



CRSP NEWSLETTER

Centre for Research on Security Practices



Welcome to the Inaugural CRSP Newsletter!

We hope you and your loved ones are healthy and safe at this difficult time, including the global pandemic and ongoing global demonstrations. CRSP would like to express empathy and solidarity with those in our communities who are experiencing loss and apprehension. While we grapple with these new challenges to our personal and professional lives, we are also looking to maintain some form of routine and connection to others. We are therefore excited to share our inaugural newsletter that provides an update on CRSP activities. The newsletter will contribute to CRSP's goal to continue to build relationships among a group of scholars whose common research interests are in security practices and human security in all its many forms.

CRSP'S New Home

With the generous support of Wilfrid Laurier University, CRSP has initiated the renovation of the second floor of Wilkes House (119 Darling Street, Brantford) for its new home. The new CRSP space will house offices, flex space, and a multipurpose meeting room where CRSP members will collaborate on research and spark new ideas related to security practices and human security.



True to its commitment of mentoring and teaching students, the new CRSP space will have ample work space for research assistants to work alongside CRSP-affiliated faculty, giving students valuable hands-on research experience.

Connected to CRSP is the Craft of Intelligence Analysis Lab (CIAL). Funded by a Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) grant, CIAL is equipped with microphones and observational equipment, data analytical software and an open workspace for conducting focus group interviews and observing interactions in small group work. The space is available for all CRSP researchers, and the infrastructure can be incorporated into future research grant applications. For more information regarding the space please contact CRSP Director, Carrie Sanders (csanders@wlu.ca).



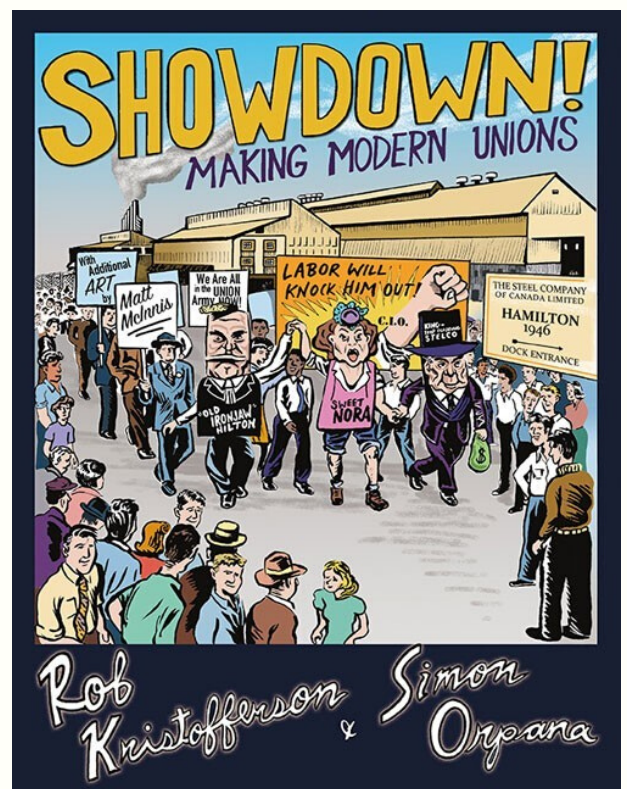
While construction has been slowed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are happy to report that things are progressing. We are working closely with an architecture firm, DPAI, to create a space that fosters wellbeing and productivity for researchers, research assistants, and our research partners. We are eager to get hammers swinging and move in. We will keep you posted as the space takes shape.

CRSP Talk Series

In Fall 2019 and Winter 2020, CRSP hosted three presentations as part of our ongoing talk series.

Our **ExCHAnGE: Exploring Communication Holistically and Generating Engagement** series focuses on how research findings can be shared across a range of media such as podcasts, blogs, graphic novels, and art. In October 2019, Dr. Rob Kristofferson discussed how graphic novels can be used to share research, drawing upon his co-authored (with Simon Orpana) book, *Showdown!: Making Modern Unions*.

