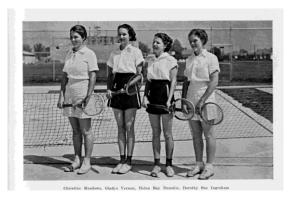


LU Criminal Justice Newsletter

Lamar University Celebrates 100 Years of Cardinal Pride: A Century of Leaders





Gladys Vernon and Helen Johnsen: 1936 South Park Yearbook.

3rd & 7th President John E. Gray at his office in the early 1940s.

President Jimmy Simmons' mother, Gladys Vernon, and Helen Ray Dunshie won the first state championship Lamar ever won. Their coach was President John Gray. *Pictures from the LU Library Special Collections*.



Dr. Richard Price with his students over the years.

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Editor-in-Chief:
Dr. Vidisha Barua Worley, Esq.,
Professor of Criminal Justice,
Lamar University

Greetings from the CJ Director



CJ Director Cheng-Hsien Lin

Greetings! In 2023, the Criminal Justice program prioritized the recruitment of undergraduate students for the on-campus program, alongside initiatives aimed at enhancing student engagement and success both within and outside the classroom. There was a notable increase in Non-AP NEW students, rising from 45 students in 2022 to 61 in 2023, marking a 35.5% increase. This figure is also higher than the corresponding count in 2021, reflecting a growth of 17.3%. The substantial rise in enrollments for the last academic year within the CJ major, as compared to 2022, suggests positive outcomes from the concerted efforts directed toward attracting both transfer students and freshmen.

Oversight of quality and quantity of online courses and degree offerings: The reputation and enrollment of CJ graduate-level courses have received high praise. Faculty members have actively engaged in numerous meetings aimed at enhancing the program's visibility to a wider audience seeking a CJ-related graduate program. The ongoing review of the graduate-level curriculum is an integral part of these concerted efforts. The LU Criminal Justice AP graduate program is ranked in the US News and World Reports of 2023:

#30 in Best Online Master's in Criminal Justice Programs

#15 in Best Online Master's in Criminal Justice Programs for Veterans

See link: https://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/lamar-university-OCRI0080/criminal-justice The mission of the Criminal Justice Program is to excel in graduate and undergraduate instruction, research and scholarship, professional development, and university and community service. The program maintains a close relationship with local criminal justice offices, garnering robust support from the surrounding communities.

This has been another fruitful year for the Criminal Justice program. In Spring 2023, Dr. Vidisha Worley led an oral history project with her students, commemorating 100 years of Lamar University. The project, which received IRB approval, engaged students in interviewing approximately 100 subjects. In the Summer of 2023, I was the Co-PI for the Center for Resiliency Springboard Project: "Developing an Information Hub for Emergency Management and Response in Southeast Texas," with Dr. Zhe Lou as the PI.

Additionally, Dr. Sanaz Alasti achieved promotion to the rank of Full Professor, and Dr. Lucy Tsado attained the rank of Associate Professor with tenure, effective Fall 2023. The Criminal Justice Division welcomed a new Assistant Professor, Dr. Kirstie Boyett, in Fall 2023. Thanks to the dedicated faculty, the Criminal Justice program continues to thrive in 2023, experiencing growth in student enrollment, particularly in the online undergraduate and graduate programs. Notably, the online graduate program has achieved recognition, securing a position in the Top 30 of the Best Online Master's in Criminal Justice Programs according to the USA News and World Reports.

Seven new members were inducted into Alpha Phi Sigma, the Criminal Justice Honor Society at LU, on November 29th at the Jefferson County Courthouse. The program was supervised by the new Assistant Advisor of the honor society, Dr. Kirstie Boyett. On October 31st, CJSA hosted a Trick or Treat event at the Setzer Student Center.

Dr. Sanaz Alasti Promoted to Full Professor



Dr. Sanaz Alasti was promoted to Full Professor at Lamar University effective Fall 2023. This makes her the fourth Full Professor in the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice, after Professor Stuart Wright, Professor Robert M. Worley, and Professor Vidisha Barua Worley. A proud moment for the Division of Criminal Justice!

Dr. Lucy Tsado Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Lucy Tsado was granted tenure and promoted to the position of Associate Professor effective Fall 2023. She joined Lamar University in August 2017. Dr. Tsado has created a niche for herself in the area of cybersecurity. Hearty Congratulations to Dr. Tsado!!



