



OFFICE HOURS AT THE CAPITOL

September 13, 2017

Contact Information & Key Takeaways

Criminal Justice and Corrections



Michael Massoglia

Professor of Sociology

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Areas of expertise: Outcomes of early release programs, impact of expungement, prisoner reentry into society, prisoners' mental health, incarceration's impact on family functioning and children's outcomes, stigma of incarceration on prisoners' families, the effects of incarceration on health (e.g., premature adult mortality, psychiatric disorders and disability, infectious disease, and stress-related illnesses), and age-related patterns of offending over time.

Short bio: Professor Massoglia's work focuses on the social consequences of the expansion of the penal system, the relationship between the use of legal controls and demographic change in the United States, and patterns and consequences of criminal behavior over the life course. He currently is researching the relationship between incarceration and neighborhoods (e.g., racial composition). His next book will focus on *Prisons and Health in the Age of Mass Incarceration*. Massoglia grew up in northern Wisconsin and earned his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Minnesota.

Mike Massoglia's Top Three Takeaways for Legislators based on His Research

- ★ Individuals released from prison face many challenges re-entering society, but the lack of stable housing is among the most pressing.
- ★ Prison programs that have a specific focus that are directly transferable to the labor market—for instance a certificate as a welder or a machine press operator—seem to offer the most promise.
- ★ A focus on socially and economically integrating individuals who are released from prison offers the best opportunity to reduce recidivism.





Cecelia Klingele

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Areas of expertise: Community supervision and prisoner reentry, juvenile corrections in Wisconsin, early release, collateral consequences of criminal convictions (e.g., being unable to vote, obtain certain licenses, or possess a firearm because of a felony conviction), evidence-based corrections, sentencing and corrections reform, criminal justice administration, policing, federal probation in Wisconsin, and mental and behavioral health challenges of prisoners.

Short bio: Professor Klingele's research focuses on criminal justice administration, with an emphasis on community supervision of those on conditional release. Prior to becoming a professor, she served as a Law Clerk for a Supreme Court justice, Court of Appeals judge, and western Wisconsin District Court judge. She currently serves as an Advisory Board Member for the Wisconsin Innocence Project and served five years on the Wisconsin Catholic Conference's Policy Advisory Group. Klingele grew up in Nekoosa and received her law degree from UW-Madison.

Cecelia Klingele's Top Three Takeaways for Legislators based on Her Research

- ★ Although most people on probation or post-release supervision succeed or fail in the first three years of supervision, in Wisconsin we allow people to serve terms of community supervision that sometimes last decades. Shortening terms of supervision could save state resources and promote reintegration of former offenders, without reducing public safety.
- ★ In Wisconsin, people who successfully follow the rules of probation and extended supervision are given no credit for the periods of time in which they are compliant unless they finish the full term of supervision. In other states, people are given full or partial credit for the time they successfully spend in the community, thereby allowing them to complete their sentences in a timely fashion, even if they are sanctioned for non-compliance at some point during their term of supervision. Allowing people on community supervision to receive full or partial credit for days of successful supervision is likely to incentivize compliance and save money.
- ★ Despite reductions in the state crime rate, over the past 30 years maximum penalties have more than doubled for most categories of crime in our state, while opportunities for early release from prison were reduced. Although few people are sentenced at the top end of the penalty range, maximum sentence lengths affect the way judges sentence all defendants. Returning our maximum sentences to a level closer to our state's historical lengths of punishment could ensure accountability at a level that is proportional to the harm caused.

Economic and Workforce Development



Gary Green

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Areas of expertise: Workforce development, rural economic development, local economic development incentives, labor market challenges in Wisconsin's counties, helping counties better match jobs and workers, natural amenities and asset-based development, rural school consolidation, industry clusters, effect of banking de-regulation on communities, and green collar jobs.

