



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

—
Institute of
Criminology
50th Anniversary
1966–2016

Sydney Institute of Criminology

Celebrating 50 Years



Sydney Institute of Criminology

Celebrating 50 Years of Innovation

The Sydney Institute of Criminology was established in 1966, making it the first research centre of criminology in Australia. Notwithstanding this significant achievement, itself a cause for celebration, for over its 50 years the Institute has been at the forefront of innovative and critical criminological, criminal law and criminal justice research, teaching and community engagement.

The institute's member profile has historically included a unique blend of criminologists and lawyers, and the ongoing strength of the Institute lies in the increased diversity of its members, who are now drawn from many schools and faculties across the University, including Law, Sociology and Socio-Legal Studies, Data Science, Gender Studies, Economics, Psychology and Business. This research community brings together an impressive range of expertise and interests, and, throughout the last half century, the Institute's distinctive member profile has enabled it to make significant contributions to research and teaching in criminology, criminal justice and criminal law.

In addition to the institute's unique team of teachers and researchers, it has engaged in an extraordinary range of activities to foster and further knowledge in criminology, criminal justice and criminal law. This includes conducting research seminars, public lectures, conferences, consultancies, discussion panels, professional development education, exhibitions, journal publication, book publication, public commentary and undergraduate and postgraduate education programs. Despite the changing higher education environment, the institute has continued to be a leading centre for innovative and relevant research, education and community engagement.

Corresponding to this great success, it has been a great honour and a privilege to steer the Institute through its 50th anniversary. Throughout 2016, the Institute held a suite of events showcasing the unique contributions of the Institute to criminal justice research, practice, policy and debate. Each event highlighted the diverse strengths of the Institute and its staff in bringing criminal justice issues to public discussion. Our 50th Anniversary Lecture Series demonstrated our support of theoretical innovation and critical research; our 50th Anniversary Panel Discussions illustrated our commitment to topical policy debates, and the importance of conjoining public education and publication; a spirit that has been alive since the inception of the Institute.

Moreover, these events all highlight our important relationships with Institute members, staff, friends, students, alumni and the wider criminal justice community. We are proud of our relationships with diverse sectors of the community. We thank everyone associated with the Institute for attending and supporting our 2016 events in celebration of these relationships, which are the very foundation of the institute's rich history and at the heart of our continued relevance.



Professor Thomas Crofts
Co – Director
Sydney Institute of Criminology



Dr Rebecca Scott Bray
Co – Director
Sydney Institute of Criminology



The Sydney Institute of Criminology

Located within the School of Law, the Sydney Institute of Criminology is unique in Australia for pioneering a multidisciplinary critical approach to criminology, criminal law and criminal justice. Standing at the leading edge of Australian criminological research, teaching and publishing, the Institute facilitates dialogue and debate on policy and practice. The Institute addresses broad community and professional needs for information, analysis and innovation.

The members of the Institute include the Directors, Deputy Directors, 26 academic research staff who teach the Master of Criminology program, and one administrative support staff. Our academic staff come from a number of faculties, including Law, Arts and Social Sciences, Psychology, and Economics, and offer an impressive and comprehensive range of expertise in all areas of criminological research and teaching, with particular expertise in the following areas:

- Criminal Responsibility
- Juvenile Justice, Youth Crime and Children and the Law
- Coronial Law
- Crime and Technology
- Forensic Psychology and Mental Health Law and Policy
- Crime Prevention
- Criminal Procedures
- Indigenous Criminal Justice
- Human Rights and Terrorism
- Hate Crime
- Art Crime

The Institute has a range of PhD students working in the areas as varied as video conferencing technologies in courts and prisons; drug law and policy; policing and media; and organised and financial crime.

While the Institute of Criminology sits within the Sydney Law School, the operation of the Institute in its anniversary year was overseen by the Co-Directors; Professor Thomas Crofts from the Law School and Dr Rebecca Scott Bray from the Faculty of Arts and Social Science. This cross-faculty relationship has developed the Institute's multidisciplinary approach to criminological, legal and social research issues. The Institute continues to build relationships with a number of other faculties and schools within the University, for instance, recently co-hosting the *Contemporary and Future Crime Trends Conference* with the School of Economics, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, and the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning.