Alasti and Tsado new CoAS Rep to Undergrad Curriculum Council

Dr. Sanaz Alasti and Dr. Lucy Tsado were elected as the new CoAS University Committee Representatives for the Undergraduate Curriculum Council after the recent election held in Fall 2023.

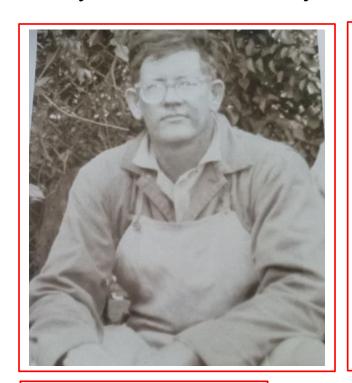
New Assistant Professor Dr. Kirstie Boyett



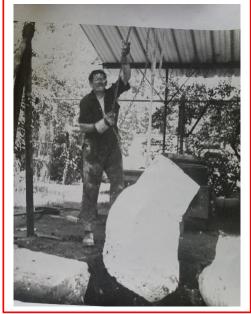
Dr. Kirstie Boyett joined the Criminal Justice Division in the Fall of 2023. Dr. Boyett holds a Ph.D. in Sociology, with a focus in Criminology and Social Psychology, from Texas A&M University. Her primary research areas are social policy and policy compliance, with a focus on policies related to gender-based violence, such as Title IX, and/or interpersonal and family violence. She also does work in interpersonal conflict, mediation, and victimology. She is looking forward to establishing an Experimental Criminology Lab at Lamar University. Prior to coming to Lamar, Dr. Boyett was a Lecturer at Texas A&M, where she taught courses such as Criminology, Deviance, Gender & Society, and Social Psychology. Dr. Boyett completed her undergraduate studies at Lamar, with a dual degree in Sociology and Psychology. She is very excited to be back at the campus that she loves dearly! She has two amazing kids and loves all things pop culture, especially fantasy shows and movies, crime dramas, playing volleyball, hiking, and going to the beach.

David Cargill: The Man Behind the Making of the Lamar Statue, the Father of TX Public Education

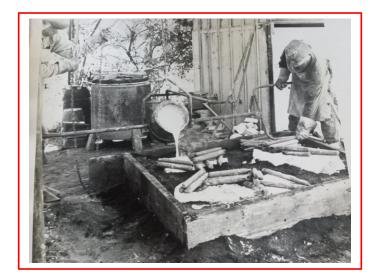
Sculptor **David Cargill** was interviewed by **Vidisha Barua Worley** and **Robert M. Worley** at his residence on 05/31/2023.



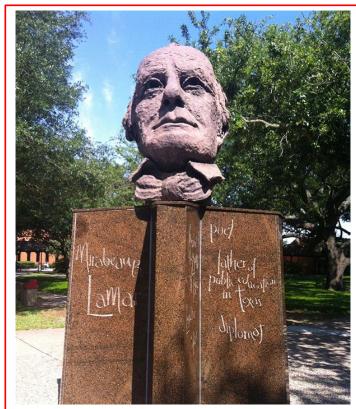














Sculptor David Cargill at his residence in Beaumont at the age of 94. He built his current residence himself.

First Association with Lamar University: "Lamar was essentially a high school almost to a point, and then it was a two-year college. My sister, Barbara, went to Lamar after she graduated from high school and it was just two years at that time. It was in the 1950s. There was a point in the 1960s, one of the teachers didn't show up at the beginning of the school year. Because I was known in town, the head of the department at that time called to see if I could go out and fill that space. He didn't know that the man was not coming back till the day before. The school started. I taught general art one year out there. I had always done art for churches. I came home at the end of the year and that was the end of that job. My daughter who was six at that time went to her mother and said, what are we going to do. Daddy doesn't have a job. My feeling was glad the year was over. Of course, I had the good fortune of doing the head that is out there."

The Making of the Lamar Statue: "The History Department approached me. First, we thought about doing a standing figure. Unless we did something really big, it would not be significant. I had the thought to do a big head. I did all my own cast. Actually, that was one of the first things I ever did. What to do, how to do...It took about six months to make the statue. Just a guess. You have to buy the metal from a smelt. Over the years I have done a lot of casting work. You have a copper pot or something, you can throw in whatever. I used a mixture of silicon bronze...clean metal cast...you can weld the things together with a similar alloy, silicon bronze. They make silicon bronze wires so you welded it. Otherwise, it would show up...some of the metal had zinc and stuff in it, a slightly different color. Some of the early casting, you could see where the weld was, if you knew to look. Just color-wise, a subtle difference."

