Press Release
For Immediate Release
November 21, 2007

Contact: Danielle Hawkins
START
301.405.6600
dhawkins@start.umd.edu

START Researchers Bridging Terrorism Studies and Criminology

College Park, MD, November 21, 2007 - The 2007 Annual Meeting for the American Society of Criminology (ASC) brought out a number of START Researchers.

The American Society of Criminology is an international organization concerned with criminology, embracing scholarly, scientific, and professional knowledge concerning the etiology, prevention, control, and treatment of crime and delinquency.

For START, there is an obvious connection between Terrorism Studies and Criminology. According to START Director and University of Maryland professor, Gary LaFree, “As a science, criminology should play a major role in establishing best practices for the processing of those accused of terrorism and in providing explanations for those who choose terrorist methods. In the end we should take more seriously Osama bin Laden’s admission: ‘Let history be a witness that I am a criminal.’”

Held in Atlanta from November 14-17, the ASC Meeting focused on the theme, “Crime and Justice: In the Global and the Local.” Presentations by START researchers, including faculty, post-docs, graduate students, and undergraduate students, at the annual meeting included:

Why Criminology Must be Involved in the Fight Against Terrorism
Gary LaFree, University of Maryland

Surveying the 50 State Police Agencies about Domestic Terrorism and the Far-Right
*Joe Simone, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Joshua D. Freilich, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

An Examination of Whether Military Service is Associated with Participation in the Domestic Far-right's Criminal Activities.
*Albert Gamarra, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Using Network Analysis to Assess Structures and Links Among White Supremacist Organizations and Associated Individuals
*David Caspi, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
A Critical Review of the Far Right Extremism Literature
*Jeff Gruenewald, Michigan State University
Joshua D. Freilich, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Steven Chermak, Michigan State University

Base of the Pyramid: Predicting Public Support for Terrorism in Indonesia
*Derrick Franke, University of Maryland

*Amber Stoesser, University of Maryland

From Radicalization to Reconciliation: Political Violence and Terrorism during the Transition to Democracy
*Mischelle Louise Van Brakle, University of Maryland

Setting the Record Straight: In-Depth Analysis of U.S. Prisoner Radicalization and Policy Implications
*Jae Ko, John Jay College
*Joe Simone, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Douglas Ewing Thompkins, John Jay College/CUNY

Fear and Darkness: Anti-Abortion Terrorism and the United States Supreme Court
*Brad Bartholomew, University of Maryland

The Relative Contributions of Individual versus Network Characteristics in Explaining Participation in Terrorist Violence
*James Hendrickson, University of Maryland

The Threat of Groups with an Ecological-based Motivation: Terrorism or Just Monkeywrenching?
*Jennifer A. Varriale, University of Maryland

Terror Prosecutions Involving Firearms Related Crime in the United States
Richard Legault, University of Maryland
*James C. Hendrickson, University of Maryland

Organizational Trajectories of Terrorism Activity, 1970 to 1997
Laura Dugan, University of Maryland
Gary LaFree, University of Maryland
*Erin Miller, University of Maryland
Exploring the Situational Determinants of Aerial Hijackings
*Susan Fahey, University of Maryland
Gary LaFree, University of Maryland
Laura Dugan, University of Maryland
Alex Piquero, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Toward a Theory of Desistance from Violence by Terrorist Organizations
*Erin E. Miller, University of Maryland

Attitudinal and Behavioral Consequences of Fear of Terrorism
Ashley Marie Nellis, American University

Criminal Groups and Violence: Comparative Analysis of Gang Groups and Terrorist Groups
*Bilal Sevinc, Michigan State University
Steven Chermak, Michigan State University

Political Instability and Patterns of Global Terrorism
*Susan Fahey, University of Maryland
Gary LaFree, University of Maryland
Laura Dugan, University of Maryland

* denotes that the presenter is a student.

More information on the American Society of Criminology can be found at www.asc41.com.

START, The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, is a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Center of Excellence based at the University of Maryland. START is supported by the DHS Office of University Programs.