



At the first Justice System Training & Research Institute Summit held in March, the University announced the appointment of Providence Police Chief Dean Esserman as the first Senior Law Enforcement Executive-in-Residence at the Institute.

From left to right are: Robert W. McKenna, Director of the Roger Williams University Justice System Training & Research Institute; Anthony M. Pesare, Dean of the Roger Williams University School of Justice Studies; Roger Williams University President Roy J. Nirschel, Ph.D.; Colonel Dean M. Esserman, Chief of the Providence Police Department and Senior Law Enforcement Executive-in-Residence at Roger Williams University; and The Honorable David N. Cicilline, Mayor of the City of Providence.

## Justice System Training and Research Institute – Summit

Municipal, state, and tribal police officials; as well as sheriffs and other criminal justice practitioners from throughout New England were invited to attend the first Summit of the Justice System Training & Research Institute which was held on March 4, 2003 in the Appellate Courtroom of the Ralph R. Papitto Law School on the Bristol campus of Roger Williams University. The summit served as the official kick-off of the Institute.

Dr. Roy J. Nirschel, President of Roger Williams University, welcomed Colonel Dean M. Esserman, Chief of the Providence police department as the first Senior Law Enforce-

ment Executive in Residence in the School of Justice Studies. Colonel Esserman holds a bachelors degree from Dartmouth College and a juris doctor degree from New York University, and is a member of the Bar in both Massachusetts and New York. For a period of time Colonel Esserman was a prosecutor in the District Attorney's Office, Brooklyn, New York.

His initial employment within a law enforcement agency was as the General Counsel to then Police Chief William Bratton of the New York City Transit Police. He is a certified police officer in the State of Connecticut, assuming his first law enforcement position as an Assistant Chief in New

*(continued on page 2)*

## Message from the Director

Greetings from the Justice System Training & Research Institute in the School of Justice Studies at Roger Williams University. As you glance through the newsletter, I think you'll agree that there have been some interesting developments since the Institute's inception.

Practitioners and academics have been brought together by matters of mutual concern, providing a unique opportunity to carefully consider contemporary criminal justice issues. These collaborative efforts support attainment of the goals of the Institute including the desire to improve the performance and professionalism of police and other justice system practitioners in the Northeast, to establish Roger Williams University as a leading research resource for public safety agencies in the Northeast, and to establish a community policing oriented institute.

Let us know what you think. The creation of a greater dialogue within the criminal justice community will only enhance our ability to serve you.

**Robert W. McKenna**

*Assistant Dean and Director  
Justice System Training & Research Institute*

### Contact Us

School of Justice Studies  
Justice System Training and  
Research Institute  
Roger Williams University  
One Old Ferry Road  
Bristol, Rhode Island 02809-2921  
Telephone (401) 254-3320;  
Fax (401) 254-3351

Anthony M. Pesare, *Dean*  
(401) 254-3021  
apesare@rwu.edu

Robert W. McKenna, *Director*  
(401) 254-3715  
rmckenna@rwu.edu

Denise Owens, *Project Coordinator*  
(401) 254-3320  
dowens@rwu.edu

Liz Campo, *Secretary*  
(401) 254-3731  
ecampo@rwu.edu



Margaret Curran, US Attorney for the Federal District of Rhode Island, along with other members of the Criminal Justice and Academic Community listen to presentations at the Summit.

*(continued from cover)*

Haven, where he was responsible for management of the community policing agenda. He has also served as the Chief of Police for the Metro-North (NY Metro) police department and the Stamford, Connecticut police department.

He has a reputation for being a proponent of community policing and his philosophy revolves around strict law enforcement supplemented by strong community involvement involving police-community collaboration. He also is an advocate of the use of statistical data for the purposes of policy development and implementation.

Colonel Esserman has experience as a federal Court Monitor for a Consent Decree entered in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. The consent decree established a "Best Practices Guideline" for resolving the problems in a municipal police department and he was designated by the court with ensuring compliance with the decree.

During the summit Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice Robin Winslow, M.S., and Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice Stephanie Manzi, Ph.D. reported on the results of a training needs assessment for the State of Rhode Island. The needs assessment project, under the guidance of Dr. Manzi, was a collaborative effort by Ms. Winslow, an Adult Education graduate student at the University of Rhode Island and Kurt Wallace, a Criminal Justice graduate student at Roger Williams University. Their efforts provided an initial examination of the desire and need for contemporary, relevant law enforcement training in Rhode Island.

