11-13-1998

Report of the Division's Activities and Goals. Submitted to ASC Executive Board.

American Society of Criminology Division on Women and Crime.

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At the Social Hour, we gave three awards: Kimberly Cook of the University of Southern Maine won the New Scholar Award; Susan Caringella-MacDonald of Western Michigan State University won the Distinguished Scholar Award; and Angela Moe, a graduate student at Arizona State University, won the Student Paper Award ($250). During the business meetings, we heard reports from 17 committees and established several new ones, including a Good Practices Committee concerned with processing of tenure and promotion cases. We passed four resolutions:

1. Overcrowded jails should not lease space for women prisoners in outside jurisdictions. Leased jail space is often used to house female inmates when jails are crowded. Since females comprise a small percentage of a jail's population, transporting them to distant leased space is seen as a feasible solution to an overcrowded jail. However, the many hardships imposed on inmates sent out of jurisdiction are disproportionate to those incurred by inmates who remain within jurisdiction. Alternative arrangements and changes in incarceration policies can end the leasing practice. Most women offenders are better served in the community than in secure settings due to the relatively low level of seriousness of their crimes and their amenability to treatment.

We are forwarding this resolution to the ASC Board with a request for endorsement. For documentation, the Board should contact Prof. Rosalyn Muraskin.

2. Good Practice in the discipline in tenure and promotion decisions dictates that every academic department should develop Portfolio Guidelines for candidates, including examples of well-prepared materials for review. Good practice further means that when candidates come up for review, internal and external reviewers should include women and people of color.

This resolution shall be distributed once a year to all members of the American Society of Criminology.

We ask that the ASC Board endorse and implement this resolution.

3. The DWC votes to give the DWC Newsletter Editor $600 to hire a graduate assistant to help with the writing and distribution of the Newsletter.

This resolution requires no action by the ASC Board.

4. The DWC asks the ASC Executive Board to investigate the possibility of having the American Society of Criminology become a member of the American Council of Learned Societies. At the moment, criminology is not one of the included disciplines, which means that ASC members are not eligible to apply as criminologists for ACLS grants.

We ask that the ASC Board endorse and implement the proposed investigation.

Next year the DWC will be celebrating its 15th anniversary. Two DWC members are on the new ballot for ASC offices: Julie Horney for President and Marjorie Zatz for Vice President.
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