

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Melissa A. Kowalski, M.A.**

### **Office Address**

Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology  
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### **EDUCATION**

2015-present: Ph.D. in Criminal Justice and Criminology (currently ABD), Washington State University

Dissertation: Unmet needs: Adverse childhood events and mental health issues as pathways to recidivism in justice-involved youth

2012-2014: M.A. in Forensic Psychology, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology

Applied Research Project Title: Developing a treatment for inhibited RAD in male adolescent group homes

2009-2012: B.S. in Psychology (Certificate in Criminal Justice), University of Wisconsin-Madison

### **EMPLOYMENT**

2017-present: Senior Research Associate, Washington State Institute for Criminal Justice, Spokane, WA

2016-present: Research Assistant, Oregon Youth Authority, Salem, Oregon

2015-2018: Teaching Assistant (Instructor of Record), Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Washington State University, Pullman, WA

2014-2015: Transitional Living Placement Case Manager for male adults, ATTIC Correctional Services, Inc. Dane County, Wisconsin

2013-2015: Supported Living Specialist/Home Coordinator, A Helping Heart, Inc. Middleton, Wisconsin

2012-2014: Resident Counselor/School Liaison-Community Outreach Coordinator, Orion Family Services Group Homes, Madison, Wisconsin

## PUBLICATIONS

**Kowalski, M. A.**, Mei, X., Turner, J. R., Stohr, M. K., & Hemmens, C. An analysis of statutes criminalizing correctional officer sexual misconduct with inmates. Forthcoming. *The Prison Journal* (September 2019).

Campagna, M., **Kowalski, M. A.**, Drapela, L. A., Stohr, M. K., Thompson Tollefsbol, E., Woo, Y., Mei, X., & Hamilton, Z. Understanding offender needs over forms of isolation using a repeated measures design. Forthcoming. *The Prison Journal* (September 2019).

**Kowalski, M. A.** Hiring and training requirements for correctional officers: A statutory analysis. Forthcoming. *The Prison Journal* (December 2019).

## UNDER REVIEW

**Kowalski, M. A.** Mental health recovery: The effect of peer services in the community. Under review at *Community Mental Health Journal*.

McCann, W., **Kowalski, M. A.**, Hemmens, C., & Stohr, M. K. A comparative analysis of certificates of rehabilitation. Under review at *Corrections: Policy, Practice and Research*.

**Kowalski, M. A.** Adverse childhood experiences and justice-involved youth: The effect of trauma and programming on different recidivistic outcomes. Under review at *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*.

Hamilton, Z., **Kowalski, M. A.**, Schaefer, R., & Kigerl, A. Recrafting juvenile risk assessments: Developing the Modified Positive Achievement Change Tool for Iowa. Under review at *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

**Kowalski, M. A.** Risk and need differences between justice-involved youth with internalizing, externalizing, and co-occurring mental health issues.

Hamilton, Z., Kigerl, A., Mei, X., Routh, D., & **Kowalski, M. A.** Development of a dynamic needs and responsivity assessment.

**Kowalski, M. A.**, & Racer, K. Trauma and offending: The prevalence and impact of adverse childhood experiences on justice-involved youth in Oregon.

**Kowalski, M. A.**, & Hamilton, Z. H. Evaluating the N in RNR: Does meeting youths' needs reduce recidivism? A multistate comparison.

Hamilton, Z., Kigerl, A., Mei, X., Routh, D., **Kowalski, M. A.**, & Choi, E. Multistate validation of the Positive Achievement of Change Tool (PACT).

## TECHNICAL REPORTS

Hamilton, Z., Kigerl, A., Mei, X., Routh, D., & **Kowalski, M. A.** (2018). PACT validation and weighting results: Technical report. Deliverable 1: Updated PACT risk and needs assessment. *Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators*.

Hamilton, Z., Kigerl, A., & **Kowalski, M. A.** (2018). Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA): Validation, assessment, & recommendations. *Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee*.

**Kowalski, M. A.** (2018). Evaluation of Tier 1 Predicted Success Rates. *Oregon Youth Authority*.

## GRANT WORK

2017-present: Senior Research Associate. Optimizing Juvenile Assessment Performance. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention FY 2017 Field Initiated Research and Evaluation Program (CFDA # 16.540). This project utilizes over a million youth offenders assessed on the same youth risk assessment and tracked for recidivism. The study aims to identify jurisdictional variations in assessment performance and outline customizable solutions for delinquency prevention through optimization of risk assessment performance. This is a two-year project for \$124,900.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Corrections
- Juvenile Justice
- Gender/sex and racial/ethnic differences
- Trauma and Adverse Childhood Events
- Mental health and substance abuse issues

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2015-2018 Teaching Assistant (Instructor of Record), of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Washington State University.

*CRMJ 101/Introduction to the Administration of Criminal Justice*. Topics included a survey of the field, including: Police, courts, corrections, theory, juvenile justice, law and victimization, among other topics: Fall 2015, Spring 2016 and Spring 2017 (seated sections).

*CRMJ 403/Violence toward Women*. Topics included an overview of violence toward and against women; analysis of crimes such as battering, rape, sexual harassment, and stalking in a theoretical and social context; the impact of these crimes on women; and how multiple systems may address the needs of victims and offenders: Summer 2016 (seated) and Summer 2018 (online).

## **TEACHING INTERESTS**

- Introduction to criminal justice/criminology
- Violence toward women
- Corrections
- Juvenile Justice
- Criminological theory
- Statistics and methods

## **RELEVANT COURSEWORK**

- 2018:            Structural Equation Modeling
- 2017:            Advanced Research Methods in Criminal Justice and Criminology  
Advanced Quantitative Techniques in Criminal Justice and Criminology  
The Police and Society
- 2016:            Psychometrics  
Intermediate Quantitative Methods  
Seminar in Criminological Theory  
Prosecution and Adjudication  
Seminar in Corrections  
Seminar in Evaluation Research
- 2015:            Criminal Justice Research Methods  
Foundations of Quantitative Methods  
Criminal Justice: Process and Institutions
- 2014:            Evaluation and Treatment of the Juvenile Offender  
Substance Abuse Evaluation and Treatment
- 2013:            Diversity in Forensic Psychology  
Evaluation and Treatment of the Adult Offender  
Forensic Psychology in Correctional Settings
- 2012:            Mental Health and Law  
Abnormal Psychology  
Psychology and Syndromes of Disinhibition
- 2011:            Psychology of Juvenile Delinquency  
Experimental Psychology

## **TRAINING**

- 2018:            Cultural competency
- 2018:            Mental health first aid

## **COMMITTEE SERVICE**

2018-2019: Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association: President

2016-2019: Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association: Workshop Committee

2016-2018: Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association: At-Large Representative

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (Member)

American Society of Criminology (Member)

## **EDUCATIONAL HONORS**

University of Wisconsin-Madison

-Dean's List: Spring 2010, Fall 2010, Spring 2012

-Candidate for Distinctive Scholastic Achievement

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

2012: Dance/Movement Therapy Aide, Hancock Center for Dance/Movement Therapy  
Madison, Wisconsin

## **REFERENCES**

Dr. Zachary Hamilton  
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Spokane, WA 99210  
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