



LEANING FORWARD

TESS GERRITSEN PRESENTS... APRIL 2010

The Husson University Criminal Justice Club closed out their activities last year by hosting a day with international best selling mystery writer Dr. Tess Gerritsen. The day began with club members and special guests having a casual breakfast with Dr. Gerritsen who talked to club members about her life and literary works as well as a new television program based on her Rizzoli and Isles novel series. After breakfast Dr. Gerritsen was escorted by club members to The Gracie where she presented a lecture to nearly 500 students, faculty and guests. Dr. Gerritsen discussed her novels, her research methods, the TV series and many other interesting topics, including her newest novel, *Ice Cold*, which was due to be released in June. This presentation was followed by a question and answer period. The club then surprised Dr. Gerritsen with a fantastic painting by Husson's own David Haskins (both pictured below).

Research prior to her arrival found an earlier article describing her first attempt at novel writing:

"I first knew I was a writer when I was about seven years old. While cleaning out my mother's old house, I came across one of the very first books I ever wrote: **Jungle Journey**. I'd bound it with needle and thread, and illustrated it with pictures of a blue zebra. (Why is the zebra blue? I have no idea.)



Mickey the zebra decided to go on a walk through the jungle. He knew he wasn't supposed to, but he didn't know why. His mother told him never to go into the jungle alone... (Yes, even eight year olds know about foreshadowing.) Mickey came to a big tree. There was a parrot in it. "Don't go into the jungle," he said. Two pages in, and you can already guess what's coming next. Something Really Bad. Is this kid destined to be a thriller writer or what?"

From this very short article David was able to produce a painting that depicted Mickey and danger very clearly. Dr. Gerritsen was very moved by the painting and thanked David and the Club.

A book signing followed where Dr. Gerritsen signed books for an hour and talked to those who had been in the audience. Everyone who attended the event was struck by her talent and warmth. Dr. Gerritsen subsequently contacted the club and asked them to do some research for her next novel.

BOOK AWARDS FALL 2010

Donna Beck (pictured at right), who is a member of the Paralegal Club and a B.S. in Paralegal Studies major, received a \$200.00 book award based upon her outstanding grade point average and community service for the start of the 2010-2011 school year.

The CJ Club also started the year by the presentation of two book store awards to students. These awards of \$400.00 each were presented to Kyle McDonald and Jordain Storman.

Both student organizations are planning to raise money to support student book awards to be given out in the beginning of the fall 2011 semester.





CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM - APRIL 2010

The Maine Civil Support Team, one of 22 military units responsible for responding to a nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons attack in the United States, visited the Husson campus in April. The CST set up an outdoor down range operations center for students in the Comparative Criminal Justice Systems course to provide an opportunity for experiential learning using an active role play scenario. This demonstration involved a mock threat in which a suspicious white substance was placed into a parked vehicle and student volunteers were able to suit up to actively participate in the on-site mock investigation. Students were walked through the process of sampling and analyzing the powder and then moving through a simulated decontamination line. Special thanks go out to Major Jay Brock and his team for making this experiential learning opportunity possible and showing students how these types of threat scenarios are handled.



LEGAL STUDIES AWARD NIGHT - MAY 2010

On May 7, 2010 the Legal Studies programs, which included 336 total students, celebrated the academic achievements of Criminal Justice and Paralegal Studies students with a variety of awards. The Watch award was given to Ronald Gastia (CJ) and Kalya Doten (PL) for highest GPA. The Plaque award was given to Amanda Loeven (CJ) and Lizbeth Fontaine (PL) for outstanding community service and academic achievement. Delmar provided book awards for two paralegal students who were graduating – Charlotte Burns and Jeffrey Emonds. Students receiving Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges were also honored.

The audience was also honored by two speakers – Darryl Peary from the Maine State Police and alumna of the MSCJA program and Liz Marrs from NALS (National Association of Legal Professionals) – who discussed their careers and the impact of education on their success.

HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES

Alpha Phi Sigma 2010 Induction Ceremony (CJ Honor Society)

This event marked the fourth ceremony at which undergraduate and graduate Legal Studies students were accepted into the Theta Phi chapter at Husson. The 2010 class included the following Criminal Justice, CJ-Psychology, and Master's in Criminal Justice Administration candidates:

Brandy Alexander	Heather Levesque
Timothy Barker	Timothy Lowell
Shanna Allen	Robin Lozier
Michael Bachelder	Katrina Lyons
John Bene	Danielle Luce
Kaitlin Donle	Timothy McGuire
Paul Dosen	Michael McPike
Dustin Dow	Bethany Nadeau
Warren Ferland	Joey Seeley
Justin Fowle	David Silk
Peter Goheen	Derek Stevens
Michael Hamilton	Travis Stewart
John Hanlon	Kabryn Sturdee
Amy Johndro	Corina Tibbetts
Barry Kitchen	Robert Welch
Jeremy Kuhn	

