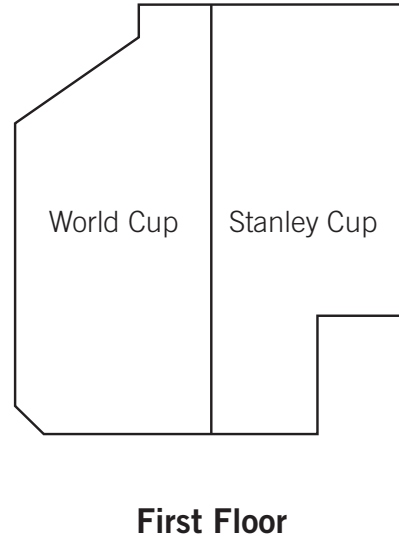
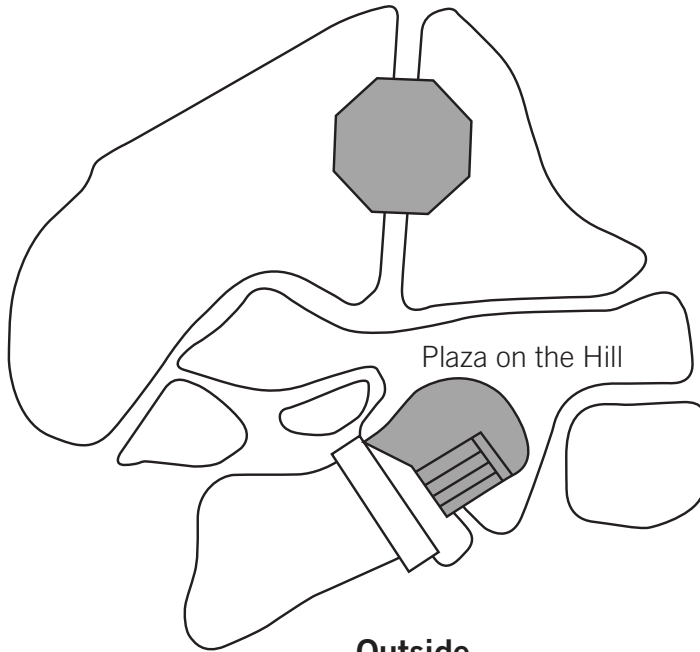
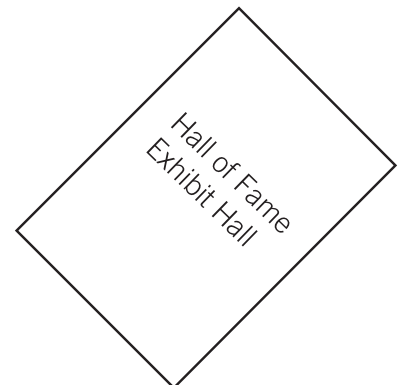
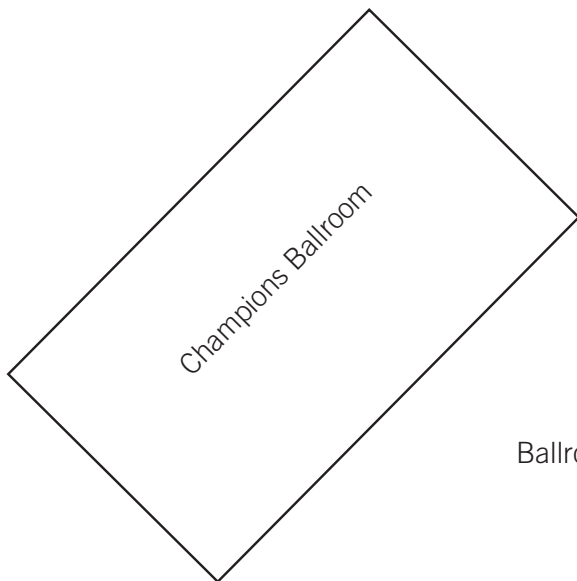
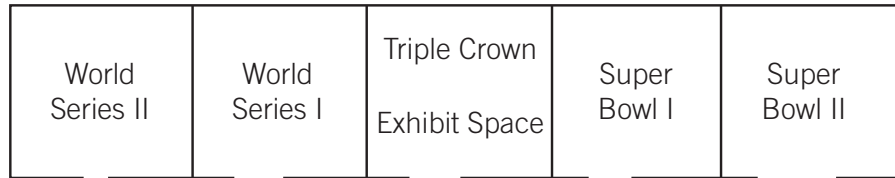


**SEVENTH
ANNUAL
NATIONAL
CONFERENCE
ON HIGHER
EDUCATION
IN PRISON
NOV 2-5, 2017
DALLAS, TX**

HOTEL MAP: SHERATON ARLINGTON



Second Floor



Ballroom Foyer

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WELCOME

Welcome to the Seventh Annual National Conference on Higher Education in Prison!

Seven years ago, a small group of folks running prison higher education programs around the country gathered for a conference at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Their goals were to share information and ideas, build a better-organized and supportive network of prison higher education practitioners, and advance the field nationally. In 2010 there were just a handful of such programs around the country, but that steadily-growing group of practitioners gathered nearly every year after. A common topic of discussion was the need for a national organization.

In 2017, after nearly two years of research and planning, the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison (AHEP) was formed (details about that process can be found in the AHEP Prospectus Document, available at the conference and on the conference website). The mission of AHEP is to support the expansion of access to quality higher education in US prisons, empower students in prison and after release, and shape public discussion about education and incarceration.

While AHEP is still in its earliest stages — it does not yet have either an office or a full staff! — the founding advisory board agreed that it would be a fitting celebration of its beginnings to host the 2017 National Conference. While the organization itself is new, and even newer to conference planning, we are pleased to be able to hold the entire conference for the first time at a hotel, with all events and lodging in such close proximity. Thanks for this is due entirely to the funders who have provided their generous support.

The central goal of this conference is to mobilize the talent, resources and energy needed to expand access to quality higher education programs, as well as reentry support services, to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people across the United States. Building a robust, supportive community is essential to this work, so we are thrilled that all of you — current and former students, teachers, academic administrators, non-profit professionals, volunteers, funders, policy-makers, corrections professionals, journalists, filmmakers, and myriad other allies and supporters — are here. Together we are building a community, and a movement, to promote excellence in the field of higher education in prison, and beyond.

We would like to express our deep appreciation to the major supporters who have made this conference possible: Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation & Affiliates, Laughing Gull Foundation, Lumina Foundation, The New York Women's Foundation, The Teagle Foundation, and the Yerba Buena Fund.

