



Watts College
of Public Service
and Community
Solutions

Arizona State
University

Watts Happening?

The latest media coverage of Watts College

January 2020



Professor **Kristin Ferguson-Colvin** (SSW) told KJZZ News radio that Arizona needs to continue recent progress in assisting young people ages 16-24 return to school or find jobs. Appearing on “The Show,” Ferguson cited Public Allies and AmeriCorps volunteers, many of whom are Watts College students, in helping lower the number of those of that age group needing jobs or to return to school. She cited mental health and poverty issues as contributing factors for why many of these young people are without work or are not in school.

- Jan. 2, 2020: [“Arizona Educators Make Progress with ‘Opportunity Youth,’”](#) by Mark Brodie, “The Show,” KJZZ-FM

Associate Professor **Dustin Pardini** (CCJ) told KTAR News radio the Trump administration’s ban on flavored e-cigarettes doesn’t go far enough. He said he would like to see flavored liquids often sold in vape shops be forbidden as well. Youths can simply buy the unbanned liquids and add them to non-flavored e-cigarettes, he said. Pardini is primary administrator for the **Arizona Youth Survey**, which biannually asks eighth, 10th and 12th graders statewide several questions, including about e-cigarette use.



- Jan. 3, 2020: [“Valley Experts Weigh in on Flavored Vaping Ban.”](#) by Griselda Zetino, KTAR-FM



To promote zero-waste efforts, Waste Management used tens of thousands of recycled golf balls to fill a hollow, logo-shaped container placed in the middle of a lake at the Waste Management Open golf tournament. The promotion earned the praise of **Erin Schneiderman**, clinical assistant professor in the **School of Community Resources & Development** (CRD) at Watts College, in a Jan. 26 article in the *Scottsdale Progress*.

- Jan. 26, 2020: [“Waste Management Open Scores for Environment.”](#) by Wayne Schutsky, *Scottsdale Progress*



Policy makers, law enforcement officials and local media learned the [latest statistics about gun-related deaths in Arizona](#) – including that 3,188 people in Arizona died by guns between 2015 and 2017 -- in a Jan. 29 symposium co-sponsored by the **Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety** and the **Morrison Institute for Public Policy**. “Gun Deaths in Arizona: Facts, Trends and Policy Recommendations” featured CVPCS Director and Professor **Charles Katz**, above left, Morrison Institute for Public Policy Associate Director for Research **Melissa Kovacs**, below left, and several experts from the CVPCS, the Morrison Institute and the **School of Criminology and Criminal Justice** including **Melissa Gutierrez, David Choate, Taylor Cox, Karissa Pelletier, and David Schlinkert**.



- Jan. 29, 2020 – [“3,188 People Died By Guns in Arizona Between 2015 and 2017,”](#) by Mark Brodie and Steve Goldstein, “The Show,” KJZZ-FM
- Jan. 29, 2020, [“Symposium on Gun Deaths in Arizona,”](#) by Ted Simons, “Arizona Horizon,” KAET-TV (Channel 8-PBS)
- Jan. 30, 2020: [“Morrison Institute Presents Data on Firearm Deaths in Arizona,”](#) by Zeke Harker, *State Press*
- Jan. 30, 2020: [“ASU Report: Most Victims of Firearm Deaths Are Suicides,”](#) by Mary Beth Faller, ASU Now
- Feb. 3, 2020: “Study: Most Firearms Deaths in Arizona Are Suicides,” by Mary Beth Faller, ASU Now, in *Casa Grande Dispatch*

Associate Dean **William Terrill** (CCJ) spoke to KJZZ News radio about how cities, police departments and residents can discuss what goes into creating a citizens’ review board of police activities and decisions. Every city is different, Terrill said, and it is important to remember that not every stakeholder will be happy with every aspect of any resulting plan.



- Jan. 3, 2020: [“How Cities and Police Departments Can Talk about Creating Citizen Review Boards,”](#) “The Show,” KJZZ-FM



Despite some decline in tourism due to safety concerns in the wake of recent violence in its northern region, Mexico remains a popular destination for U.S. tourists, who need to be proactive in protecting themselves, tourism Professor **Dallen Timothy** (CRD) told KJZZ’s “The Show.” Tourists should heed news reports and travel advisories, especially ones that warn about dangers in a neighboring country.

- Jan. 9, 2020: [“How Violence in Mexico Could Affect Tourism,”](#) by Lauren Gilger, “The Show,” KJZZ-FM

Law enforcement officers in small rural counties are often not equipped to handle seriously mentally ill persons in their custody the way psychiatric hospitals are, Professor **Jose Ashford** (SSW) told KJZZ's "The Show" in a panel discussion about the situation of Adrian Perez, a seriously mentally ill man who has been in Cochise County's jail at least 16 times in the last 13 years. For one thing, hospitals have the ability to use medication to restrain those who are acting out violently, while small jails may only have the option of putting them in solitary confinement or restraint chairs, said Ashford, director of the **Office of Offender Diversion and Sentencing Solutions** and the **Office of Forensic Social Work Research and Training**.



- Jan. 7, 2019: ["In Rural Cochise County, Residents with Serious Mental Illness Often End Up in Jail,"](#) by Mark Brodie, "The Show," KJZZ-FM



Whether arts programs for former inmates can affect recidivism shouldn't be the question to ask, otherwise it reduces individuals to "just numbers and statistics" when the objective is often to do the opposite, Associate Professor **Kevin Wright** (CCJ), director of **ASU's Center for Correctional Solutions**, told Colorado Public Radio. What former inmates in the arts can do is to educate society, which can learn much about prison life from those who lived it and present it on artistic platforms.

- Jan. 17, 2020: ["Criminal is a Label: 'Just Us' Hopes Instead for Humanity with Stories told by Former Prisoners,"](#) by Stephanie Wolf, Colorado Public Radio

Ayesha Ahsan, an ASU student who is an Andrew Goodman Foundation Ambassador, a group dedicated to increasing electoral participation among college-age voters, discussed why students should be allowed to vote where they attend college on KJZZ-FM's "The Show." The radio program discussed House Bill 2461, which would require anyone living in a dormitory or "other temporary college or university address" be barred from voting in that area. The ASU contingent of the Ambassadors is based at Watts College's **Congressman Ed Pastor Center for Politics and Public Service**.



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- Jan. 21, 2020: ["Lawmaker Tries to Stop Arizona Students from Voting Where They Attend School,"](#) by Mark Brodie, "The Show," KJZZ-FM