

Keiser College to the Rescue



Investigative Resources

By Abby Chasky

Abby Chasky, the new librarian since January 2006, is thrilled to be onboard at Keiser College. She was very impressed with the handouts that have been available to students in different fields. The Keiser College Library is constantly updating these handouts so that the students can be made aware of the latest websites available for research. We have a wonderful hand out for "Crime Scene Technology Resources" and one for "Criminal Justice."

"I would like to remind everyone that we have a new link through our online library (www.kcsnetlibrary.org) which is the Thomson/Delmar Virtual Library Guide. It is an amazing site in which I encourage everyone to check out and explore. And let's not forget that along with all these hi-tech tools, we do still have books for every major, especially Crime Scene Technology and Criminal Justice."

We hope that you will take advantage of the library and stop by for an orientation if you have not had one with your class.

Tutoring Labs

By Rita Callahan & Judith Reardon

Some Keiser College students have not written a research paper in many years; and some students' high school math classes are distant memories. To set up our students for success, Keiser College Sarasota campus opened a Tutoring Lab in 2006. The Lab provides free assistance for students who may need extra help with writing, research and math skills.

The Tutoring Lab (Room 200) is available every Tuesday and Thursday after morning classes, 1-2:30 p.m. and before evening classes, 5-6:30 p.m.

Math students will find Mrs. Rita Callahan a valuable resource in assisting them with math. She is a member of the National Tutoring Association and has degrees in both Math and Economics.

Ms. Judith Reardon helps students organize and write research papers. She helps students find online databases and websites appropriate for their research, provides APA format instructions and assists with the editing process. Her degrees are in Communication and English.

Academic Advising

By Rick Clare

Academic advising is available to all Keiser College students. If students are interested in additional degrees, changing their field of study, internships, or formulating a long range academic plan, their advisor will provide information to aid in their decisions.

Each student at Keiser College is assigned an Academic Advisor. Regular meetings are set up to discuss not only their academic progress, but also other areas of interest such as scheduling, elective courses, internships, possibilities for job opportunities, graduation, or any other area related to their College experience.

At the beginning of each semester students are provided an opportunity to meet with their advisor but they are encouraged to request a meeting at any time they wish.

For all the Crime Scene Technology and Criminal Justice students your Academic Advisor is Mr. Vanstrom, Room 214 or you can e-mail him at gvanstrom@keisercollege.edu.

"But there are always some lunatics about. It would be a dull world without them."

- Sherlock Holmes -

Holiday Safety Tips

1. Take a friend or family member with you when you go shopping at night.
2. Pay for your purchases with a check or credit card to avoid carrying large sums of cash.
3. Place your packages in the trunk so they are out of sight of potential thieves.
4. Lock your doors and windows when you leave your house even if you are leaving for just a few minutes.
5. Get your keys out before you approach your parked vehicle.
6. Keep a record of all your credit card numbers in a secure place.
7. When you leave your house turn your television on so it seems like the house is occupied.
8. Keep gift wrapped items out of the sight of windows and doors of your house.

The Keiser College Sarasota Campus faculty and staff want to wish you and your families a happy, and safe holiday season.

No Excuses

By Jessica Sawyer
Keiser College Graduate

Life as a college student has been quite a roller coaster. In the past two years attending Keiser, I have been scared, nervous, shy, and hopeless, as well as eager, outgoing, confident, and grateful. When I first started here, I was worried that I wasn't going to be able to keep up with the students since I had been out of high school for a while. Then I noticed that the people in my classes weren't any different than I was; in fact, many were their late twenties to thirties. So I started to believe that this school was the right choice.

My first class was Criminal Investigations with no previous courses in the field. On my first day, the majority of the students in the class had been taking classes here, and they knew all the answers during our discussions. I sat in the corner worried that I was never going to pass that class. The students had their uniforms on with their boots and I had no clue about my uniform. But realized that I wasn't the only one. After a few days of class, I met other students and socialized with them.

We eventually realized that we'd be in the next classes together. We organized study groups though we spent more time talking than studying. I started to look forward to school.

My confidence grew along with my outlook on my future. I was fortunate to have two outstanding mentors who helped me along the way. Mr. Vanstrom and my parents pushed me when I

“...I'm not around dead people all day, but I never know what I'll be doing on any given day either...”

needed it the most, even though at the time I wasn't appreciative of their help.

A few months ago, I turned in my resume to Mr. Johnston for an internship opportunity, just to see if I could experience the “real” world as a crime scene technician. I knew that I had the education, but did I have the stomach to deal with the dead bodies? I wanted to see if this was right for me. I have been in my internship with the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office for two months and I know that

this is what I want to do as a career.

At the Sheriff's office I process evidence from the property room and write reports. On average, Sarasota County has one homicide a year. If there is a death, the majority of the calls are natural, accidental, or suicide. Robberies or burglaries are also rare in our county. So the good news is that I'm not around dead people all day, but I never know what I'll be doing on any given day either. I am now a full-time employee of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department's Crime Scene Unit.

