

Justice Quarterly: Editorial Transition

After his three year term as editor of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences' (ACJS) flagship journal, *Justice Quarterly* (JQ), Richard Tewksbury is handing over the position to a new editor. I'm delighted to let you know that Cassia Spohn, Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Arizona State University, is the new editor of JQ. Under Richard Tewksbury, JQ has gone from strength to strength, and now has increased publication to six times a year. Cassia Spohn will be looking to continue to develop JQ, and outlines below her editorial philosophy:



'Expanding the Boundaries of the Discipline

The key to maintaining the quality and enhancing the impact of Justice Quarterly is to publish research that expands the boundaries of the discipline—qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods research that asks new questions, analyzes existing questions in new ways, and/or challenges our assumptions. As a top-tier journal in the discipline, Justice Quarterly should publish work that does more than build upon existing research in incremental ways. The goal therefore will be to publish theoretically grounded, methodologically rigorous, and policy-relevant research that makes a substantial contribution to the discipline rather than simply reiterating what we know about the causes of crime and the operation of the criminal justice system. To accomplish this, all authors whose work is favourably reviewed (and either accepted conditionally or pending revisions and another round of reviews) will be asked to state explicitly how their work pushes back the boundaries, theoretically and/or empirically.

Guiding Future Theoretical or Empirical Work

Research that makes a significant contribution to the discipline not only expands the boundaries of knowledge but guides future theoretical or empirical research. It is research that prompts other scholars to develop or refine theoretical perspectives, to answer research questions using newly developed empirical techniques, or to analyze data in new ways. It is research, in other words, that poses questions designed to invigorate the discipline.

To maintain Justice Quarterly's position at the forefront of theoretical and empirical innovation in the study of crime and criminal justice, two of the six issues of each volume will include a lead article on the theme of "New Directions in _____ Research." Well-established scholars will be asked to critically assess the state of knowledge in an area and to propose a research agenda that will guide future work. These articles, although solicited, will nonetheless be subject to the standard review process. They will focus on new directions in research on policing, sentencing, corrections, sexual victimization, gangs, and race, crime and justice.'

JQ article co-authored by Cassia Spohn on the federal sentencing process is free to access until December 2010! See below.

New Editorial Office

JQ will continue to seek the best papers dealing with theoretical, empirical and interpretive studies of issues related to criminal justice, and welcomes submissions from authors trained in all disciplines and using any methodologies in the study of criminal justice issues.

With the change of editorship, JQ's editorial office will also move to Arizona State University. Manuscripts should continue to be submitted to the JQ manuscript submission site: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/rjqy>

Any editorial queries should now be directed to: justicequarterlyeditor@asu.edu



Selected *JQ* articles are available via iFirst, Taylor & Francis' proprietary early-online-publication system, which makes new knowledge available to researchers in the shortest possible time.

View the articles on [iFirst here](#).

Recent Articles

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Free Article

Read an article co-authored by the new editor Cassia Spohn:

[Lawlessness in the Federal Sentencing Process: A Test for Uniformity and Consistency in Sentence Outcomes](#)

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For more information about *JQ*, please visit: www.tandf.co.uk/journals/rjgy