



CSU Fresno Dept. of Criminology Newsletter XVI

April 2008



http://zimmer.csufresno.edu/~haralds/newsletter.htm

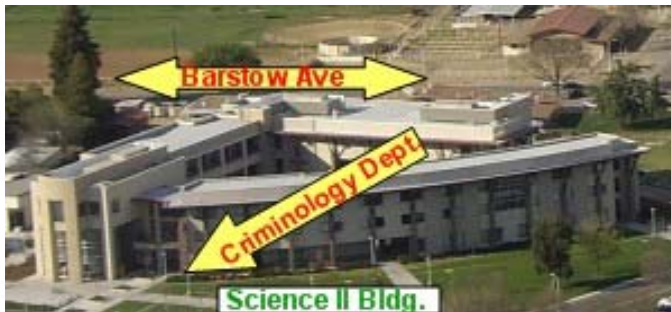


The Global Minute



Counterfeiting Italian Style

DOWNTOWN PROGRAM RECEPTION AND INFORMATION MEETING Science II Bldg. Class Room #107 1100-1500 Saturday, 26 April 2008



All former and current downtown program students, all former and current downtown program faculty, and all criminology faculty are invited. Government employees interested in attending the undergraduate or graduate downtown program are especially encouraged to attend. Food and Adult beverages will be served after the information meeting.



The Italian GUARDIA DI FINANZA is facing a new kind of crime. Adept criminals are "counterfeiting" high value cars such as Ferrari, Lamborghini, Maserati, and Porsche. The vehicles are built to look like the real thing but under the hood you can find an old Chrysler, Chevy, or Pontiac Fiero GT. The cars are sold for \$30,000-\$80,000, with some then insured as the "real" McCoy and subsequently totaled, i.e. wrecked, for insurance money. There are currently an estimated 1000 of these vehicles in circulation.

OTHER NEWS FROM ITALY

Feuding members of the Calabrian Ndrangheta (Mafia) are exporting their feud to other countries of Europe with a rival member's assassination in Germany. Group members are evading Italian police by fleeing to Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium. One of the members involved in the "hit" in Germany, Giuseppe Nirta, is wanted on an international arrest warrant.

This newsletter is not an official publication of CSU Fresno or the Department of Criminology. Dr. H.O. Schweizer is the sole author and responsible for its content. You may reach him at: haralds@csufresno.edu or (559) 278-8880

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*Downtown Program continued.....*

### Tentative Meeting Schedule

1. Introduction of criminology faculty
2. Information about the criminology major
3. Presentation by student/s who completed the downtown undergraduate program.
4. Presentation by a criminology graduate student about her experiences in the on-campus program and advice to new students.
5. Information about the downtown undergraduate program and the admissions process.
6. Information about the downtown graduate program and admissions process.
7. Meeting with representative of the Division of Continuing and Global Education of CSU Fresno.
8. Comments from downtown program faculty.

The meeting will be preceded with a class lecture to students in the current downtown Crim 127 (Advanced Criminal Legal Process) class. Other persons are welcome to attend this lecture prior to the informational meeting and reception.

This is the second ever meeting and reception for everyone involved in the downtown degree program. The meeting portion is a convenient mechanism to provide additional information to current and prospective downtown program students about entry and admission requirements, along with advice and guidance about the structure of downtown classes. The reception recognizes the efforts of downtown faculty and students and allows prospective students to interact with faculty and current/former downtown students.

Feedback from faculty and students in the program has confirmed that the downtown

program has provided an ideal learning environment for students. Faculty have in turn benefited from criminal justice professionals who bring real world experiences to the classroom.

### CRIMINOLOGY DEPT. NEWS

The entire full time faculty met to discuss new departmental challenges and to plan the department's future, during a two day retreat in Monterey.



The retreat provided faculty an opportunity to express and exchange their views on a variety of issues affecting the department. None of the attendees were armed.

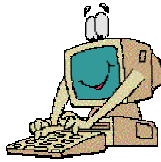


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# Tech Corner



I have heard about Internet users “telephoning” other users over the WWW free of charge, but never explored it further until recently. I initially thought it would be very complicated, but found out that, to the contrary, it was very simple. There are two ways of using the Internet to make calls. One involves using the same data stream you use to access anything else on the internet to send and receive audio and also video to/from other internet users, and the other is to use the WWW to access landlines (regular telephones) in most countries of the world.

Using a microphone or web-cam with a built in microphone in conjunction with a computer, allows a user to make a connection with anyone else with a similar setup anywhere in the world. All that is needed in addition to the microphone or web cam, is the necessary software. This software, however, is free of charge and can be downloaded from <http://www.skype.com>



Those with a web cam have the advantage of also seeing live video of the person they are calling over the WWW, along with their own smaller image in the corner of their monitor so they can see how they will look to the person on the other side. The video option has to be clicked on separately after making an audio connection. This is probably in case

some people are still in their jammies without realizing it until prompted for the video option.

The second way of using the Internet is to set up a small account with Skype and this will allow you to use your computer to call landline telephones around the world for a fraction of the cost of using your regular home or cell phone. A call to a telephone in Germany or Japan, for example, costs about 2.1 cents per minute.

There are also a variety of different SKYPE telephones which permit you to use the internet to make telephone calls wherever there is a WiFi signal without having to use a computer. So the next time you meet someone new, ask if you can “skype” them.

## **FREEWARE that is really free!!!**

Want to quickly convert picture files to other formats or change all of the file names without spending lots of money on software? Try this freeware: <http://www.irfanview.com> It is very user friendly and saves lots of time and work.

## **DVD REGION CODES**

Do you have a DVD with a region code other than region 1 (USA) and your DVD player refuses to play it? If you have two DVD drives on your computer, you can set one up for region 1 and the other for region 2, which is most of Europe and Japan. Note, you cannot change the region code setting over and over for an unlimited period of time. The computer based DVD drive will usually lock the region code it is set to on the fourth change over.

A computer based DVD drive will also play back PAL system DVDs as long as it is set to the correct region code.

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**Terrorism Up Close  
Part III**



The WALL that is being built to separate Palestinian areas from Israel has been criticized by many for a variety of political and humanitarian reasons. A look at part of the wall in Jerusalem and conversations with government officials provided a different and more realistic view of the wall's efficacy. Below a picture of two types of walls in part of Jerusalem.



Families living in Israeli housing in the above areas were forced to erect the above wall to protect their children from sniper fire from Palestinian areas below. Residents were in daily fear of being killed or injured by recurring small arms fire from Palestinian areas within view of their homes. Not seen in the photo but viewed by Dr. Schweizer are bullet holes on the side facing Palestinian areas.

The erection of walls and increased security barriers has resulted in fewer incursions by Palestinian terrorists and also in a reduced number of suicide attacks. While the wall does not extend to the entire border between Israel and Palestinian areas, barbed wire fences and continual security patrols along the fence line have been helpful in protecting Persons on the Israeli side.



*Israeli Border Security patrolling the fence between Israel and the West Bank*



*The controversial large and more comprehensive wall separating Palestinian from Israeli parts of Jerusalem.*

A drop in suicide attacks has also resulted from limiting employment related travel by Palestinians to Israel. The daily entry of thousands of Palestinians increased the risk of suicide attacks, and many of the former commuting Palestinian workers in Israel have, as a result, been replaced by imported workers from other non-middle Eastern countries. This resulted in greater security for Israel, but in an economic disaster for Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

*To be continued in the May newsletter*

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