The Institute's objectives are

- Creation of a research network which complements the State and National needs of the public and private sector, as well as a wide range of community interests
- Ongoing expansion of publishing activities within the Institute
- Continued diversification of public education predominantly through the provision of public and professional seminar series and media commentary
- Further review and improvement of teaching commitment and delivery

The Institute's main areas of activity are

- Coordination and presentation of a wide-range of applied and theoretical research initiatives concerned with crime and criminal justice in New South Wales and throughout Australia
- Publication of the journal *Current Issues in Criminal Justice*; Books and texts; Occasional papers; Seminar and Conference papers; and other related information
- Assistance with the delivery of courses in Criminology at postgraduate level
- Organisation of a program of public seminars on topics of contemporary concern in fields of crime and criminal justice
- Provision of service and information to corporate, individual, and student Members.



Our History

The Sydney Institute of Criminology was established in 1966, making it the first institute of its kind in Australia. Established in the prestigious Sydney Law School, Australia's first law school within the nation's oldest university, the Institute has a long-standing international reputation.

The Sydney Institute of Criminology was the 'brainchild' of Professor Kenneth Shatwell, Dean of the Sydney Law School from 1947 to 1973, who sought to create a space in which informed and extensive debate could occur on some of the most contemporary and contentious issues within the field of law and criminology. It was through Shatwell's own fascination of those for whom crime was a way of life, as well as a dissatisfaction with the operation of law within New South Wales which prompted an interest in establishing an institute of criminology. The Institute was also established, based on Shatwell's observation that the criminal justice system of New South Wales was 'ineffective, corrupt, and inequitable in its operation', thus requiring a democratic consideration of the implications of the legal procedures in place.¹ Shatwell intended on opening up the justice system in New South Wales to more intense public scrutiny and to allow for the informed discussion over legal practices and judicial procedures. Such a legacy remains with the Institute today as it stands at the leading edge of Australian criminological and legal research, teaching and publishing, and facilitates dialogue and debate on policy and practice.

The Institute was established during a time of growing awareness of the social utility of criminology and the need for a systematic approach in Australia to the study of crime and corrections, not just the legislation which governs them. The Institute sought to develop a multi-disciplinary approach to the study and discussion of the law, with the establishment of an Advisory Committee in May of 1965. Upon its inception the committee amounted to a 'Who's Who of the New South Wales judicial system', originally chaired by the Honourable Sir Leslie Herron, K.B.E, C.M.G. The Committee served to cement the Institute in the field of criminology and allowed for the opening up of membership to other disciplines. The Advisory Committee functions as a consultative body of the Institute, but is otherwise independent. Its members provide intellectual guidance and policy advice regarding the Institute's future direction and increasingly traverse various fields of expertise. The institute's contributions have been facilitated by a strong and committed Advisory Committee, which has helped support and steer the Institute, in addition to being realised through the excellent stewardship and outstanding efforts of dedicated past Directors, Co-Directors, Acting Directors and Deputy Directors (see Appendix 1).

Old Law School, Phillip Street, Sydney Home of the Institute from 1966 to 2009



New Law School, Camperdown Campus Home of the Institute from 2009

¹ Hawkins G (1990) 'Present at the Creation: The Inception and Development of the Institute of Criminology', *Current Issues in Criminal Justice*, p.149.

Activities of the Institute

The Sydney Institute of Criminology is committed to public education, industry engagement, scholarly research and to contribute to relevant policy debates.

CrimNet

CrimNet is Australia's only criminal justice e-newsletter, a lively forum and distribution network for criminal lawyers, criminologists and criminal justice professionals, practitioners, academics and students in Australia and overseas. Messages with information on criminology and criminal law related jobs, events, reports, research and dates are sent every week to over 2500 subscribers. The Institute also continues to grow its large social media following on both [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Publishing

From 1989 the Sydney Institute of Criminology has published *Current Issues in Criminal Justice* in association with the Sydney Law School Publishing Unit. The prestigious peer-reviewed Journal covers national and international issues and features 'Contemporary Comments' which are at the cutting edge of the crime and justice debate. *Current Issues in Criminal Justice* has been the forum for many key academic debates and attracts contributions from leading international experts in the field.

