Dear MAS Student, Alumni, and Prospective Students,

"Civility." "Responsible Discourse." "Trying to make sense of the senseless."

In the wake of the unspeakable tragedy in Tucson, our hearts have been broken and our ears have been filled with these phrases. Like so many others, I too am left wondering what could have been done to prevent the actions of this lone gunman. Some argue that if only had someone else been armed, the carnage would have been significantly reduced. Others protest and argue that we need tighter gun control. What role, if any, might the rhetoric so often used in hotly contested political campaigns have played? How do we balance the fundamental right to individual privacy against the ability to intervene in the life of one who is believed to be "disturbed"?

I have studied and researched violence, especially gun violence, for most of my academic career. I believe that there is no quick-fix to the issue of gun violence, including mass shootings, just as there is no quick-fix to any of society's complex problems. But events like Tucson provide us with an invaluable opportunity to take positive steps in addressing complex problems. Therefore, we must talk about these issues, and we need to do it civilly and,

In This Issue

Save the Date for the MAS Meet and Greet
Now Accepting Applications
Alumni Spotlight
MAS Honor Students Give Back

Save the Date for the 5th Annual MAS Meet and Greet!

Prospective students, current students, and Alumni are cordially invited to the 5th Annual MAS Meet and Greet which will be held at the UCI University Club on March 8th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase our program to interested students, and is also a chance for current students and Alumni to reconnect. Don't miss the opportunity to interact with our internationally recognized faculty while enjoying light refreshments and learning more about what the MAS program has to offer. We look forward to seeing you at this exclusive event!

Now Accepting Applications for Fall 2011

Are you ready to take the next step in your education and career goals? If so, UC Irvine is currently accepting applications for the MAS program. Please visit our website for current information, requirements, and deadlines at http://clsmas.soceco.uci.edu/

Alumni Spotlight

Cohort 6 graduate: Yalonda Wade

Greetings, I would like to welcome Cohort 8 to the MAS Criminology, Law & Society Program. I am a member of Cohort 6, with a background in Juvenile Probation and Education. The MAS Program offers a wonderful, comprehensive
In the best case, dispassionately.

In the MAS, we encourage discourse and debate on the important topics of why crime occurs, how the criminal justice system can best prevent/respond to crime, and whether the applications of our laws and punishments are fair and meted out equally among all members of our society. It is this aspect of the MAS program that I believe distinguishes us as the very best option for meeting your educational needs.

So won't you please join us on March 8th at our open house, where I will be joined by other members of our faculty, alumni and current MAS students, for an evening of responsible discourse on the events that transpired in Arizona. I want to use this opportunity to learn about you, your opinions regarding this tragedy, and how you think a graduate degree in Criminology, Law and Society might help you to "make sense of the senseless."

Most Sincerely,
George Tita
Director, MAS Program

MAS Honor Students Give Back

Members of the UCI chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma (the national criminal justice honor society) gave back to their community this holiday season by donating time and raising funds for a local charity, the Eli Home. The Eli Home is a non-profit organization serving victims of abuse and MAS honor students were successful in raising funds, and collecting various toys and donations to benefit the members of the Eli Home. They also hosted a cookie decorating booth at the Eli Home Christmas party and had the chance to interact with both parents and children associated with the organization. The MAS program would like to thank the UCI members of Alpha Phi Sigma for their charitable contributions to our local community.

Alumni

Connection

Last Fall the MAS Program started an Alumni program where graduates are kept in the loop of possible job openings and career connections. In addition, Alumni are given the chance to be featured in the 'Alumni Spotlight' section of MAS Program newsletter. If you would like to be a featured Alumni in a future newsletter, have a job you would like to post for Alumni, or would like to be an active part of the Alumni program, please contact the MAS Assistant.

MAS Recruiting at Events in San Antonio, TX & Tampa Bay, FL.

A representative of the MAS Program will be in San Antonio, Texas for the American Correctional Association (ACA) conference which will be held Jan. 30- Feb. 2. In addition, the MAS Program will also be
represented at the Council of College Military Educators (CCME) conference in Tampa Bay, Florida from Feb. 13-17. If you will be attending one of these events, or are local to the area and would like to meet the program representative to learn more information about the MAS degree, please contact the MAS Assistant Director at adriannl@uci.edu.

Attention Northern California Prospective Students!

A Representative of the MAS program will be in the Sacramento area in early May to host a prospective student information session. The specific day and time is not yet finalized, but please contact the MAS Assistant Director at adriannl@uci.edu if you would be interested in attending this event. Final plans will be announced in the Spring edition of the MAS newsletter in late March.