"It was a lot of work. Did it just over here at home. Inside this is a wax, which could be part of a piece, done in lot of pieces. Do you see the big square with figures on it?"

"That is about how much metal I could pour in one pour...300 pounds. There are sections, the wax is the yellow part, and all of this is white, it is Styrofoam painted with wax. It burns out and makes a channel where the metal can pour in. It is hard to picture but all of this end up being a big blob of plaster with these being air vents. So, when the metal went into these however I had it. When you heat up the mold, you burn out all the Styrofoam in it. Styrofoam was my own way of doing it."

European Tour: "I had a new station wagon. The four of us and the new station wagon went out on a freighter out of Houston to Europe and spent from September to May driving around in Europe in my station wagon. At that time in the 50s we didn't have to get reservations. There was not that much travel. I saw more (European sculpture) in the first half a day in Europe than I had seen in my entire life. Didn't realize how much was out there."

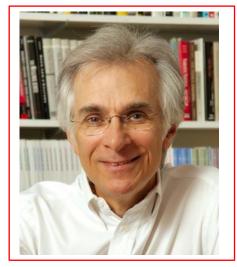
"I started making things when I was eight years old."- David Cargill

Co-PI Tsado gets \$300,000 NSF grant along with PI Helen Lou for Cybersecurity

Dr. Lucy Tsado of Criminal Justice, the Co-Principal Investigator, along with Dr. Helen Lou of Chemical Engineering as the Principal Investigator, received a \$300,000 National Science Foundation grant to lead an interdisciplinary project to equip the future workforce with knowledge and skills on industrial cybersecurity. "I was responsible for the criminal justice component of the project," says Dr. Tsado. In the news item available in the link below, Ryan Lee writes, "The effort will enlist Lamar University researchers across Chemical Engineering, Computer Science, and Criminal Justice in the development of suitable educational materials to address cybersecurity needs for critical energy and chemical infrastructure sectors. These materials will be integrated into the University's undergraduate curriculum and tested for their efficacy, eventually leading to impactful educational outcomes for graduates of these programs at Lamar University and beyond." https://www.lamar.edu/news-and-events/news/2023/09/chemical-engineering-professor-dr-helen-lou-receives-grant-from-national-science-foundation.html

Dr. Alasti's Second International Death Penalty Conference at LU, a Huge Success





Distinguished Speaker: Austin Sarat, Amherst College Law Professor and pioneer in the field of death penalty.

Death Penalty researchers, lawyers, and experts from all across the United States and Europe attended the conference. Criminal Justice students also actively participated in the conference and met with scholars from around the globe. Not only was it highly educational it was also a great way to network with leading scholars in the area of death penalty. Dr. Alasti handed out roses to all the participants. After the conference, all the attendees went to Pappadeaux for dinner.



Keynote Speaker: Robert Dunham, Executive Director of the Death Penalty Information Center in Washington DC.



FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2023



PUBLICATIONS

Worley, R.M., Lambert, E., and Worley, V.B. (2023). Can't Shake the Prison Guard Blues: Examining the Effects of Work Stress, Job Satisfaction, Boundary Violations, and the Mistreatment of Inmates on the Depressive Symptomatology of Correctional Officers. *Criminal Justice Review*, 48(4), 474-494.

Worley, R.M., Gummelt, G., Worley, V.B. (2023). Unjust Desserts! Unravelling the Gender-Specific Dimensions of Female Sexual Offending. *Deviant Behavior* (May 2023, Online First).

Lambert, E. Worley, R., Worley, V.B., and Hogan, N. (2023). The Effects of Different Types of Social Support on Depressive Symptomatology of Prison Officers. *Criminal Justice Studies: A Critical Journal of Crime, Law, and Society, 36*(1), 34-52.

Lambert, E., Hogan, N., Worley, R. M., & Salinas-Sauders. (in press). The Effects of Justice Views on Turnover Intent, Sick-Leave Views, and Sick-Leave Use Among Private Prison Staff. *Journal of Applied Security Research*.

Worley, V.B. (2023). Book Review. Dimitrios Giannoulopoulosand Yvonne McDermott (Eds.) (2022). Judicial independence under threat. Oxford, England: Oxford University Press. xix pp., \$90, 259, ISBN 978-0-19-726703-5. *International Criminal Justice Review* (Forthcoming).

Raufu, A., Ben-Edet, E. Tsado, L., (2023). Critical Reflections on the Dynamics of Ethnic Insurgency in Nigeria. Good Governance Worldwide: The website/journal of ASPA's section for public management practice symposia issue# 1 volume 1: June 1, 2023 *Governance, Public Policy, and Politics in Africa*.

