• New off campus B.S. program classes begin this August.
• Saturday off campus program classes now at Clovis PD.
• The Criminology Dept. has two tenure track faculty positions, and a third likely for Fall 2013.

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The German Tax Authority

Each of the 16 German states has its own tax authority and the tax system is so popular that relatively wealthy residents prefer to deposit their money in Swiss financial institutions to avoid the high taxes on all kinds of income in Germany. The secrecy of Swiss bank accounts, however, is beginning to resemble the Swiss cheese famous for its holes.

German government tax investigators are anxious to identify German citizens with Swiss bank accounts along with their account information. Investigators of the state of Nordrhein-Westfalen have been particularly tenacious and for the second time they purchased a CD with names and account information of thousands of German citizens. The source of the CD is unknown and the transfer of this information by bank employees is unlawful.
SWISS BANK INFORMATION...

It is speculated that the tax authority paid several million (Euros) for the CD. In the meantime, the German central government entered into a treaty with Switzerland that, effective 2013, mandates that Swiss financial institutions themselves collect past and current taxes owed by German account holders and transmit them to the German authority. In this process the German government would receive owed taxes in bulk but the privacy of the account holders would remain intact. As a result of that, there is some concern that with the treaty not going into effect until next year, German account holders would move their money elsewhere before 2013.

Under German law, “tax cheats” who turn themselves in to the tax authority and pay back taxes before the start of any investigation into their finances, are not prosecuted.  
(Steueredaten-Kauf tritt Welle von Selbstanzeigen los)  

Each time the government announces that it purchased a CD with more Swiss account data of German citizens, there is a wave of “self reports” by account holders who fear that the CD would contain their name and account information and want to avoid criminal prosecution and penalties for tax evasion. One person commented in DIE WELT ONLINE that for all practical purposes just the announcement that the government purchased account information from a Swiss banking source could be sufficient to flush out untold numbers of tax evaders even if no such CD was obtained by the tax authority. After the latest announcement, 457 Germans turned themselves in during the month of June alone.

SECRET DOCUMENTS SHREDDED

The German right-wing group NSU (National-Socialist Underground) was involved in the murder of Turkish residents in Germany and police investigation showed that some of the group members were informants for the state intelligence agency. As the facts began to unravel, documents involving the NSU were shredded by the Amt für Verfassungsschutz, the domestic spy agency. During the ensuing scandal, the director of the agency turned in his resignation. This past week, the interior minister who has oversight over the agency, publicly lambasted the intelligence agency chief for shredding NSU documents. Shortly thereafter it was revealed that the Interior Ministry itself also shredded documents related to the investigation of NSU. The interior minister justified this by indicating that the required document retention time had expired.

GOVERNMENT SELLING PERSONAL DATA

All residents of Germany must, by law, register their address and any subsequent changes to a regional government agency. (Meldegesetz). Some of the personal data contained in the registry includes a person’s full name, prior names, complete address, and date of birth. Because of recent legislative action, this information may now be sold to private firms by government registry offices. (Meldeämter)

Government data security officials and even many legislators were unaware of this legislation until after it was passed and made into law and they are calling it “legal insanity.” The legislature is now under immense pressure to reverse this law (sound familiar?).
THE REFLECTIVE SAFETY VEST

FRANCE: Motorists not only have to keep an unused alcohol breath test in their vehicle, they must also keep at least one reflective safety vest in their vehicle, which must be worn whenever exiting the vehicle during a breakdown or accident outside of cities and towns. The rule requiring the wearing of the reflective safety vest also applies to any passengers who get out of the vehicle. The vest has to be kept within easy reach of the driver/passenger since it has to be worn when exiting the vehicle.

While driving on Highways in France last month, I passed about a half dozen vehicles broken down on the side of the road. The drivers of those vehicles readily stood out because of their safety vest.

SPAIN: Safety violations by prostitutes

In the northeastern region of Spain, there is no law prohibiting street prostitution, but traffic laws require the wearing of reflective safety vests (Chaleco reflector) when standing on the side of roads outside of cities and towns. As a result, police have been citing “streetwalkers” without safety vests. The fine for a violation is about $65 US. Watch a Spanish TV news report:

Prostitutas Con Chaleco Reflectante para evitar las multas España
http://www.veengle.com/s/chaleco%20reflectante.html

Fifteen EU countries require the safety vests under varying conditions and many require yellow but Germany, for example, allows yellow and orange. Countries where the wearing of safety vests was made mandatory, experienced a substantial drop in pedestrian/vehicle accidents. All rental vehicles in Germany, France and Switzerland come with a first aid kit, warning triangle and safety vest.

In some EU countries, fines for not wearing a safety vest can be in the hundreds of Euros, and in Belgium severe violations can cost nearly $1800. (1375 Euros). The European Union government is currently engaged in an initiative to have all (impose???) 27 countries adopt uniform laws requiring safety vests in all vehicles. The EU is also demanding that EU countries have yearly vehicle inspections based on EU standards.

