



CSU Fresno
Dept. of Criminology
Newsletter XXII

October 2008



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

**CRIMINOLOGY DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

0700, Thursday, 16 October 2008
at the University Restaurant
(Vintage Room)

The Criminology Department Advisory Board currently consists of 30 members representing a wide spectrum of professionals from both the private and government sector. The Board is the Criminology Department's connection to the community and provides valuable feedback regarding the academic direction of the department and the external impact of graduates from the criminology degree program.

Police chiefs, Sheriffs, federal and county prosecutors and law enforcement officials, private attorneys, corporate executives, physicians, and other professionals, provide a rich and diverse background that benefits the Department and the criminology program as a whole.

Our current downtown Fresno (Off-Campus) B.S. and M.S. criminology degree programs are the direct result of the collaboration between the Advisory Board and the Department of Criminology.



Global News



**Bomb Making
Instructions on the
WWW**



German authorities are alarmed about the availability of "do it yourself" bomb making instructions on the Internet and the resulting rapid increase in youthful experimentation with home-made explosive material. Terrorist bomb making instructions are already being utilized in German children's playrooms. Given the rise in sophistication and further development of such self made bombs and remote triggering devices by youth in Germany, it is feared that instructions for these improved devices will find their way back to terrorist hotspots around the world via the Internet Full report at: www.panamp.de The German government is currently considering legislation to criminalize the distribution of bomb making instructions.

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TECH-BITS continued...

in existing databases. The system was recently tested by Palm Beach Florida Law Enforcement officials who used it to generate a DNA profile from trace elements of blood at a crime scene in "real time." Test analysis using the system resulted in usable DNA profiles within 2.5 to 6 six hours, which is faster than conventional crime lab analysis.

The dimensions of the detector are: 30cmX25cmx10cm and it weights ten kilograms. (24 lbs) You can read more about it at:

<http://www.technologyreview.com/biomedicine/21415/>

Homeland Security

The U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security is funding a project called "Future Attribute Screening Technology" as part of an ongoing development of technology that can detect and measure a person's physiological data along with behavioral patterns to identify suspicious persons. Current TSA Personnel has been trained in Screening of Passengers by Observation Techniques (SPOT) after which they are classified as Behavior Detection Officers, skilled in the detection of fear, anxiety or nervousness on the basis of a person's behavioral pattern. Once identified, those persons are then subjected to secondary screening. This detection method is supposed to be "culturally neutral" but the move towards an automated computer driven system is seen as a technique that would eliminate any possibility of discriminatory selection and screening of passengers.

The five year project to develop a "Hostile Intent Detection Automated Prototype"-is expected to showcase a system that will

identify persons having hostile intentions in real time, non-invasively and culturally independent with 75% accuracy later this year.

It is not known if the system would, for example, identify persons who are not nervous or fearful when the particular situation would typically result in fear or nervousness. In other words, what if most people would be nervous or fearful and someone is not?

The DHS Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) Human Factors Division has a variety of projects under way. They can be read about at: http://www.dhs.gov/xres/programs/gc_12184_80185439.shtm

TELECOMMUTING TIDBIT

Dr. Tomasz Wielicki of the CSU Fresno College of Business related that research has shown that persons working via their computer at home are 20-40% more productive than if they performed their duties at their regular place of work.

This difference is explained by telecommuters being able to work at times when they are most productive, instead of having to generate their best work during fixed office hours. Telecommuting also requires a shift from "hours worked" to work completed, i.e. outcomes, as a measure of performance.

It is unlikely, however, that government bureaucracies would embrace telecommuting for their employees. There appears to be an inherent distrust of

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Policias
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پلیس
پلیس
Policia
Askari