Alsmadi, I., Tsado, L., Gibson, C. (2023). Towards Cyber Readiness Assessment in Rural Areas. *Spring Nature-International Conference on Advances in Computing Research*. ACR 2023: Proceedings of the 2023 International Conference on Advances in Computing Research (ACR'23) pp 630–639.

Alsmadi, I., Tsado, L., and Gibson, C. Cyber Readiness Assessment in Rural Areas: A Systematic Literature Review (December 23, 2022). Available at *SSRN*: https://ssrn.com/abstract=4311195 or https://ssrn.com/abstract=4311195 or https://ssrn.com/abstract=4311195

PRESENTATIONS

Voice of America: Teaching Research Methods in Criminal Justice Through Oral History Projects. Vidisha Barua Worley, Robert Worley, Ja'naya Bob, Jacoby R. Brocks, James P. Clemmer, Keelianae L. Landry-Yowman, Christie Murray, Brady Muth, Lizbeth Sanchez, Jenee Webb, Shelbie Williams, Jazzie Womack, Lamar Troy Young. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia: 2023. (With Lamar University students).

Workplace Trust and Life Satisfaction of Juvenile Correctional Staff. Nancy Hogan, Eric Lambert, Monica Solinas-Saunders, Shannon Barton, Robert Worley, Vidisha Barua Worley, Gayle Rhineberger, and Jackie Bell. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia: 2023.

The Association Between Organizational Trust and Organizational Citizenship Behaviors.

Nancy Hogan, Eric Lambert, Monica Solinas-Saunders, Shannon Barton, Robert Worley, Vidisha Barua Worley, David R. White, Gayle Rhineberger, and Jackie Bell. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia: 2023.

PRESENTATIONS

Exploring the Connection Between Organizational Structure and Organizational Trust. Eric Lambert, Nancy Hogan, Robert Worley, Vidisha Barua Worley, Monica Solinas-Saunders, David R. White, Shannon Barton, Daniel Hall, Jessica Warner. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA: 2023.

Pillar of Lamar Carl Parker. Jim Sanderson, Vidisha Barua Worley, and Robert Michael Worley at the Lamar State College Port Arthur, Port Arthur, TX. November 7, 2023. Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=znsoIeHpYgw

100 Years of Cardinal Pride Oral History Project. Vidisha Barua Worley at the Phi Beta Delta Xi Chapter Lunch and Learn. https://www.lamar.edu/events/2023/10/phi-beta-delta-lunch-and-learn-100-years-of-cardinal-pride-an-oral-history.html. Lamar University, Beaumont, TX. October 24, 2023. Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIKu_otbPBw

Documenting Lamar's History: A Centennial Oral History Project. Vidisha Barua Worley the Annual Conference of the East Texas Historical Association at Nacogdoches, TX. October 5, 2023.

The Correlates of Following Institutional Rules Among U.S. Prison Officers in the U.S. Southwest. Robert Worley, Eric Lambert, Nancy Hogan, Vidisha Barua Worley, Monica Solinas-Saunders, and Jackie Bell at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. National Harbor: Maryland. March 2023.

Cybercrime, Cybersecurity and Criminal Justice: Pedagogy of Cybersecurity in Criminal Justice Departments. Tsado, L. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA: 2023.

Theory Meets Practice: The Intersection of Green Criminology and Environmental Justice. Tsado, L. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA: 2023.





Judicial Corporal Punishment as an Alternative to Incarceration: A Conversation with Author Alasti

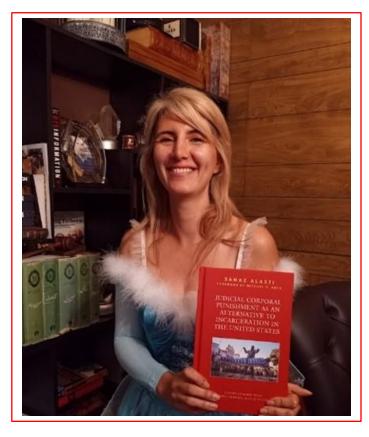
Judicial Corporal Punishment as an Alternative to Incarceration in the United States, published by Rowman & Littlefield -Lexington Books, August 2023. **Professor Vidisha Barua Worley** in a Q&A with **Professor Sanaz Alasti** finds out that the author does not in fact support corporal punishment.

