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# Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

Annual Report 2013-2014



UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN



UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN

Centre for Forensic Behavioural  
Science and Justice Studies

Annual Report 2013-14

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## Message from the Director

Welcome to the Annual Report of the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies. Having been approved by University Council on May 19, 2011, 2013-14 marked the second full year of operation as a University Centre. This followed two years of planning and development, and our rookie partial year in 2011-12. Although we have not yet acquired the status of seasoned veterans, the Centre has established itself on the University of Saskatchewan campus as an active and fully operational Centre with a diverse collection of programs and activities under its belt. Below are what I believe to be the highlights from 2013-14.

We are particularly pleased to announce that the Centre's agreement with the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) has been renewed for another five years, April 2014 through March 2019. The initial MOU, November 2009 through March 2014, was the first MOU that we enjoyed with government agencies. It demonstrated that the public sector appreciated the importance of such an institute and was committed to partnering with academia to establish the Centre. The generous resources that it committed also afforded an opportunity for the Forensic Centre planners to conduct the necessary consultation with University stakeholders, offer some demonstration projects and establish a beachhead for the Centre. As we have moved from stage one (implementation) to stage 2 (growth, development and solidification) of the Forensic Centre, we are grateful for a second five-year agreement to facilitate the process.

The Centre's ongoing relationship with the Saskatchewan government's Ministry of Justice, Corrections and Policing, continues apace with a number of research and evaluation projects under the terms of a long term (10 year) MOU. One particularly high profile activity concerns a preliminary process evaluation of the Community Mobilization Prince Albert project which applies a Hub model to dealing with community crises by multiple, collaborating agencies and service providers. This initiative has commanded national attention and the Forensic Centre is honoured to be part of this Saskatchewan-based product.

The Forensic Centre has also extended its scope of criminal justice activity into the field of policing with another MOU with the RCMP, "F" Division (Saskatchewan). To date, the Centre has investigated RCMP-sponsored crime prevention initiatives like the Community Cadet Corps program and embarked on an evaluation of the Seeing Oneself program. Also in this past year it has undertaken an important and sensitive exercise, a review of detachment placements in Saskatchewan.

The Centre's engagement with the voluntary sector, which was spawned seemingly by coincidence as the Centre came on stream, continued through 2013/14. For example, the Centre worked closely with the Saskatoon Rotary Club and the Restorative Action Program (RAP) that it introduced to Saskatoon some years ago. The Centre has been instrumental in assisting the local school boards and the Rotary Club plan, design, and implement a data collection mechanism to assist these parties in evaluating the contribution of RAP to the school environment and its students.

Two other sources of substantial funding have also come from government to undertake specific research projects. A study on homelessness among individuals with concurrent mental health and addictions problems investigated various supportive housing models, including Housing First, for these persons in four western cities, Saskatoon, Regina, Edmonton and Vancouver. This was a difficult exercise to complete as it involved multiple agencies in multiple levels of government in multiple communities. However, we were delighted with the participation of the many people and organizations that were affected by the project and are grateful for their contribution. The project was sponsored by Employment and Social Development Canada, in Ottawa. As the year ends, we await a French translation of the report prior to the study's national release.

A second ongoing project entails an exhaustive literature review and meta-analysis of factors related to youth delinquency, youth violence and youth gangs. This is quite a massive exercise as it entails the collection, reading, coding and analysis of hundreds of research papers from around the globe. The research team includes Centre staff, graduate student volunteers and partners from Carleton University, the First Nations University of Canada and the Saskatoon Police Service. The project is sponsored by the National Crime Prevention Centre in Public Safety Canada. A final report is anticipated by the end of 2014.

The Centre's core programs continued through 2013-14, with 4 graduate student scholarships being awarded, 2 new graduate student research projects supported and 3 faculty proposals being funded (pages 14-15). In all, over \$67,800 was awarded to faculty and students in 5 different departments and colleges. I wish to extend my congratulations to all recipients and my sincere gratitude to all of the adjudicators that sat on the respective approval committees.

In order to carry out a packed agenda and demanding timeframes, we are grateful to our staff. Staffing in the Centre has remained consistent throughout the last year, with one Coordinator Ronda Appell (MHA), one Inaugural Research Fellow Chad Nilson (PhD) and two Research Officers, Lisa Jewell (PhD) and Carolyn Camman (MA). In addition, graduate students have been called into service, either as a function of the Forensic Centre Scholarship, or as paid Research Assistants, on a project-by-project basis.

