

Minutes of the Twenty-First Meeting of the
Campbell Collaboration Crime and Justice Group Steering Committee
Stockholm, Sweden – June 16, 2010, 3:00–6:00pm

In attendance:

Steering Committee

Jan Andersson, National Council on Crime Prevention, Sweden
David Farrington, Cambridge University, UK
Catherine Gallagher, George Mason University, USA
Peter Grabosky, Australian National University, Australia (co-chair)
Martin Killias, University of Zurich, Switzerland
Jerry Lee, Jerry Lee Foundation, USA
Friedrich Lösel, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg/Cambridge University, Germany/UK
Jacque Mallender, Matrix Knowledge Group, UK
Peter Neyroud, National Policing Improvement Agency, UK
Lawrence Sherman, Cambridge University, UK
Hiroshi Tsutomi, University of Shizuoka, Japan
Peter van der Laan, NSCR, Netherlands
David Weisburd, Hebrew University/George Mason University, Israel/USA (co-chair)
David Wilson, George Mason University, USA (editor-in-chief)

Invited Guests

Charlotte Gill, George Mason University, USA (CCJG managing editor)
Tony Munton, Matrix Knowledge Group, UK

1. Welcome and Introductions

David Weisburd, as meeting chair, welcomed attendees to the twenty-first meeting of the Campbell Crime and Justice Group (CCJG) Steering Committee. Committee members Vicente Garrido (Valencia University, Spain), Jianhong Liu (University of Macau/Southwest University, China), Phyllis Schultze (Rutgers University, USA), Jonathan Shepherd (Cardiff University, UK), and Brandon Welsh (Northeastern University, USA) sent their regrets at being unable to attend the meeting.

The Steering Committee congratulated David Weisburd on being presented with the Stockholm Criminology Prize at a ceremony and reception on June 15.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting (Philadelphia, November 3, 2009) were unanimously approved.

3. Vote on Spanish-speaking Steering Committee Member

Due to Vicente Garrido (Valencia University, Spain), stepping down from the CCJG Steering Committee, CCJG sought nominations for new members who would ensure that Spanish-speaking countries remained represented on the Committee. The Committee voted by email in March to consider two nominations at this meeting: Carlos Carcach (El Salvador) and Santiago Redondo (Spain). After a private discussion and

vote, the Committee voted to bring Santiago Redondo onto the committee. However, the Committee recognized a specific need for Latin American representation and agreed that Carlos Carcach would remain under consideration for a future position on the Committee. Catherine Gallagher agreed to identify additional potential candidates from Latin America. Charlotte Gill to coordinate a note to Santiago Redondo from the co-chairs, and Peter Grabosky will write to Carlos Carcach about the decision.

4. Production and Consistency of New Systematic Reviews

Jerry Lee raised the issue of null effect reviews that may ignore promising programs. A discussion followed on what policymakers can take from such reviews, which find no effect of the intervention overall but include at least one good randomized controlled trial with a significant positive effect, and whether Campbell should have a policy or standard language for raising the issue. The issue is related to the Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy's standards for promising programs (two randomized trials with results in the same direction, at least two years of follow-up, and significant findings), which are being considered by U.S. Congress. Mark Lipsey has already agreed that it would be a good idea to create a subcommittee across all Campbell Collaboration steering committees to standardize an approach to this issue.

Jerry Lee noted that policymakers need clearer language about promising findings and next steps, moving away from equivocal statements of effect and moderator analysis results. David Wilson agreed that "future research" recommendations are less useful to policymakers than academics, and more information is needed on exactly how the next steps should be designed. Larry Sherman suggested a separate "future policy recommendations" header in the review template.

David Weisburd noted that much more needs to be done to make CCJG work accessible to practitioners. The website needs to be more user friendly and authors need to be provided with information about what is meant by "promising programs." The Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy at George Mason University is planning a study on what has been learned as a whole from Campbell reviews. Based on comments from Peter van der Laan and Friedrich Lösel, who both indicated that practitioners in the Netherlands and Germany are more engaged, Catherine Gallagher suggested a need to map CCJG's evidence consumers. David Farrington suggested using technology and mass media (such as filmmaking) to get evidence of promising programs out to practitioners. Peter Neyroud noted the role of organizations like the National Policing Improvement Agency in the UK, who are able to get the message out to consumers more succinctly than researchers, who strive for more balance and detail rather than concrete recommendations.

The following next steps were agreed:

1. Look into funding for studying effective dissemination (Catherine Gallagher)
2. Review of reviews (George Mason University/CEBCP)
3. Explore possibility of changes to website
4. Improved guidance for reviewers (David Wilson noted that this is on its way from C2).
5. CCJG Dissemination Committee to reconvene to discuss these issues.

5. Evolution of the CCJG Steering Committee

Peter Grabosky will step down as co-chair at the next CCJG Steering Committee meeting. Martin Killias will become the new co-chair with David Weisburd. David Weisburd will step down as co-chair at the November 2012 Steering Committee meeting and be replaced by David Wilson.

6. C2 Progress Report

David Wilson reported on developments from the recent meeting of the C2 Steering Group in Oslo. The Education Coordinating Group has now been revived and the editor will be Sandra Jo Wilson (Vanderbilt University), a well-known methodologist and former student of Mark Lipsey. The co-chairs will be Gary Ritter, a meta-analyst from the University of Arkansas, and Paul Connolly from Queens University, Belfast, who conducts randomized trials in education settings.