VW: What is the main purpose of your most recent book *Judicial Corporal Punishment as an Alternative to Incarceration in the United States?*

SA: In this book, I explore the question of whether judicial corporal punishment can be considered a justifiable form of punishment. Throughout the text, I presented arguments both for and against this notion. While I contend that incarceration can indeed be justified as a method of punishment, it's important to acknowledge that the prison system's high costs and limited effectiveness pose significant challenges. Although a minority of scholars in the western world support specific forms of corporal punishment, the contemporary application of Islamic criminal justice systems underscores its lack of efficacy. Additionally, due to the inherent humiliation associated with administering corporal punishment, its implementation violates fundamental human rights, warranting its abolition.

VW: What inspired you to write this book?

SA: The inspiration for writing this book was sparked by the pressing issue of overcrowded prisons in the country. Witnessing the negative impacts of this overcrowding on resources, rehabilitation efforts, and inmate well-being, I felt compelled to explore unconventional solutions. As I delved into research, I discovered that many other societies, both historical and contemporary, have employed forms of corporal punishment as an alternative to imprisonment. This comparative analysis intrigued me and prompted me to consider whether such an approach could hold potential benefits for the US criminal justice system.



VW: Since you do not think corporal punishment is the solution to the incarceration problem, do you hope to explore any other options you think might work?

SA: It is a great question. Yes, I believe if Americans are serious about reducing incarceration rate and its costs, we can reinstate non-barbarous judicial corporal punishments such as shaming punishments or launch an e-carceration system and electronic monitoring for our criminal justice system.

VW: Is this book available at the bookstore? Barnes and Noble, online?

SA: Since it was released a few weeks ago, it is not available at the Lamar Bookstore yet, but it is available on the Barnes and Noble website, Amazon, and several other online bookstores.

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Criminal Justice Students at Cardinal View









"I joined my Fraternity, Sigma Phi Delta, in Spring 2020. It was the semester that COVID happened and all of the members that were in my fraternity graduated, so I was the only member of my fraternity and that presented a pretty big obstacle because *if I graduated then my fraternity would have died out*. Then in Fall 2021, I recruited four guys to my fraternity, so that put the number to 5 and now it is at 10 members. My fraternity offered me a pretty neat experience; it gave me the opportunity to overcome a pretty big obstacle. I could have chosen to let it die, but I have come out better." — *Dylon Johnson (sitting down in the fraternity picture)*, *B.S. Criminal Justice, Class of 2023*.

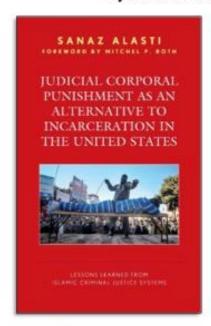




GET 30% OFF

JUDICIAL CORPORAL PUNISHMENT AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO INCARCERATION IN THE UNITED STATES: LESSONS LEARNED FROM ISLAMIC CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

By Sanaz Alasti and Foreword by Mitchel P. Roth



REVIEW

Sanaz Alasti provides a vigorous overview contrasting the persistence of the lash in some Islamic criminal justice systems with centuries of corporal punishment in Western societies and its eventual decline. She uncovers a small brigade of dissident legal scholars eager to revive corporal punishment in the mass-incarceration USA, while opinion polls reveal occasional bursts of public zeal for inflicting painful retribution on convicts. When courts in the multireligious city-state of Singapore sentenced teenage vandal Michael Fay to a harsh caning in 1994, a survey by the Los Angeles Times of U.S. opinion revealed that men favored this punishment by a margin of 61 percent to 36 percent, while women disapproved by totals of 58 percent to 39 percent. This book provides the wider historical context and legal rationales for corporal punishment, while also revealing the human rights traditions that have sought its abolition. -John Trumpbour, Harvard Law School

ABOUT THIS BOOK

Sanaz Alasti leaves the mainstream alternatives to incarceration to examine a different, seemingly archaic approach, physical (but non-carceral) punishment—corporal punishment. This book ignites debates about the history, persistence, and use of corporal punishment in criminal justice systems.

Alasti compares penological practices in in Western societies, represented by the United States, and Islamic societies, represented by Iran, to analyze which practices are more deterrent, less costly, and most humane. While Alasti does not suggest this should be the norm, she does present intriguing questions. Which is more barbaric? Is judicial corporal punishment a more humane and effective form of punishment compared to incarceration? Is corporal punishment a less cruel alternative to spending years behind bars in primitive and punitive jails and prisons? This book would be of interest to those studying criminology, criminal justice, history, law, and sociology.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sanaz Alasti is professor of criminal justice and director of the center for death penalty studies at Lamar University.

