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news from

**ASU** Watts College  
of Public Service and Community Solutions  
Arizona State University



Amid a particularly turbulent summer, when our nation is navigating not only a global pandemic but finally confronting injustice and systemic inequity, we wanted to take a few moments to emphasize our commitment to build vibrant, equitable, inclusive communities. The positive social change we seek cannot be achieved without taking on deeply entrenched problems that stem from institutionalized racism and unequal access to opportunity.

Each of our schools is conducting research, partnering with community agencies and training the next generation of leaders who are preparing to create solutions to these challenges we must face as a society if we are to make progress as a people. This month's newsletter highlights some of that work and showcases the publications where our faculty are called upon to lend their expertise.

Together, we can #BeTheSolution.

Jonathan Koppell, Dean  
ASU Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions

## College news



### Training program for advocates of domestic-violence victims to receive ASU Presidential Medal

Survivor Link, a team of educators, students, faculty members and community volunteers who work to promote healthy relationships and provide domestic violence interventions in the community, will receive the 2020 President's Medal for Social Embeddedness at a ceremony to be held this fall.



### Experts worry pandemic could increase 'play inequity' in youth sports

As Americans warily begin to reengage



In open letter, SCCJ faculty makes recommendations to change relationships between law enforcement and public

during the COVID-19 pandemic, parents are having to weigh the risks and benefits of returning their kids to team competition. A panel of experts sponsored by the Global Sport Institute at ASU in June expressed concerns that the societal shutdown this spring may worsen inequities in the world of youth sports.

Responding to recent tragic events involving African-Americans and police officers, the faculty of ASU's School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ) published an open letter offering 10 far-ranging recommendations for systemic change in the relationships between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve.

### **ASU poll finds deep worry over economic impacts of pandemic**

The COVID-19 pandemic is having tough economic impacts on Arizonans, with fewer work hours as well as job losses and furloughs, according to a new poll conducted by the Morrison Institute for Public Policy at ASU in conjunction with the Arizona Republic.



### **Spectator sports will return, but it's a matter of how and when, say industry insiders**

Both die-hard and casual fans who are eager to know what the future will hold can gain insights from the people who work in local and national sports, said Erin Schneiderman, a clinical assistant professor in the special events management program at ASU's School of Community Resources and Development.



### **Is defunding the police a good idea?**

"Defund the police" has been a popular rallying cry at recent protests across the nation. Originated by the Black Lives Matter movement and police reform activists, the slogan was introduced to the public last week and is quickly picking up steam with politicians, city councils and mayors throughout the country. But what does it really mean? Kevin Robinson, an SCCJ lecturer and a retired police officer, spoke to ASU Now about the idea.



### **Department culture can escalate to police brutality, ASU expert says**

The premature death of George Floyd at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer caught on video May 25 raises questions as to how a call to investigate a person suspected of forgery can end up in tragedy. While some characterize the incident as another example of brutality and racism in the police ranks, it is often a more complex problem of department culture that leads to such incidents.





### 'ASU Expert View': 5 perspectives on COVID-19 effects

ASU experts on the economy, anxiety, tourism and more share their insights in a new video series on how the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting a variety of aspects of our lives. Professor Christine Vogt in the School of Community Resources and Development tackles the subject of tourism in Arizona.



### ASU grad is first in family tree to get a college degree

Spring 2020 ASU graduate Joaquin Ramos describes first-generation college students as the "guinea pigs" of their families. But the criminal justice major used his experiences navigating life in college to encourage future first-generation students. As executive director of SPARKS, a student-led Access ASU program that supports college readiness among K-12 students, Ramos promoted higher education to Arizona youth.

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## In the news

### Next Generation Service Partnership Prepares Undergraduates for Public Service | The Arizona Republic

The Volcker Alliance and the ASU Watts College have launched the Next Generation Service Partnership (NextGen Service), a national initiative that seeks to expand public service learning experiences for undergraduates. The announcement was also picked up by more than 60 other media outlets.

### Is Youth Sports' Return Too Risky? Panelists Weigh Challenges, Opportunities | The Arizona Republic

Many youth sports have been resuming among the tentative state reopenings. School of Community Resources and Development Assistant Professor Eric Legg discussed the associated safety and health concerns and the impact on social issues as part of the panel discussion "COVID-19 & The Future of Youth Sport," hosted by ASU's Global Sports Institute.

