Bios for OAPE Conference – 2014

Gary Melanson:

Gary Melanson attended Wilfrid Laurier University from 1985 to 1989, and graduated with a B.A. in Psychology and English. He worked for Department of National Defence at the Canadian Forces Language School (C.F.B. Borden) as part of a NATO initiative. In 1992, Gary returned to the University of Western Ontario, graduating in 1995 with a L.L.B. degree from the Faculty of Law and was called to the Bar on February 21, 1997. Gary worked with Madorin, Snyder from 1997 to late 1999 with his private practice including civil litigation, employment/labour law and insurance defence work. Gary then went on to become the senior Assistant City Solicitor for the City of Kitchener.

In May of 2003, he was hired as the Solicitor/Director of Legal Services for the Waterloo Regional Police Service and became a member of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) Police Legal Advisors Committee in 2003. In 2005, he became Director of Quality Assurance and Risk Management for the Waterloo Regional Police Service until 2009. He is currently the Director of Legal Services and Risk Management.

Gary has been a frequent presenter, lecturer and panellist on a wide variety of legal and risk management topics. In 2010, his paper entitled “Police Discipline Disclosure to the Crown pursuant to R. v. McNeil” was published in the National Journal of Constitutional Law 2009-2010.

Lt. Col. (Retired) Dave Grossman:

Col. Grossman is a former West Point psychology professor, Professor of Military Science, and an Army Ranger who has combined his experiences to become the founder of a new field of scientific endeavor, which has been termed “killology.” In this new field Col. Grossman has made revolutionary new contributions to our understanding of killing in war, the psychological costs of war, the root causes of the current "virus" of violent crime that is raging around the world, and the process of healing the victims of violence, in war and peace.

He is the author of On Killing, has been translated into Japanese, Korean, and German; is on the U.S. Marine Corps Commandant's required reading list; and is required reading at the FBI academy and numerous other academies and colleges. Col. Grossman co-authored Stop Teaching Our Kids to Kill: A Call to Action Against TV, Movie and Video Game Violence, which has been translated into Norwegian and German, and has received international acclaim. Col. Grossman's most recent book, On Combat, has also placed on the U.S. Marine Corps Commandant's Required Reading List and has been translated into Japanese and Korean.
Col. Grossman has been called upon to write the entry on “Aggression and Violence” in the Oxford Companion to American Military History, three entries in the Academic Press Encyclopedia of Violence and numerous entries in scholarly journals, to include the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy.

He has presented papers before the national conventions of the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the American Psychological Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

He has presented to over 100 different colleges and universities worldwide, and has trained educators and law enforcement professionals, in the field of school safety, at the state and regional level, in all 50 states and over a dozen foreign nations.

He helped train mental health professionals after the Jonesboro school shootings, and he was also involved in counseling or court cases in the aftermath of the Paducah, Springfield, Littleton, Virginia Tech, and Nickel Mines Amish school shootings.

He has been an expert witness and consultant in state and Federal courts, to include serving on the prosecution team in UNITED STATES vs. TIMOTHY MCVEIGH.

He has testified before U.S. Senate and Congressional committees and numerous state legislatures, and he and his research have been cited in a national address by the President of the United States.

Col. Grossman is an Airborne Ranger infantry officer, and a prior-service sergeant and paratrooper, with a total of over 23 years experience in leading U.S. soldiers worldwide. He retired from the Army in February 1998 and has devoted himself to teaching, writing, speaking, and research. Today he is the director of the Killology Research Group, and in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks he is on the road almost 300 days a year, training elite military and law enforcement organizations worldwide about the reality of combat.
Lieutenant-Colonel (retired) Angelo N. Caravaggio OMM, CD, Ph. D.: 

Dr. Caravaggio is a leadership, defence and security specialist with over 34 years of military and academic experience. During his 13 year tenure at the Canadian Forces College (CFC), LCol (retired) Caravaggio served as the Chair, Department of Command, Leadership and Management, and in 2010, he set up and was named the Director, Centre for National Security Studies. Dr. Caravaggio’s areas of expertise include executive leadership development, strategic thinking, operational planning, national security studies and military history.

