The 2010 American Psychology-Law Society conference took place in Vancouver, Canada from March 18th until March 20th. I attended the conference in its entirety. Besides being a part of the conference (as I worked on two paper presentations), I was able to attend a variety of other presentations, meet and network with peers and experts in my field, and return to Drexel with ideas for future research.

Both paper presentations that I worked on were well received (Capital Jury Agreement with Mitigating Factors: The relationship Between Rate of Agreement and Ultimate Sentence Recommendation and To Juvenile or Adult Court? Factors Associated with Judicial Decision Making in Decertification Hearings). The presentations were highly attended, and colleagues gave valuable feedback. In particular, they praised the directions that both projects are going and commented on their eagerness to read more about the results in the future.

Another important aspect to attending this conference was the ability for me to see research other experts and universities are conducting. I took extensive notes, and have set up a meeting with my advisor for this week to explicitly discuss ideas that I have resulting from attending APLS 2010. My hope is to brainstorm with my advisor about the ideas I have and build a future research project upon at least one of my new ideas.

A final important aspect of this conference was networking with professionals from other universities and institutions. I met many important people in the field, and exchanged email addresses with several prominent professors. I even met one individual who is an expert in the field I am writing my thesis on (character evidence). Not only did she offer to help me with my research, but she offered me the opportunity to review one of her manuscripts. I am hoping this
contact will not only create a professional relationship between myself and her, but also help further spread Drexel’s reputation as being an institution dedicated to research.

Overall, APLS 2010 was an important professional experience for me, and I feel grateful for the opportunity to have attended it. I developed ideas, met prominent members of the field, and was able to show members of the American Psychology and Law Society, the research that we are doing. Thank you to the Office of the Provost as well as Drexel University for helping me to be able to attend APLS 2010!