My biggest advice is come to school with an attitude of willingness to learn and help others, because it will take you a long way. If you think that you have the perfect job waiting for you, you're wrong. No perfect career will wait for you. You have to chase it with all of your strength and desire. I worked a full time job as a single mother without my parent's financial help and showed up to school almost every day. It is possible if you want this career bad enough. Appreciate what you have, give each class your best efforts, and make something out of your time. *No excuses.*

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Suggestions from an Obsessive Reader

By Cagney Lynn Katrenak
Crime Scene Technology Student

I am a fanatic about reading -- from historical romance to mysteries and including true crime stories and novels.

The Cobra Event by Richard Preston, a realistic fiction novel, was dubbed “*The book that petrified President Clinton...that he instructed intelligence experts to evaluate its credibility*” (The New York Times). A biologically-engineered virus was created by a scientist who wanted to wipe out Washington, DC. He started by placing “bombs” in the form of puzzle boxes into circulation. Once opened, they popped up like a Jack in the Box and released microscopic particles of the virus named Cobra. The effects of the Cobra virus were devastating, gory, and unbelievable. There is much in-depth forensic work in **The Cobra Event**. The story brings help in from Quantico, the CDC in

Atlanta, and the FBI. This novel is a must-read for forensic majors.

The book that applies more to the Criminal Justice majors is **Mean Justice** by Edward Humes, a true story of a man prosecuted for his wife’s murder, which he did not commit. Set in King County, CA, the book brings out the power the legal system has over society. From forced confessions and accusations to the fabrication of witness testimony this story will stir anyone’s sense of justice and show how corrupt officials can damage lives.

The Stranger Beside Me by Ann Rule is the inside story of Ted Bundy, one of America’s most well known serial killers. He kidnapped several young, blonde women, killed them, and then buried their bodies. The author, Ann Rule, knew and associated Bundy before, during, and after his psychopathic killing spree. **The Stranger Beside Me** begins when Rule meets Bundy, who was working at a telephone help line. The book ends with his execution in the

electric chair. For anyone fascinated with Ted Bundy’s story, this book provides detailed facts of the case.

I’ll just suggest a few more that may spark interest in our field of study.

The Forensic Casebook by N.E. Genge (nonfiction) “*The Science of Crime Scene Investigation*”.

The Hot Zone by Richard Preston (nonfiction).

Crime Scene by Larry Ragel (nonfiction) “*From fingerprints to DNA testing – an astonishing inside look at the real world of CSI*”.

Level 4 Virus Hunters of the CDC by Joseph B. McCormick, MD & Susan Fisher – Hoch, MD with Leslie Alan Horvitz (nonfiction).

Kiss Me, Kill Me & Other True Cases by Ann Rule (nonfiction).

Forensic Detective by Robert Mann, Ph.D. (nonfiction).

My last suggestion is a fictional piece of literature that will expand one’s knowledge of Multiple Personality Disorder, **The Girls He Adored** by Jonathan Nasaw.

Keiser College Kappa Epsilon Iota Members Hard at Work

By Gordon Vanstrom
Faculty Advisor

The Keiser College Sarasota Campus Kappa Epsilon Iota Fraternity members are hard at work donating their time and sweat to make our community a better place to live. Members of Kappa Epsilon Iota are working on the construction of a home in the Venice area for Habitat for Humanity.

The fraternity is a national

organization limited to Crime Scene Technology and Criminal Justice students. We are proud to be able to be a part of such an outstanding organization and together we can make a difference.

The fraternity is planning on making this a monthly project. Since it’s founding in 1975 Habitat for Humanity has built more than 200,000 homes providing more than 1,000,000 people in more than 3000 communities with safe, decent, affordable housing all completed through volunteer labor and donations.



Featured Instructor



Dr. Randy Gonzalez

Randy Gonzalez has been an active member in the criminal justice field for the past 32 years. As a police officer, deputy sheriff and law enforcement trainer, he has been involved in a number of criminal justice activities. He is the former director of a police academy and a retired chief of police. As a police academy director, he was responsible for basic recruit training, as well as advanced and career development courses for

in-service law enforcement personnel. His involvement in law enforcement education extends state-wide. Randy also serves as an adjunct professor of criminology on the faculty of the University of South Florida, Manatee Community College, Keiser College and the Sarasota County Technical Institute's Criminal Justice Academy.

“Randy Gonzalez holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Criminology, an M.P.A. degree in Public Administration, and a Ph.D. in Biblical Philosophy.”

He has served as an educational consultant to schools and Universities on matters of law enforcement training.

Randy Gonzalez holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Criminology, an M.P.A. degree in Public Administration, and a Ph.D. in Biblical Philosophy. As a

certified law enforcement instructor, he holds certifications in general studies, WMD, law, firearms, driving, medical first responder, human diversity and defensive tactics. As a martial arts practitioner, he has taught classes on self-defense and personal safety education.

