

## SARA E. BERG

### EDUCATION

**PhD in Criminal Justice, May 2015;** University at Albany (SUNY), Albany, New York

Dissertation: "The Card's Not Present but the Crime Sure Is: Exploring the Prevention of Plastic Card Fraud Victimization Using the British Crime Survey"

Comprehensive Exam: "Differential Reporting Among British Technology Crime Victims: Policy Implications and Recommendations - An Exploratory Study"

*Concentration in Information Technology (Geographic Information Systems I and II, Spatial Data Analysis, Responsible Use of CJ Information, Data Utilization in CJ)*

*Statistics and Methods Coursework: Statistics 1 and 2, Time Series Analysis, Regression with Categorical and Limited Dependent Variables, Quantitative Research Design 1 and 2*

**M.A. in Criminal Justice, May 2006;** University at Albany (SUNY), Albany, New York

**M.S. in Information Technology, May 2006;** Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York

Thesis: "Recommendations for a Comprehensive Identity Theft Victimization Survey Framework and Information Technology Prevention Strategies"

*Concentrations in Computer Crime and Research; Computer Security and Forensics*

**B.S. in Information Technology, August 2000;** Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York

*Concentrations in Database and System Administration*

### IT WORK EXPERIENCE

**Database Administrator** (June 2000 – August 2001); Palm, Inc. (AnyDay.com), Cambridge, Massachusetts

Responsibilities: Primary loader of AnyDay/MyPalm content data; developed new procedures for event data loading to production Oracle databases using SQL\*Loader; developed Java classes to parse raw data feeds; wrote and analyzed various SQL queries relating to site event data; wrote /SQL packages and procedures used to process new data loads and manipulate existing data; troubleshooting for members of development, QA, and technical support; acted as Palm Cambridge database team's technical liaison for external content providers.

**Database Engineer** (March 1999 – February 2000); West Group, Rochester, New York

Responsibilities: Performed proactive daily database maintenance of Oracle 7, Oracle 8, and Oracle 8i instances; analyzed SQL queries; wrote statistics SQRs to maintain database schema and extents statistics; created Oracle instances, tables, and indexes; data loading with SQL\*loader; wrote import/export scripts; installed, configured, and tested WebDB; migrated Oracle 7 databases to Oracle 8; implemented security involving database links.

### RESEARCH/PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

**Program Research Specialist 3, Bureau of Data Management and Analysis** (May 2018 – Present); Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (Division of Budget, Finance and Data Management), Albany, New York

Responsibilities: extracting, managing, cleaning, matching, and analyzing large administrative quantitative data sets to respond to data requests and agency research projects (including ABAWD Outcomes, PA Time Limit Counters, DCSS Non-Custodial Parents SNAP/Wage Match; and Eligibility of Low-Income Individuals for Tax Credits); writing advanced SPSS syntax and SQL queries; mentoring and training junior staff; acting as technical liaison with ITS for supporting OTDA BDMA workstations and SPSS software use.

**Research Scientist 2, Bureau of Research, Evaluation and Performance Analytics** (October 2012 – May 2018); Office of Children and Family Services (Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development), Rensselaer, New York

Responsibilities: Supervising staff (including state employees, Data Warehouse IT contractors, and graduate research assistants) on both a daily and project-specific basis; extracting, managing, cleaning, matching, and analyzing large administrative quantitative data sets to respond to requests from internal and external researchers, agencies, and other stakeholders (both ad-hoc and routine reporting, including those related to performance metrics); writing advanced SPSS syntax and SQL queries; analyzing, interpreting, and presenting findings in a manner that informs programming and policies; formulating policy and program-relevant research questions; creating data collection instruments; providing independent and collaborative (intra- and inter-agency) research support for a number of OCFS priorities and Governor's initiatives, including Raise the Age, Close to Home, Juvenile Offender/Secure Facility profiles, Restraints in OCFS facilities (lead analyst), the annual juvenile recidivism study (lead analyst), and voluntary agency staff perceptions of TCI (lead analyst); acting as technical liaison with ITS for writing business requirements and creating new data marts, creating new staff accounts, and supporting SPSS software use among OCFS and OTDA research staff; providing technical support to OCFS Data Warehouse users and engaging with ITS Cognos staff for DW needs.

**Graduate Research Assistant, Crime Research and Analysis Unit** (May 2012 – October 2012); Division of Criminal Justice Services (Office of Justice Research and Performance), Albany, New York

Responsibilities: Utilizing SPSS to code syntax, analyze data, and create customized table outputs; examining multi-year county, regional, and state trends in juvenile Probation Workload System data; reviewing historical probation data for accuracy (using both SPSS files and Caseload Explorer DP30 reports); compiling and updating county-level juvenile justice data across key processing points; developing data input and management policies and procedures; responding to data requests from internal and external researchers; reviewing manuscripts and making edits/comments.

**Graduate Research Assistant, Performance Management Unit** (June 2011 – May 2012); Division of Criminal Justice Services (Office of Justice Research and Performance), Albany, New York

Responsibilities: Updating Excel templates for monthly data collection; reviewing agency data submissions for quality control; compiling criminal justice performance statistics from various state agencies for monthly "Blue Book" publication; compiling county reentry data into monthly spreadsheet report; writing monthly and quarterly memorandum on performance data trends; entering DCJS office data into computerized performance management system; preparing PowerPoint slides and Excel graphs for executive staff presentations.

