Biennial International Custody and Caring Conference on the Nurse's Role in the Criminal Justice System was held in Saskatoon. Chaired by Prof. Cindy Peternelj-Taylor, College of Nursing, the 2019 theme was *Social Justice in Forensic Mental Health and Correctional Nursing* and featured keynote speakers Francoise Mathieu, co-Executive Director of TEND and author of The Compassion Fatigue Workbook, and author Pete Earley. The Centre is proud to have provided financial sponsorship for this event and to host an exhibitor booth that provides another opportunity for Centre staff and students to highlight recent Centre projects and network with conference speakers and delegates.

Technical Reports

Jewell, L. M., Acka, D., Mulligan, S., & Wormith, J. S. (2019). *Northeast Youth Violence Reduction Partnership (NYVRP) Process Evaluation: April 2018 – March 2019*. Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies—University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK.

Mathias, K., Zidenberg, A., Florchinger, C., Smith, B., Jewell, L. M., Wormith, J. S., & Luther, G. (2019). *Professionals' Perceptions of the Saskatoon Mental Health Strategy (MHS) Court*. Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies—University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK.

Public Forum 2020

The Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies and College of Law co-hosted the 2020 Public Forum/Lecture on Monday January 20, 2020. The theme was [*Developments in Problem-Solving Courts*](#) with keynotes The Honourable Judge Marilyn Penner, Professor Glen Luther, and Dr. Mansfield Mela. After the public lecture there was a poster session related to the Mental Health Strategy (MHS) Court in Saskatoon led by Dr. Ashmini Kerodal (PDF, CFBSJS), Dr. Arlene Kent-Wilkinson (Professor, College of Nursing), Alexandra Zidenberg (graduate student, Department of Psychology) and Colleen Dell (graduate student, College of Nursing, recipient of a Graduate Student Research Award).

Funding

Summary of 2019-20 Revenues and Expenditures

The Centre receives financial support through a third 5-year Memorandum of Agreement with the Correctional Service Canada (2019-2024) and a 10-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections and Policing (2010-11 to 2019-20). The Centre receives various amounts of financial and in-kind support through from the Colleges of Arts and Science, Law, Medicine, and Nursing. The following table summarizes Centre revenues and expenditures over the period April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020.

**University of Saskatchewan
Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies
Statement of Operations and Change in Fund Balance
For The Year Ended March 31, 2020**

	March 2019-20
Revenue:	
Government of Canada	120,000.00
Government of Saskatchewan	237,000.00
Other Sources	33,750.00
College of Law	10,000.00
Total Revenue	<u>400,750.00</u>
Expenditures:	
Salaries & Benefits	307,981.33
Contracted Services	350.00
Indirect Costs & Overheads	25,601.58
Conference & Workshop Support	
Travel	2,564.66
Scholarships, Bursaries, Grants & Awards	23,257.54
Scholarships, Bursaries Refunded to the Centre	(65,795.73) *
Other Operational Expenditures	12,329.12
Total Expenditures	<u>306,288.50</u>
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>94,461.50</u> *
Balance, beginning of year	303,281.09
Balance	<u><u>397,742.59</u></u>

*Reflects a refund of Computer Science scholarships and bursaries paid for upfront by the CFBSJS in 2019.
Surplus excluding that refund is **\$28,665.77**.