Finally, the Advisory Board members who served on the Conference Planning Committee (Mary Gould, Jody Lewen, Danny Murillo, Brendan Ozawa-de Silva and Cheryl Wilkins) would like to give a huge shout-out to the additional colleagues who joined that committee, for their tremendous efforts: Chris Beasley, Thomas Fabisiak, Annie Freitas, Adam Key, Terrence McTier, Maria Morales and Brandon Warren.

To everyone: we are grateful you made the trip, and we look forward to learning and working with you in the days ahead!

Best regards,

The Founding Advisory Board of the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison

Margaret Atkins
Timothy Boosinger
Robert Carmona
Naomi Dennis
Mary Gould

Jody Lewen
Danny Murillo
Brendan Ozawa-de Silva
Sean Pica
Bianca Van Heydoorn

Stephen Walker
Cheryl Wilkins
Donna Zuniga

CONFERENCE NOTES

All events for the 2017 National Conference on Higher Education in Prison are being hosted at the Sheraton Arlington Hotel.

The Arlington Trolley

The Arlington Trolley will provide complementary service to conference participants between the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel and Sheraton Arlington Hotel during the hours listed below. The trolley will begin morning pickup at the DoubleTree Hotel and evening pickup at the Sheraton Hotel and will circulate between the hotels during three hour increments.

November 2: 3:30pm – 6:30pm and 8:00pm – 11:00pm
November 3: 7:45am – 10:30am and 7:30pm – 10:30pm
November 4: 7:45am – 10:30am and 7:30pm – 10:30pm
November 5: 7:45am – 10:30am

Additional Shuttle Service

In addition to the Arlington Trolley, the Sheraton Arlington and DoubleTree by Hilton hotels have shuttles that can be used by conference attendees. The primary purpose of the hotel shuttles is to provide service to DFW airport, but they can be used for other trips (e.g., between hotels) when not providing airport transportation if and when they are available. The front desk of each hotel can help arrange hotel shuttle service between hotels and/or to/from the airport.

You can also call them at:
Sheraton Hotel Shuttle: (817) 261-8200
DoubleTree Hotel Shuttle: (817) 640-7712

If you need transportation outside of shuttle hours and none of the above options are available, please ask any of the conference volunteers at the Registration Table to request a cab, Lyft or Uber for you.

The Exhibit Space

Location: Triple Crown, second floor

The Exhibit Space will be open the following hours:
Thursday, November 2: 5:00pm – 8:00pm
Friday, November 3: 8:00am – 8:00pm
Saturday, November 4: 8:00am – 8:00pm
Sunday, November 5: 8:00am – 12:00pm

The Wellness Room

Location: Wimbledon, second floor

The Wellness Room is a dedicated quiet space where conference attendees are welcome to stretch, read, practice yoga, meditate, or simply relax. It is equipped with meditation cushions, pillows, eye masks, heating pads, exercise balls, and simple first aid supplies.

The Wellness Space will be open the following hours:
Thursday, November 2: 5:00pm – 8:00pm
Friday, November 3: 8:00am – 8:00pm
Saturday, November 4: 8:00am – 8:00pm
Sunday, November 5: 8:00am – 12:00pm

Daylight Savings

Daylight savings begins on Sunday, November 5. Please remember to adjust your clock accordingly (back 1 hour).

Conference Wifi

Network: Sheraton_Meeting_WIFI Password: NCHep2017

Questions/Concerns/Emergencies

Call:
Mary Donovan: 415-578-8534
Annie Freitas 510-395-4524

Mary Gould: 801-599-1835
Jody Lewen: 510-912-1350

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

PLENARY SESSIONS

Thursday 6:00PM–7:30PM

Location: Grand Ballroom

Trauma, Resilience, and Beyond: Implications of Science, Theory and Practice for Higher Education in Prison Programs

Brendan Ozawa-de Silva, Associate Director, Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics, Emory University

Brendan Ozawa-de Silva is Associate Director of the Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics at Emory University, where he oversees a project to bring Social, Emotional and Ethical (SEE) Learning to K-12 education in the US and abroad. Prior to this he served from 2012-2017 as Associate Professor of Psychology at Life University, where he was also the founding director of the Chillon Project, which provides degree programs to incarcerated students and correctional staff in Georgia and engages in research on the effects of higher education in prisons. He also serves as Associate Director for Buddhist Studies and Practice at Drepung Loseling Monastery; Associate Director for Life University's Center for Compassion, Integrity and Secular Ethics; a certified instructor for Emory

University's Cognitively-Based Compassion Training program; and a certified instructor of the Community Resiliency Model (CRM) and Trauma Resiliency Model (TRM) of the Trauma Resource Institute. His published research focuses on the psychological, social and ethical dimensions of prosocial emotions and their cultivation, with a focus on compassion and forgiveness. He has worked to bring secular ethics and compassion training into elementary schools in the US, India and Northern Ireland, to children in Georgia's foster care program, to domestic violence centers, and to incarcerated persons in state correctional facilities in Georgia.



Friday 9:30AM–11:00AM

Location: Champions Ballroom

Admissions Policy and Practice in Prison Higher Education: A Panel Discussion

Moderator:

Lila McDowell, Development Director, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Panelists:

Allison Lopez, College Preparatory English Program Coordinator, Prison University Project

Rob Scott, Executive Director, Cornell Prison Education Program; Adjunct Professor in Horticulture, Cornell University

Kyes Stevens, Founder/Director, Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project

Katie Schaffer, New York Statewide Organizer, JustLeadershipUSA

Saturday 9:30AM–11:00AM

Location: Champions Ballroom

Funding Challenges in the Field of Higher Education in Prison: Pell and Beyond: A Panel Discussion

Moderator:

Jody Lewen, Executive Director, Prison University Project

Panelists:

Tanya Erzen, Director, Freedom Education Project Puget Sound

Lila McDowell, Development Director, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Toya Wall, Senior Program Manager, Community Investments, Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation

Bianca Van Heydoorn, Director of Educational Initiatives Prisoner Reentry Institute, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday 9:30AM–11:00AM

Location: Hall of Fame

...And Then Cancer Stole My Job: A Conversation on Self-Care

Bianca Van Heydoorn, Director of Educational Initiatives Prisoner Reentry Institute, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Bianca joined the Prisoner Reentry Institute as the Director of Educational Initiatives in 2012. Her primary responsibility is to oversee PRI's Educational Initiatives, a continuum of services aimed at increasing engagement, enrollment and retention in higher education for individuals with criminal justice histories. PRI's Educational Initiatives, includes two direct service projects: the Prison-to-College Pipeline and College Initiative. In addition to EI's direct service work, Bianca recently launched a statewide research project to map the landscape of higher education in NYS prisons. She is a member of several advisory boards including the Alliance of Higher Education in Prison, Pathways from Prison to Post-Secondary Education Program and the

Alliance of Families for Justice. For over 15 years, Bianca has been dedicated to issues related to juvenile and adult corrections, education, employment and reentry. She graduated Magna cum Laude with a Bachelor's in Correctional Sociology from the CUNY Baccalaureate Program for Interdisciplinary Studies and earned a Master's in Criminal Justice from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Her work has also been published in the Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice.