**Research Assistant, Modeling Interorganizational Information Integration Project** (June 2007 – July 2008); Center for Technology in Government, University at Albany, Albany, New York

Responsibilities: Part of the research team working on the NSF-funded project "MI3"; helped develop a survey that was administered nationally to state and local government practitioners in public health and criminal justice agencies; acted as technical lead for survey implementation in the online survey tool (Survey Gizmo); managed survey responses, opt-ins, opt-outs, and communication with respondents.

**Research Assistant for Dr. Graeme Newman** (August 2005 – May 2006); School of Criminal Justice, University at Albany, Albany, New York

Responsibilities: Worked under faculty member Dr. Graeme Newman to research the longevity of international terrorist groups as part of his book Outsmarting the Terrorists; edited and updated POPCenter web site pages.

**Graduate Assistant, Understanding Gendered Attrition in Departments of Information Technology Project** (June 2004 – August 2005); Department of Information Technology (PIs: Liz Lawley and Tona Henderson), RIT, Rochester, New York

Responsibilities: Part of the NSF funded research team to address the concerns of attrition of women in (information) technology programs at RIT and across the United States; helped develop a survey to be administered to students/faculty at participating institutions; responsible for developing and populating databases to store contact, schools, and survey data; acted as a liaison between team professors and contacts at participating institutions.

**Graduate Assistant, Computer Use and Ethics Survey Project** (September 2003 – May 2005), Department of Criminal Justice (PI: Sam McQuade), RIT, Rochester, New York

Responsibilities: Part of the research team that developed and administered the RIT Computer Use and Ethics Survey, asking undergraduates about topics including their online behaviors, technology misuse, and computer crime victimization experience; reviewed the literature for relevant survey constructs and theoretical concepts; analyzed data pertaining to identity theft victimization and made policy recommendations concerning crime prevention.

### **TRAINING AND SOFTWARE**

*Supervision:* Aspiring Leaders Program (3 Days); 5-course OCFS iLinc Supervisor sequence; Gauging Your Supervisory Skills; Performance Evaluation; Decision Making and Critical Thinking; Conflict Resolution; Unacceptable Employee Behavior; Beyond Managing Change; Evolving Role of Today's Supervisor

*Workplace:* Emotional Intelligence; Interpersonal Communication; Professional Presentation Delivery; Respectful Communications; Avoiding Emotional Traps at Work; Managing Your Boss

*Database:* SQL (PL/SQL Developer); Cognos (Report Studio); Oracle; Microsoft Access; Dimensional Data Modeling

*Statistics:* SPSS (expert); Stata (intermediate); SAS (beginner)

*PC Tools:* Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

RIT: Fundamentals of DBMS Architecture & Implementation (lab instructor); Computer Crime (online; instructor of record)

University at Albany: Victims of Crime (instructor of record); Introduction to Criminal Justice (discussion leader); Introduction to Criminology (discussion leader)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Berg, S.E. (2008). "Preventing Identity Theft through Information Technology". Identify Theft and Opportunity, Eds. Megan McNally & Graeme Newman, Criminal Justice Press. [invited book chapter]

Berg, S. (2008). "Identity Theft Causes, Correlates, and Factors: A Content Analysis". Crimes of the Internet, Eds. Frank Schmallager & Michael Pitarro, Prentice Hall. [peer-reviewed book chapter]

Berg, S.E. (2008). "Cyberterrorism". Encyclopedia of Cybercrime, Ed. Samuel McQuade III, Greenwood Publishing Group.

Berg, S.E. (2008). "Identity Theft". Encyclopedia of Cybercrime, Ed. Samuel McQuade III, Greenwood Publishing Group.

Berg, S.E. (2008). "Victimization". Encyclopedia of Cybercrime, Ed. Samuel McQuade III, Greenwood Publishing Group.

Berg, S. (2007). "Internet Fraud". Encyclopedia of White-Collar Crime, Eds. Jurg Gerber & Eric L. Jensen, Greenwood Publishing Group.

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

Gil-García, J.R., **Berg, S.E.**, Pardo, T.A., Burke, G.B., Guler, A. (2009). "Conducting Web-Based Surveys of Government Practitioners in Social Sciences: Practical Lessons for E-Government Researchers". 42nd Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS).

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

"Differential Reporting by British Victims of Technology Crime: Policy Implications and Recommendations". Presented at the American Society of Criminology (ASC) Annual Meeting, November 2009, Philadelphia, PA.

"Recommendations for a Comprehensive Identity Theft Victimization Survey Framework and Prevention Policies". Presented at the ASC Annual Meeting, November 2006, Los Angeles, CA.

"Rates and Traits of Identity Theft Victimization of College Students at a Technical Institute". Presented at the ASC Annual Meeting, November 2005, Toronto, ON.

"Conceptual Issues Concerning High Tech Crime". Presented at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) Annual Meeting, March 2005, Chicago, IL.

"The Social Construction, Causes and Correlates of Identity Theft Victimization". Presented at the ASC Annual Meeting, November 2004, Nashville, TN.

"Using Research to Prevent Computer Crime in a College Setting". Co-presented with Dr. Samuel C. McQuade III at the ACJS Annual Meeting, March 2004, Las Vegas, NV.

"Social Construction Processes of Identity Theft Victimization". Co-presented with Dr. Samuel C. McQuade III at the ACJS Annual Meeting, March 2004, Las Vegas, NV.