The Institute has also published a book series of [monographs](#), each of which is at the leading edge of criminological expertise and critical debate. Launched in 1992, the Monograph Series contains thirty books spanning subjects from corrections to international criminal justice systems to issues of multiculturalism and the law. Our authors are established academics in their field or new researchers who represent the exciting future of Australian and international criminology.

Research

Staff at the Sydney Institute of Criminology are active researchers with international reputations and many years of experience. Current areas of research include risk and security, hate crime, victims' experience of the criminal justice system, crime prevention, mental illness and criminal responsibility, amongst others. Institute staff are also actively engaged in applied research projects for organisations as diverse as AusAid, the Commonwealth Secretariat and State and local government authorities.

Public Education Seminars

Throughout its 50 years, the Institute of Criminology has maintained a commitment to public dialogue on critical criminal justice issues, hosting a remarkable diversity and number of public seminars and lectures. With the support of numerous sponsors, both public and private, the Institute continues to run numerous free public seminars annually. The Institute maintains the legacy put forward by Kenneth Shatwell that the Institute fulfil a community education function and foster public interest in topics of importance and concern in criminal justice.²

The multi-disciplinary and critical approach which the Sydney Institute of Criminology adopts in the discussion of contemporary legal issues is demonstrated by looking at the events held throughout the past 50 years, and it was in the spirit of community engagement on criminal justice matters that conjoined public education and publication from the earliest days of the Institute. The papers from public seminar events were published as the *Proceedings of the Institute of Criminology* for a period of just over 20 years (1967–1988). These proceedings detail a range of topics that occupied the criminal justice community throughout those years, including juvenile justice, gun control, sentencing, abortion, white collar crime, and mental health in the justice system, many of which remain pertinent today. The seminars held by the Sydney Institute of Criminology over that time have invoked calls for legislative reform, clarification on legal proceedings or legal specifications, an overhaul of penal objectives and increased participation of medical and psychological experts.

² Hawkins G (1990) 'Present at the Creation: The Inception and Development of the Institute of Criminology', *Current Issues in Criminal Justice*, p. 150.

To mark the Institute's 50th anniversary in 2016 the Institute's early seminar proceedings were [digitised](#). The digitisation of early Institute seminar proceedings enables greater access to an important criminological resource.

In recent years, the Institute's free public events have continued to address a range of topics including mental health, crime prevention, violence, young people and the law, and crime and custody statistics. Contextual commentary is paramount to the seminars and events held by the Institute. The diversity of the issues discussed, and the incorporation of various experts and scholars from a variety of fields, has been slowly built upon throughout the years of the Institute. Often following or occurring concurrent to legislative reform, or discussion, the seminars held by the Institute heavily centre on the major topics of the day, with a primary focus on injustices which require immediate critical attention.

Recordings and presentation materials from many of these events are available online at the Sydney eScholarship Repository, ensuring that people unable to attend these events are still able to be involved.

Internships

The Institute of Criminology's Internship Program is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students of the Sydney Law School and Socio-Legal Studies students from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Interns are provided with the opportunity to participate in a broad range of Institute activities and to interact, both formally and informally, with institute staff members.

Collaboration

The Institute of Criminology has a collaborative relationship with other universities throughout Australia

- In 2015, the Institute co-hosted the 30th Anniversary of the Women in Prison Task Force Report with the University of New South Wales.
- The Institute maintains a partnership with the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Crime and Justice Research Center, which has seen both institutions co-hosting visits from notable international criminologists.

Visiting Scholars

The Institute of Criminology has visitors from Australia and overseas who are attracted to its innovative and challenging academic environment.

Professional Development Program

The Institute's professional development program includes short training courses run co-jointly with the [Centre for Continuing Education](#), as well as workshops and conferences. These activities link theory with practice and provide opportunities for practitioners, policy-makers, academics and students to discuss contemporary developments.

Celebrating 50 Years

The Institute held a number of seminars, lectures, panel discussions and symposiums taking place in celebration of our 50th Anniversary. For more information on these events, please visit the [Sydney Institute of Criminology](#) website.