Talks in our **Stories from the Field** series discuss researchers' experiences collecting data in diverse contexts. This series aims to take audiences behind the scenes to learn about the challenges and dilemmas in field work, as well as creative ways to successfully complete field research.





In December 2019, CRSP Steering Committee member, **Dr. Stacy Wilson-Forsberg**, presented her recent project in Mexico, sharing practical and ethical issues that emerged in supervising students in a volatile research setting. In a CRSP-sponsored public lecture in February 2020, CRSP member and Canada Research Chair, **Dr. Christopher Kyriakides**, shared research on refugee-host relations in Canada and presented an analytical framework by which to better understand interactions between refugee and reception communities.

Valuable for sharing information with faculty, students, and staff, our CRSP talk series also provide students with a window into the research world. We are now planning our 2020-2021 talk series. If you have an idea for a talk, please contact CRSP Senior Research Associate, Dr. Shane Dixon (sdixon@wlu.ca).

CELEBRATING FUNDING SUCCESS

CRSP members have had great success acquiring grants from external sources taking in over \$1 million in research funding. Sources include: the Canada Foundation for Innovation, Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation and Science, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, as well as the British Columbia Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Gang Outreach Funds.

Congratulations to all CRSP awardees!

Remember that CRSP members have access to grant application writing support. For more information, please contact CRSP Senior Research Associate, Dr. Shane Dixon (sdixon@wlu.ca).

Step Up to the Microphone! Mobilizing Knowledge Via Podcasts

Podcasts provide researchers with an engaging, mobile-friendly, medium to connect with diverse audiences. While an important knowledge mobilization option at any time, podcasts are especially relevant now that in-person interactions are limited due to COVID-19. CRSP has teamed up with Wilfrid Laurier University's podcaster-in-residence, Avery Moore Kloss, to organize a series of podcasts featuring CRSP members' research. Look for our first podcast on the CRSP website in June 2020. If you are interested in sharing your research via podcast, please contact CRSP Senior Research Associate, Dr. Shane Dixon (sdixon@wlu.ca).



CRSP Students

CRSP highly values mentoring and training students and postdocs by including them in our research projects, talk series, and workshops. Since spring 2019, **Dr. Jessica Braimoh** has held a post-doctoral fellowship with CRSP. She has been working with **Drs. Eri Dej and Carrie Sanders** to interrogate misperceptions of homelessness and crime and create a fact-based counternarrative on the experiences of homelessness and community safety and security. In Fall 2019 and Winter 2020, CRSP employed three excellent undergraduate students, **Clarissa Kurzawski, Sivetha Sivaram, Brittany Nieman**. For Summer 2020, we are excited to welcome **Danielle Thompson** (MA candidate in criminology) and **Maiya Mistry** (BA Criminology) as CRSP's newest student research assistants. Over the spring and summer months, Danielle will be working to create and implement student-engagement activities at CRSP, while Maiya will be working on various research tasks and projects for CRSP members. Welcome Danielle and Maiya!



Sharing CRSP Research

Recognizing the importance of accessing diverse audiences, CRSP members have maintained a strong track record of sharing research through a number of platforms.