Randy has written and published articles and training manuals related to the field of criminal justice and law enforcement. His training materials have been used in college courses and police academy training programs. He remains an active member of several professional associations at the State, National and International levels. In addition, he participates in several local writers groups and continues to write both fiction and non-fiction projects. Randy continues to consult on educational training issues for public and private organizations. His website is located at: www.drgonzo.org. and, his email address is: gonzoscti@hotmail.com.

Instructor Directory

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Criminal Justice and Crime Scene Technology Fraternity at Keiser College

Keiser College has recently been awarded membership in the criminal justice fraternity, the American Criminal Justice Association. Membership in the Keiser College chapter, Kappa Epsilon Iota, is available exclusively for students in the Criminal Justice and Crime Scene Technology programs.

The objectives of the ACJA are to establish and maintain professionalism and ethical conduct in both education and training in the field, to provide enhanced awareness of criminal justice issues, and to foster a viable presence in the community. In addition, the ACJA is committed to encouraging the expansion of criminal justice higher education opportunities and professional training. Complete and submit your application

Name _____

Phone number _____

email address _____

Day or Night student _____

CJ or CST student _____

The Real Crime Scene

Investigator

By Gordon Vanstrom

Crime Scene Investigation is very different from what you see on television. I always laugh when I see Grissom getting instant information about a victim, time and reason for the death and an instant profile of the murderer, all of which is all provided to the crime scene investigator instantly or at least during the time it takes

for a McDonald's commercial to run and just in time for the crime is solved by the end of the show. But it is entertaining.

But, let's come back to reality. A Crime Scene Investigator can spend several days, if not weeks and months, after a crime has been committed examining evidence from the scene. They only have one opportunity to examine the crime scene in its unspoiled state and they must pay tremendous attention to detail to ensure all evidence is collected. I have made this clear in class several times. A crime scene is

an ever changing environment and it is better to "overprocess" a scene than to "under process" it. Any evidence that is missed could literally affect the outcome of the whole investigation. After a crime scene search is complete, the investigator has to write up reports detailing the process used for the collection and preservation of the evidence. He must also verify this was done correctly and that the chain of custody is intact. How often to you see Grissom seated at a desk completing paperwork?

The Need for Educated Police Officers

By Randy Gonzalez

Providing the cutting edge of talent and technology, modern law enforcement requires a "degree" of expertise. This competitive edge in dealing with control strategies rests upon recruiting educated police officers. The starting point for advancing professionalism begins with the bachelor's degree. Now, more than ever, the U.S. police corps is in need of an elite force of University-educated officers. To ensure superior levels of protective services, every community needs highly qualified law enforcement personnel. Qualifications

for a career in public safety include advanced educational status. Modern progressive police agencies seek to recruit the best and the brightest personnel available. Numerous studies have shown that college educated officers stand the best chance of success within the career field.

For over a century, the law enforcement field has pursued the vision of hiring and promoting well-educated police officers. That dream still continues to this day. The benefit of higher education goes without question among the ranks of professional police administrators. Current trends, future needs and technological advances necessitate the ongoing educational requirements of police work. Social

and cultural complexities, human diversity, and the multifarious nature of criminal behavior demand a cadre of officers with exceptional interpersonal communications skills. The development of such abilities begins with a well-integrated college education. In the long run, by virtue of a combination of talents, capabilities and experience, an educated officer offers the possibility of more effective job performance. A credentialed, well-rounded officer portends the deployment of a more competent member of the police organization. So, getting the degree is a significant first step in the long term process of career development.

Fun with the Law Game

Law is defined as - A legal document setting forth rules governing a particular kind of activity.

Your job should you decide to accept it is to match the laws to the state in which they are in effect.

The first day and night student to correctly identify the states where the law is in effect and turn it in to Mr. Vanstrom will win a prize.

- 1 It is illegal to catch fish by throwing a rock. _____
- 2 It is illegal to eat in a restaurant that is on fire. _____
- 3 It is illegal to put ice cream on cherry pie. _____
- 4 A parent can be arrested if there child burps during a church service. _____
- 5 It is illegal to attend a cinema or ride on a street car with in at least 4 hours after eating garlic. _____
- 6 It is illegal for dogs to congregate in groups of 3 or more with out a permit signed by the mayor. _____
- 7 Beer and pretzels can't be served at the same time in a bar or restaurant. _____
- 8 It is illegal to sing in a public place while attired in a swimsuit. _____
- 9 It is illegal to carry an ice cream cone in your pocket. _____
- 10 It is illegal if you do not own a boat. _____

KEI Events Calendar



- # KEI Meetings- 5:30p.m. in Crime Lab
- # KEI get togethers- details at the meetings

December 2006

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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January 2007

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February 2007

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April 2007

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July 2007

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October 2007

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November 2007

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December 2007

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