TILES NEWS

- Dr Isabelle Bartkowiak-Théron and Professor Jenny Fleming delivered a successful seminar in La Sorbonne in Paris. It was hosted by the ‘Centre d’Etudes Urbaines dans le Monde Anglophone’ (CEUMA – Research Centre for Urban Studies in the English Speaking World), based on a study by the Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies with funding support from the AIC. The co-author is Dr Vanessa Goodwin who conducted the research as a postdoctoral fellow with TILES.
- Jenny Fleming presented Managing for Change: Policing Sexual Assault in Victoria, at the Scottish Institute of Policing, University of Glasgow, Scotland 16 May 2011.
- Jenny Fleming presented (with Professor Tim Prenzler), Moving Forward: Re-Setting the Gender Equity Agenda in Australian and New Zealand Policing at the Seventh Australasian Women and Policing Conference Hobart 21-24 August 2011, Grand Chancellor Hotel.
- Isabelle Bartkowiak-Théron presented two papers at the 2011 Australian Universities Community Engagement Alliance Next Steps Conference in Sydney in July – Integration and Collaboration: Building Capacity and Engagement for the Provision of Criminal Justice Services to Tasmania’s Mentally Ill and ‘Community Engagement: Refugees’ perspectives for law enforcement in regional Australia’.
- Crime Families: Gender and the intergenerational transfer of criminal tendencies. A Trends and Issues paper has been published by the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) based on a study by the Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies with funding support from the AIC. The co-author is Dr Vanessa Goodwin who conducted the research as a postdoctoral fellow with TILES.

Publications and Reports


It only seems like yesterday since I was writing the last end of year report for TILES. I am glad to report that 2011 has been as busy and productive as previous years and once again TILES researchers have been provided with a number of opportunities to collaborate across Schools, Faculties and Universities – both nationally and internationally. This year, TILES has actively sought to work with those outside our ‘comfort zone’ and we have put in a number of grant applications that reflect this determination to work with new and exciting researchers and industry partners. We are confident that our hard work and perseverance will result in a number of new projects starting in 2012, utilising a number of new postgraduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and perhaps even new staff! We have also secured two new Elite Postgraduate Scholarships from the University of Tasmania – both of which we have filled and our new people will be starting in the New Year. We will be able to report on all these events in the next Newsletter.

Congratulations to Danielle Campbell and Romy Winter for completing their PhDs in the last few months. Danielle will graduate in December and Romy early in the New Year. Well done!

Dr Judy Putt has been with us all year and I extend a special thanks to her for her work in identifying, researching, putting together and submitting numerous grant applications, as well as working tirelessly for TILES as a Senior Research Associate. We are hoping to welcome Judy back to TILES in February 2012, Paula, TILES’ Executive Officer returns to work after some personal leave this week and we look forward to Paula joining us again next year. Roberta is back from study and long service leave. Bright eyed and bushy-tailed she is up and running with the Forensic Science project really taking off under her supervision and leadership. As you will see in this newsletter we have all had the benefit of a prominent Forensic Science policing specialist from Switzerland visiting our offices in the last few weeks.

For those of you who were involved in the Mental Health Diversion Lost Workshop held in April (see last newsletter), the Final Report from that workshop is currently being finalised. It will be available on the TILES website in the first week of December.

With some sadness I have to report that this is my last newsletter for TILES. I am leaving TILES and the University of Tasmania at the end of the year to take up a Chair of Criminology at the University of Southampton in the UK. This is a new adventure for me and I am looking forward to the new landscape (yes!) and the inevitable challenges.

As I have noted here and elsewhere TILES has become a vibrant, exciting, and very busy research institute. It is both strong nationally and indeed, international reputation and I have been very fortunate to have been part of it. I can say with complete confidence that the Institute will continue to provide research and postgraduate opportunities for students and scholars. My absence will leave a gap, but one that will be instantly filled by the exciting team that is TILES. Roberta, Isabelle, Sally, Judy and Paula; all the postgraduates and all those academics (you know who you are) and industry partners who have contributed to TILES success will, I know, continue to contribute to that success.

Thank you all for being supportive and patient with me this year (and indeed every year). Thank you for your excellent research contributions and your willingness to go the extra mile for the Institute. It has been appreciated.