### Should the Child Care Industry Get A Bailout? | New York Times

With many child care providers unable to reopen yet due to the coronavirus, it remains difficult for many employees to return to work even as states reopen. The research of School of Public Affairs Associate Professor Chris Herbst and others at ASU provides insight on the issue.

It was a busy month for the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice as the death of George Floyd sparked widespread protests and calls for police reform to end systemic racial injustice. Faculty of the SCCJ were called upon by news outlets nationwide to share their expertise. Here is just a sampling of the pieces in which they are quoted or to which they contributed.

- [Five Things Police Can Do to Improve Public Trust | The Arizona Republic](#) (authored by multiple CCJ faculty)
- [Want to Reform the Police? Look to Social Work for Lessons | The Crime Report](#) (authored by CCJ Director Jon Gould and SSW Director James Herbert Williams)
- [Seattle Officials Rebuff Trump Threats As They Struggle with Protesters' 'Autonomous Zone' | Sinclair Broadcast Group](#) (Edward Maguire)
- [Death of George Floyd Brings Out Need for Change | PBS Arizona Horizon](#) (Bill Terrill)
- [Both the Left and the Right Rush to Blame Protest Violence on Outside Extremists | Los Angeles Times](#); also picked up in more than 20 other media outlets (Edward Maguire)
- [Defunding the Police | JURIST](#) (authored by Michael Scott)

- [Officials Blame 'Out-of-State' Agitators But Those at the Heart of Protests are Homegrown | USA Today](#) in the Detroit Free Press; also picked up by more than 40 media outlets (Edward Maguire)
  - [Retreat or Deploy? Police Try to Balance Protest Response | The Associated Press](#); also picked up by at least 200 other media outlets (Edward Maguire)
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## Announcements

### ► [Returning to campus](#)

**Effective immediately: face coverings are now required for all faculty, staff, students and visitors while in ASU buildings.** Face coverings are also required in outdoor areas where social distancing is not possible. Please remember to carry your ASU ID to access buildings as they are not currently open without badge access.

We are working with our units on a return to work plan that will involve a phased approach. The dates are not yet final, but we expect the first group to come back to campus in mid-July. All faculty members will be allowed to return to work in the building at that time and staff who request to return will be invited to do so in that first group.

We will be working with our supervisors to ensure accommodations are made for employees who are not yet able to return from remote work. We have been impressed with how well our community has adapted to remote work conditions and will work with you as we transition back to campus. We are expecting faculty and staff without accommodations to return by August 16.

**All staff need to complete the related training prior to returning to work.**

[Click here for the ASU COVID-19 guide](#) for employees. [Click here for the announcement](#) from the Vice Provost.

### ► [Disability Resource Center Lunch & Learn series](#)

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) is offering a series of Lunch & Learn events to support faculty and staff who interface with students with disabilities.

[Click here for a list of topics, dates, times and more information.](#)

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## Awards/Achievements

► Dean **Jonathan Koppell** was named to the Volcker Alliance's [Public Service Education Accelerator Advisory Board](#). The central objectives of the PSE Accelerator are to catalyze innovation to strengthen public service curricula, impart public service values to a broader group of students across all disciplines, and amplify the capacity of Schools of Public Service to inspire and prepare the next generation of public servants.

► The School of Public Affairs recognized Professor **Mary Feeney** with its Distinguished Service Award and Assistant Professor **Ulrich Jensen** with its Distinguished Research Award.

► **Donald Siegel**, Foundation Professor of Public Policy and Management and director of the School of Public Affairs, has been [elected dean of the Fellows of the Academy of Management \(AOM\)](#). Siegel is the first ASU faculty member to achieve this distinction. AOM is a global professional association of more than 20,000 academics who teach management.

► ASU senior **Cyrus Commissariat**, active in the Andrew Goodman Foundation fellows program in the ASU School of Public Affairs, [was named as one of only two students to the board](#)

of the **Students Learn Students Vote Coalition**, a national organization dedicated to encouraging college students to vote in local and federal elections.

► **PRM 483 students** transformed the spring 2020 ASU School of Community Resources and Development graduation celebration from in-person to virtual. The organizers' dedication paid off with a notable virtual celebration that also **earned a GOLD sustainable-event certification** from the University Sustainability Office.



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