As we look to the year ahead, we are actively preparing for the 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Violence and Aggression Symposium to be held on the University of Saskatchewan campus in June, 2014. The V&A symposium has been a mainstay of the University of Saskatchewan for many years and we are proud to be part of this longstanding event.

Through this and all of the activities highlighted in this report, we hope to maintain our momentum, offering programs, services and consultation to our numerous stakeholders in academia and the justice system and extend our relationship with more departments and colleges within the University.



J. Stephen Wormith  
Director, Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science & Justice Studies

# Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

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## 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. Drawing on a wealth of expertise spread across the Colleges of Arts and Science, Law, Medicine and Nursing, and in unique partnership with the Correctional Service Canada, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, F Division, the Centre is a gateway to information, knowledge and inquiry into the vast and multi-faceted 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 Aboriginal peoples, women and youth.

### *Centre Staff*

The Centre is led by **Dr. Stephen Wormith**, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Psychology and former Research Chair in Forensic Psychology (1999-2005). Dr. Wormith's research interests pertain to the assessment and treatment of offenders, including particular offender groups such as young offenders, sexual offenders, and gangs. He consults with corrections departments in Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Canada, serves in court as an expert witness on matters of offender assessment and treatment, and conducts training of offender risk assessment in Canada and internationally.

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

**Dr. Lisa Jewell**, Ph.D. and M.A. in Applied Social Psychology and B.Sc. (Hon.) Psychology, joined the Centre as a Research Officer in 2013. She has nearly 10 years of experience with research and program evaluation and is a credentialed evaluator through the Canadian Evaluation Society. Lisa has played an integral role in numerous Centre projects including an evaluation of the RCMP's Community Cadets Corps program, a research study examining Housing First for individuals with concurrent mental disorders, and the development and analysis of a provincial survey assessing crime, safety, and victimization in Saskatchewan.

**Carolyn Camman**, M.A. in Applied Social Psychology and B.A. (Hon.) Psychology and Criminology, joined the Centre as Research Officer in 2013. She has over three years of



experience conducting evaluation and applied research in a variety of areas, specializing in working with criminal justice-related organizations in Saskatchewan. Her main interests are in program evaluation and organizational capacity building.

**Ronda Appell**, M.H.A., B.Sc, joined the University of Saskatchewan in 2010 as Coordinator of the Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies Initiative, and has served as Coordinator of the Centre since its establishment in 2011. She provides administrative, research and management support for all Centre activities. Ronda brings a wealth of experience working in a variety of complex environments including academia, health services, and 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 members representing the Departments of Psychology and Sociology (College of Arts and Science), the Colleges of Law, Medicine, and Nursing, the Schools of Public Health and Public Policy, as well as several community members who have current and/or former 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.

### ***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. During 2013-14, Dr. Mansfield Mela, Department of Psychiatry, joined the Centre Executive Committee as representative of the College of Medicine.

Executive Committee members for 2013-14 include:

- **Glen Luther, Q.C., Associate Professor, College of Law.** Professor Luther has extensive practice experience as a criminal lawyer and has argued cases throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan at all levels of courts including the Supreme Court of Canada. His academic interests include police powers, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, criminal law and sentencing, trial procedure, evidence, and law and psychiatry.

- **Mark Olver, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Science.** Dr. Olver is a Registered Doctoral Psychologist with the Saskatchewan College of Psychologists. His research interests include risk assessment and treatment (e.g. sex offenders), psychopathy, sexual deviance, and the evaluation of offender change.
- **Mansfield Mela, MBBS, FWACP, MRC (Psych), MSc, FRCPC.** Dr. Mela is Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, and forensic psychiatry consultant at the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Correctional Service Canada. His research focuses on biopsychosocial aspects of forensic mental health, with specific interests in the areas of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, forgiveness, spirituality, and ADHD.
- **Cindy Peternelj-Taylor, R.N., M.Sc., Professor, 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. Her research interests include issues that emerge within the therapeutic relationship. She is also Editor of the Journal of Forensic Nursing.

