



CLJ Communiqué

Sociology Department, The College of the Liberal Arts

THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS...

"What lies behind us, and what lies before us, are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." ~R.W. Emerson



Welcome to the exciting start of the 2008–2009 academic year at Penn State! We hope you have enjoyed your summer and that you are looking forward to the new classes, new experiences, and new connections that the coming semester holds. Please take a few minutes to read through the CLJ Communiqué— it contains important updates and information related to advising, academics, and enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities. You should receive two newsletters during the fall and spring semesters via e-mail—please let us know if you don't.



New Advising Hours and Procedures

In order to better accommodate our students' changing needs, and for our advising system to become more consistent with other Liberal Arts advisers, we are moving to a combination of appointments and walk-in hours, beginning September 8. Please see the appointment scheduling instructions at the bottom of this page.

New Advising Hours Beginning September 8

Appointments only:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Walk-in advising:
Monday–Thursday
1–4 p.m.

Contacting your advisers:

Karen Sones
(klo1@psu.edu)
317 Oswald Tower

Courtney Orr
(cro3@psu.edu)
316 Oswald Tower

Lisa Brooks
(ldb125@psu.edu)
315 Oswald Tower

Phone number: 814-865-2217

Department Web site:
www.sociology.psu.edu

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Scheduling Appointments with the Advisers

You will be able to schedule an appointment and see our calendars by visiting the following Web site:

www.la.psu.edu/advising-appt/

1. Click on "Appointments"
2. Register

Your username and password does not need to be the same as your Penn State account. Remember to write down both, and keep them in a safe place for the next time you want to schedule an appointment.

Appointments are meant for issues that you know will take longer than 10 or 15 minutes. Examples of topics that could be covered in an appointment include:

1. Change of major or concurrent major paper-work
2. Long-range planning
3. Study Abroad plans
4. Major/career exploration

5. Class schedules for the upcoming semester
6. Other topics that you want to discuss in detail and would like a designated time to do so

A few important points:

- Appointments will be made in ½ hour blocks.
- If you are assigned a specific adviser, you must schedule an appointment with that adviser. You can see any adviser during walk-in advising hours.

We will hold all walk-in hours during the first two weeks of the semester (August 25 through September 5) for drop/add concerns. Hours will be from 8:30–11:30 a.m. and 1:00–4:30 p.m.



ADVISING CLIPBOARD

During the first two weeks of the semester, we see a much higher volume of students. With that in mind, please request help with your most pressing concerns, and try to remember that other students are also waiting for help. If you have other items to discuss that can wait until later in the semester, please plan to stop back in after the first two weeks. We will return phone calls and e-mails as soon as possible—please understand that the response time may be longer than usual. Remember: Students who are waiting in line will receive first priority, and we respond to voice mail and e-mail messages as time permits. If you need more immediate attention, the best way to connect with us is to stop by the Advising Offices.

During the first two frantic weeks of the semester, these are the kinds of things we're happy to discuss with you:

- Dropping and adding classes on your fall schedule
- Graduation checks for seniors who plan to graduate in the fall semester
- Emergency situations regarding classes and scheduling
- Questions about particular courses and degree requirements

Some things we typically **don't** handle during this busy time of the semester are:

- Class schedules for the upcoming semester (unless you're scheduled to register during the first two weeks of the current semester)
- Résumé proofing and editing
- Long-range planning
- Letters of recommendation
- Study abroad plans and concurrent majors
- Internship planning for future semesters
- Career concerns



While these advising items are very important, they aren't necessarily time-sensitive, so we ask that you return after the initial two weeks to seek assistance with them.

DROPPING/ADDING CLASSES

If you are planning to re-arrange your schedule, please note that you can drop and add classes in several ways during the first few days of the semester:

- Adjust your schedule online at <https://elion.oas.psu.edu/>
- Complete a drop/add slip in the Advising Offices (315, 316, & 317 Oswald)
- Complete a drop/add slip in the departmental office (211 Oswald)

Until September 3

- Make changes to your schedule without using your late-drop credits.

September 4

- Marks the beginning of the late-drop period.
- A \$6.00 late fee is assessed EACH time you make changes to your schedule.

September 4–November 14

- Dropping any course from your fall schedule involves using your late-drop credits.

