2017 American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting

Using Title III funds from Lincoln University I was able to travel to the American Society of Criminology's (ASC) 2017 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Conference took place from Tuesday, November 14th through Saturday, November 19th, and I was able to attend from Wednesday through Saturday.

The ASC Conference was large with over 1,000 Sessions covering four floors of the Philadelphia Downtown Marriot Hotel. I concentrated on attending sessions to help me in my teaching at Lincoln University. To my delight, I was able to find a presentation that concentrated solely on Research Methods, a class I regularly teach at Lincoln. About 15 other professors attended the session headed by Marla Sandys, a Sociologist from Indiana University, Bloomington. Almost all of them used Bachman and Schutt's textbook, the same textbook I use to teach Research Methods. After sharing stories on grading and teaching we decided to use a list serve to exchange syllabi and exercises we use teaching the class. Since the meeting I have received two other syllabi and over ten assignments I can use in the class. It was one of the most productive meetings I attended at any conference including this one. I definitely will use the materials in my classes at Lincoln.

I attended sessions daily. Another productive session came on Saturday morning on White Collar Crime. At that session the presenters discussed cybercrime, ways to prevent it, and how to research it. Another significant event was the Presidential Address by James P. Lynch, a Professor at the University of Maryland and a former Department of Justice researcher. Lynch advocated using a research method called "big data."

I all, I had a very good time at the meeting. I was able to attend some sessions on wrongful convictions, an area I have researched in the past. I made personal connections with some of the researchers discussing the current state of research in wrongful convictions. Hopefully I will find the time to research the subject in the future.