### ***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, Division of Social Sciences, 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. During 2013-14 year, Dr. John Weekes, Senior Research Manager, Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization, Research Branch, Correctional Service Canada, joined the Advisory Board as replacement for Ms. Cynthia MacDonald, Regional Administrator, Assessment and Interventions, Correctional Service Canada, Prairie Region.

Board members as of March 31, 2014 include:

- **Dr. Olajide Adelugba**, Psychiatrist and Director of Research, Regional Hospital, Regional Psychiatric Centre (Prairies), Correctional Service Canada
- **Dr. Shirwan Kukha-Mohamad**, Clinical Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, College of Medicine
- **Mr. Eric Michael**, Executive Director, Willow Cree Healing Lodge, Correctional Service Canada
- **Mr. Bob Mills**, Superintendent, F Division, Operations Strategy Branch, Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- **Mr. Dan Paulson**, Chief, Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services, City of Saskatoon
- **Dr. Brian Rector**, Executive Director, Research and Evidence-Based Excellence, Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing

- **Dr. John Weekes**, Senior Research Manager, Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization, Research Branch, Correctional Service Canada
- **Dr. Winona Wheeler**, Head, Department of Native Studies, University of Saskatchewan

## 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.

### *Research and Evaluation*

#### **Projects Sponsored by Correctional Service Canada**

##### **Review of Self-Harm in Women Offenders**

During 2013-14, the Centre continued its review of the literature on the topic of self-harm in women offenders with focus on what institutional factors may play a role, as well as on evidence-based treatment and approaches for reducing self-harm behavior in forensic populations. Additionally, the Centre continued to work with clinician researchers at the Regional Psychiatric Centre (RPC) to develop a research project and proposal to examine the issue of self-harm within RPC specifically. It is anticipated that the project will get underway during 2014-15 following receipt of the necessary research approvals.

##### **Other CSC-related Research**

In addition to the above, three other projects were identified during 2013-14 as potential opportunities for the Centre and CSC to enhance their research collaboration. Although project details remain preliminary as of the end of 2013-14, communication is ongoing and it is expected that more project work with CSC will be undertaken in the next reporting period. It is notable, however, that several of the faculty and student research awards granted over the past year (see pp. 14-15) 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.

##### **Evaluation of Centre Activities and MOA Renewal**

Equally important to note is that together with CSC, the Centre participated in an evaluation of its own activities and accomplishments that were realized over the four year period since November 2009, when the Correctional Service Canada entered into a five-

year Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the University of Saskatchewan to develop an interdisciplinary Centre that would respond to growing demands for research on the criminal justice system. The self-reflection and joint review concluded that indeed much has been accomplished over the past four years. Resulting recommendations called for strengthening of the relationship between CSC and the Centre and for enhanced research collaboration. We are therefore thrilled to report that as of the end of the 2013-14 year, the wheels were in motion for the signing of a new MOA and renewal of the Centre's formal relationship with CSC for another five year period.

### **Projects Sponsored by Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice**

#### **Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime/Community Mobilization Prince Albert**

The province of Saskatchewan's "Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime" (BPRC) initiative is a new integrated approach to crime reduction in Saskatchewan that recognizes the need for partnership across all parts of the justice and human service systems and community-led intervention strategies in order to effectively address the complex issues facing children, youth, and families and successfully reduce crime and victimization. The Community Mobilization Prince Albert project (CMPA) has led the province of Saskatchewan in implementing and operationalizing the principles of BPRC. The central feature of CMPA involves a discussion forum, known as the Hub, for representatives of multiple human service and justice agencies to come together to identify situations of acutely-elevated risk (related to individuals, families or the community as a whole) and to develop collaborative intervention strategies aimed at alleviating risk and averting potential crises. Throughout 2013-14, the Centre continued to support these efforts by working closely with CMPA to develop a methodological summary of the Hub database, to roll-out a series of evaluation instruments to capture the activities and outputs of the Hub discussions, to further conceptualize CMPA through the development of a logic model, and to conduct a preliminary impact assessment, highlighting the initiative's successes, challenges and future opportunities.

