



## Directors Report

2007 has kicked off at a frantic pace for TILES. Between January and March much of our energy has been focused on preparing ARC Discovery and Linkage Grant applications as well as submitting tenders to conduct significant program evaluations. This has involved Jenny Fleming and myself working closely with Victoria Police and collaborating with researchers in various disciplines at UTAS as well as other universities and agencies throughout the country. Whether we are successful or not in these applications (and we certainly hope we'll be successful in some!) these collaborations serve to lift the profile of the Institute and encourage other researchers to contact us in order to establish research partnerships in the future. Our alliances at UTAS and Australia-wide have grown significantly in the past six months and we are very excited about the opportunities this will open up for collaborative research in the future.

The first TILES Seminar for 2007, given by Dr Alison Wakefield (City University, London), provided a perfect example of the interest and enthusiasm generated through collaboration between police practitioners and academics – in terms

of the research itself but also in relation to the conversations that arose from the presentation of her research findings to a 'mixed' audience. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jenny Fleming for initiating Dr Wakefield's visit to Tasmania and for organising this very successful seminar (see below for further details).

We have recently launched a new website for the Institute. The new website has a much more professional 'look' and is being updated regularly with new material including publications and research reports as well as updates on current research projects. I would like to thank our Administrative Assistant, Rose-Marie Vasiljuk, for all the work and energy she has put into constructing this website and ensuring that it maintains a high standard of presentation.

The year ahead will be a busy one for all of us at TILES. Our Social Norms Analysis Project is well underway. We will be reporting regularly on the research findings and providing opportunities for community engagement and feedback in accordance with the principles of the Social Norms methodology. We will



be having regular seminars, producing regular briefing papers and engaging even more broadly with researchers and law enforcement agencies as we progress through the year ahead.

Finally, please take note of our new email address and update your address books accordingly so that you don't lose touch with us.

Wishing you all the best for a busy and productive year ahead.

**Roberta Julian**  
*Associate Professor and Director  
Tasmanian Institute of Law  
Enforcement Studies*

## The Value of Foot Patrol – TILES first seminar 2007

Dr Alison Wakefield gave the first TILES seminar of the year at the University of Tasmania on 8 February. Dr Wakefield is a lecturer in criminology in the Department of Sociology at City University, London. Dr Wakefield is the author of *The Value of Foot Patrol*, a research report published by The Police Foundation.

The Report (available from the Police Foundation website: [www.police-foundation.org.uk](http://www.police-foundation.org.uk)) assesses current evidence to explore whether foot patrol can meet the high expectations of citizens and policy makers. It asks: What does the public expect from foot patrol? What models of foot patrol can be identified from the research evidence? What should be the main objectives of foot patrol, based on public expectations? Are these objectives being achieved?



*Seminar participants from Tasmania Police TILES and Utas*

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The research, conducted in the UK, draws on social surveys examining public expectations of policing, studies of foot patrol initiatives and general policing literature. Social surveys are held to reflect the popularity of foot patrol among the public, as well as demonstrate the priority being attached to foot patrol and its perceived objectives. According to Dr Wakefield there are limitations to such findings. The report discusses these limitations and calls for further targeted studies using more sophisticated questioning techniques.



Dr Wakefield and Dr Rob Hall

Leaving aside the quality of public opinion surveys, the dominant message of the research is that the public associate foot patrol with a range of expected outcomes (most frequently reassurance and crime prevention) and a set of specific policing interventions or activities that police should be doing 'more of' (e.g. providing advice, gathering local intelligence and dealing with disturbances). Additionally, the importance of varying approaches to foot patrol according to local needs (e.g. visible patrolling versus proactive targeting of criminals) is indicated in evidence that different social groups have different expectations of foot patrol.

In summary, the public are not simply asking for more foot patrol, but for a style of policing associated with the popular image epitomised by PC George Dixon, the archetypal community 'bobby', whose approach is friendly, familiar, and consensual.

The seminar attracted PhD candidates, UTAS staff and Officers from the Sergeants' course from the Tasmanian Police Academy. Their presence and involvement in subsequent discussion was very interesting and demonstrated the value of the practitioner/academic link in police studies. The seminar was a great success and during lunch participants were able to discuss the issues raised during DrWakefield's talk more fully.

TILES plans to repeat these seminars throughout the year with both practitioners and academics contributing to the series. Where possible we will be encouraging police practitioner attendance and input. The next seminar is scheduled for May and details will be posted on the website.

## Public Debate

### Controversial laws face test

By GILL VOWLES

THE Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies is about to start a review of the state's Safe at Home laws.

PhD student Romy Winter said she was about to go into the field to interview police and members of the criminal justice system.

"I will be looking at how the legislation is being implemented on the ground, with the goal of testing how the process is working in the Tasmanian context," Ms Winter said.

Ms Winter said she did not yet have any first-hand evidence of problems with the legislation, but was aware of media reports about concerns within the legal profession.