Director Robert W. McKenna discussed the relationship between the School of Justice Studies faculty and the work of the Institute. The faculty represents a unique blend of academic excellence and life experiences. Each of the faculty holds a doctoral degree minimally, and a number hold either the Ph.D. or Ed.D. and the J.D. They have previous professional experiences as police officers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, a correctional officer, judicial magistrates, a bail commissioner, and a law clerk. The faculty will be provided with research opportunities through the Institute including summer visiting faculty fellowships and long-term projects. Attendees were encouraged to respond to a questionnaire soliciting research needs and interest.

# FORMING partnerships

The Justice System Training & Research Institute has worked within Roger Williams University to collaborate with a variety of disciplines for delivering training to practitioners. In what was the first of many efforts, the Institute partnered with the School of Education to offer a two-day seminar entitled "Instructor Methodology for Criminal Justice Trainers." Sergeant Robin Winslow of the Coventry, Rhode Island police department and an Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice teamed with Associate Dean Daniel A. Cabral, Ed.D., of the School of Education to design a curriculum and deliver the content addressing such issues as teaching the adult learner, characteristics of skillful trainers, identifying the need and setting the stage, organizing for effectiveness, traditional versus contemporary approaches, and

resources/delivery methods. Participants from the session cited the ability to draw from the many disciplines from throughout the university as a major Training & Research Institute asset.

That type of student feedback coupled with the results of a training needs assessment indicating a demand for computer related instruction served as the genesis for the "Creating Effective Powerpoint Presentations for Criminal Justice Professionals" developed and presented by School of Education Assistant Professor Madge Thombs, Ph.D. The program included instruction in text formatting, utilizing images and special effects, and guidance for designing web links. Students were encouraged to develop a Powerpoint presentation relevant to their agency.



RI Attorney General Patrick Lynch welcomes the attendees at the Northeast Atlantic Workshop and Planning Sessions for Fostering Careers in Law, Public Safety and Security Professions through High School and College Career Programs, hosted by the Institute.

As a result of the positive comments from both programs, additional collaborative efforts with the School of Education are planned. Already scheduled for August 2003 is a "Basic Instructor Development" course, designed for entry level criminal justice training instructors.



Lloyd Monroe, Executive Director of the RI Commission on Race and Police-Community Relations, speaks to attendees at the North Atlantic Workshop and Planning Sessions for Fostering Careers in Law, Public Safety and Security Professions through High School and College Career Programs. The program was hosted by the Roger Williams University Justice System Training & Research Institute in November 2002.

### SCHEDULE FOR JUNE - AUGUST 2003

| <b>DATE</b>              | <b>SEMINAR</b>  | <b>LOCATION</b>   |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| June 2-3, 2003           | Organized Crime Seminar   | Roger Williams University, School of Engineering, One Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI   |
| June 5-7, 2003           | Northeast Association of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting | Roger Williams University, School of Law, Ten Metacom Avenue, Bristol, RI   |
| June 10-12, 2003         | Narragansett Tribal Police Conference                             | Roger Williams University, Residence & Conference Center, Portsmouth, RI  |
| June 27, 2003            | Community Policing Conference                                     | Marriott, Providence, RI  |
| July 24 & 25, 2003       | New England Drug Court Professionals                              | Roger Williams University, School of Law, Ten Metacom Avenue, Bristol, RI   |
| July 28 - August 1, 2003 | RILETA`<br>Basic Instructor Development Course                    | Roger Williams University, School of Law, Rm 276, Ten Metacom Avenue, Bristol, RI   |
| August 4 - 8, 2003       | Executive Management for Law Enforcement                          | Roger Williams University, Residence & Conference Center, Portsmouth, RI  |
| August 4 - 7, 2003       | Courtroom Testimony   | Roger Williams University, Residence & Conference Center and<br>Roger Williams University, School of Law, Rm 276, Ten Metacom Avenue, Bristol, RI |
| August 20, 2003          | Legal Research Seminar  | Roger Williams University Library, One Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI  |

*This project is supported by Grant #2002-DD-BX-0039 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs which includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.*



School of Justice Studies  
Justice System Training  
and Research Institute  
One Old Ferry Road  
Bristol, Rhode Island 02809