#### **Examination of the Administrative, Physical and Program Structures of Select Canadian Forensic Mental Health Facilities**

On behalf of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing, during 2013-14 the Centre conducted a scan of the various approaches used to provide mental health treatment to provincially-sentenced offenders in select Canadian jurisdictions. Focusing on British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia, the project entailed collecting information on overall features of the identified models of service delivery, governance structures and relevant legislation; processes for admission and identification of treatment needs; treatment services provided; reintegration and discharge/release planning; staffing composition; design features of the physical facilities; challenges faced and recommendations offered. The purpose of the exercise was to gather information for the Ministry to inform its own planning and decision-making related to the provision of mental health services to incarcerated individuals with severe chronic mental illness in Saskatchewan.

## **Public Perceptions of Crime, Safety and Victimization – Provincial Survey**

During 2013-14, the Centre undertook a 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. Past literature has demonstrated that official crime statistics tend to underestimate the number of crimes committed each year; however, to date, studies attempting to determine this dark figure have not focused specifically on Saskatchewan. Analysis of the survey data began in early 2014 and the results will be released during 2014-15. This study was funded, in part, by the Ministry of Justice and inspired by the work conducted for the RCMP "F" Division (see page 12).

## **Literature Review and Analysis of Trends related to Administrative Charges Imposed on Individuals under Community Supervision**

Working in collaboration with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing, the Centre undertook an exploration of administrative charges in provincial corrections with a view to identifying factors that may be contributing to an observed increase in the Saskatchewan remand population. As the initial phase of this work, during 2013-14 the Centre began a critical review of the literature to examine the theoretical and historical significance and role of administrative charges, as well as to identify the availability of validated pre-trial risk assessment tools and other best practices associated with supervision and release as it relates to administrative charges and judicial alternatives. Subsequent work will include an analysis of aggregate data to identify broad-level trends in terms of the distribution and outcomes of administrative charges in the province in relation to custody counts and other significant factors.

## **Projects Sponsored by Royal Canadian Mounted Police, "F" Division**

### **Evaluation of the RCMP Community Cadet Corps Program**

The Community Cadet Corps (CCC) is a community-led program that operates in numerous communities in Saskatchewan. Supported by RCMP "F" Division's Aboriginal Policing Services, it provides youth aged 10 to 18 with pro-social extracurricular activities and life skills development training, guided by local needs. During 2013-14, the Centre completed an evaluation of the program at 13 selected sites by conducting interviews with cadet leaders, RCMP members and, where possible, cadets and other community members, as well as collecting information through review of relevant program documentation and observation of cadet corps activities where feasible. The resulting report highlighted the processes, outputs, and measureable outcomes of the CCC program in Saskatchewan, identified successful strategies for program

implementation and sustainability, and examined the perceived effects of the program on its participants, their communities, and on community-RCMP relations.

### **Public Perceptions of Crime, Safety and Victimization – RCMP Survey**

Working with the RCMP “F” Division to examine the relationship between public perceptions of crime, feelings of safety and fear, victimization, and reported crime statistics in areas of the province policed by the RCMP, the Centre designed and conducted a telephone survey through the Social Sciences Research Laboratories—Survey and Group Analysis Laboratory at the University of Saskatchewan. The survey provided an opportunity to explore whether perceptions of crime and victimization were associated with feelings of safety and fear of crime. It also allowed for an examination of the extent to which perceptions of crime and self-reported rates of victimization compare to official crime statistics. Data analysis and preparation of the technical report were in progress as of the end of 2013-14, and activities pertaining to dissemination and knowledge translation are planned for 2014-15.

### **RCMP Detachment Planning Project**

During 2013-14, on behalf of the RCMP “F” Division, the Centre undertook a project to examine how the Division can best meet the service needs of the RCMP in Saskatchewan. The aim of the project is to identify the variables that should be considered when making detachment location decisions, as well as the managerial, administrative, and staffing configurations to best meet organizational and service requirements. Initial tasks undertaken during 2013-14 include preliminary consultation with F Division management, development of a work plan, and a comprehensive search of the literature on factors considered in police detachment planning and organization elsewhere in Canada and internationally, as well as those that may be common to other human service sectors such as health and/or education. Subsequent components of the project will include further consultation with Division management, and extensive consultation and data gathering from detachment commanders, members, and other policing and community stakeholders in the province, with the ultimate goal of developing a testable decision-making tool for detachment planning purposes.