"I believe that on the whole child and adult victims are



REVIEW: Romy Winter is going into the field.

safer as a result of the legislation." The institute, a partnership between the University of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Department of Police and Emergency Management, had

an advisory role in the development of the Tasmania Police Risk Assessment Screening Tool (RAST) and has an ongoing role in refining it.

Ms Winter said the primary task of the RAST was to assess the victim's risk of experiencing future violence.

"It is a victim-based tool aimed at assessing risk and gathering evidence about the victim," Ms Winter said.

"It is not primarily a tool to assess the dangerousness of the offender and it is not used as a basis for decisions regarding arrest.

"It provides information that, in addition to other matters, may affect the prospect of a suspect receiving bail."

Ms Winter said she expected the review to be completed towards the end of this year.

## DEPARTMENT OF POLICE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT and COMMISSIONER OF POLICE SCHOLARSHIPS 2007



Graduation Ceremony February 2007 DPEM Scholarship recipients: Photo Courtesy Tas Police

The Commissioner of Police Scholarships are awarded by Mr McCreadie to members who have performed with distinction – historically this has been either the Dux or Runner-up to Dux - of the Trainee Courses. Members apply for the Department of Police and Emergency Management (DPEM) Scholarships and their applications are considered by the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme (TEAS) Board of Management and short-listed.

The short-listed applicants are then referred to the University of Tasmania's Department of Police and Emergency Management Scholarship Committee, who award the scholarships. The Committee includes the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor Jan Pakulski, the Coordinator of Police Studies, Dr Robert Hall, Deputy Commissioner Jack Johnston and Inspector Matthew Richman.

Scholarships are awarded on a yearly basis and are keenly contested. Each scholarship is for one year of part-time study at the University of Tasmania. Recipients are entitled to up to \$3,000 (for fees and books).

During the graduation ceremony for Trainee Course 2 of 2006 on Friday 16th of February 2007, the successful applicants for the DPEM Scholarships were formally recognised when Scholarships were bestowed on them.

### Recipients of the Department of Police and Emergency Management Scholarships

Constable Sally Griesbach;  
Mr Andrew Griffiths;  
Ms Andrea Heath;  
Mr Alex Lee;  
Constable Daniel Newbury; and  
Constable Timothy Traill.

### Recipients of the Commissioner for Police Scholarships

Constable Loretta Ashwood;  
Constable Alan Davis;  
Constable Joshua Hayes; and  
Constable Elizabeth Parry.

In January of this year the Tasmanian newspapers reported contentious community, legal and research opinions on the impact in this state of the Tasmania Police Family Violence Risk Assessment Screen Tool (RAST). The tool was introduced into Tasmania in 2005 as part of the Safe at Home legislation. Romy Winter, Ph D Candidate with TILES, has the key research voice in this public debate. She is quoted by Gill Vowles of the *Sunday Tasmanian* on the 28th January 2007...

# Publications

## BOOKS

### ***Fighting Crime Together The Challenges of Policing and Security Networks***

Edited by Jenny Fleming & Jennifer Wood

The demand for security in Western democracies such as ours exceeds the capacity of governments to provide it. This means that whether they want to or not, police regularly have to work with and through local, national, and international partnerships.

*Fighting Crime Together: the Challenges of Policing and Security Networks* explores the development of a networked approach to security and policing. It looks at ways in which police can develop new strategies for integrating the knowledge and capacities of different security providers.



While the strategic appeal of governance networks is widely accepted, they pose dilemmas and challenges for traditional notions of accountability and public policy.

*Fighting Crime Together* brings together high-profile scholars including: Professor John Braithwaite (ANU) AFP Commissioner Mick Keelty, Associate Professor Benoit Dupont, (University of Montreal), AFP Senior Intelligence Analyst Jennine Boughton, Professor Rod Rhodes (ANU) and Victorian Police Commissioner Christine Nixon to highlight the challenges of developing policing and security networks at local, national and international levels.

ISBN 0-86840-9235 UNSW Press, 235 mm x 155 mm, PB, October 2006, \$49.95

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

Burgess, M, Fleming, J and Marks, M (2006) 'Thinking critically about police unions in Australia: Internal democracy and external responsiveness', *Police Practice and Research: an International Journal*, Vol. 7 (5) December, 391-409

Campbell, D (2007) Community Policing and Refugee Settlement in Regional Australia: A Police Perspective. *The International Journal of Diversity in Organisations, Communities and Nations*, Vol. 6 (4) 7-13.

# Conferences

### ***The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) Annual Conference, University of Western Australia, Perth, 4-7 December 2006.***

#### ***Presidential Address: 'Policing Research in Australia: A New Frontier for Public Sociology?'***

The Director of TILES, Associate Professor Roberta Julian, delivered the Presidential Address at the TASA Conference in Perth, WA in December 2006. One of the aims of her paper was to increase the profile of law enforcement/policing research among the sociological community in Australia. While sociologists are strongly represented among criminological researchers, the field of policing research in Australia is less extensive with only a handful of sociologists engaged in this area. A/Professor Julian's paper examined academic-police partnerships in research processes and outputs as an example of a newly emerging field in Australia. She noted the opportunities available to learn lessons regarding engagement in academic-practitioner research partnerships from the extensive experience of health sociologists.