PLEASE NOTE:

the Advising Offices will be **closed**
from
1:00–5:00 p.m.
on
Thursday, September 11, 2008
and
all day
on
Friday, September 12, 2008

so that the advisers may attend a conference sponsored by the Division of Undergraduate Studies.



Still Need a CRIM Course?

CRIM 430, section 002 still
has available seats!

Additional Note: Remember, completion of CLJ/CRIM 250W is required for almost all CRIM 400 level courses. It must also be completed before you are permitted to do an internship.



INTERNSHIP CENTRAL

Starting with the fall 2008 semester, Karen will no longer be coordinating the internship program. **Dr. Howard Smith** (hbs103@psu.edu) and **Professor Kim Menard** (kmm157@psu.edu) will be taking over this role. Karen, Courtney, and Lisa will still be available to discuss the internship process, how an internship fits into your academic plan, potential sites, and answer questions you have about internships. Many thanks to Karen who has cultivated a very successful internship program for our students, and who coordinated it for the last ten years!

Spring Internship Information

Those of you who are interested in an internship next spring also have some important deadlines to remember:

- September 17** Indicate your intent to complete an internship by this date and e-mail **Dr. Howard Smith** (hbs103@psu.edu) to let him know your plans.
- September 30** Letters must be sent to three possible internship sites by this date. Send an e-mail to Dr. Smith with the names of the three sites.
- November 11** Placements should be finalized by this date. Send an e-mail to Dr. Smith with your internship site placement. See Sheri Miller in room 214 Oswald to complete the orange placement card. We will then send a letter to your internship site with information and instructions about your internship duties/activities.



WELCOME

We would like to welcome, and introduce, a new Crime, Law, and Justice faculty member. **Dr. Lori Burrington** will join us as an assistant professor beginning in the fall 2008 semester. She earned her Ph.D. at Ohio State University, and her research and teaching interests include criminology, deviance, and neighborhood effects. We are happy to have you with us and look forward to meeting you!



Congratulations to all our students who made the Dean's List for spring 2008 semester!! Way to go! We've posted the names of these students on the bulletin boards by the third floor elevators. We're proud of all of you!

Want to Get Involved?

The Justice Association

The Crime, Law, and Justice major has an active undergraduate student organization called the Justice Association (J.A.). Students are encouraged to join the organization and get involved in the many activities that are available throughout the academic year. These activities include faculty/student mixers, nationally known guest speakers who discuss topics related to the criminal justice profession, and trips to prisons and agencies. J.A. members also volunteer for various programs and activities in the local community and on the Penn State campus. For more information about the J.A. contact co-president Alanna Penecale (anp138@psu.edu).

Alpha Phi Sigma

Applications for Alpha Phi Sigma, the national criminal justice honor society, are available outside of room 315 Oswald Tower. To be eligible, CLJ majors must have completed a minimum of four justice courses, have an overall grade point average of 3.2 as well as a major grade point average of 3.2. For more information about Alpha Phi Sigma, contact the APS president, Michael Houlihan (mch5031@psu.edu).

GRE Registration

Wondering when to take the GRE? The GRE exam is offered via computer at various computer centers on a first-come, first-served basis. Since the GRE is now a computer-based exam, if you don't do well the first time, you can retake the exam within a month of your first exam. Visit the GRE Web site at www.gre.org for more information or call 1-800-GRE-CALL to register.

Looking for a Work Study Position?

The advising offices are looking for a work-study student for the upcoming academic year. If you've been approved for work-study funding and are a dependable, organized, and personable student, we'd like to talk with you! Work-study duties include filing, serving as an assistant for the Career Expo, and providing general office support for the advisers. If you're interested, please send a cover letter and your résumé to Karen at klo1@psu.edu as quickly as possible.

Law School

Considering law school? If so, consider contacting the Pre-Law Coordinator, Barbara Rayman. She's located in 212 Boucke Building, and she can be reached at 865-7576 and bbr1@psu.edu.

Visit www.psu.edu/dus/prelaw/ for Pre-Law information including LSAT prep courses, law school resources, and other upcoming events. Also check out www.lsac.org to get more information regarding law school.