Lambda Epsilon Chi (LEX) 2010 Induction Ceremony (PL Honor Society)

This was also the fourth induction ceremony for the Paralegal honor society. The 2010 candidates met the criteria of having at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher and completing at least 75 credit hours. The Bachelor degree candidates for the honor society were:

Donna Beck

Gladys Boivin

Suzette Moulton

Sarah Tischart

Susan Way



MAINE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY GRADUATION

On May 21, 2010, members of the Legal Studies faculty attended the MCJA graduation in Vassalboro, Maine to congratulate our tuition student candidate, John Bene (pictured right), who was graduating. In addition to his achievement of completing the Academy, John also received the Combined Practical Skills Proficiency Award and the Physical Fitness Proficiency Award (Charles Howe IV Award). John was pinned by his wife, Amy Bene.

Additionally, another current CJ student at the Portland campus, Ryan Hatch, who was hired by Saco P.D. graduated and was pinned by his Chief Brad Paul who is also an alumnus of the CJ program (pictured above right).



Three other Husson alumni graduated from the MCJA that same day. They have all been hired by police departments prior to attending the Academy. The graduates include: Sean Dow, Searsport P.D.; Joshua Kuhn, Bangor P.D. (pictured above far left being pinned by his father, Robert Kuhn, Professor in the School of Business at Husson); and Stephen Morrell, Newport P.D. (pictured above middle being pinned by alumnus Chief Leonard MacDaid).

The keynote address at graduation was presented by U.S. Attorney Paula Silsby with an additional presentation by the Director of the Academy, John Rogers.

ROTC COMMISSIONING

On May 14, 2010, the Legal Studies faculty attended the Commissioning ceremony for the ROTC cadets from the Criminal Justice Program. The Ceremony was held at the University of Maine in conjunction with the Black Bear Battalion which includes both Husson and University of Maine students. William Scull (pictured below left) was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant with the Infantry Branch; Michael Hamlin (pictured below middle) was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant also in the Infantry Branch; and Jeremy Kuhn (pictured below right) was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corps.

We applaud their leadership training and their service to this country. We would also like to thank our colleagues – Lt. Colonel Stephen Szewc, Major James Karcanes, Captain Joseph Miller, and Master Sergeant Joel Peaslee and 1st Lieutenant John York – who worked tirelessly with molding these military leaders of the future.



CJ CLUB ACTIVITIES

The Criminal Justice Club starts this year under a new president, Ben Murtiff, who has hit the ground running. For the past two years the club had been led by Shanna Allen who did a fantastic job and her efforts are greatly appreciated. This year the club is going to partner with the Bangor Police Department to participate in the Special Olympics. The club will also be active in the support of Open Houses, fund raising efforts, and has volunteered to help with Freshman Weekend next fall. Efforts are also underway to host another author in an event similar to the very successful "Day with Dr. Tess Gerritsen." Also the club intends to be active in the support of Legal Studies second annual career day.

PL CLUB ACTIVITIES

The Paralegal Club also begins the year under a new President – Stephanie Bushmich. Joining her are V.P. Jessica Burrill; Secretary Erica Richardson; and returning Treasurer Alexandra Huffman. The Club has already this year been on a tour of the Penobscot County Jail. They have created new polo shirts with the club's emblem for the upcoming Open House where they will greet new students. New members will be taking the Notary Public exam during the next semester. And the biggest news is the Club's plan for a trip to Washington D.C. in the spring with fundraisers to support their expenses.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN CJ



Professor Plebani is currently offering two newly redesigned sections of Introduction to Justice and Public Safety that highlight the value of hands-on, experiential learning. This fundamental survey course is piloting the use of Criminal Justice Interactive, an innovative on-line program that contains readings, videos, and exercises that assist students in mastering key concepts in policing, the courts, and corrections. (Pictured at far left – Students from CJ 101; pictured immediate left, alumnus Officer Dan Merrill and students)

CJ 101 students have also benefited from a range of experiential learning opportunities, including three role play demonstrations and a live Simunitions training facilitated by the Orono Police Department. These hands-on demos involved a number of simulated calls ranging from a traffic stop and vehicle search to domestic assault and a burglary in progress.

As a supplement to these law enforcement scenarios, guest speakers have also been prominently featured in the course to give students a real-world perspective on various career options in criminal justice. The class was privileged to host Maine District Court Judge Jessie Gunther, Penobscot County District Attorney Christopher Almy, and Defense Attorney Marie Hansen before Thanksgiving and looks forward to presentations after the holiday break from Probation Officer Corey Day and Mountain View Youth Development Center Deputy Superintendent Larry Austin. Intro students will round out the course with a trip to the Penobscot County Jail in mid-November as yet another aspect of practical, experiential learning in the CJ program.