Dr Caravaggio has designed, developed and delivered advanced professional military education for both in-class and distance learning settings for the Canadian Armed Forces and university graduate courses. He has lectured extensively in his areas of expertise to the senior leaders and future general officers of the Canadian Armed Forces attending the Canadian Forces College, Emergency Management Professionals, numerous Police Services and executives of the Federal Public Service. Dr Caravaggio currently serves as a leadership advisor to the Ontario Association Chiefs of Police Education, Training and Professional Development Committee.

Dr Caravaggio is a member of the Associate Graduate Faculty in the Department of Management at the University of Guelph and has been teaching in Masters in Leadership Program since 2007. He was appointed a Fellow at McLaughlin College at York University (2012) where he developed and delivered the McLaughlin
College Leadership Program for graduate students. Dr Caravaggio is also a Research Fellow at the Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University.

Dr Caravaggio has a Ph. D in history from Wilfrid Laurier University, a Masters Degree in War Studies, and a Masters Degree in Defence Studies from the Royal Military College of Canada. Dr Caravaggio’s article *The Attack at Taranto: Tactical Success Operational Failure* was the 2007 Edward S. Miller Award winner for best historical essay published in the U.S. Naval War College Review.

Lieutenant-Colonel (retired) Caravaggio was appointed to the Order of Military Merit (Officer) in 1999 and is an alumnus of the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference 2004.

**Chris Prochut:**

Chris Prochut is a mental illness awareness advocate and law enforcement suicide prevention trainer. In 2011, he partnered with the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Death Response (LEDR) Team conducting suicide prevention training throughout the state. Over the past two years, Chris has had the pleasure to present to over 1,500 law enforcement officers on the topics of suicide and depression warning signs, medication myths, department policy revision, and told of his personal experience with the stigma of mental health issues. In addition to training with the LEDR Team, Chris has also presented at numerous Crisis Intervention Trainings (CIT) where he addresses the subject of "Taking care of our own" and has been featured at various specialized law enforcement conferences across the country advising departments on program development to assist officers at risk for suicide. Feedback from these trainings shows just how well received Chris’s message is, how the topics of suicide and mental illness are rarely discussed within law enforcement, and how education and training are causing a paradigm shift within police departments.

Chris is a member of the Wisconsin LEDR Team, a certified trainer in QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer) suicide prevention program, and an active volunteer with BringChange2Mind; an organization that seeks to end the stigma of mental illness.

Chris resides in Hartford, Wisconsin with his wife Jennifer and their children Chase (10) and Ashlyn (6).
Dr. Antoon Leenaars:

*Antoon A. Leenaars*, Ph.D., C.Psych., CPQ, is a psychologist in private practice in mental health, public health, and forensic psychology in Windsor, Canada; and was a member with (Senior Advisor) Division of Mental Health, The Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Oslo, Norway; with Dept. of Public Health Sciences, Karolinska Institute, Sweden; and with Dept. of Clinical and Health Psychology, University of Leiden, the Netherlands. He was the first Past President of the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention (CASP), and a past President of the American Association of Suicidology (AAS), the only non-American. He is author/editor of *Psychotherapy with Suicidal People, Suicide and Homicide-Suicide among Police, Suicide among the Armed Forces: Understanding the cost of service*, and 10 additional books, as well as over 230 professional/forensic articles and book chapters. He was the founding Editor-in-Chief of the international journal, *Archives of Suicide Research*. Dr. Leenaars is a recipient, among others, of the International Association for Suicide Prevention’s Erwin Stengel Award, CASP’s Research Award, and AAS’s Edwin Shneidman Award. He is an elected Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association, for his service to Canada. He has consulted to the WHO, police services, institutions and governments around the world; and has provided forensic services in cases of wrongful death, suicide, homicide-suicide, and homicide for police services, and legal institutions (e.g., lead investigator in the homicide-suicide of police officers Dave Lucio-Kelly Johnson). He is listed in *Canadian Who’s Who*, and lectures regularly worldwide on topics related to suicidology and homicidology.