



White Paper: The Relationship Between CJ and Security Studies

Even though Security Studies could be considered to be an academic discipline in its own right, there is a long and significant content overlap between it and CJ Education. It may be argued that is right to consider Security Studies (SS) an interdisciplinary discipline as its body of knowledge relies on an intersecting diverse multi segmented plain within the applied social sciences. Even while some see it as a sub-discipline of CJ, it might be well to remember that Criminal Justice originated and developed as a sub discipline within the confines of primarily Sociology/Criminology and secondarily, Psychology and Law.

The above stated intersection is centered in the areas of crime prevention and an understanding of society's necessary response to criminal acts by creating the system which operates to identify, apprehend and punish offenders. Crime prevention studies include prediction of criminal acts, characteristics and conditions leading to propensities to offend and mechanisms of target hardening by modification of the environment. Society's reaction involves such areas as investigation and understanding the legal and moral requisites relative to the rights of offender, victim and society in addition to specific techniques to be utilized in specific instances. The integral connectivity is, thus, both proactive and reactive and herein is found the dilemma of both disciplines. Carrying out the responsibilities of a criminal justice or security professional is a vital service to both business and social order but it must be accomplished in a manner that is found to be acceptable to the courts and political realities of the time.

One variance between Criminal Justice and Security Studies relates to the degree to which a program in higher education views itself as a professional degree program or as one of the Liberal Arts. Standards in in CJ as developed by NEACJS and later adopted and expanded by ACJS have seemingly taken the later position (Liberal Arts) probably as many prominent faculty members remain loyal to the field of Sociology while Security Studies is intrinsically linked in content to Schools of Business Administration. Business sees itself as a preparing a student for work, while Sociologically connected CJ faculty see themselves as preparing the student for life and view work related preparation as less worthy than a goal of academic purity or social responsibility.

IPCA hopes to bridge the divide by recognizing the need for critical thinking and a disciplined though philosophically open mind set combined with the recognition that the interest of society is served in the private as well as the public sector and business is the logical partner of high academic standards as it contributes to their bottom line by having the best and brightest choose a professional career. We will encourage students to accept the challenge by mastering a professional and scientifically orientated program which still combines elements of the humanities to increase the level of understanding the human condition which accounts for choice and seeming determinist response. By increasing the quality of applicants and their preparation in such areas as business systems and management, computer engineering, forensic accounting and cyber-criminal enterprise, the business of crime and civil disorder will be adversely affected.

One way of looking at the issues at hand is to consider that which blocks the acceptance of course work designed to meet the needs of the world of work and wealth creation. Many traditional faculty members see that higher education educates while business trains. Colleges promote intellectual growth while business stifles the creative spirit by narrowing the focus of the employed individual's expectations. There exists a created dichotomy of education vs. training and many Liberal Arts loyalists in academia see value only in the abstract intellectual preparation of a student who exists in a college or university for the sole purpose of being educated. Few question what the student expects or wants. Fewer consider what parents expect or want and almost no one openly discusses what the business community expects or wants except in derision or when administrators demand accountability when student numbers decrease or a neighboring discipline encroaches on the limited pool. Even when students, parents and business want the student to acquire marketable skills and to be prepared to get a job, many academics remain unimpressed. Faculty nonbelievers and administrators can recall many times being criticized for stating that meeting the expectations and needs of the student is or should be a primary job for departments and faculty.

It is hoped that faculty in an emergent discipline will focus on student outcomes instead of creating separation between the goals of system participants. Let us look to what is necessary to fulfill competencies necessary in life action including job task performance and design curriculum which assures a greater probability of success. SS often requires more than a CJ degree as the criminal environment is more specific occurring within the framework of a business enterprise.

The security personnel are employees of a specific entity the primary goal of which is to make money by reducing costs of operation. The security professional must report to

managerial staff who have a business orientation rather than to political appointees and their academic preparation must balance the curriculum and include both the business model and CJ model. The security professional needs a management and human resources content as well as understanding the social condition which may predispose one to offend. These persons are a part of the management team and even the entry level personnel require exposure to the enterprise system mode of thinking.

Security professionals, daily, face a more daunting challenge in that they are charged with not only dealing with criminal activity but, also, non-criminal acts such a mishandling of information and improper supervision of personnel which contributes to loss and faith in enterprise. They additionally may face, particularly in area such as homeland security, non-human, thus non motivated, circumstance leading to threat as may be caused by artificial intelligence and self-replicating entities with no connection to human thought processes. We hear reports that with the development and launch of Stuxnet a self-sustaining and growing object exists without being under the control of its creator and we are critically aware that multiple biologically viral organisms thrive without human causation but pose a wide spread threat to humanity. Dealing with these newly realized facts make security the protector of not only business but human existence as well.

In facing the new order with hope for a bright future, Security Studies has evolved with multiple sub disciplines including Homeland Security, Emergency Management and Cyber Security in addition to Loss Prevention, Asset Protection Securities Management and others. Each sub discipline must be represented individually and have conceptual connection to the whole of the Applied Social Science family of studies including Criminal Justice. As such each must be dealt with as a unique area of concentration and it will remain a goal of IPCA to allow each of the Applied Social Sciences to develop their own standards based on understanding required competencies and measuring educational outcomes scientifically.

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