FILMS

Friday 7:30PM–9:30PM

Location: Hall of Fame

Life After Life and Discussion with Filmmakers

After decades behind bars, three men set out to prove success can live on the other side of tragedy. Producer and Director Tamara Perkins has been a leader in the social justice and juvenile justice reform movement within the Bay Area for over a decade. Her vision of creating *Life After Life* was inspired while

working inside San Quentin State Prison as a yoga and meditation instructor in 2006. Compelled to expose the devastating impact of incarceration on urban communities and the opportunity for transformation, Tamara teamed up with Co-Producer Jesse Dana to build support, access and collaborations to create *Life After Life*.

Saturday 7:30PM–9:30PM

Location: Hall of Fame

The Return and Discussion with Bilal Chatman and David Cowan, Operations Manager, Prison University Project

In 2012, California amended its “Three Strikes” law—one of the harshest criminal sentencing policies in the country. The passage of Prop. 36 marked the first time in U.S. history that citizens voted to shorten sentences of those currently incarcerated. Within days, the reintegration of thousands of “lifers” was underway. *The Return* examines this unprecedented reform

through the eyes of those on the front lines—prisoners suddenly freed, families turned upside down, reentry providers helping navigate complex transitions, and attorneys and judges wrestling with an untested law. At a moment of reckoning on mass incarceration, what can California's experiment teach the nation?

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

4:00PM–6:00PM

Location: Ballroom Foyer, second floor

Registration

5:00PM–6:00PM

Location: Plaza on the Hill, outside

Opening Reception

6:00PM

Location: Champions Ballroom, second floor

Conference Welcome: Alliance for Higher Education in Prison Founding Advisory Board

PLENARY I • 6:00PM–7:30PM

6:00PM–7:30PM

Location: Champions Ballroom, second floor

Trauma, Resilience, and Beyond: Implications of Science, Theory and Practice for Higher Education in Prison Programs

Brendan Ozawa-de Silva, Associate Director, Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics, Emory University

7:30PM–8:30PM

Location: Ballroom Foyer, second floor

Dessert Reception

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

8:00AM–9:30AM

Location: Ballroom Foyer, second floor

Breakfast

PLENARY II • 9:30AM–11:00AM

9:30AM–11:00AM

Location: Champions Ballroom, second floor

Admissions Policy and Practice in Prison Higher Education: A Panel Discussion

Moderator:

Lila McDowell, Development Director, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Panelists:

Allison Lopez, College Preparatory English Program Coordinator, Prison University Project

Rob Scott, Executive Director, Cornell Prison Education Program; Adjunct Professor in Horticulture, Cornell University

Kyes Stevens, Founder/Director, Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project

Katie Schaffer, New York Statewide Organizer, JustLeadershipUSA

BREAK • 11:00AM–11:30AM

CONCURRENT SESSION I • 11:30AM–1:00PM

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: World Series II, second floor

Second Chances

In this presentation we share narratives from the book “Reclaiming Our Stories” as a way to demonstrate the power of story to create unity.

Presenters:

Ryan Flaco Rising, Outreach Ambassador, Urban Scholars Union and Underground Scholars Initiative

Maria Elena Morales, Executive Board of Directors Chair, Urban Scholars Union

Barbara Lasure, Outreach Coordinator, Urban Scholars Union, San Diego City College

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

Research, Policy and Advocacy

Moderator:

Rob Scott, Executive Director, Cornell Prison Education Program;
Adjunct Professor in Horticulture, Cornell University

Presenters:

Darnell Epps, Research Assistant, Cornell Law School
*A Constitutional Right to Rehabilitation: What this Means
for Higher Education in Prison*

At its core, the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark holding in *Miller v. Alabama*, 567 U.S. 460 (2012), establishes a right to rehabilitation for anyone who committed a criminal offense while under the age of 18. Necessarily, this holding requires that states provide certain educational opportunities to young offenders. This paper argues, however, that these opportunities must include a postsecondary education.

Allison Beer, Research Analyst, Institute for Higher Education Policy

*#CollegeNotPrison: Turning Research into Advocacy to Increase
Access to Higher Education for Justice-Involved Youth*

This presentation features IHEP's #CollegeNotPrison campaign video which tells the powerful story of Alton Pitre, a senior at

Morehouse College who was wrongfully incarcerated for two years, and describes how IHEP uses social media to turn existing research into policy advocacy to increase college access for justice-involved youth.

Paige Vaughn, University of Missouri, St. Louis
*Drug Offending, In-Prison Program Completion, and Recidivism:
Data from Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1994*

This study uses data from Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1994 to compare a subpopulation of drug offenders to nondrug offenders in their completion of prison programming and their likelihood of re-arrest.

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: Super Bowl I, second floor

Hope and Higher Education in Prison

This panel discussion focuses on how Bakersfield College became the leading face-to-face college program in California, specifically focusing on the opportunities students are offered to earn an Associate Degree for Transfer.

Presenters:

Bryan Hirayama, Communication Professor, Bakersfield College
(Moderator)

Chelsea Esquibias, Program Manager, Inmate Scholars Program
Bakersfield College

Isaias Hernandez, Sociology Professor, Bakersfield College

Richard McCrow, Dean, Bakersfield College

Jesus Oropeza, Counselor, Bakersfield College

Sonya Christian, President, Bakersfield College

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

CollegeNotPrison: Lifting State Funding Bans and Dedicating State Resources to Increase Access to Higher Education for Incarcerated Individuals

Representatives from IHEP and CLASP discuss the educational barriers resulting from state funding losses/bans on postsecondary education in correctional facilities, and their implications for education and training opportunities upon reentry. Senior-level policymakers from WA also discuss recent efforts to overturn the state funding ban, in place since 1995, as well as initiatives to increase access to postsecondary education for incarcerated individuals.

Presenter/convener:

Julie Ajinkya, Vice President of Applied Research Institute for
Higher Education Policy

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: World Series I, second floor

On Eagles' Wings: How Faith-Based Educational Models Address the Moral Needs for Successful Reentry

Utilizing W.E.B. Du Bois' essay, "Of the Wings of Atalanta," as a point of departure, this paper argues that an educational model which targets the transformation of the prison culture fosters proper socialization for prisoners reentering society. To this end, practical training is not enough but should be supported by a moral education that does not neglect long term prisoners—the most static members of the incarcerated society.