Hardback: ISBN 978-1-66693-029-0 August 2023 Regular price: \$95.00, ₹73.00 After discount: \$66.50, ₹51.10 ebook: ISBN 978-1-66693-030-6 August 2023 Regular price: \$45.00, ₹35.00 After discount: \$31.50, £24.50

*eBooks can only be ordered online.

Feel free to 'brown bag" your midday coffees, your brunch munchies, or your lunch!



Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 12:30–1:30pm Mary & John Gray Library, Room 702





Join us for a presentation by

Dr. Vidisha Worley of her mentored oral history project, "100 Years of Cardinal Pride!"

Dr. Vidisha Barua Worley and her students — Ja'naya Bob, Jacoby Brocks, James Clemmer, Keelia'nae Landry-Yowman, Christie Murray, Brady Muth, Lizbeth Sanchez, Jenee Webb, Shelbie Williams, Jazzie Womack, and Troy Young from the Research Methods in Criminal Justice class — interviewed 150 subjects associated with Lamar University to celebrate 100 years of the institution, thereby highlighting its rich history and culture.











Sponsored by the LU Beta Xi Chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars lamar.edu/phibetadelta

100 YEARS OF CARDINAL PRIDE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT





Above: CJ Director Cheng-Hsien Lin, LU alumni DeLisa Fuselier, Dr. Vidisha Worley, Ms. Phyllis Lacey Baker, Ms. Annie Carter, and Professor Richard Price. Left: Dr. Sanaz Alasti, Provost Brenda Nichols and Dr. Vidisha Worley. Below: Dr. Vidisha Worley and Dr. Robert Worley.







Dr. Vidisha Worley with Mr. Bob Henderson and Mrs. Maudie Henderson. Left: With CJ students.

The 100 Years of Cardinal Pride Oral History presentation by Dr. Vidisha Worley for the Phi Beta Delta Xi Chapter was very enjoyable and interactive and was attended by one of the first African American professors of Lamar University, Dr. Richard Price, former Provost Brenda Nichols, Mr. Bob Henderson and Mrs. Maudie Henderson (LU alumni), and Ms. Phyllis Lacey Baker (LU alumni) besides several students, faculty members, and other members of the community. The entire presentation is available on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIKu_otbPBw.

Dr. Jim Sanderson, Dr. Vidisha Barua Worley, and Dr. Robert Worley presented on Carl Parker at Lamar State College, Port Arthur, on November 7, 2023. Mr. Parker is 89 and has contributed immensely to Lamar University. The YouTube video shows the presentations. Thanks to Dr. Rezvan Khoshlessan for organizing the event and to Dr. Robert Worley for making the video and uploading it to YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=znsoIeHpYgw



"In order to allow ships to leave from the port, they had to have radio operators. They were short of radio operators. Port Arthur College was created by John W. Gates to train sonographers and radio operators," said Carl Parker in an interview with Dr. Vidisha Worley and Dr. Robert Worley. "I managed to get the seed money for the first nursing program at Lamar," he added.

STUDY ABROAD IN DUBROVNIK, CROATIA



CRIJ IN CROATIA

Join us in Dubrovnik for an exciting course on "International Perspectives on Justice"

USE QR CODE TO ENROLL BY FEB 15TH! Contact Dr. Boyett for more information: kirstie.boyett@lamar.edu Office Maes 78



Dr. Kirstie Boyett will be leading a Criminal Justice Study Abroad course, "International Perspectives on Justice" in Dubrovnik, Croatia during May Mini. This course doubles as both a course offered by Lamar and a post-graduate course on Victimology, Victim Assistance, and Criminal Justice hosted by the Inter University Centre Dubrovnik in affiliation with the World Victimology Society. Students will earn 3 hours of elective credit and a post-graduate certificate.

This program brings together approximately 80 international students, and 50 internationally renowned experts (lecture speakers) from the field of victimology, criminology, and criminal justice. The course lectures cover the areas of the theory and history of victimology; U.N. declarations and victim activities; restorative justice; human trafficking victims; victims in various criminal justice systems; victimization of women; victim compensation and restitution; crisis and crisis intervention; refugees as victims; and much more.

Dr. Boyett is very excited to offer Lamar students the opportunity to participate in such a prestigious, international program. Please reach out to Dr. Boyett at Kirstie.Boyett@lamar.edu directly for more information.