### **Evaluation of the Seeing Oneself Program in Southern Saskatchewan**

Seeing Oneself is a personality-targeted alcohol and substance abuse intervention program developed by Dr. Nancy Comeau of Dalhousie University. It is intended to reduce alcohol and substance abuse and associated antisocial behaviours among youth by directly addressing their specific reasons and motivations for substance use and building their relevant coping skills. In the latter half of 2013, the RCMP “F” Division implemented the Seeing Oneself program in two locations in southern Saskatchewan and enlisted the Centre to conduct an evaluation of those sites. In early 2014, a work plan was developed to assess the quality of the program implementation in terms of its fidelity to the tested and supported program model and its effectiveness and

sustainability within the Saskatchewan context. The evaluation is underway and will be completed during 2014-15.

### **Other Projects**

#### **Examination of the Implementation of Housing First Initiatives for Individuals with Concurrent Mental Disorders**

Funded by the Homelessness Partnering Secretariat of Employment and Social Development Canada, the Centre completed a research project that examined the implementation of Housing First and other supportive housing programs for individuals with concurrent mental disorders (ICMDs). Through this study, key preconditions, common barriers, and facilitators to implementing Housing First for ICMDs were identified and an implementation model was developed to facilitate the replication of these programs in cities of various sizes. To identify effective strategies for implementation, the project examined existing supportive housing programs in Vancouver, Regina, and Edmonton and conducted a comprehensive literature review. The implementation model that was subsequently developed was then applied to assess the need for and feasibility of implementing Housing First for ICMDs in Saskatoon.

#### **Process Evaluation of the Restorative Action Program**

The Restorative Action Program (RAP) is a community-driven initiative developed in 2003 by members of Saskatoon Rotary clubs in Saskatoon, in response to issues of bullying, violence, crime, and other forms of conflict within the youth population. The program is delivered via RAP Workers located in seven high schools across Saskatoon, who provide conflict resolution training and services, as well as leadership and life skill development for high school youth. During 2013-14, the Centre continued its work on the process evaluation of RAP, focusing on the analysis and reporting of data collected with the Centre-developed program monitoring tool that was implemented at each RAP school in early 2013. The collection of data in a comprehensive and consistent manner makes it possible to extract detailed and up-to-date information on what program services are being delivered, to whom and in what way at each school, to consolidate data across schools for program planning purposes and reporting to stakeholders, and to generate baseline data for future trend analysis and program evaluation.

#### **Identification of Risk Factors for Youth Violence and Gang Involvement**

Funded by Public Safety Canada, the Centre, in collaboration with a multi-disciplinary team of researchers, was awarded a contract to conduct a comprehensive review, meta-analysis and meta-synthesis of the available literature on youth violence and youth gang involvement. Collectively the research team brings representation from four Universities: University of Saskatchewan, Carleton University, First Nations University of Canada, and University of Regina, and is comprised of a combination of academics and field personnel, researchers and clinicians, psychologists and social workers, faculty and

students. The aim of the project is to identify the factors that are most strongly associated with violent activity and gang involvement among children and youth 6 to 24 years of age. This study has the potential to inform the development and implementation of appropriate and targeted prevention and intervention program for youth at risk of these outcomes. Work on the project is underway and will be completed during 2014-15.

### **Development of a Mental Health Support Strategy in the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon**

During 2013-14, the Centre continued to follow the development of the Mental Health Support Strategy (MHSS) within the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. The initiative, led by The Honorable Judge Sheila Whelan with widespread involvement from various government and community partners, seeks to address the need for specialized forensic mental health services in Saskatoon for adults with a mental health condition who have been charged with an offense. Leading up to the implementation, in November 2013, of a dedicated court docket twice per month for cases referred to the MHSS, several Centre members, including Centre Director, Steve Wormith, and Executive Committee members Glen Luther (College of Law) and Mansfield Mela (College of Medicine) were active in supporting the strategy through the provision of training for members of the MHSS network and advice regarding research and evaluation. Subsequent Centre involvement is expected to include the coding and analysis of data collected during the first six months of the court's operation with a view to informing continued planning and development.