Moderator:

Brandon Warren, Transition Specialist, Lee College

Presenters:

Johnny Blevins, Field Minister, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Vondre D. Cash, Field Minister, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Robert Franz, Field Minister, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Jake Strickland, Field Minister, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: Super Bowl II, second floor

Storytelling on the Outside

The Power of Storytelling: Reclaiming our Voice

Change happens when those not directly affected are inspired to care through the seeds planted in the common ground of stories. Platforms like La Comadre and JustUs Voices have created a space for formerly incarcerated women to amplify their individual and collective voices, educate audiences about the toll that mass incarceration exacts on women, families and entire communities, and transform the public dialogue on mass incarceration.

Presenters:

Lily Gonzalez, Founding Blogger Goddess, La Comadre (Moderator)

Rocio Rivera-Murillo, Fellow, La Comadre

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: World Cup, first floor

Writing Pedagogy

Moderator:

Amy Jamgochian, Academic Program Director, Prison University Project

Presenters:

Stacy Bell McQuaide, Professor of Pedagogy, Oxford College of Emory University and Life University, Atlanta

"Go Hard on Me": Reflections on First Year Writing in Prison

This presentation shares insights and best practices learned from the two-quarter First Year Writing sequence offered in the Chillon Project at Life University, Atlanta, a two-year-degree program at Lee Arrendale State Prison, a maximum-security women's facility, in Alto, Georgia.

Nancy Van Styvendale, Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta

"Don't let'm break u cuz": Indigenous Caretaking through Creativity in Carceral Space

The paper argues that Indigenous and non-Indigenous men in "Inspired Minds," a creative writing program in a jail in

Saskatchewan, Canada, deploy creative writing as a strategy for building anti-colonial solidarity, expressing vulnerability and compassion, and (re)imagining their relationships with each other, their loved ones, and the other-than-human.

Kaia Stern, Director, Prison Studies Project, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Transformative Education: The Masters Program at Sing Sing
From cradle to prison cell, what is our praxis—that is, how do we do education, and what are its fruits? Specifically, how does the Masters of Professional Studies (MPS) at Sing Sing prison offer a unique kind of transformative education that has the potential to change both oppressive ideology and individual lives?

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

LUNCH AND MEETINGS • 1:00PM–2:30PM

1:00PM–2:30PM

Location: Ballroom Foyer, second floor

Lunch

1:00PM–2:30PM

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

Free on the Outside

This an open meeting for people working to bring higher education to currently and formerly incarcerated students at all levels throughout California and creating a network to better serve these students. We will discuss what is working and how we can capitalize on the successes of our individual programs to create a better network for our students and peers.

Organized by **California Colleges Network**
Contact: James Tompkins
James.tompkins6718@email.bakersfieldcollege.edu

1:00PM–2:30PM

Location: World Cup, first floor

Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison

Members of the Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison will gather for a 30-minute internal meeting (1:00pm-1:30pm) followed by an open-house meeting (1:30pm-2:30pm) in which we welcome all conference attendees to come learn about the Consortium and meet staff and alumni from Consortium programs including BPI, FEPPS, Goucher Prison Education Partnership, Wesleyan University & Middlesex Community College

Prison Education Program, Washington University in St Louis
Prison Education Project, Grinnell College's Liberal Arts in Prison Program, and the Yale Prison Education Initiative at Dwight Hall.

Organized by **Bard Prison Initiative/Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison**
Contact: Jessica Neptune: jneptune@bard.edu

CONCURRENT SESSION II • 2:30PM–4:00PM

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

Meeting Accreditation Standards for Research on the Inside: Ideas for Excellence in Library Service

Instructors and administrators, how do you satisfy accreditation requirements that your incarcerated students have authentic research experiences? Academic librarians will demonstrate the necessity for active library participation in correctional education and discuss how they provide library resources and services in each of their settings.

Presenters:
Jeannie Colson, Librarian, Lee College Huntsville Center (Moderator)
Stacey Brownlie, Director, Off-Campus Library Services, University of Maine System
Kari Mack, Director of Library Services, Macdonald DeWitt Library, SUNY Ulster
Judith Capurso, Assistant Librarian, SUNY Ulster

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: Super Bowl I, second floor

Going Digital in the Higher Education Classroom (Technology in a Correctional Setting)

We will present cutting edge technology for the classroom and teacher/ student application of the Endless OS laptops and RACHEL servers being used for higher education and vocational programs. Address the successes and hurdles with deployment. Audience members are invited to bring a laptop in order to access the RACHEL system.

Presenter:

Frank Martin, Justice Education Coach, World Possible _ Non Profit

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: World Series II, second floor

Arts in Prison: The Restorative Power of Music

The presentation will acquaint people with how singing (in this instance the chorus is the East Hill Singers at Lansing Correctional Facility in Kansas) improves the lives and outlooks of the inmate who take part. Parts of the documentary “Conducting Hope” will be shown.

Presenter:

Stephanie A. Henry, Topeka Correctional Facility

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: World Cup, first floor

Formerly Incarcerated Mothers Speak Out: From Parenting Behind Glass to Sitting in Class!

This panel discussion explores the intersections of family reunification, motherhood, re-entry and college life.

Presenters:

Lily Gonzalez, Co-founder Revolutionary Scholars at CSUN (Moderator)

Rayceana Rocha, CSULA Project Rebound

Irene Sotelo, Rising Scholars CSULB

Rainbow Alvarez, Social Justice Warrior, ELAC

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: World Series I, second floor

Pathway through Higher Education: Breaking Our Chains One Narrative at a Time

Through the lens and voices of formerly incarcerated students, the Urban Scholar Union at San Diego City College is paving a path through higher education, one campus at a time. U.S.U. will highlight the importance and the role of San Diego’s formerly incarcerated students in advocating for resources at the institutional and community level.

Presenters:

Maria Elena Morales, Executive Board of Directors Chair, Urban Scholars Union (Moderator)

Barbara Lasure, Outreach Coordinator, Urban Scholars Union, San Diego City College

Patrick Wallace, Vice President, Urban Scholars Union, San Diego City College

Nora Angulo, Treasurer, Urban Scholars Union, San Diego City College

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: Super Bowl II, second floor

Community Engagement from the Inside Out

Calvin Prison Initiative students at Handlon MTU, with assistance from the St. Benedict Institute, Hope College and Calvin College, organized a one-day conference on Restorative Justice. CPI students also participated through a series of videos welcoming attendees, defining their understanding of restorative justice and encouraging them on next steps. We will present the videos, analyze their content, and describe what we learned.

Presenters:

Christiana de Groot, Co-director, Calvin Prison Initiative, Calvin College

Todd V. Cioffi, Co-director, Calvin Prison Initiative, Calvin College

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

Barriers to Graduate Admission for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated People

This panel will address (1) the principle barriers to incarcerated and post-incarcerated students applying to grad school and how to surmount them, and (2) the national campaign to get an anti-discrimination clause adopted by universities and academic associations that was triggered when Harvard administrators overturned the admission of an outstanding applicant.

