

**The Justice Center for Research  
Criminology Forum**  
welcomes



**Rhys Hester, Ph.D.**

Deputy Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing  
Senior Lecturer of Sociology and Criminology, The Pennsylvania  
State University



**Derek Kreager, Ph.D.**

Director, Justice Center for Research  
Professor of Sociology and Criminology, The Pennsylvania State  
University

**"The Justice Center for Research and Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing:  
Missions and Initiatives"**

**Dr. Rhys Hester** is the Deputy Director of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology and Criminology and Penn State University. He holds a PhD in Criminology and Criminal Justice as well as a JD. Prior to his current position at the Commission, Dr. Hester was a Research Fellow in Sentencing Law and Policy at the Robina Institute, University of Minnesota Law School. He teaches courses related to courts, constitutional law, and criminal law and procedure. His research has been published in academic journals and law reviews including *Criminology*, *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, and (forthcoming) *Crime and Justice: A Review of Research*.

**Dr. Derek Kreager** is Director of the Justice Center for Research, Professor of Criminology, Sociology, and Demography, co-funded faculty member of the Social Science Research Institute (SSRI), and an associate of the Population Research Institute (PRI). He received his M.A. and PhD from the University of Washington and his B.S. from the United States Military Academy. He has been a faculty member at PSU since 2006. His research lies at the intersection of social networks, crime, and the life course. Most recently, he has led the portfolio of Prison Inmate Networks Studies (PINS) focused on the social networks, health and re-entry experiences of male and female inmates in PA state prisons. This work has been supported by grants from NSF, NIH, and NIJ, funded four PSU graduate students, and resulted in papers published in *ASR*, *Social Networks*, and *Justice Quarterly*.

**Friday, October 13  
406 Oswald Tower  
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm**

**This lecture is co-sponsored by the Justice Center for Research and the Department of Sociology and Criminology.**

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