1999

Correspondence Related to DWC Newsletter DivisioNews, 1999

American Society of Criminology Division on Women and Crime.

Nicole Rafter

Susan Sharp

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Greetings,

As the new editor of the DWC newsletter, I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself and my co-editors, and to tell you about our plans and solicit your help.

First, the staff:

editor-in-chief: Susan F. Sharp, University of Oklahoma, ssharp@ou.edu

Associate editors:

MEMBER NEWS: Amy D'Unger, Emory, adunger@emory.edu
Send Amy all information about job openings, job shifts, members awards, etc.

BOOK REVIEWS: Kristin Winokur, Florida State University, kew2957@mailer.fsu.edu
Send Kristin information about books to be reviewed as well as volunteering to review books.

MEMBER PUBLICATIONS: Michelle Miller, University of Nebraska-Omaha, mmiller5@unl.edu
Send Michelle information about member publications.

LISTSERVE/WEB PAGE: Rebecca Petersen, University of Texas at San Antonio, RPETERSEN@utsa.edu
Send Becky information or questions about the webpage.

Now, about the newsletter. First, we will be going online with our next issue, to be published in March. If you need a hard copy instead of the electronic, please contact me (Susan Sharp), and I will make sure that you receive it.

We plan to have several issues devoted to specific themes or topics beginning in June 2000. The newsletter will come out every 3 months. As an editorial board, meeting with Nancy Wonders, we decided to solicit guest articles/editorials for these "theme" issues. Many of you will be receiving requests from us to submit. However, if you do not, please do not take offense. Our goal is to try to get input from a wide range of members - members with varied interests and backgrounds, at various stages in their academic careers, from all parts of the country, and from all types of institutions.

If you have suggestions about themes or contributors, please contact me and I will do my best to accommodate your ideas. Most of the comments and input about the newsletter in general will be discussed at next years meeting, so if you do not see immediate changes, don't get discouraged.

I am looking forward to the opportunity to be of service to the Division.

Susan Sharp

This is your newsletter - please help me make it the best it can be!
We are now at the end of the long process of redesigning our newsletter and selecting a new editor and editorial board. Thanks to you all for your input. I would also like to thank the former newsletter editor, Stephanie Bush-Baskette, for her help with these transitions.

Collectively, we have decided to move to an electronic format for the newsletter, making hard copies available to members who request them. The new newsletter will be part of an electronic package that also includes the listserv and the new webpage. How the three forms of communication interface will have to be worked out over the next year, and no doubt changes will continue as technology develops.

The Editor Selection Committee and I have chosen, to be the new Editor-in-Chief of the newsletter, SUSAN SHARP of the University of Oklahoma.

We have chosen to serve as Associate Editors AMY D'UNGERT of Emory University, REBECCA PETERSEN of University of Texas-San Antonio, KRISTEN PARSONS WINOKUR, who expects to graduate this December with a PhD from Florida State University, and MICHELLE MILLER of University of Nebraska, Omaha.

In all cases, these are 2-year appointments, running from November 1999 through November 2001. We expect the incoming Chair of the Division, Nancy Wonders, to organize the selection of a new editor, starting in the Summer of 2001, and we strongly encourage current Associate Editors to apply for that position.

We would also like to set up a Newsletter Editorial Board, consisting of the Editor-in-Chief, the Associate Editors, and the Division Chair. The Board's purpose would be to advise the Editor on issues. I will ask the DWC to endorse this and related proposals at the next business meeting, in Toronto.

While final decisions as to the duties of the Associate Editors will be worked out between Susan Sharp and the other editors, on the basis of our assessment of the editor's needs and the backgrounds and interests of the Associate Editors, the Editor Selection Committee and I recommend a division of responsibility something like this:

Amy d'Unger: member news such as new jobs and job shifts, announcements, and division business, including minutes of the last meeting. We hope that Susan and Amy, if the latter is responsible for member news, will also consider a page for discussion of issues and perhaps another for graduate student news.

Becky Petersen: interface with listserv and web page.

Kristen Winokur: book reviews.

Michelle Miller: member publications (compiling a list of and publishing notice of new ones)

At one point, Susan Krumholz volunteered to help with the newsletter, but I have persuaded her to take over responsibility for collecting syllabi on members' women/gender and crime courses and posting them on our web site. She will begin this work after completing her dissertation in Spring 2000. I am delighted that Susan has agreed to shoulder this responsibility as traditionally, sharing such syllabi has done a great deal to strengthen the division and forward our teaching and research goals.

As for the responsibilities of the new editor, they include: (1) compiling and electronically publishing 3 newsletters a year, in Spring, Summer, and Fall, during the year 1999-2000, and publishing 4 issues (Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall) in the year 2000-2001; (2) coordinating the work of the Associate Editors; (3) considering possibilities for regular or occasional columns to run in the newsletter; (4) helping the Division Chair with recruitment and selection of a successor.

Let me review the process by which we have selected our new editor and editorial board. I issued a general call for people interested in the position of newsletter editor and then consulted with them as well as the board and past editors about the advisability of going electronic. I also asked the candidates for information about themselves relevant to the
Then I assembled an Editor Selection Board consisting of Meda Chesney-Lind, Lynne Goodstein, and Chris Rasche, three past Chairs of the Division (Chris was also for a long time the editor of our newsletter). They received input from me and the candidates and then sent me their recommendations. I put these together with my own recommendations and ended up with the decisions outlined above.

We used the following criteria in selecting the new Editor-in-Chief: (1) willingness to do the job; (2) resources to do the job; (3) experience in newsletter production and/or web posting or webpage creation; (4) experience with the DWC; and (5) career status/year in current position. As the candidates were very evenly matched, the decision was a difficult one.

Last year, the DWC voted to make $600 available to the newsletter editor to hire an assistant. As that allocation was not used, we will give it to the new editor, to use as she sees fit (subject to approval of the Chair). At the upcoming business meetings, I will propose that the same amount again be allocated for this purpose in November of 2000. I will call for a vote on this at the 1999 meetings so the new editor will know what she can count on.

An organization's newsletter helps retain current members and attract new ones. It serves as an important mechanism for disseminating information and building ties. It can greatly strengthen an organization. Thus I am delighted that we have been able to assemble such a wonderful editorial team.

New editors: Please email me to acknowledge receipt of this message and accept your position. Your appointments will become final when I hear from you.

So far as I know, we are the first ASC division to start an electronic newsletter and rationalize our selection processes. As the new listserv, the new webpage, and now the new newsletter come into being, I sense a burst of renewed energy from our members. I think we are moving into a new phase in our existence as an organization, one that promises an exciting future. Thanks to all of you who helped make this possible.

Nicole Rafter
Chair, DWC
Dear DWC members:

Here is information on changes taking place in division communications, particularly in the newsletter, for which we now have a new editor and editorial board. I hope you are as pleased as I am with these developments. We can discuss them further at the Toronto meetings, and meanwhile, please let me hear from you if you have comments or suggestions.

Best wishes,
Nicky Rafter
(Chair)

---------- Forwarded message ----------

Date: Fri, 22 Oct 1999 11:31:40 -0900 (PDT)
From: nicole rafter <raftern@badger.jsc.vsc.edu>
To: DWC newsletter and editors <ascdow@DHVX20.CSUDH.EDU>
Subject: DWC newsletter and editors

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