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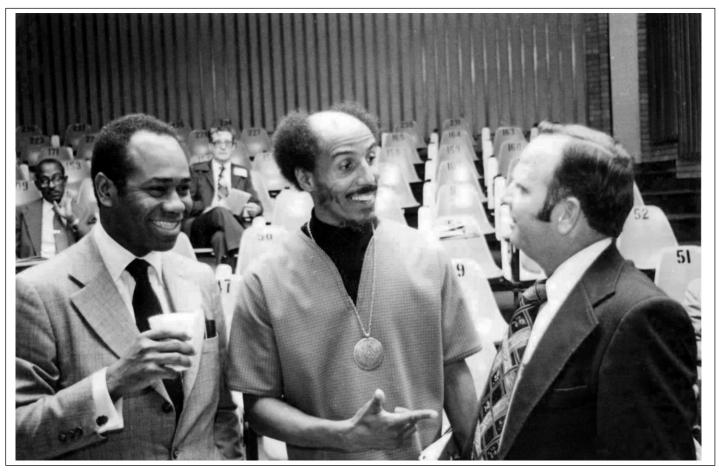
A Conversation with Author Sanaz Alasti

VW: Is this a book you'll use in any of your courses?

SA: Yes, this book has been adopted for my Punishment & Society (CRIJ 4313) class. This course is an elective upper-level course.

VW: Congratulations once again and thank you for talking to us.

THE STORY OF DR. RICHARD PRICE



Historic photo of Dr. Richard Price with the TAME board members in the 1970's.

'Lamar gave me the platform that I wanted'

Dr. Richard Price in a conversation with **Dr. Vidisha Barua Worley** at his residence in Beaumont, TX, on 03/15/2023. Dr. Price taught in the Department of Mathematics (1970-2006) at Lamar University. He was the Chair of Texas Alliance of Minorities in Engineering (TAME) (1976 to 2006). In 2008, Lamar University named the Richard Price Auditorium.

"I was in Columbus, Ohio at the time about to wrap up my PhD work there. The Dean of the College of Engineering, Lloyd Cherry, that building is named after him. He contacted what used to be my former barber, and he said he had heard about Dr. Price and would like to get in contact with him. So, he contacted my mother and she gave him my telephone number in Columbus and Dr. Cherry called me, very kind, very gracious. He was also in electrical engineering. And he asked if I would come for an interview. At that time Lamar was not even in my radar because at that time it was an all-white school."

"But Dr. Cherry was very warm even on the telephone and asked me if I would come in for an interview, which I agreed to and at that time I was interviewing I think upwards of 13 or 14 Universities. So, I came down not expecting that it would work out. Again, Dr. Cherry was very kind, very gracious. We went around and met the President at that time Dr. Thomas, and met the head of the Mathematics Department, Dr. Jeremiah, and all of these people were very warm. For dinner, they took me to a place on Port Arthur highway to a restaurant named Schooner (it is still around)....We made a decision to come to Lamar."

"Dr. Cherry had told me, if you do come, Richard, you are going to encounter some problems, some people will not be welcoming you here to the university but he said I want you to promise me one thing, that when you do have the negative experiences bring them to his attention and he said leave it to me to take care of it. So yes, early on I did run into those experiences and I did confide in him. If you come, I'm going to give you an office in Cherry Engineering on the second floor. So, my entire 36 years at Lamar was on that second floor right down the hall from the Dean."

How Brown versus Board of Education (1954) Impacted Dr. Price

'I was drafted into the Army in 1951 released in 1953 (Korean War). I got my bachelor's degree in Mathematics at Prairie View University. One of the professors at Prairie View University encouraged me to apply to the University of Texas at Austin. This was 1954. He urged me to apply. His name was Dr. Window P Johns. He taught me two classes. I got the registration packet, filled it out... sent it back to Austin, and the return letter said, the degree that you want the master's degree in Mathematics is also offered at Prairie View and at Texas Southern University in Houston. Therefore, we feel compelled at this time to refuse your application. At that time the only way a Black could get into the University of Texas if they wanted a degree that they could not get in the state in any other institution or if the university in

my case was not willing to send a student out of state. The University of Texas at Austin would send the students to New York, or to Wayne State. They would pay for your transportation. When they would send you out of state, they will let you go the first year, they let you go the second, they would not pay for that third year out of state because they didn't want to say you got a degree from another institution at the expense of Texas taxpayers. That's why back in that time there were very few Blacks getting advanced degrees especially in Mathematics, in Engineering, in Physics. So, when they sent me that rejection that must've been around May of 1954. It was also the year Brown versus Board of Education (347 U.S. 483, May 1954). Somewhere around then, the Board of Trustees met and decided that maybe it's time to open this institution to more. My professor heard about it and brought the news to my attention and said so why don't you reapply."