Presenters:

Michelle Jones, Ph.D. student, New York University
Epistemic Injustice and the University

Jarrod Wall, Graduate student, University of Saint Francis
Barriers to grad school and licensing: a personal journey

Kelsey Kauffman, Former Director, Higher Education Program, Indiana Women's Prison

Surmounting barriers one student at a time—the role of program faculty and advocates

BREAK • 4:00PM–4:30PM

CONCURRENT SESSION III • 4:30PM–6:00PM

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: World Cup, first floor

Reentry Services: A Panel Discussion

Moderator:

David Cowan, Operations Manager, Prison University Project

Presenters:

Gregg S. Gaither, M.S.W., M.Ed., Education & Social Services Coordinator, Woodlawn Re-Entry Project Chicago

Best Practice Options in Re-Entry Services Delivery: Integrating Department of Corrections, Higher Education Institutions and Community-Based Re-Entry Services Provider Organizations

According to research, the process of re-entry begins at the point of entry into correctional facilities and should therefore be viewed as a continuum of services delivery. This presentation promotes the use of best-practice strategies in developing a comprehensive re-entry services delivery continuum to support the re-entry of students exiting prison higher-ed programs.

Linda Agripino, Interim Coordinator Office Specialist, Gateway Gateway

The mission of the Gateway program is to create a learning environment for returning citizens that promotes personal change, growth and a passion for learning.

Noel Vest, M.S., Washington State University

The Ups and Downs of Starting a Re-entry Program: The Long Road to Fruition of the Washington Re-entry Program (WREP)

This presentation chronicles the three-year journey of three incarcerated individuals and myself in forming a prison-based re-entry program at the Coyote Ridge Correctional Center in Eastern Washington State.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

For Good or for Evil: The Power and Perils of Storytelling about Higher Education Inside

The power of storytelling is evident in the ways that currently and formerly incarcerated students understand and share their experiences of education, as well as in the ways that we communicate their importance to school administrators, funders, legislators, voters, and the media. Yet, just as we use storytelling to promote the benefits of college in prison, it can also be used to vilify, sensationalize, and exploit our students and the work that we do. Presenters show narrative at its most powerful and its most perilous, recounting what stories have done for – and to – them while they served students, enlisted funders, and tangled with the press.

Presenters:

Anne Rice, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison & Lehman College, CUNY (Moderator)

Sean Pica, Executive Director, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Samuel Arroyo, Program Director, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Lila McDowell, Development Director, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: World Series I, second floor

Reentry, Continuing Education, and the Liberal Arts: Alumni Experiences of the Bard Prison Initiative

This roundtable features the experiences of formerly incarcerated students and alumni of BPI and highlights experiences and strategies for success at the undergraduate and graduate levels post-release. Presenters consider how a liberal arts education impacts the ways that incarcerated students perceive, approach, and redefine the reentry process and will propose that liberal arts education significantly alters students' reentry experiences, whether or not they pursue further post-secondary training and education after their release.

Moderator:

Jessica Neptune, Associate Director of National Programs, Bard Prison Initiative

Presenters:

Alelur Duran '17, Business Operations Associate, Ford Foundation, BPI Alumnus (Bard College, AA 2017, BA expected 2018)

Richard Gamarra '14, Criminal Justice Initiatives Coordinator, NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene, BPI Alumnus (Bard College, AA, 2014; City University of New York, BS, 2015; Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, Masters in Public Health, 2017.)

Nikko Vaughn '15 Continuing Education Specialist, Bard Prison Initiative, BPI Alumnus (Bard College, AA, 2011, Bard College, BA, 2015)

Jed Tucker, Director of Reentry, Bard Prison Initiative

Tamika Graham '17, BPI-TASC Tutor, Bard Prison Initiative, BPI Alumnae (Bard College, AA 2017)

Darren Mack '13, Graduate student, Hunter College, Silbermann School of Social Work, BPI Alumnus (Bard College, AA 2010, BA 2013, Hunter College, Masters in Social Work expected 2019)

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: Super Bowl I, second floor

In It Together: Fostering Group Accountability without Reinforcing Group Punishment

Tennessee Higher Education Initiative staff members present thoughts on and strategies for increasing group accountability without reinforcing group punishment. Beginning from research on choice theory and building on the principles of non-violent communication and restorative justice, discussants highlight best practices with regard to creating responsible community, and share challenges they have faced.

Presenters:

Molly Lasagna, Program Coordinator, Tennessee Higher Education Initiative

Rachel Zolensky, Support Services Coordinator, Tennessee Higher Education Initiative

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: Super Bowl II, second floor

Underground Scholars: Building the Prison to University of California Pipeline

This panel highlights the role of formerly incarcerated and system-impacted students in creating space, access, equity and inclusion at the University of California [Berkeley and Los Angeles]

Presenters:

Danny Murillo, Soros Justice Advocacy Fellow, The Opportunity Institute (Moderator)

Javier Rodriguez, Vice President, UCLA-Underground Scholars Initiative

Ummra Hang, Prison Education Facilitator, Justice Work Group-UCLA

Ryan Rising, Underground Scholar Ambassador, Urban Scholars Union at San Diego City College

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

Building a College Preparatory Program Inside

We present in this paper a definition of college readiness and adaptable models of college preparatory writing that work in tandem to support a rigorous and successful prison college program and college community.

Presenters:

Allison Lopez, College Preparatory English Program Coordinator, Prison University Project

Dmitriy Orlov, Program Assistant, Prison University Project

DINNER AND FILM SCREENING • 6:30PM–9:30PM

6:30PM–7:30PM

Location: Champions Ballroom, second floor

Dinner

7:30PM–9:30PM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

Film Screening

Life After Life and Discussion with Filmmakers

After decades behind bars, three men set out to prove success can live on the other side of tragedy. Producer and Director Tamara Perkins has been a leader in the social justice and juvenile justice reform movement within the Bay Area for over a decade. Her vision of creating *Life After Life* was inspired while

working inside San Quentin State Prison as a yoga and meditation instructor in 2006. Compelled to expose the devastating impact of incarceration on urban communities and the opportunity for transformation, Tamara teamed up with Co-Producer Jesse Dana to build support, access and collaborations to create *Life After Life*.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

BREAKFAST AND MEETINGS • 8:00AM – 9:30AM

8:00AM–9:30AM

Location: Ballroom Foyer, second floor

Breakfast

8:00AM–9:30AM

Location: Super Bowl I, second floor

Volunteerism in Prison Classrooms

This is an open meeting to discuss how to utilize volunteers in correctional classrooms in a way that is beneficial to the professors, incarcerated students and volunteers. We hope to answer the following questions during our session: How can volunteers help incarcerated classroom(s)? What type of training

do volunteers need? What are some of the obstacles that the volunteers face and how can prisons address those obstacles?