### **Faculty Research Awards**

The Centre offers research development grants to faculty members whose research investigates a topic of crime, justice or corrections from a social science, health science, legal, management or interdisciplinary perspective. During 2013-14, the Centre is pleased to have granted faculty awards for the following projects:

- **Award Recipient:** Dr. Lorraine Holtslander, Assistant Professor, College of Nursing  
**Award Value:** \$8,392  
**Project Title:** Exploring Palliative Care in Corrections: A Scoping Review
  
- **Award Recipient:** Dr. Mansfield Mela, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine  
**Award Value:** \$5,000  
**Project Title:** Psychiatric Diagnostic Assessment and Intervention of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in a Forensic Outpatient Clinic Population
  
- **Award Recipient:** Prof. Cindy Peternelj-Taylor, Associate Professor, College of Nursing  
**Award Value:** \$9,038  
**Project Title:** Saskatchewan Provincial Correctional Nurses: Roles, Responsibilities and Learning Needs



## *Education and Training*

### **Graduate Student Research Awards and Scholarships**

The Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies provides two types of support for University of Saskatchewan graduate students whose academic and/or research interests pertain to the areas of crime, justice, and corrections. **Research Awards** provide project-specific funding to help student researchers cover the direct cost of research activities while **Scholarships** provide general educational support for students pursuing graduate studies in an area of relevance to forensic behavioral science and justice. Students in receipt of a Centre Scholarship award must fulfill a work commitment of up to 10 hours per week through which they contribute to a variety of ongoing Centre research projects and activities.

Students granted a **Research Award** during the 2013-14 year are shown in Table 1:

**Table 1: Research Award Recipients 2013-14**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Program/Dept.</b>	<b>Research Area</b>
Lindsay Sewall	\$5,911	Ph.D. student, Clinical Psychology	Psychopathy
Leslie Dunning	\$3,469	LL.M. College of Law	Risk Assessment and Gladue

Students granted a **Scholarship** during 2013-14 for the 2014-15 academic year are listed below:

**Table 2: Scholarship Recipients 2013-14**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Program/Dept.</b>	<b>Area of Research Interest</b>
Siming Weng	\$15,000	Masters student, Sociology	Public perceptions toward youth incarceration and other alternatives
Tamana Sediqi	\$15,000	Masters student, Sociology	Intimate partner violence
Amy Pilon	\$3,000*	Masters student, Applied Social Psychology	Measuring risk of re- offense for Aboriginal male offenders
Chantal Schafers	\$3,000*	Masters student, Clinical Psychology	Violent offender rehabilitation and implications for case management

\*supplement to Tri-Council award

## **Postgraduate Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections**

In collaboration with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing, the Centre has 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 Justice, as Professional Affiliates of the Department of Psychology, as well as Department of Psychology faculty members. During 2013-14, a second student was enrolled in the program from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice.

## **Undergraduate Research Training and Supervision**

During 2013-14, the Centre contributed to the training and supervision of two undergraduate Honours students from the Department of Psychology. Under the co-supervision of Centre Director, Dr. J.S. Wormith, and Research Officer, Dr. L. Jewell, these students worked on components of the provincial Public Perceptions of Crime survey (page 11) and the Housing First and ICMDs project (page 13) gaining hands-on data collection, analysis and research report writing experience while also contributing to the successful completion of these projects. Their respective theses are:

Hopfner, Samantha (2014, April). *Examining the effects of public perception of crime and safety on official victimization reporting: An exploration of the 'Dark Figure' within Saskatchewan*. (Unpublished honours thesis). University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK.

Kitter, Alexandra (2014, April). *Needs and feasibility analysis of Housing First initiatives for individuals with concurrent mental disorders within Saskatoon*. (Unpublished honours thesis). University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK.

## ***Community Engagement: Fostering Academic and Public Dialogue***

### **New Centre Website**

In October, 2013, the Centre launched a new website as a key means of further engaging with the local, national and international criminal justice and research communities. Containing information on Centre members' research interests, Centre funding programs, events, and past and current projects and reports, the site also features local news stories and links to Centre members in the media. Check it out at: [www.usask.ca/cfbsjs](http://www.usask.ca/cfbsjs).

## **Conference Sponsorship - NAISA**

In June, 2013, the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) held its annual meeting and conference at the University of Saskatchewan. Incorporated in 2009, NAISA has become the premiere international and interdisciplinary professional organization for scholars, graduate students, independent researchers and community members interested in all aspects of Indigenous studies and research. The Centre is proud to have provided financial sponsorship for this event which featured over 160 sessions, including various topics related to aboriginal justice and criminality, and that attracted over 800 delegates from throughout Canada, United States and Mexico.