When someone leaves it invariably provides an opportunity and an avenue for potential change and movement. It can be an exciting time and I have no doubt that TILES, in whatever form it takes in the future will continue to positively reflect its research strengths and impressive abilities.

On behalf of the TILES team, I wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and New Year!

Jenny Fleming
Farewell to TILES’ Director Professor Jenny Fleming

Professor Jenny Fleming joined TILES as a Professio nal Research Fellow in July 2006 and has held the position of Director of TILES since July 2009. After five and half years at the Institute she has accepted an appointment as Professor of Criminology at the University of Southampton and will be moving to the UK in January 2012 to take up this position.

Jenny’s appointment to TILES in 2006 marked a significant point in the development of the Institute. TILES was established in 2002 as a partnership between the University of Tasmania and the Department of Police and Emergency Management. Its first Director (Associate Professor Roberta Julian) was appointed in July 2001, who, together with the first Chair of the TILES Board of Directors, Sir Max Bingham, the then Head of School, Professor Aynsley Kellow, and Dean of Arts, Professor Jan Pakulski, lobbied for funding to appoint a specialist policing researcher to the Institute. We were successful in acquiring UTAS strategic funds and were extremely fortunate to be able to appoint a senior researcher with the level of expertise and depth of experience that Jenny brought to the Institute. Jenny has published widely in the discipline of policing in a range of formats including books, academic journals, book chapters, professional journals, newsletters and research reports. She has a strong commitment to collaborative research with policing organisations and has disseminated her research findings broadly to include police practitioners as well as academics. As Director of TILES, Jenny has led an enthusiastic team of policing researchers and postgraduate students at the University of Tasmania; she has enhanced the national profile of the Institute through workshops involving academics, police and community members from various states of Australia, New Zealand and UK. Jenny has organised and chaired seminars and public lectures presented by nationally and internationally-renowned policing researchers and practitioners, and has worked closely with Commissioners in a number of police organisations throughout Australia and the UK to continue to build the evidence-base for policing, to enhance police professionalism and to develop a body of knowledge in policing.

Undoubtedly, Jenny’s leadership and participation in the Institute’s research program has been fundamental to the success of TILES as a policing research institute which has established a significant profile both nationally and internationally in a relatively short period of time. We congratulate her on her new appointment and wish her all the best in her new position. Nevertheless, the significant role she has played at TILES means that her absence will be felt. We will miss her expertise and her willingness to share it with colleagues and students, her sage advice in all matters relating to conducting research with police and her lively participation in the life of the Institute and the university as a whole. We are confident that the strong ties we have established with Jenny will provide the basis for future international collaborations in policing research so that her contribution to TILES will continue beyond her departure.

Associate Professor Roberta Julian

Ben voyage Jenny from all your colleagues and students at TILES

International Visitor to TILES – Workshop on Forensic Science

Professor Olivier Ribaux from the Institut de police scientifique, Ecole des Sciences Criminelles, University of Lausanne, Switzerland visited TILES from 2nd - 15th November. Former crimer analyser, his current main research activity concentrates on the contribution of forensic science to intelligence-led policing strategies. While at UTAS he participated in a workshop on the ARC-funded project ‘The Effectiveness of Forensic Science in the Criminal Justice System’ held on 10 November and gave a presentation to staff from Tasmania Police Forensic Services and Forensic Science Services Tasmania on 14 November. He also met with researchers in Government, Law, Sociology and ACROSS and discussed future collaborative research with A/Professor Roberta Julian and Dr Sally Kelty in TILES.

Professor Ribaux is a leading expert in forensic intelligence. His studies range from the formalisation of methods to the development of computerised tools, mostly for the analysis of serial crimes. Much of his research is implemented in operational policing environments. He also trains students, law enforcement officers and magistrates in crime and forensic intelligence. He is the author of a large number of peer-reviewed scientific publications, book chapters and has collaborated with Dr Alexandre Girod and Professor Christophe Champod to a book dedicated to shoeprints, in particular to their use in a crime analysis environment. He is co-editor of the ‘Revue internationale de criminologie et de police technique et scientifique’. His new book, co-authored with Pierre Aspli (previous chief of one of the most important police agencies in Switzerland) and Everett Summerfield “Decision Making in Policing” has been recently published by CRC Press (2011).