Organized by **The Petey Greene Program**

Contact: Jessica Weis: jweis@peteygreene.org

8:00AM–9:30AM

Location: World Series II, second floor

In-prison Environmental Programs and Creating Re-entry Bridges

A meet-up for people interested in, and or, working with eco-literacy, community gardening and “inner gardening” programs working within prisons. How can we also link these programs to employment in the green economy when people go home?

Organized by **Insight Garden Program**

Contact: Amanda Berger: Amanda@insightgardenprogram.org

PLENARY III • 9:30AM–11:00AM

9:30AM–11:00AM

Location: Champions Ballroom, second floor

Funding Challenges in the Field of Higher Education in Prison: Pell and Beyond: A Panel Discussion

Moderator:

Jody Lewen, Executive Director, Prison University Project

Panelists:

Tanya Erzen, Director, Freedom Education Project Puget Sound

Lila McDowell, Development Director, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Toya Wall, Senior Program Manager, Community Investments Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation

Bianca Van Heydoorn, Director of Educational Initiatives Prisoner Reentry Institute, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

BREAK • 11:00AM–11:30AM

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

CONCURRENT SESSION IV • 11:30AM–1:00PM

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: Super Bowl I, second floor

Engaging Corrections Partners in Postsecondary Education: Virginia's Experience

Since 2014, Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) has offered incarcerated students the opportunity to earn college credits accredited through the American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT) in five continuing technical education certificate programs. In addition to the ACE credit options, five community colleges throughout the state (including two Second Chance Pell sites) offer credit-bearing college courses, meaning that many students in Virginia correctional facilities are now able to take college courses for credit. Vera's Heather Erwin engages in a conversation with two regional principals, the Coordinator of Campus Within Walls at Southside Virginia Community College, and the Dean of Business at Danville Community College about their efforts to build on this new momentum to engage corrections partners in postsecondary education in Virginia's correctional facilities

Moderator:

Heather Erwin, Senior Program Associate, Vera Institute of Justice

Presenters:

Dante Dewalt, Regional Assistant Principal, Virginia Department of Corrections

Jeffrey Millner, Regional Principal, Virginia Department of Corrections

Jimmie Tickle, Assistant Vice President, Workforce and Technical Studies, Danville Community College

Anne Hayes, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and Special Projects, Coordinator of Campus Within Walls, Southside Virginia Community College

11:30AM – 1:00PM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

Journalism and the Incarcerated/Post-Incarcerated

This session examines the complex relationship between the field of journalism and the realm of incarceration. It explores the subjective experiences of both journalists and incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people in their encounters with each other, as well as some of the social, cultural, psychological and economic factors that influence the dynamics between them.

Moderator:

Tanya Erzen, Director, Freedom Education Project Puget Sound

Presenters:

Aly Tamboura, Board Member, Prison University Project

Bill Keller, Editor-in-Chief, The Marshall Project

Kelsey Kauffman, Former Director, Higher Education Program, Indiana Women's Prison

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: World Series II, second floor

Theory and Praxis Inside-Out: Applying the Methods of the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program to Our Research

This session explores the adaptation of our dialogic model in the learning environment to our research practice, living into our values of mutuality, reciprocity and radical inclusivity.

Presenters:

Nina Johnson, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Black Studies, Swarthmore College (Moderator)

Kristine Polizzano, Regional Programs Coordinator and Instructor, Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program

John Pace, Consultant, Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program

Tyrone Werts, Think Tank Coordinator, Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: World Series I, second floor

Identity and Sub-Culture in Reentry: Post-Release Experiences of Formerly Incarcerated Students in Higher Education and Employment

This panel proposal presents four separate accounts of the post-release experiences of formerly incarcerated students in both higher education and employment settings focusing on issue of identity and sub-culture affiliations and their impact on students participating in the studies. The research examines the continued isolation of individuals even while participating in formerly incarcerated student organizations and reentry programs.

Presenters:

Kevin Gonzalez, Program Coordinator, Project Rebound; California State University - Los Angeles (Moderator)

Raul Rodriguez, California State University - Los Angeles
The Gang-Affiliated Identity in Higher Education: Voicing the Subculture Identification Experiences of Formerly Incarcerated Students in the Reentry Process

Anthony Robles, California State University - Los Angeles
Prison Cultural Subversion: Experiences of General Population (GP) Ex-Offender Interactions with Sensitive Needs Yard (SNY) Ex-Offenders in Employment and Higher Education

Edwin Rojas, California State University - Los Angeles
Acculturated Stressors of Reintegration Through Varied Intersections by Formerly Incarcerated LGBTQ in Higher Education

Yenny Ojeda Gonzalez, California State University - Los Angeles
Formerly Incarcerated Students in Internship and Employment Positions: Experiences of Preferential Treatment

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: World Cup, first floor

Trauma, Moral Injury, and Motherhood in Prison: A Sharing of Teaching Experiences and On-going Research

This panel explores the interrelated topics of trauma, moral injury and motherhood in prison through a sharing of personal experiences of teaching, student writing, and on-going research. The presenters are all engaged in an IRB-approved research study evaluating the effects of a degree program for incarcerated women in Georgia.

Presenters:

Tatenda Mangurenje, Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology, Emory University (Moderator)

Dr. Mom: Incarcerated Women's Experiences Participating in Higher Education

Chikako Ozawa-de Silva, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Emory University

Healing Trauma Through Gratitude: Teaching the Japanese Practice of Naikan in Prison

Brendan Ozawa-de Silva, Associate Director, Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics, Emory University

Trauma, Moral Injury and Moral Recovery in Carceral Settings

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: Super Bowl II, second floor

Ban the Box in Higher Education: Policy Dissemination and Implementation Strategies

In 2017, three states attempted legislation to “Ban the Box” in higher education. Only Louisiana, was able to successfully pass a bill that prohibits public colleges from asking about criminal convictions. This panel brings together leaders who were actively involved in the legislative process in Maryland and Louisiana to compare notes and discuss strategies to encourage dissemination and implementation of legislative efforts to end discrimination against individuals with criminal convictions in college admissions and increase college access for formerly incarcerated people nationally.