C2's official guidance to reviewers is to be updated on the Resources section of the website, which will feature new policies, procedures, and templates for protocols and reviews. The goal is to have this finalized by the Joint Cochrane/Campbell Colloquium in Colorado in October.

A new coordinating group within C2 that focuses on development issues, such as economic development in low and middle income countries, has been proposed. No vote was taken at the Steering Group meeting, but partners are being sought to create the new group.

Overall the meeting was very productive and there appeared to be a lot of energy and hope for future development within the Steering Group.

7. Update from the Topic Mapping Committee

Participants received a copy of the progress report from the Topic Mapping Committee, put together by Catherine Gallagher and Tony Munton. Catherine Gallagher reported that the Topic Mapping Matrix had been revised to simplify the number of dimensions, in line with suggestions at the last meeting, and was now in a graphical format suitable for future presentation on the Internet. The Matrix shows where current CCJG reviews fall in the Target-Intervention-Setting-Outcome framework and highlights gaps in the knowledge base. So far, there appear to be gaps in place-based and institutional support programs, and corrections-based programs.

David Weisburd noted that the new framework highlighting gaps and well-researched areas would be useful to show to funders. He recalled that the key purpose of the task was to get away from the "serendipitous" review proposal process, whereby CCJG generally waits to be approached by review teams who are interested in a certain topic area. He suggested that the next step ought to be a discussion of how many studies *should* appear in each part of the table. The process may continue to be serendipitous as topics will focus around the areas where funding is available, but being able to visualize the field allows review teams to think creatively about how topics fit into the research domain. Hiroshi Tsutomi commented that it is also important to learn, through similar exercises, where the primary studies are to understand what is feasible in terms of systematic review topics. David Weisburd called for a discussion at the next meeting to come up with ideas of what topics CCJG should focus on soliciting. The Matrix will

continue to be discussed at future meetings and will be updated as a ‘living tool’ to inform the next step of prioritizing topic areas for reviews.

The Committee thanked Catherine Gallagher and Tony Munton for their work on the project, and gratefully acknowledged Tony Munton’s contribution as a non-CCJG volunteer.

8. Funding

David Weisburd noted that there are two main sources of funding for CCJG: the C2 Secretariat, which provides some infrastructure and staff costs, and grant funding for individual or group reviews. Infrastructure funding is problematic as no support is provided for the Managing Editor, who has been supported by Jerry Lee for four years and is now supported by the Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy at George Mason University; or for travel or other operating costs such as telephone, printing, and meeting expenses. Many of these expenses have also been generously covered by Jerry Lee and CEBCP on an ad hoc basis. Part of the Managing Editor’s time is supported by editorship money from C2 that is paid to David Wilson. More work is needed to identify stable sources for infrastructure funding, which is difficult to justify in grant applications.

The systematic reviews on policing topics commissioned by the National Policing Improvement Agency continue to progress well through the editorial process. Peter Neyround noted that his agency was beginning to see a positive impact from the funding and the conference at Bramshill Police College in March, which brought the review authors together with practitioners, was a great success. The police officers were engaged in discussions about the research and expressed an interest in learning about the effectiveness of policing strategies. The agency is willing to continue the funding if possible, although it will be difficult in the current climate. The economy has also limited the availability of funds from government agencies such as the National Institute of Justice, and foundations. All CCJG members agreed to look out for grant solicitations that would cover systematic reviews.

Jacque Mallender noted that it would be useful to make a business case or campaign for the benefit of commissioning CCJG reviews, presenting them as a shared international resource. Catherine Gallagher suggested identifying sources for funding for a resource center for the production of systematic reviews, like SFI-Campbell. Charlotte Gill will prepare a budget for estimated CCJG infrastructure costs for the next meeting.

9. Progress Report on Current CCJG Titles

Participants received a handout titled ‘Campbell Collaboration Crime & Justice Group Progress Report.’ The key points on the progress of CCJG titles include:

- 25 reviews have been published.
- 1 review is being revised with peer reviews completed.
- 1 review is under peer review.
- 4 reviews are being revised before seeking peer reviewers.
- 10 protocols have been approved but the review has not yet been submitted.
- 3 protocols are awaiting approval.
- 5 protocols are being revised with peer reviews completed.
- 1 protocol is being revised before peer review.
- 7 titles have been approved but the protocol has not yet been submitted.

In summary, 25 reviews have been published, 16 reviews are in progress, and 16 protocols are in progress.

David Wilson noted that around 11 reviews are in good shape, making consistent progress and on track to be published soon.

10. Report on Recent Meetings

Both the Stockholm Criminology Symposium (June 14-16) and the Jerry Lee Symposium (April 19-20) were highly successful. The Committee thanked Jerry Lee for his continued support of the Jerry Lee Symposium.

11. Upcoming Meetings

The first Joint Campbell/Cochrane Symposium, Keystone, Colorado, 18-22 October 2010, will feature an open meeting of the Campbell Crime and Justice Group and panels on the Justice Health Network, founded and led by Catherine Gallagher.

Brandon Welsh has organized a Campbell panel at the Dutch Society of Criminology meeting at the end of June 2010.

Peter van der Laan and Martin Killias are organizing a Campbell presence at the European Society of Criminology meeting in Liège, Belgium, 8-11 September 2010.

The Committee agreed that not enough time had been allocated to this year's CCJG Stockholm meeting and suggested that next year a full-day meeting should be held in a room at the conference center, with dinner to follow.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Campbell Crime and Justice Group steering committee will be held in San Francisco, USA on Tuesday, November 16, 2010 at the American Society of Criminology conference. A dinner for participants will take place on the evening of Monday, November 15.