Event	Location	Date
50th Anniversary Panel Discussion: <i>Sydney's Lockout Laws: Cutting Crime or Civil Liberties?</i>	Law Foyer (Level 2)	Monday 14 March
50th Anniversary Seminar: <i>Legitimizing Practices: Revisiting the Predicates of Police Legitimacy</i> , with Professor Jon Jackson	Faculty Common Room (Level 4)	Wednesday 13 April
50th Anniversary Lecture: <i>Southern Criminology</i> , with Professor Kerry Carrington	Faculty Common Room (Level 4)	Tuesday 19 April
50th Anniversary Panel Discussion: <i>What Can Be Done About Wrongful Convictions?</i>	Law Foyer (Level 2)	Thursday 28 April
50th Anniversary Seminar: <i>Screening Prospective Jurors for Racial Partiality in Canada: How Far Have We Come?</i> , with Associate Professor Rakhi Ruparelia	Faculty Common Room (Level 4)	Wednesday 4 May
50th Anniversary Lecture: <i>'Rack 'em, Stack 'em and Pack 'em': Decarceration in an Age of Zero Tolerance</i> , with Dr Don Weatherburn	Faculty Common Room (Level 4)	Wednesday 11 May
CSNSW Beyond Punishment 50th Anniversary seminar: <i>Pharmacotherapies and Crime: The Impact of Drugs On Offending Behaviour</i>	Law Foyer (Level 2)	Tuesday 9 August
Distinguished Speakers Program: <i>Women in the Criminal Justice System: More Often Troubled Than Troublesome</i> , with Baroness Jean Corston	Law Foyer (Level 2)	Tuesday 13 September
50th Anniversary Lecture: <i>Bearing Witness to the 'Pain of Others': Frontiers of Research and Resistance</i> , with Professor Phil Scraton	Law Foyer (Level 2)	Thursday 27 October
50th Anniversary Cocktail Reception	Law Lounge (Annex)	Thursday 8 December

How can I be involved in the Institute of Criminology?

– Sign up to our free e-newsletter CrimNet and follow us on social media

Our weekly e-newsletter CrimNet covers everything criminology, criminal justice and criminal law, featuring recent publications, upcoming seminars and events, as well as job opportunities. CrimNet has proven to be a valuable resource to over 2,500 subscribers. If you would like subscribe to CrimNet, [send us an email](#).

Follow the Institute of Criminology Facebook and Twitter accounts to keep up to date on current research and criminal justice news, and engage with us in debates around contemporary issues in criminology.



– Subscribe to *Current Issues in Criminal Justice* and become a member of the Sydney Institute of Criminology

The Institute of Criminology offers three types of memberships: Individual, Student and Corporate. Memberships include a number of perks such as subscription to *Current Issues in Criminal Justice*, free admission to Institute seminars, discounts for seminars where costs apply, discounts for the monograph series.

– Attend our seminars, symposiums and events

In showcasing the work and achievements of the Institute, we continue to host a number of free and exciting events. We strongly encourage students, researchers, policymakers, criminal justice professionals and anyone interested in criminology, criminal justice and criminal law to attend.

– Study with us

The Sydney Institute of Criminology's Graduate Diploma in Criminology and Master of Criminology programs are among the largest and most respected in Australia. Students are offered a broad range of multi-disciplinary courses and the opportunity to study with some of Australia's leading criminologists. Postgraduate criminology has a long history at the University of Sydney. While this means that the programs are well established, they are also innovative and include units of study not on offer in any other Australian universities. Find out more about studying criminology on [our website](#).

– Sponsor an event

The Sydney Institute of Criminology offers Seminar and Conference sponsorship opportunities to organisations. Private and public organisations are invited to support debate and education and to receive exposure across the criminal justice sector.

– Donate to us

If you are interested in donating to the Sydney Institute of Criminology. Please [get in touch with us](#).

– Acknowledgements

The Institute would like to sincerely thank and acknowledge Sarah McPherson, under the guidance of Dr Garner Clancey, for her significant contribution to the foundational work of this document. Thank you also to Sophie Russell for her valued assistance. This document was finalised by Professor Thomas Crofts, Dr Rebecca Scott Bray and Rachael Stanic.