

HUSSON ALUMNI

Star Bergh, a graduate from the Southern Maine Husson University campus is doing well and is advancing herself and her 8 year-old daughter by attending the University of Maine Law School. Graduating at Husson University with a Criminal Justice degree was a rewarding experience for the single mother. Law school is certainly a challenge, but she holds true to keeping everything at “one day at a time”. The article can be found at: <http://mainelaw.maine.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/parents-in-law.pdf>.

SPOTLIGHT ON FACULTY



John Michaud, Director of the School of Legal Studies was recently interviewed by WVII-TV Channel 7 . The interview focused on the recent terrorist attacks that occurred in Paris, and the overall complexity of the subject. You may view the article at: <http://wabi.tv/2015/01/12/former-terror-expert-says-attacks-cant-alter-way-live/>.

Over Spring Break, Assistant Professor Alicia Wilcox presented her early research findings for her PhD at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. Alicia is researching “How Jurors Interpret Expert Scientific Testimony” they hear during the course of a criminal trial. The audience were members of the Maine Evidence Response Team and were interested in the research and how to improve their credibility and testimony from a juror’s perspective.



Husson University hosted one of the many locations of The Maine Science Festival. Professor Alicia Wilcox presented during the event also held at the Cross Insurance Center. The goal was to raise awareness of Husson University’s new Forensic Science Program.



In addition to teaching classes this summer, Professor Jodie Fairbank reported that she completed a certificate in cybersecurity, which included classes in cybercrime, cybersecurity, computer forensics, cyber law, digital forensics, and legal issues in information security; she attended the Coalition for Juvenile Justice Annual Conference in Washington DC; and last, but certainly not least, she was accepted into a PhD program at Nova Southeastern University in Criminal Justice with a specialization in Juvenile Justice.

Criminal Justice Club, Forensic Science Club, and Legal Studies Organization News



The Husson Criminal Justice Club recently visited and prepared a meal at the Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House promotes the well being of children nationwide. The club also was able to assist Santa during the Bangor Grange Hall's annual Make-A-Wish breakfast with Santa. The weather was not in the best shape, but the students were able to help by cooking food and managing the activities; making the experience worthwhile for the children.

The Legal Studies Organization recently created a Facebook Page. This page is intended to keep members up-to-date on upcoming events and goings on. In addition, the LSO also had the opportunity to meet the Dean of the Maine Law School. Picture at right—front row left to right: Professor Margaret Campbell, UMaine School of Law Dean-Designate Danielle Conway, Husson LSO students Kiersten Van Syckle, Amber Buck, Kayla Day, Allisha Ouellette. Back row left to right: UMaine Law 2L student Katie Foster and UMaine Orono Chief of Staff Meg Sanders.



On Friday, April 24th the Criminal Justice Club will be visiting Boston and touring the Massachusetts State Police Marine Unit. The Marine Unit falls under the Special Operations Troop. While their function isn't uniformed patrol, they have a wide range of responsibilities such as search and rescue, dignitary protection, anti-terrorism efforts, and coordination with the Troopers at Logan Airport and the US Coast Guard. This should provide a unique experience for Club members especially for those who may already have some type of police experience, this may provide them with a different perspective of State Police functions. Hopefully a K-9 officer (also part of the Special Operations Troop) will be able to be there for the tour to speak about the different roles of K-9s in the MSP, such as patrol/utility, narcotics detection, cadaver recovery and bomb detection. This fantastic tour is being facilitated by Major Barry O'Brien of the MSP and father of student and Club member Madison O'Brien.

STUDENT NEWS CONTINUED



The pictures above are from a staged crime scene created by students in the Forensic Science Program. Together with Professor Alicia Wilcox, the exhibit was a great addition to the Maine Science Festival event that was held at The Cross Insurance Center. The goal of their exhibit was to raise awareness of Husson University's new Forensic Science Program. Attendees of all ages at the Maine Science Festival were able to look over the crime scene, piece together the evidence, and conduct their own investigation.



Professor Patrick Downey was able to have Business Law students prepare and perform a mock trial held at the Penobscot County Judicial Center (pictured right).

Senior forensic students were able to observe an actual trial along with expert witness testimony. (pictured left).



On March 24, 2015, the School of Legal Studies with the assistance of the panel experts conducted its annual mock oral board interviews for aspiring police officers. The oral board includes a panel of police officers who posed scenario based questions to applicants. This method is used for all types of law enforcement at state and federal levels. The mock oral board exercise is incredibly useful for those students who are going to interviews soon or pursuing application as a tuition student at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

The School of Legal Studies hosted its annual career fair at the Center for Family Business. The event was a chance for students to meet with law enforcement agencies from across the state to explore internships and job openings in criminal justice. Faculty say those opportunities includes positions in forensic science as well as paralegal work. Law enforcement is a career field that several students in attendance said they hope to get into after graduation. The fair was also open to professionals currently looking for jobs in law enforcement.



Professor Alicia Wilcox taught a criminalistics course during the Fall semester. The students had to process a mock crime scene, followed up with questioning suspects and witnesses, developed a composite of the suspect, write affidavits and executed search warrants. The students had to present findings and conclusions and as their Final Examination.



In December, the students from the CJ 402 Perspectives on Terrorism, presented a roundtable discussion about terrorist groups, their history, tactics, and the current threat they represent to United States assets at both home and abroad. Among the groups that were discussed are The Irish Republican Army, Hamas, Boko Haram, and the Haqqani Network. Presenting analysis and information is part of the course curriculum to complete the higher level class.

The December 2014 graduation at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy yielded 56 new graduates. Out of those, five of them were Husson University Alumni. Jordan Bragan is now employed with the Bangor Police Department; Gavin Endre and Travis Luce, are now employed with the Maine State Police; and Desmond Nutter is employed with the Augusta Police Department.