In her address A/Professor Julian developed some ideas she began to develop in her 2005 Presidential Address. Drawing on Michael Burawoy's (2005) four ideal types of sociology she reflected on the *structure, content* and *methods* of research in the field of policing in Australia today. She began with Burawoy's distinction between *policy sociology* and public sociology:

**Policy sociology** is sociology in the service of a goal defined by a client. Policy sociology's *raison d'être* is to provide solutions to problems that are presented to us, or to legitimate solutions that have already been reached (Burawoy, 2005: 266)

**Public sociology** strikes up a dialogic relation between sociologist and public in which the agenda of each is brought to the table, in which each adjusts to the other. In public sociology, discussion often involves values or goals that are not automatically shared by both sides so that reciprocity, or as Habermas (1984) calls it 'communicative action', is often hard to sustain.

Still, it is the goal of public sociology to develop such a conversation (Burawoy, 2005: 267).

She posed the questions:

- Is *policing* (or *law enforcement*) a potential site for the development of a public sociology?
- What factors enhance and what factors inhibit the development of such a site?

A/Professor Julian discussed the strengths and weaknesses of academic-practitioner partnerships by reflecting on her experiences as Director of TILES, noting that:

- TILES has realised more than \$1M in research funding;
- The Institute is engaged in an array of research projects;
- Many projects are multi-disciplinary, multi-university and multi-jurisdictional – leveraging off academic and practitioner expertise; and that
- Police practitioners form an integral part of each research project at both the governance and the delivery levels.

She argued that in order to create a public sociology in policing, a number of conditions need to be met, including:

- Strengthening the link between theory and evidence-based research;
- Encouraging critique not compliance; and
- Resisting the tendency towards homogeneity in method.

The outcome may well be the creation of 'a transaction space', described by Leydesdorff and Etzkowitz (2001) as follows:

The construction of a transaction space does not have to lead to consensus. On the contrary: one expects differences of perspectives, leading to creative interactions in which the participants can transcend the *idees reçues* (received ideas) of their respective organizations...

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When new ideas for projects and programs are exchanged among people of different backgrounds and interests, they may be challenged to act freely and creatively. Such mutual adjustments of expectations then begin to change the ... environments of the ... institutional agencies involved by making the options more knowledge-intensive.

A/Professor Julian concluded by stating that TILES aims to promote the development of a public sociology in policing through creating a research environment that has the characteristics of such a 'transaction space'.

References:

Burawoy, Michael (2005) '2004 American Sociological Association Presidential address: For public sociology', *The British Journal of Sociology*, Vol.56, Issue 2, pp.259-94.

Leydesdorff, Loet and Etzkowitz, Henry (2001) 'The Transformation of University-industry-government Relations', *Electronic Journal of Sociology* (2001), CAAP.

# TILES Launches new look website



Rose-Marie Vasiljuk is the Administrative Officer with TILES and is responsible for maintaining the TILES website. She hopes that this facelift has incorporated, in text and graphics, the main

synergies between the University of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Police . Rose-Marie would appreciate your feedback. Email: tiles@utas.edu.au

## PhD Showcase



Ms Barbara Stewart

### Ms Barbara Stewart – Pathways into Policing - Why do women self select a career in policing, given its acknowledged status as a male-dominated organisation.

Barbara Stewart is a PhD Candidate with TILES, with a background in sociology. She completed her Honours in 2003, researching the influence of police culture on policewomen. She is continuing her interest in the area of women police, researching the effects of socialisation on policewomen's choice of a career in a male dominated workplace. Barbara is supervised by Associate Professor Roberta Julian, Director TILES and Dr Robert Hall.

Few occupations have been so fully defined as masculine and as resistant to the integration of women as Policing. Despite nearly 100 years of involvement, women officers continue to contest negative stereotypes which are rooted in societal and cultural attitudes towards women, and which present an image of women as unsuitable for police work. The current research examines the motivations and contextual influences of constables' choice of policing as a career, with an emphasis on female constables. The study, in particular, investigates whether there is a relationship between perceptions of policing as a suitable career option and individual socialization. A number of factors influencing career choice has been identified in the literature, the primary influence being gender socialization - within the family, from significant others, through educational institutions and within the workplace. These factors can be related to the development of personal attributes such as self-efficacy, self esteem and perceptions of gender appropriate activities.

- The focus of the research, is to explore the relationship between gender identity and the choice of policing as a career, through the following questions.
- Are there identifiable pathways into policing?
- Can factors predictive of these various pathways be identified? i.e. do these patterns correlate with 'gender identity'?

- Does a policewoman's gender identity influence her experience of policing? i.e. is there a relationship between 'doing gender' and 'doing policing'?

In April 2007 I will posting out surveys to police constables in Tasmania, Victoria and West Australia. This will be followed by in depth interviews conducted across the same three states.

Contact at barbaras@postoffice.sandybay.utas.edu.au if you would like to know more about my research.

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