Below a typical safety vest that can be purchased for less than $5 and is sold in stores all over Germany.
CRIMINOLOGY DEPT. NEWS

The department has received authorization to begin the recruitment for a third tenure track position beginning with the fall 2013 semester. The formal announcement will be posted on the university website for job postings and also attached to the August criminology newsletter.

Dr. George Kikuchi has completed his first year as an assistant professor in the department of criminology. He recently co-authored and presented a paper on “An Analysis of Crime Hot Spots Using GPS Tracking Data of Children and Agent-Based Simulation Modeling” at GeoInformatics 2012, Hong Kong, June 15 – 17. His co-authors were Mamoru Amemiya and Takahito Shimada.


Dr. George Kikuchi

The paper was published in the Annals of GIS ((a special issue on spatial crime analysis and modeling) and proposed a simulation model that allows the estimation of population at risk (the denominator of crime rates) at the micro level, such as streets, for a sophisticated crime analysis. Annals of GIS. 18 (3): 207-223. DOI: 10.1080/19475683.2012.691902

http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/19475683.2012.691902

OFF CAMPUS DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM

New classes begin this August as indicated. Any active or retired government employee with about two years of prior college coursework is eligible. This includes persons in the military or national guard. For additional information contact Dr. H.O. Schweizer via email at: haralds@csufresno.edu

FALL 2013 COURSES IN B.S. PROGRAM

Aug/Sep 2012

Crim 174 Ethnic and Gender Issues taught by Dr. B. Muscat.
Class meets twice from 0900-1200 on the following Saturdays: Aug 11, Sep 29. Remaining instruction is on line. Computer literacy and ability to use Internet based instructional services (Blackboard) is required

Crim 113 Forensics in C.J. taught by D. Heredia, the director of the California DOJ crime lab in Fresno.
Meeting dates on Mondays: August 6, 13, September 17, 24 (1800-2230)
Saturdays: August 4, September 8 (0800-1500)
OFF CAMPUS DEGREE PROGRAM...

Oct/Nov 2012
History 101 (Women in History) Upper division GE COURSE in area ID taught by Dr. Walsh. Instruction for this course is on-line except for two class meetings in the downtown classroom on Monday Oct 1 & Nov 19 (1800-2000)

Crim 127 Advanced Crim Legal Process taught by Dr. Kissner
Class meets Wednesday evenings (1800-2230) on Oct 3, 10 Nov 14, 21 and Saturdays from 0800-1500 on October 20 & November 17

All Saturday classes are now held at the Clovis Police Department and weekday classes at the Fresno County Sheriff’s Office.

HIGH TECH TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Swiss firm Kistler developed a Quartz/Chrystal sensor that is installed in the pavement and together with a computerized signal processor can measure a vehicle’s weight on each wheel and then calculate the total vehicle weight to determine if a vehicle is overweight. This system is thought to help reduce the damage to roads and bridges caused by overweight trucks, buses and travel trailers.

The system is already in use in Switzerland, Great Britain and the Netherlands. There is also a “tracking and tracing” system that uses seven video cameras to record traffic and store license plate numbers in a control area, and the information is then passed on from camera to camera. Police can detect speeders or those who follow too close within the control area. Videos of violators are automatically stored and violators are sent a fine notice.


Special thermal cameras are used by police to detect faulty brakes, especially with trucks, buses and travel trailers, when the drivers apply their brakes before exiting the highway at rest stops, or while entering parking lots, etc. The color blue is consistent with faulty brakes and red/orange with properly functioning brakes.

Engineers in Finland developed special video cameras that are used to generate a 3D picture of vehicle traffic which enables police to determine vehicle speed and distances between vehicles. Police can also view the inside of vehicles to check if a driver is using a cell phone or not using seat belts. Videos/photos of the motorist and license plates are then processed and the motorist is again sent a notice to remit a fine.

Many of these innovations are under consideration by the European Union for Europe wide implementation.
Police patrol car and police van photographed in Waldshut, Germany.

Police car at international airport in Zürich, Switzerland

Police van in Paris

Motorcycle policeman in Paris

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING OUTREACH ADVOCATE

Part time, minimum 25 hours per week

Qualifications:

- Minimum education: AA/BA in Human Services or in pursuit of.
- Minimum experience: Two years experience in a community based human service agency. Outreach worker, eligibility worker, paralegal or other related work experience.

Other Qualifications:

- Bilingual/Bicultural (Spanish/English).
- Ability to work with potential non citizen victims seeking assistance in crisis in the areas of human trafficking.
- Knowledge of eligibility requirements for T-Visas/U-Visa, including immigration issues, interpret rules and regulations on the various immigration rule/requirements. (training is provided).
- Good recordkeeping, documentation skills; report writing, reading and verbal skills.
- Ability to develop working relationship with local social service organizations, law enforcement, local and rural to include Sheriff Department, ICE, Mexican Consul.
- Broad knowledge of community resources to include health, courts, community organizations, food banks, emergency shelters and others as identified.
- Must be able to work well with others and able to operate effectively as team member.

