

CLAJ Semi-annual Meeting

May 23, 2024

National Academy of Sciences Building
2101 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20418

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024

NAS Room 125

Public Sessions

PUBLIC SEMINAR: Advancing the Federal Research Agenda on Tribal Crime, Justice, and Safety with Feedback from the Field

Description: The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) actively engages with and supports research and evaluation with American Indian and Alaska Native communities. NIJ's Tribal Crime, Justice, and Safety portfolio aims to (1) provide an accurate reporting of crime and violence; (2) provide reliable, valid estimates of the scope of the problem; and (3) identify barriers to and possible solutions for dealing with these significant public safety issues. Moreover, NIJ respects the government-to-government relationship between the federal government and federally recognized Tribes as sovereigns by ensuring all research efforts are Tribally engaged. NIJ is also committed to activities that maintain high scientific integrity, rigor, and ethics standards and fulfill the federal trust responsibility. To ensure the work with Tribal Nations and peoples is of the most appropriate approach and highest quality, NIJ understands the need to improve its funding priorities and processes continually.

The Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010, which included requirements for better data collection, spurred a number of federal research efforts over the last decade. Despite efforts across several bureaus and program offices throughout the Department of Justice to support Tribal research and evaluation over the last two decades, funding robust empirical studies remains challenging. Over the years, NIJ has engaged with the field and with Tribal Sovereigns to understand better what policies or programs may need to be modified.

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM), in collaboration with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), is convening a public seminar to obtain input on advancing the federal research agenda on Tribal crime, justice, and safety. The session aims to gather feedback from various constituents (i.e., Tribal leaders and community members, scientists and researchers, and others in the federal science enterprise).

10:30am – 10:35am Welcome and Introduction

Robert Crutchfield, chair, Committee on Law and Justice

10:35am – 11:45pm Panel 1: Federal, Tribal, and Philanthropic Investments in Research

Moderator: Rod Brunson, member, Committee on Law and Justice

Christine Crossland, National Institute of Justice
Aleta Meyer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Kathy Etz, National Institute on Drug Abuse
Erik Stegman, Native Americans in Philanthropy
Nick Tilsen, NDN Collective (*virtual*)

11:45am – 12:30pm LUNCH

12:30pm – 1:45pm Panel 2: Justice-related Research Needs and Enhancing Research Infrastructure

Moderator: Addie Rolnick, member, Committee on Law and Justice

Joseph Patrick Gone, Harvard Medical School (*virtual*)
Tessa Evans-Campbell, University of Washington
Tara Richards, University of Nebraska at Omaha (*virtual*)
Emily Wright, Urban Institute (*virtual*)
Discussant: Jeremy Braithwaite, Tribal Law & Policy Institute (*virtual*)

1:45pm – 2:00pm **BREAK**

2:00pm – 3:15pm **Panel 3: Data Collection, Sovereignty, and Barriers to Research**

Moderator: Alex Piquero, member, Committee on Law and Justice

Kalvin White, Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board (*virtual*)
Desi Small-Rodriguez, UCLA (*virtual*)
Maegan Rides At the Door, National Native Children's Trauma Center (*virtual*)
Richard Melville, Bureau of Indian Affairs (*virtual*)

3:15pm – 3:45pm **Discussion: Next Steps for Advancing Federal & Tribal Research Agendas**

Facilitator: Nancy La Vigne, Director, NIJ

Guiding Questions for Discussion:

- What kinds of research are most needed? How can we enhance criminal, juvenile, and tribal justice research agendas?
- How do we best make that research accessible and useful to tribes?
- How can we support scientific capacity local to tribal communities?
- Who is best positioned to receive and use funding?
- How can we make funding more accessible to tribal participants?
- How can we increase the number of Native and Non-Native researchers conducting research and evaluation with and for tribal communities?
- How can we develop and maintain long-term researcher-practitioner partnerships? When funding academic researchers and/or institutions, how can we ensure that these researchers engage in genuine and sustained partnerships with tribal communities?
- What steps can we take to ensure that American Indian and Alaska Native communities are included in public safety and justice-related research endeavors?

3:45pm – 4:00pm **BREAK**

MARK KLEIMAN INNOVATION FOR PUBLIC POLICY MEMORIAL LECTURE

Description: Mark Kleiman was a policy analyst, teacher, and long-time member of the Committee on Law and Justice. This memorial lecture aims to preserve his legacy by awarding early career scholars who have innovative ideas for public policy.

4:00pm – 5:15pm **Mark Kleiman Innovation for Public Policy Memorial Lecture**

Aur lie Ouss, Janice and Julian Bers Assistant Professor of Criminology, University of Pennsylvania

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