Photo (from left): Kate Cashman, Dr Hugh Sibly, Professor Olivier Ribaux and Dr Sally Kelty

Two postgraduate students in TILES have recently submitted their PhD theses. We congratulate them both for achieving such a significant goal in their careers! Danielle Campbell's thesis on 'Community Policing and Refugee Settlement in Regional Australia' was supported by an Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry) that was funded by an ARC Linkage Grant with Tasmania Police and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship as Industry Partners. Romyan (Romy) Winter's thesis on 'Intimate Partner Violence: The Impact of Discourse on a Coordinated response' was supported by an Australian Postgraduate Award and in-kind support from Tasmania Police. We wish to thank Tasmania Police and DIAC for their significant contributions to these projects and their ongoing support for the research undertaken by TILES.

Romy's thesis examined the ways in which the nature of domestic violence service provision has been changing in recent years as a result of the shift towards criminalisation and multi-agency responses. Specifically, her research demonstrates that professional ideologies and organisational discourses influence the implementation of multi-agency responses to intimate partner violence. Romy's thesis is currently under examination.

Danielle’s thesis offers an understanding of both the perspectives of police and the members of newly arrived African communities in regional Australia on factors that can influence interactions between them. Danielle argues that police-refugee relationships are enhanced by a procedural justice framework and could be positively affected by restorative justice practices. The findings from this research can be translated into a series of practical applications that could have a positive impact on the effectiveness and efficiency of police work by increasing the capacity for community engagement, improving feelings of safety and encouraging reporting to police. Danielle has recently completed all the hurdles required to finally complete the PhD journey and will be graduating at a UTAS ceremony in December. Well done Danielle!

PhD Studies and Work – Balancing Act for Cecile

PhD in Crime and Criminal Justice for Cecile Winter

There is nothing more equitable than a public health approach that reaches and influences all members of a population irrespective of wealth, socio cultural status, gender, or personal circumstances. Cecile is a PhD candidate researching whether relevant theory can inform public health alcohol policy. In addition, Cecile is a Senior Consultant with Public and Population Health where she pursues her passion - that of public health approaches to substance use including alcohol.

In her spare time she enjoys good literature, cheering along with her garden and vegetable patch, and cooking and entertaining family and friends. She makes a little time for serious travel most years. Cecile has two children and five grandchildren. Her other passions include the work of Rotary International as well as other charities like World Vision and Save the Children. Cecile supports a number of World Vision children in Africa and India as well as the work of Medecins Sans Frontieres. ‘If we each did a little thing to change what we would like to see changed – that would add up to monumental transformation’. A New Research Project Underway

A new research project has commenced that joins TILES (UTAS School of Government) with the Department of Justice, Tasmania Community Corrections to develop a community-based risk assessment measuring the likelihood of re-offending while an adult is on a community-based order.

The project team includes TILES Elite Research Scholarship holder Ms Heidi Gordon, Dr Sally Kelty and Associate Professor Roberta Julian from TILES, together with Mr. Ernest Aig, Learning and Development Manager, and with Ms Martha Robinson, Senior Practice Consultant (Department of Justice), as the project team advisor.

At present the Tasmanian Corrective Services are using a Canadian-based re-offending risk measurement tool. The measure, considered to be one of the best worldwide, has not been assessed for reliability in its ability to predict recidivism in the Tasmanian population. The aims of this project will be to statistically assess parts of which the Canadian assessment test work well in a Tasmanian sample and which parts of the measure do not. Secondly, to use this information to develop a unique re-offending risk measurement tool for use by Tasmanian probation officers. The new measurement tool will be a practical and effective measure that will enhance the case management of Tasmanian offenders.

For Heidi, TILES PhD Elite Research scholar, this project provides the opportunity to further develop her knowledge and skills in the evaluation, development and implementation of community risk assessment tools that are reliable, effective and useful for clinical practitioners working within correctional services. TILES congratulates Heidi for receiving the Scholarship from UTAS. The Scholarship is awarded to students who have an outstanding academic record and its support and resources will assist Heidi during her PhD studies.

TILES is a UTAS Research Institute committed to excellence in law enforcement research. The hallmark of the Institute is linking academics with practitioners from policing, law enforcement and public sector agencies in innovative and collaborative empirical research and program evaluation.