

Editorial

Andrew Millie

The British Society of Criminology Conference in 2011 was hosted by Northumbria University from 3rd to 6th July, under the heading “Economies and Insecurities of Crime and Justice”. At the conference Professor Robert Reiner was awarded the BSC outstanding contribution prize, presented to him by his colleague Professor Jill Peay. Plenary presentations were provided by Jill Peay, along with Jackie Harvey, Liz Kelly, Mike Levi, Ian Loader, Stephen Shaw and Loïc Wacquant. Thanks are due to Northumbria University for organising the event. In 2012 the conference makes a welcome return to the University of Portsmouth who were hosts back in 2004. For 2012 we have already been promised plenaries from David Garland, Katja Franko Aas, Roger Hood and Sharon Shalev. We hope to produce Volume 12 of our online journal “Papers from the British Criminology Conference” for the Portsmouth event, so if you are planning to speak it would be great if you would also consider submitting your paper to this journal.

For the current Volume of the journal we have maintained a rigorous review process and four papers have made the final selection. All submitted papers were reviewed by at least two academics.

We are pleased to include a paper from Professor Jill Peay’s plenary address to the conference. Picking up on the main theme of the conference, the paper provides a fascinating assessment of relationships between recession, crime and mental health. Jill concludes that, despite current ‘austerity’, investment in “some relatively modest mental health and social initiatives ... can have considerable pay-offs”.

In the second paper Rod Earle takes an unusual approach in comparing prisons to universities. Rod promotes a ‘convict criminology’, one that derives from ‘insider’ perspectives of those who have experienced prisons. Convict criminology originated in the US but, according to Earle, there is scope for its development in Britain.

The third paper is provided by Angus Nurse and considers wildlife crime. More specifically, the paper offers a typology of wildlife offenders

arguing that enforcement regimes need to be adapted to fit different type of offenders.

The fourth and final paper is by Shaun Elder. This paper looks at financial regulation enforcement in Ireland and the European Union focusing on the criminal dimension of regulation - for instance that imprisonment can have a 'signalling' importance. The current financial crisis provides the context.

The production of this journal was only possible with the assistance of colleagues who all gave their time freely. Thanks are due to the editorial team of Karen Bullock and Simon Mackenzie. Thanks also to Spencer Chainey, Ben Crewe, Hazel Croall, Rosie Erol, Alex Hirschfield, Christina Pantazis, Peter Squires and Rob White who all proved to be excellent reviewers.

Andrew Millie, Edge Hill University, December 2011