## **Conference Sponsorship – Custody and Caring**

Each year, the University of Saskatchewan, in conjunction with the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Correctional Service Canada, hosts either the International Custody and Caring Conference or the Violence and Aggression Symposium. 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.

From October 2-4, 2013, the 13<sup>th</sup> 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 event featured 5 keynote speakers and more than 30 concurrent and workshop sessions and attracted more than 150 international delegates. The Centre is proud to have provided financial sponsorship for this event and to have hosted an exhibitor booth which provided another opportunity for Centre staff and students to highlight recent Centre projects and network with conference speakers and delegates.

## **Conference Presentations**

During 2013-14, Centre-related research and evaluation activities were presented by Centre staff and students at the following local and national events:

- Jewell, L. M. & Wormith, J. S. (2013, September). *Comparing training and research activities in policing and corrections: A scan of Canadian and international jurisdictions*. Paper presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Society for Police and Criminal Psychology, Ottawa, ON.
- Patrick, G., Orton, L., Cordwell, T., Truswell, K. & Wormith, J.S. (2013, August). Gang intervention and prevention in Saskatchewan: A process evaluation of the Saskatoon STR8UP program. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Honolulu, HI.
- Camman, C. and J.S. Wormith (2013, June). *Designing a program monitoring system for a school-based conflict resolution program: process and lessons*.

Presentation for the Canadian Evaluation Society Annual Convention, Toronto, ON.

- Camman, C. & Wormith, J. S. (2013, May). Harmonizing voices: Pursuing program theory and an evaluation strategy across a diverse stakeholder group. Poster presented at Engaged Scholar Day, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK.
- Nilson, C. (2013, June). Saskatchewan corrections cultural program review. Presentation to corrections managers and cultural leaders at the First Nations and Métis programs Elders' gathering. Watrous, SK.
- Nilson, C. (2013, May). *Bringing strength from the home fire: A collaborative effort to measure Aboriginal cultural needs and services in Saskatchewan's provincial correctional system*. Poster presented at Engaged Scholar Day, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK.
- Orton, L., Patrick, G., Cordwell, T., Truswell, K., and Wormith, J.S. (2013, May). Process evaluation of the Saskatoon STR8UP program. Poster presented at the Canadian Psychological Society Annual Convention, Quebec City, QC.

### **Guest Speaker: Shannon Moroney**

On October 22, 2013, in honor of national John Howard week, the Centre together with the John Howard Society of Saskatchewan, welcomed guest speaker, Shannon Moroney for a special presentation entitled, "Through the Glass: One Woman's Pursuit of Justice, Forgiveness and Healing". Shannon authored the international best-selling memoir, "Through the Glass" and is a renowned advocate of restorative justice. Sharing a personal account of the horrific violent crimes her husband committed against two women, and the devastating impact these events had on her own life, Shannon relayed a remarkable story of courage, forgiveness, healing and hope and spoke of the redemptive power of restorative justice.

## FUNDING

### *Summary of 2013-14 Revenues and Expenditures*

The Centre receives financial support through a 5-year Memorandum of Agreement with the Correctional Service Canada (2009-10 to 2013-14\*), a 10-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice (2010-11 to 2019-20), and a 5-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (2012-13 to 2016-17). The Centre is also supported through various amounts of financial and in-kind support from the Colleges of Arts and Science, Law, Medicine and Nursing.

The following table summarizes Centre revenues and expenditures associated with its three MOUs over the period April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.

<b>April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014</b>		
<b>Balance as of Mar 31, 2013</b>		<b>\$ 337,577</b>
Receipts:		
CSC	\$ 120,000	
SK Justice	\$ 150,000	
RCMP	\$ 75,000	
<b>Total Funds Available</b>		<b><u>\$ 682,577</u></b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Research Personnel	\$ 199,178	
Admin/Management Support	\$ 48,009	
Centre Operations - non-salary	\$ 6,440	
Graduate Student Research Support	\$ 71,921	
Faculty Research Support	\$ 40,104	
Conference/Workshop Support	\$ 3,332	
University Overhead	\$ 30,420	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b><u>\$ 399,404</u></b>
<b>Balance as of Mar 31, 2014</b>		<b><u>\$ 283,174</u></b>

\*As of March 31, 2014, a new MOA with CSC was being signed that provides for another \$600,000 in funding over the next five year period, ending March 31, 2019.