Short bio: Professor Green's research, teaching and outreach focus on the relationship between economic development and community change. His current research projects focus on the deindustrialization of rural America. His recent books include *Handbook of Rural Development, Asset Building and Community Development* (4th Edition) and *Workforce Development Networks in Rural Areas: Building the High Road*. He was a member of Governor Tommy Thompson's Initiative on Workforce Strategies in 1998. He earned his Ph.D. in Rural Sociology from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Gary Green's Top Three Takeaways for Legislators based on His Research

- ★ The skills mismatch and labor shortage in Wisconsin is due largely to demographic trends, institutional shifts in training, spatial factors, and technological change. Population growth in the state is much slower than average and the number of young workers is not large enough to meet the demand in many regions. In many cases, job opportunities are not located in the areas of the state where the supply exists (and there are limits to transportation and housing). Technological change has increased the skills demands among most employers, and the number of workers in these fields has not kept up with demand.
- ★ Job turnover is a persistent issue among private sector employers, and increasingly an issue for the public sector. In tight labor markets, employers face increasing competition for workers and the supply of labor is declining.
- ★ Credit continues to be a major obstacle for entrepreneurial start-ups and expansion. While most small businesses rely on family and savings to start businesses, they find it difficult to obtain credit to expand their businesses.



Matt Hora

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Areas of expertise: “Hard” and “soft” skills in demand by Wisconsin employers, college internships, postsecondary STEM education and workforce alignment, active/experiential learning in the classroom to develop students’ skills, and helping teachers create active learning environments.

Short bio: Professor Hora conducted a study of 141 Wisconsin employers (biotechnology and manufacturing sectors) and postsecondary educators to better understand the “skills gap” in the state. This study resulted in a 2016 book, *Beyond the Skills Gap: Educating College Students for Life and Work*, that gained national attention. He is the founding director of the new Center for Research on College-Workforce Transitions at UW-Madison. The center will focus on critical aspects of the transition from college to the workforce, such as what makes internship programs successful and a review of how economists and researchers define middle skills jobs. Hora earned his Ph.D. in Educational Psychology at UW-Madison.

Matt Hora’s Top Three Takeaways for Legislators based on His Research

- ★ To meet workforce needs over the long-term, two venues for student/employee learning will need to be transformed: (1) College and university educators must have access to and use the tools, resources and training to transform their classrooms into active learning laboratories, and (2) Employers must have access to and use resources, training and incentives to invest in their internal human capital via increased workplace learning opportunities.
- ★ Employers across multiple industries desire a variety of skills (e.g., technical knowledge, complex problem-solving, teamwork, communication, self-directed learning) that are transferable across situations, and are best cultivated in classrooms that feature interactive, hands-on teaching and learning opportunities centered around authentic real-world problems.
- ★ Successful internship programs have the following characteristics: high-quality job-site mentoring, meaningful work and adequate pay for interns, close coordination between educators and employers, a large stable of employers capable of hosting interns, and adequate funding for colleges and universities to design and administer large numbers of interns.

Transportation*



Teresa Adams

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Areas of expertise: Strategic decision making about the life cycle of transportation infrastructure (e.g., bridges, pavements), performance measures used to assess Wisconsin's roads, road engineering tradeoffs, transportation impacts of sand mining, transportation workforce development, and implications of autonomous vehicles.

Short bio: Professor Adams's research aims to make the infrastructure management process more efficient and integrative, using new technology and enhanced processes that support strategic decision making. In addition to her roles as professor and director of CFIRE, she has federal experience with the U.S. Department of Transportation. In 2013-14 she served on the advisory committee for the Joint Programs Office on Intelligent Transportation Systems, and in 2010-11 she was a visiting professor at the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy. She also has served on the steering committee for the Wisconsin Highway Research Program. Adams earned her Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University.

Teresa Adams's Top Three Takeaways for Legislators based on Her Research

- Roadway maintenance is most important. Many roads require fixes right now.
- We can, with new technologies of design and materials, improve the return on investment in roads or reduce expenditures significantly. Although WisDOT and WHRP are doing a lot of research on road materials and design, we are using outdated design methods developed in 1972 and have lagged in implementing new ideas. There has been much innovation in new construction materials, that expediting trials and their inclusion in specifications is likely to benefit the state. Some of these design methods and new materials could produce significant savings in construction cost and/or give roads longer service lives. Other states such as Alabama and Washington have already implemented such new technologies and they are designing and building more efficient roads.
- Regarding transportation funding, it appears that Wisconsin motorists are willing to pay more than 1 cent per mile for roads.

**Although Professor Adams was unfortunately not able to join us for the Office Hours event, she would be delighted to talk to legislators and staff by phone or email.*

Wisconsin Family Impact Seminars - Contact Information



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