

CRIMINOLOGY

&Public Policy

Dear future readers and contributors to *Criminology and Public Policy*:

We are thrilled to have been selected as the new editors of *Criminology and Public Policy* (*CPP*), officially beginning with the February 2020 issue. We want to thank Professors Bill Bales and Dan Nagin for their wonderful stewardship of *CPP* and to congratulate them for significantly raising the ranking of *CPP*. This gives us both an excellent start and a high standard to live up to! We also thank managing editor Sergio Garduno for his assistance during our transition and his years of excellent service to the journal.

We would like to make the following important announcements:

1. We are now (as of September 2018) accepting manuscripts for *CPP*'s February 2020 issue. The current editorial team will continue to oversee the production of the remaining issues for 2018 and 2019, which are now full. This means that any article submitted after September 1st, if accepted, will not be published in print until the 2020 issues. However, accepted articles will continue to be published as soon as possible online after they have completed the review and editing process.

2. We will be transitioning to using Wiley's online submission system, *ScholarOne*, in the next few months for all *CPP* submissions. For now, authors should submit manuscripts by email to cpp@gmu.edu. However, when the transition occurs to Scholar One, the website for the journal will direct contributors to that site.

3. Our vision for the future of *CPP* is to continue its mission to advance and strengthen the role of scientific research in criminal justice policy and practice. To this end, we seek rigorous empirical studies that address various aspects of program and policy development, theory, operations, impacts, and cost efficiency as they pertain to all areas of the criminal and juvenile justice systems. We welcome studies using a variety of quantitative and qualitative methodologies, original and replication studies, and high-quality reviews and syntheses of literature. Submitted manuscripts should have a clear and strong connection to policy and practice.

4. Our goals for *CPP* are to continue to elevate its academic status and rankings, maintain its focus on the most pressing policy issues in criminal justice, and heighten its impact on the dissemination and use of research in criminal justice policy and practice. An essential component of reaching these goals is to ensure that a diversity of viewpoints, backgrounds, criminological approaches, and research methods are reflected in the authors and articles published. We will strive to achieve these ends in a number of ways:

First, we will seek to **expand the knowledge and reach of *CPP*** by using social media, email, ASC and ACJS outlets (including the Criminal Justice Research Alliance), outreach to other

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criminological societies, and Wiley Online to more broadly advertise published articles and to solicit manuscripts. These outreach efforts will extend to practitioners and policymakers as well as the research community. We will also seek to increase contributions to the journal by international scholars and those in other disciplines related to criminology.

Second, we will be **increasing original research articles in *CPP* and reducing the use of response essays**. Although *CPP*'s traditional format of coupling research articles and response essays has facilitated important dialogue regarding policy and practice, we believe that this change will increase *CPP*'s impact and ranking among criminology journals and encourage submissions from a wider variety of scholars in the field. However, we will continue to consider the publication of response essays for particularly important and controversial issues. When used, they will be solicited based on high-quality peer reviews of original articles, and they will also be subjected to peer review, increasing their rigor and potential impact.

Third, we will be **expanding *CPP*'s editorial decisions to include “revise and resubmit” decisions**, which will allow potentially promising articles to be resubmitted after revisions based on reviewer comments. We hope that this will further expand the pool of high-quality manuscripts submitted to *CPP*. At the same time, we will endeavor to maintain *CPP*'s emphasis on rapid manuscript decisions.

Finally, we will **establish annual best paper awards**, one for early career authors and one for later career authors, to recognize particularly exceptional contributions to the journal.

We are honored to be serving the ASC through the editorship of *CPP*, and we are excited to be steering the journal into this next phase. We hope that you will consider *CPP* as a prime outlet for your work, and we look forward to your contributions to the journal.

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