- February 2019: CRSP Director, **Dr. Carrie Sanders**, and CRSP Member, **Dr. Debra Langan's** research on a new community safety initiative in Ontario, Situation Tables, was discussed on [Vice](#).
- April 2019: CRSP Member, **Dr. Alana Saulnier**, penned a piece for [Blue Line](#) concerning how the use of body worn cameras affect public perceptions of police.
- July 2019: CRSP Steering Committee member, **Dr. Stacey Wilson-Forsberg**, wrote an article for [The Conversation](#) describing the consequences of US foreign policy on migrants.
- September 2019: CRSP Members, **Drs. Debra Langan and Carrie Sanders**, published a research report, *Gender, policing and inclusion: Opportunities for change*, in [Blue Line](#), Canada's law enforcement magazine.
- November 2019: In a [multi-media exhibit](#) at the Conrad Grebel Gallery in Waterloo, Ontario, CRSP Steering Committee member, **Dr. Sara Matthews**, shared her research on drone technologies.
- February 2020: CRSP Member, **Dr. Erin Dej**, was interviewed by [CBC Radio](#) about how the homeless are socially excluded in Canada.
March 2020: CRSP Member, **Dr. Erin Dej**, was interviewed by [CTV Kitchener](#) about homelessness and coping with loneliness during COVID-19.
- May 2020: To promote a newly released chapter on the importance of fieldnotes in research, CRSP Associate Director, **Dr. Bree Akesson**, discussed using fieldnotes with a team conducting research with war-affected populations via a [YouTube video](#).



Please let us know about the different ways you are sharing your research by emailing CRSP Senior Research Associate, Dr. Shane Dixon (sdixon@wlu.ca).

Ongoing CRSP Research Projects

Forced Migration

- **Dr. Bree Akesson** is leading a team to examine the displacement and resettlement experiences of 40 war-affected families who are now living in Canada.
- Leading a large pan-Canadian study, **Dr. Stacy Wilson-Forsberg** is examining the educational experiences of African refugee youth.
- **Drs. Cindy Sousa, Ravi Gokani, and Bree Akesson** are working on multiple research projects aimed at identifying methods that war-affected parents use to care for themselves and their families in the context of flight, displacement, and resettlement.



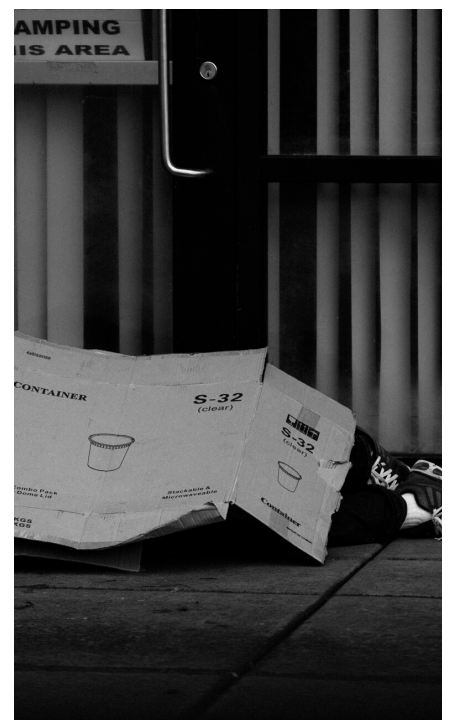
Policing and Surveillance



- **Drs. Debra Langan and Carrie Sanders** explore gender in Canadian policing to understand the challenges for the recruitment, retention and promotion of women.
- Working with a group of Canadian and American researchers, **Dr. Patrick Watson** is looking at how video evidence is used in criminal trials and how content streaming services make use of recommendation algorithms.
- **Drs. Alana Saulnier and Carrie Sanders** are examining how body-worn cameras impact frontline policing practices, community relations and occupational health and wellbeing.
- Working with an international team of researchers, CRSP Director, **Dr. Carrie Sanders** explores the integration, use, and governance of big data and data analytics in policing practices in Australia, Canada, and New Zealand.

Poverty and Homelessness

- A project led by **Dr. James Popham** is examining the Brantford Downtown Outreach Team to learn about how urban outreach projects function and ultimately support community members.
- **Drs. Lauren Eisler, Erin Dej, and Carrie Sanders** are exploring how the experience of poverty in rural communities affects access to legal services.
- **Drs. Bree Akesson and Andrew Basso** are investigating the biopsychosocial impact of extreme domicile—the intentional destruction of home as a result of war—using eight geographically diverse case studies throughout history.
- Drawing from a range of stakeholders, **Drs. Erin Dej, Carrie Sanders, and Jessica Braimoh** are examining the experiences and narratives surrounding homelessness, crime, and public safety to identify opportunities for promoting community resilience.