"I reapplied to the University of Texas for master's in Mathematics. It was the same application, and the same person that had written the first letter. This time he wrote me a letter saying, we will be glad to have you. So, I accepted. It was 1955. So, I was among the first group of Blacks under this policy, where we will not deny you. They transported old army barracks to the campus if you can kind of visualize, where Memorial Stadium is, the Football Stadium. I was directly across the street from that stadium. They had two barracks for the Black students."

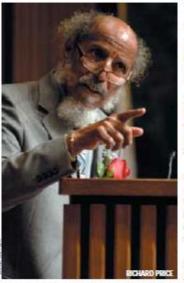
Finding a Place

"I moved the first time and a second time, when I finally found a seat, when I went sat down there with white participants at the table, they got up and left. So, after the second time the same experience the other whites got up and left; that told me that they did not want me here. So, I'll have to find somewhere else...this was the main cafeteria... The Union cafeteria was much more pleasant environment and more accommodating. Some of the professors, they let it be known that they did not like my being in class."

Lamar Provided the Platform

"There was something that I wanted to do. Not only was I a teacher, but I could guide students towards their academic goals and when I talked to Dr. Cherry, it looked like I was going to have that platform at Lamar. That was the only reason I came and I did have that platform my entire 36 years. My goal was to train and teach students and leave my mark. Lamar gave me a platform and it was in my home city. I created lots of programs."

"I would try to pass this on to the next generation: whenever you are fortunate enough to get an assignment where you want, go there because of some prescribed work that you want to accomplish, don't let anything interfere with the accomplishment of the purpose for which you went to that institution."



Price name graces auditorium

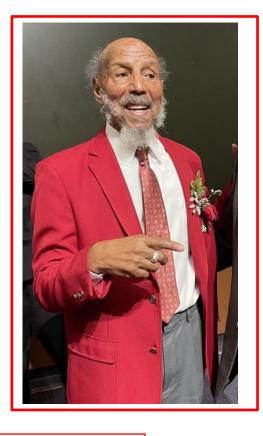
Lamar University honored retired Professor Richard Price, much beloved by students and the LU community alike, by dedicating the 250-seat auditorium at the John Gray Center Sept. 9 as the Dr. Richard L. Price Auditorium.

Price served as an associate professor of mathematics at Lamar University from 1970 until his retirement in 2006. He continues to teach part time at Beaumont's Ozen High School and as a volunteer preparing young students in Southeast Texas for academic competitions.

During his tenure at LU, Price became a mentor to hundreds of students who remember him as a devoted but challenging teacher. Price

helped expand the diversity of the LU College of Engineering as director of minority recruiting and retention. He also served as advisor to the campus chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers and had a prominent role in the national organization, which honored him with its Golden Torch Award for lifetime achievement in academia.

The creation of the Richard L. Price Endowed Scholarship for Engineering Students at Lamar University marked his 70th birthday. Friends and former students have contributed to the scholarship's growth.





Dr Price as the Grand Marshal at Lamar's Homecomi ng, November 4, 2017



Above: 90th birthday celebration.

Now, at 91, he still loves to ride his bicycle!

To Dante, The Patriarch of the Borua Family

The laughter would cease to be,

The rich voice would be just an echo,

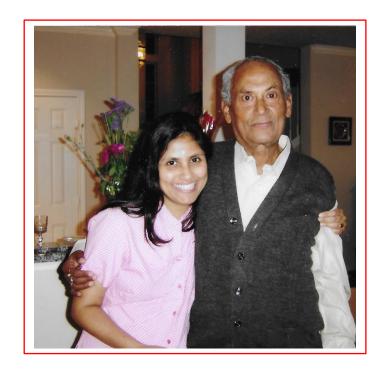
The innocent mistakes, the loving care,

The one who knows and forgives us so

O' preserve the voice, the very self,

I can't let the roses fade!

September 7, 1987, 1:30 p.m. Vidisha Barua



The laughter rings in our hearts,

The rich voice comforts us,

The loving care and the cheer,

For all of us, he holds dear.

His spirit, his joys, his jubilation, genius, and grandeur

We, the roses, will carry on forever!

November 25, 2023

Vidisha Barua Worley