

## **The North Carolina Criminal Justice Association Annual Conference**

A total of 6 Fayetteville State University students and 2 faculty members attended the North Carolina Criminal Justice Association annual conference Feb. 5-7<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh. These six students included 4 CJ undergraduates, 1 CJ graduate student, and 1 CJ alumna/current Sociology graduate student. Students networked with academics and practitioners during the conference.



*NABCJ Students at the NCCJA 2020 Conference. From left to right: Shontae Halsey, Victoria Ocasio-Smith, Faith Pope, Micandra Walkerwhite, and Kishla Jones-Gibbs.*

Three of the students and the two faculty members participated in a tour of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol facility on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>. See pictures below:



*Students Victoria Ocasio-Smith & Faith Pope*



*CJ Faculty Drs. Guevara & Shekarkhar*

Graduate student Patrick Harris presented his research titled “Measuring K9 Effectiveness in Law Enforcement.” Patrick was also awarded the James Merrit Good Citizen Award which includes a \$100 stipend.

Drs. Guevara and Shekarkhar presented a paper (co-authored in conjunction with Dr. Karen McElrath) titled “Racial Disparities in School Suspensions: Through the Lens of the Liberation Hypothesis.”



*Graduate Student Patrick Harris Presenting Research*



*Graduate Student Patrick Harris Receiving Award*