Upcoming Events

With generous funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), CRSP will be hosting a two-day interdisciplinary workshop to discuss the methodological challenges of doing research on human security. The workshop, **Working Through Security: Methods of Making Security Practices Visible Through Research**, will explore themes such as ethical issues, data sensitivity, research access, legislation, and technological and political constraints. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the date for the workshop is pending. Stay tuned!



We Want to Hear from You!

We recently emailed you an invitation to complete our short online survey to share your ideas about future events and other activities to support your research. If you've completed it, thank you! If you haven't, please [click here](#) to complete it.

Research Funding Opportunities

SSHRC is investing \$1.5M to support **Partnership Engage Grants (PEGs)** related to COVID-19. These awards will provide support for small-scale, stakeholder-driven partnerships, allowing researchers and their partners to address specific needs, challenges and/or opportunities related to the pandemic and its impacts. Applicants may request up to \$25k. The partner organization—from the public, private, or non-profit sector—will support the project through either a cash or in-kind contribution. Intake for applications is 15 September. More information can be found [here](#).



The **Law Foundation of Ontario** has announced a call for funding of projects that could dramatically improve access to justice and justice sector performance. With potential funding between \$50,000-250,000, the deadline for proposals is 30 June 2020. Please see [this link](#) for more details.

If you are interested in either of the above or another funding opportunity, please email CRSP Senior Research Associate, Dr. Shane Dixon (sdixon@wlu.ca) for assistance with the application process.

Benefits of your CRSP Membership

- Access to a network of engaged scholars to share research ideas, receive critical feedback, and extend research networks.
- Access to research assistants for CRSP-related research projects.
- Access to administrative support for conference or workshop organization, and finance requisition related to CRSP events.
- Access to Senior Research Associate support for the development of research project ideas, grant writing, assistance with student research supervision, data analysis and writing.
- Access to in-kind support, and when budget permits cash contributions, that can be used in research grant applications.
- Access to CRSP website and listserv for sharing research outputs and publications, and advertising events.
- *Coming this fall:* Access to CRSP meeting room and research lab space.

Current CRSP Membership

Steering Committee

Carrie Sanders ([Director] Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Bree Akesson ([Associate Director] Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University)

James Popham ([Strategic Community Research Liaison] Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Sara Matthews (Global Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Nuha Dwaikat Shaer (Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Stacey Wilson-Forsberg (Human Rights and Diversity, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Staff

Shane Dixon (Senior Research Associate, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Elyse Kirby (Co-ordinator of Research Projects and Programming, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Members

Andrew Basso (Political Science, Western University)

Phillip Boyle (Sociology and Legal Studies, University of Waterloo)

Jessica Braimoh (Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Tony Christensen (Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Randol Contreras (University of California, Riverside)

Sara Cumming (Sociology, Sheridan College)

Erin Dej (Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Lauren Eisler (Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Tim Gawley (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Ravi Gokani (Social Work, Lakehead University)

Omri Grinberg (Sociology and Anthropology, Tel Aviv University)

Stephanie Howells (Sociology, Anthropology, University of Guelph)

Christopher Kyriakides (Sociology, York University)

Debra Langan (Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Jennifer Lavoie (Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Rosemary McGowan (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Cameron McKenzie (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Adam Molnar (Sociology, Law and Society, Univ. of Waterloo)

Scott Muir (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Judith Nicholson (Comm. Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Kate Rossiter (Community Health, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Alana Saulnier (Criminology, Lakehead University)

Cindy Sousa (Social Work, Bryn Mawr College)

Danielle Thompson (Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Patrick Watson (Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Crystal Weston (Sociology, University of Guelph)