Responsibilities:

- Conduct direct outreach and education presentations to the general public on topic on human trafficking.
- Participate in development of community-wide protocols for collaborative service for victims of human trafficking.
- Meet with Project Coordinator monthly to review progress.
- Track human trafficking victims identified; connected to services, receive certification, eligibility, or Interim Assistance Letters for non U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents, and case management
- Participate in the development of implementation of coalition’s goals and processes.
- Attend and participate in quarterly coalition and steering committee meetings.
- Assist to increase of membership and strengthening of a dedicated coalition of organizations, entities, and individuals working collaboratively to end trafficking in their community.
- Facilitate linkages and build positive relationships among anti-trafficking and victim service organizations, local and federal law enforcement and task forces for victim identification and provision of services.
- Assist and participate in annual conference.
- Request training and technical assistance from Project Coordinator to identify human trafficking victims.
- Provide monthly quantitative and qualitative data to the Project Coordinator for use in the preparation of quarterly progress reports and evaluative measures.
- Possess reliable transportation; CA. Valid driver’s license and vehicle insurance through duration of employment with Agency.

Please submit your resume to mrocha@centrolafamilia.org or mgonzalez@centrolafamilia.org

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John Rivington Quinn
“Jack”
February 8, 1927- June 21, 2012

When Irish eyes are smiling, especially when they are bright blue, all is right with the world. Jack Quinn, a man of many talents, died on June 21, 2012. He was 85 years old and never seemed like a day over 25. When he entered a room his energy was magnetic and his kindness never ending. Even when many of his memories were erased by Alzheimer’s, his kind spirit transcended the disease. Jack will forever be a part of us, and we will think of him often, especially when the sky is blue and twinkling after a rain.

Jack Quinn was born into an Irish Catholic family on February 8, 1927 in Ionia, Michigan. He was the second son of Terrence and Mary Quinn and he and his brothers truly did walk two miles to school in the snow. He often spoke of his enjoyment of his years growing up in Ionia and regaled his family and friends with stories of his youth.

At seventeen, Jack joined the Navy toward the end of WW II. Upon discharge, he began his educational journey by attending Aquinas College for a Bachelor degree in History, and continued at Michigan State University with a Master of Arts degree in Social Work. His loyalty to his alma mater was evident and remained an ardent Spartan fan for the rest of his life. After college, a job with Catholic Services lured him to Ventura, California and his days of cold winters came to an end.

Jack touched the lives of many people throughout his varied work history. He was proud to be a Commander in the Coast Guard Reserve from 1959 to 1987. He was a parole officer and an Administrator from 1958-1969 for the Department of Corrections. A career as a professor of Criminology at Fresno State spanned from 1969 to retirement as Professor Emeritus in 1993. He was not, however, all work and no play. Jack and his wife, Kris, loved to travel which took them to every continent with the exception of Antarctica.

In spite of his many successes, Jack lost his focus and clarity twice in his lifetime to two diseases, Alcoholism and Alzheimer’s. From the first disease he spent the last 30 years in recovery and gave our community a man who would help guide others away from the pain of their addiction into rich and productive lives. The rippling effect of this work will continue long after this obituary fades. From the second disease he exhibited extreme courage as his world became more limited and the leader of the family was forced to step aside. Nevertheless, he continued to lead by example with his never ending grace, kindness, humility and humor and because of the disease process, his family learned a different kind of love.

Jack was adored by his wife, Kris, of 28 years, and by her children Stephanie van Loon, her fiancé Phillip Torres, and Patrick van Loon and his wife Jenna. Jack loved to be around family and friends, especially his brother, Terry and his family in Tulsa, Jack’s family in Michigan, his brother-in-law and sister-in-law Keith and Sandy Davis, their two children, and other relatives and friends. Harvey and Judeane Borba, Jace, David, Bill, Dennis and Michelle along with many others including his furred feline faithful’s, Gomez and Quincy. Jack also leaves behind three children and their families from a prior marriage, Matthew and Tim Quinn, and Martha Mockbee. Jack welcomed everyone into his life, treated all with respect and dignity and had a knack for making everyone around him feel as if they alone were the most important person in the room.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents, brother and sister-in-law William and Shirley Quinn, and his son Brian.

The family would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of Cottonwood Memory Care and to give their deepest and most sincere gratitude to the exceptional care that Jack received from St. Agnes Hospice.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated at St. Columba Church on Monday, July 16th at 10:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be sent to the Fresno Salvation Army, PO Box 11730, Fresno, CA, 93775 or to St. Agnes Hospice.

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