Presenters:

Annie Freitas, Ph.D. Student/Program Director, Tulane University/ Louisiana Prison Education Coalition (Moderator)

Syrita Steib-Martin, Executive Director, Operation Restoration
Stanley Andrisse, Provost Fellow, Pediatric Endocrinology, Johns Hopkins Medicine

Michael Scott Brick, Director of Student Services, University of Maryland, College Park

Leyla Martinez, Founder and President, Beyond the Box

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

11:30AM–1:00PM

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

Building an Inside Curriculum

This session focuses on the challenges and opportunities involved in balancing the academic interests of the students and the instructional passions of faculty with both the requirements of the accrediting body and the security constraints of the DOC. Panelists consider issues related to adapting courses to the prison classroom while ensuring parity between inside and outside programs; these include the fluid population, the frequent need for developmental material, limited funding for textbooks, and the dearth of technological resources.

Presenters:

Sheila Meiman, Director of Prison Education, Raritan Valley Community College (Moderator)

Kenya Tyson, Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Student Services, Rutgers University School of Criminal Justice

Christopher Agans, Director of Transitions, New Jersey-Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prison (NJ-STEP)

Torey Wilson, Director, Prison Teaching Initiative, Princeton University

LUNCH AND MEETINGS • 1:00PM – 2:30PM

1:00PM–2:30PM

Location: Ballroom Foyer, second floor

Lunch

1:00PM–2:30PM

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

Supporting College After Incarceration

This meeting is hosted by From Prison Cells to PhD, Inc., and is an open meeting to support anyone working to build a career after incarceration. From Prison Cells to PhD, Inc., helps people navigate the sometimes confusing college application process and the even more frustrating loan/grant process. In this meeting we will discuss our educational counseling workshop.

Organized by **From Prison Cells to PhD, Inc.**

Contact: Stanley Andrisse: sandris2@jhmi.edu

1:00PM–2:30PM

Location: Super Bowl I, second floor

Southern States Programs Planning Meeting

This meeting gathers prison higher education programs located in the south to build community and begin preliminary conversations on regional issues related to the work.

Organized by **Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project**

Contact: Kyes Stevens: kyes@auburn.edu

1:00PM–2:30PM

Location: World Cup, first floor

Alliance for Higher Education in Prison Overview

Alliance for Higher Education in Prison Founding Board members will present a brief history of the Alliance and an update on our work since the Board was formed in 2016. Member of the higher education in prison community are welcome to come to meet advisory board members and ask questions about the Alliance.

Organized by **Alliance for Higher Education in Prison Founding Advisory Board**

Contact: Mary Gould: mary.gould@slu.edu

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

CONCURRENT SESSION V • 2:30PM – 4:00PM

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: World Cup, first floor

Research and Teaching Experiences from the Chillon Project at Life University: An Associate of Arts Degree Program in Positive Human Development and Social Change for Incarcerated Women

The Chillon Project is an attempt to rethink and creatively approach the current crisis of mass incarceration through a holistic systems-based approach that includes (1) holistic higher education degree programs for incarcerated students and correctional officers that include social, emotional, and ethical learning; (2) IRB-approved quantitative, qualitative and ethnographic research on the effects of higher ed in prison; and (3) facilitating student empowerment and impact through student research and community-oriented projects. Faculty and staff provide an overview of the program; discuss how the success of the program suggests that trauma-informed and social, emotional and ethical learning approaches may be particularly helpful in prison education programs; share research findings; give an update on student progress and activities; and discuss faculty learning experiences.

Presenters:

Thomas Fabisiak, Director, Chillon Project, Life University
(Moderator)

Developing and launching the Chillon Project at Life University: Degree programs for incarcerated students and correctional staff at Lee Arrendale State Prison in Georgia

Avital Abraham, Research and Program Coordinator, Life University

Research Update: Preliminary results of an IRB-approved research study to evaluate the effects of higher education in prison using psychosocial and behavioral measures through the Chillon Project

Brendan Ozawa-de Silva, Associate Director, Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics, Emory University

The importance and relevance of incorporating trauma-informed practices and social, emotional and ethical learning into prison higher education programs

Tom Flores, PhD, Assistant Professor, Life University
Teaching Positive Human Development and Social Change for Incarcerated Women in the Chillon Project at Lee Arrendale State Prison: Impressions from the Field

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

Working with those who have Harmed Others: Part II

What is it that drives us to work with people who live in prisons, some designated as society's most dangerous, the ones that others call "monsters?" This panel, which includes the perspectives of incarcerated or formerly-incarcerated individuals, is a continuation of last year's discussion where we engage critically with the underlying motivations and surrounding contexts of teaching and working with those in conflict with the law.

Presenters:

Jean Trounstine, Professor Emerita, Middlesex Community College and co-founder of the women's branch of Changing Lives Through Literature (Moderator)
Healing Harm

Deborah Smith Arthur, Associate Professor, University Studies, Portland State University

Human Together: Experiences of a Lawyer/Educator

Stacy Bell McQuaide, Oxford College Emory University and Life University, Atlanta

Beyond the Status Factory: Mitigating the Harm that Results from the Careless Judgments of Others

Michelle Clifton-Soderstrom, Professor of Theology and Ethics, North Park Theological Seminary

Evangelical "Helpers": Benefit or Harm?

Sarah Shotland, Assistant Professor of English, Chatham University; Co-founder and Program Coordinator, Words Without Walls

What We Talk About When We Talk About Horses

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: World Series I, second floor

Emory SPEAR: A Response to Barriers of Educational Bureaucracy

This Emory University organization was founded this academic year. SPEAR stands for Students for Prison Education, Activism, and Resistance. This panel will discuss the ways “the academy” acts as a systemic barrier to college students who wish to invest their time, passion and creativity into prison-related issues, specifically, advancing the education needs of people in prison.

Presenters:

Jamani Montague, student, Emory University (Moderator)
Mawuko Kpodo, student, Emory University
Sabrina Nargiz, student, Emory University
River Bunkley, student, Emory University

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: Super Bowl I, second floor

Qualitative Research on Reentry and Higher Education

Moderator:

Erin L. Castro, Director, University of Utah Prison Education Project

Presenters:

Terrence McTier, Jr., Doctoral candidate, Arizona State University
Views Beyond the Walls: Post-Secondary Faculty & Administrative Perceptions of Formerly Incarcerated Students

Two separate studies: a survey of 229-university faculty, and a single case study examining eight administrators, both examine the perceptions of FIIIs in academia. The purpose of this presentation is to understand the implications for stigmatizing FIIIs, as well as faculty and administrators’ beliefs about campus policies and practices.

Emmett Sanders, Education Justice Project

Maggie Shelledy, Assistant Professor, University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley

The Measures of a Life: Engaging Reentry Narratives in Program Outcomes

This presentation offers a framework for developing programmatic markers of success rooted in the lived reentry experiences of alumni.

Laura Manyweather, Ed.D., Noncredit Grant Manager

Escaping the Prison Industrial Complex: The Shared Experiences of Formerly Incarcerated Black Male Students on a California Community College Campus

After the largest one-time release of federal prisoners in October 2015, community colleges were charged with retooling and preparing individuals for careers. Formerly incarcerated Black males seek community college to assist in transitioning back into their communities, society and family life.