Fall 2008 CLJ/SOC Career Expo

The Sociology Department and the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing are co-sponsoring the 33rd annual Crime, Law, and Justice and Sociology Career Expo on **November 5, 2008 from 12:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. in the HUB-Robeson Center Heritage Hall**. Courtney, with the help of Karen and Lisa, is coordinating the event this year. The Expo provides a fantastic opportunity for students to network and explore internship and career options with employers in varied fields. This year promises to have a greater variety of agencies and organizations, so plan to attend! Watch for e-mails in the coming weeks for more details and for the Career Expo Web site.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT-AMY ANKELES

“Universally, Australia is known for its laid back, surfer lifestyle. Everyone I met during my time there was incredibly friendly and relaxed. There is an entire surf life sub-culture that lives at the beach almost all of the time. The laid back lifestyle of the Australians translates to their views on education as well. Students only continue on to university if they truly have a desire to further their learning. Those students who have a particular skill that they believe can be leveraged in a workplace setting do not feel compelled to go to school and generally proceed directly into the workforce. Given this situation, the learning environment at university tends to be more intense. The students there

are determined to succeed and actively engage in all aspects of the curriculum.

During my semester I was fortunate enough to travel throughout the country as well as to New Zealand and Thailand. During my time in Australia I went to the Outback and Cairns (the Great Barrier Reef), the Whitsunday Islands, which are known to have some of the top beaches in the world, and Fraser Island, which is the largest sand island in the world. I also went to Byron Bay and Melbourne, a large city that is more unique to Australia than Sydney, and which is ultimately a cosmopolitan city.

My five-month excursion in Australia was the most amazing thing I have ever done. Living in another country was an incredible and eye-opening experience. I met awesome people and challenged myself to do new and exciting activities. I would not trade my Australia experience for anything and cannot wait to go back!



Did you know...

...that **Dr. Eric Silver** finds pleasure in motion? Whether it's racking up miles on multi-day trips through Pennsylvania and Upstate New York on his Kawasaki Vulcan 900 motorcycle, or racking them up on State College's roads and bike paths training for this November's Philadelphia Marathon, it is safe to say that at age 43, Dr. Silver is not quite ready to slow down. His other interests include daily walks in the woods near his home with his Great Dane, Zuzu, and meditating, which he tries to do for a half hour each evening.



Information for Graduating Seniors

If you are planning to graduate in December, you will need to activate your intent to graduate by **September 8, 2008**. Activating your intent to graduate is easy—simply log on to eLion at <https://elion.oas.psu.edu/> and follow the listed steps. If you don't activate your intent, no one at the University will have any idea that you're planning to graduate—which means we won't review your degree audit, the Dean's Office won't certify you for graduation, and the Registrar's Office won't print a diploma for you! If you miss the deadline date, please contact the Advising Offices at 865-2217 as soon as possible. Fall commencement will be held **Saturday, December 20, 2008** at 12:30 p.m. in the Bryce Jordan Center.

So, you've activated your intent to graduate, but what's the next step? What kinds of things should you be doing?

- Go to 111 Bank of America Career Services Building and pick up a Placement Manual.
- Attend the free seminars offered by Career Services that deal with interviewing, résumé writing, and searching the Web for job opportunities.
- Draft a résumé and take it to a Career Services counselor for review. Feel free to ask Karen, Courtney, or Lisa to review your résumé as well.
- Participate in the EXTERN Program.
- Chat with alumni via LionLink (<http://www.psualumcareer.com/career>); this is a great networking resource.
- Attend the Sociology Department's fall Career Expo scheduled on November 5, 2008.
- Participate in campus events with alumni.
- Make sure that everyone in your network of friends, relatives, and acquaintances knows that you are actively looking for a job.
- Consider ways to expand your network.
- Check the section of the departmental Web site which posts the career profiles of alumni www.sociology.psu.edu/undergrad/SocAlumni.htm.
- Visit www.commencement.psu.edu/ for commencement ceremony details.

Important Semester Dates At-A-Glance

<p>August 25 August 25–September 3 September 1 September 4 September 8 September 17</p> <p>September 29–October 19 September 30 November 5 November 11 November 14 November 24–28 December 12</p> <p>December 15–19 December 20 January 12, 2009</p>	<p>Classes begin Drop/add period Labor Day; University is closed Late drop period begins Deadline to activate intent to graduate fall 2008 Notify Dr. Smith of intent to complete sp09 internship Final exam conflict filing period Letters sent to possible internship sites for sp09 CLJ/Sociology Career Expo Finalize sp09 internship site Late drop deadline Thanksgiving holiday Withdrawal deadline Classes end Final exams Fall commencement Spring semester classes begin</p>
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This publication is available in alternative media on request.

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