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EDITORIAL

International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences (IJCJS): Globally, Academically and Socially Inclusive Journal

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Having served as the Managing Editor of the International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences (IJCJS) for more than a year now, I feel qualified to make a few brief comments about the contributions that our journal makes on a global scale. These comments pertain specifically to the journal's ability to promote collegial dialogue.

In my role as Managing Editor, I have become cognizant that the issues we currently face within the United States are the same issues confronting most nations. Each of us has heard it said that the world is an incredibly small place and what affects one person affects all. My conversations with scholars worldwide have helped me recognize the wisdom contained in this statement. Problems are no longer confined to small geographical areas. Instead, criminals cross national borders with virtual impunity. Furthermore, they increasingly rely upon technology to commit their crimes and conceal their identities. The international nature of crime requires us as academicians to maintain a global perspective. Let each of us remember that in our individual and collective capacities, we are working toward the same objective – the betterment of the world through the education of our students!

I have also come to appreciate diverse perspectives relating to criminal justice research and the creation and implementation of measures designed to safeguard our citizens against victimization. Criminal justice scholars within each of our respective countries can learn a great deal from the efforts, research and perspectives of others. This is precisely why the *International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences* (IJCJS) proves so valuable – it provides a mechanism by which we can interact with peers on a global basis. In essence, it gives each author a voice that is heard around the world. This is critical to the advancement and legitimization of our field and to our various areas of specialization. Our differences are few but our similarities and shared interests are many!

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In working with authors during the editorial process, I have also learned that the production of high-quality scholarship is a labor-intensive task. It requires reviewers, editorial staff and authors to share a common goal. Our collaborations result in interesting, innovative and provocative scholarship. And while it takes a great deal of effort to produce this journal, our work is having a real and meaningful impact.

To date, the journal has worked closely with scholars from every continent on Earth (Antarctica notwithstanding). Many of these scholars are representatives of our most celebrated universities and yet, they frequently talk with me about the limited resources available in their own countries and from their home institutions. It is important to remember that not every country has a publication outlet for criminological research. Of the few local or regional journals that do exist in those nations, a small and limited readership inhibits the sharing of information with their international peers. The IJCJS provides an opportunity for scholars facing limited resources and few opportunities to publish.

The position of Managing Editor is both exciting and fulfilling. I thank Professor K. Jaishankar, the Editor-in-Chief of IJCJS for providing me this wonderful opportunity. I would also like to acknowledge his continuing efforts to provide a forum for established academics and young researchers alike to present their perspectives on criminology, criminal justice and victimology. No other individual has been more successful in creating and sustaining an international dialogue among criminologists! His efforts are crucial to ensuring that the IJCJS continues to gain increased prominence worldwide.

I am reminded daily about the unique position held by this journal. To date, no other journal in the criminal justice sciences has enjoyed such a degree of influence. We here at the IJCJS look forward to your continued support and want to thank each of you for your efforts.

Acknowledgement

I sincerely thank Ms. Leepaxi Gupta, the new Editorial Assistant of IJCJS, for significantly assisting Professor K. Jaishankar, the Editor-in-Chief, in formatting and copyediting the articles. She was burning the midnight oil to finish the formatting work of this issue. The Editorial Board of IJCJS offers its earnest thanks to her.

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