Gresham Collom, Graduate Research Assistant, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Postsecondary Education as Rehabilitation: A Case Study

Can postsecondary education following incarceration be used as a means of rehabilitation? This presentation provides an overview of research examining the benefits of attending a postsecondary institution for previously incarcerated individuals. Following, I will discuss a case-study of an individual who went from incarcerated, to college student, to graduate student.

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

The Arts in Prison Higher Education

Moderator:

Kyes Stevens, Founder and Director, Alabama Arts + Education Project, Auburn University

Presenters:

Robin Myers-Li, teacher and Luis S. Garcia, Anti-Recidivism Coalition

Spoken Word Poetry in Prison

The presentation will discuss a Spoken Word Poetry curriculum in prison. The curriculum is a creative writing program focused on poetry designed for incarcerated individuals that is supportive, relevant, and engaging for the students and allows them to have a voice that is often silenced by the system.

Alice Kim, Co-organizer, Prison Neighborhood Arts Project

Freedom Dreams, Art Making, and the Prison Classroom

Chicago-area artists were commissioned to respond to writing developed by students enrolled in a cultural studies class called Freedom Dreams at Stateville Prison. Together, the writings and works were featured in an exhibition that urged the public to reconsider what freedom means in the context of an ever-growing prison nation. This presentation will explore the possibilities and limitations of linking art making and exhibition with the prison classroom for building solidarities and diminishing the barriers between the free and unfree worlds.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

2:30PM–4:00PM

Location: Super Bowl II, second floor

Pedagogy and Innovation

Moderator:

Kaia Stern, Director, Prison Studies Project, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Presenters:

Jayne Yeo, Assistant Professor of Literature, Belmont University
Distance-Based Inside-Out?: The Limits and Possibilities of Reading Shakespeare

Can we expand the reach of inside-out teaching? What options do faculty have who face significant institutional, logistical, or disciplinary obstacles to teaching in this format? Using a Shakespeare class currently in development as a touchstone, this paper explores the limits and possibilities of alternative delivery methods such as correspondence or video conferencing.

Gregory Ott, Instructor, Benedictine University
Third-Space Activism: Peer-Tutor Potential in Higher Education Programs in Prisons

Incarcerated writing tutors relocate and recast writing-center scholarship to engage in third-space discourse of activism

and advocacy that is discrete from affiliated institutions. This presentation annotates relevant writing-center scholarship and illustrates my observations of the development of Peer-Tutor Activism, focused on the human, civil rights of education and equality.

Annie Rody-Wright, Visiting Professor, Siena College Professor, Greene Correctional Facility, Coxsackie, NY

Taylor Disco, Student, Siena College

Matt G, student

Bonds Beyond Bars: Creating a Blended Classroom

Creating a blended classroom with “traditional” college students and those behind bars is challenging when done remotely. But lessons learned about human dignity and value, and bridges forged across these campuses far surpassed the academic learning we thought was the focus.

BREAK • 4:00PM – 4:30PM

CONCURRENT SESSION VI • 4:30PM–6:00PM

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

Learning to Live after Prison: Higher Education as Reentry

Panel members will discuss post-prison transition, including successes and challenges to reintegration and how higher education has created opportunities for employment, advocacy, and personal growth. By making higher ed more accessible and supporting formerly incarcerated students to excel, Project Rebound constructs an alternative to the revolving door policy of mass incarceration.

Presenters:

Romarilyn Ralston, Program Coordinator Project Rebound, California State University—Fullerton (Moderator)

Mirvais Aminy, Project Rebound

Robert Duesler, Project Rebound

Brady Heiner, Director, Project Rebound, California State University-Fullerton

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: World Cup, first floor

Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison: Program Design, Pedagogy, and Practice

This round-table with program administrators, faculty members, and formerly incarcerated students and alumni explores how a philosophical commitment to the liberal arts shapes important pragmatic decisions about program design, curriculum, academic resources, faculty recruitment, and pedagogy. Rather than offering a single blueprint for liberal arts education in prison, the presenters emphasize the range of practices that programs within the Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison have adopted in admissions, program and curriculum design, and teacher training, among other areas.

Presenters:

Jessica Neptune, Associate Director of National Programs, Bard Prison Initiative (Moderator)

Tanya Erzen, Director, Freedom Education Project Puget Sound
Kristen Inglis, Academic Development & Planning Manager, Wesleyan University & Middlesex Community College, Prison Education Program

Salih Israil, '09, Special Assistant to the Directors, Bard Prison Initiative, BPI Alumnus

Jennifer Hudson, Program Manager and Academic Adviser, Washington University Prison Education Project

Shajuanda Tate '13, Alumnae, Freedom Education Project Puget Sound

Jeffrey Jurgens, Academic Co-Director of the Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison, Fellow for Anthropology and Social Theory, Bard Prison Initiative

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: World Series I, second floor

Fundraising 101

This panel will provide a crash course in the basics of fundraising for in-prison education and reentry programs, as well as a broader discussion of the topic, from three current practitioners from New York, California, and Missouri.

Presenters:

Lila McDowell, Development Director, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Jody Lewen, Executive Director, Prison University Project, San Quentin, CA

Mary Gould, Director, Saint Louis University Prison Program

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

Pedagogy and Authority

Moderator:

Rebecca Ginsburg, Director, Education Justice Project, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Presenters:

Pamela Cappas-Toro, Assistant Professor, Stetson University

Antonio Rosa, Co-instructor

Ken Smith, Co-instructor

Co-Teaching Spanish in a Florida Prison: Challenges in Building Community and Promoting Instructional Excellence

In this paper, three co-instructors reflect on the challenges of building community in courses taught by university professors and incarcerated instructors, interrogating how “explicit knowledge” such as curriculum, content development, and socio-linguistic training in Spanish is created, shaped, and negotiated in a maximum security prison. Our paper will highlight lessons learned, exploring the potential for instruction in Spanish and Latin American Studies in prison to disrupt—and at times to reinforce—the racial, gender, sexual, and religious norms, hierarchies, and logics of the U.S. prison system.

Paul Dinter, Pre-College Coordinator, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Teaching an Expanded Definition of Justice to Encompass Education in Prison

Broadening the very definition of “justice” beyond “just deserts/fit punishment” will allow practitioners of higher education in prison to better articulate its social benefit and assist our students to understand how their education can elevate society’s norms of justice.

Amy Jamgochian, Academic Program Director, Prison University Project

Authority in the Prison Classroom

This paper argues that instructors in prison college classrooms must come to a new notion of classroom authority that is capacious enough for critical thinking and interrogating existing power structures but that also attends to political realities of prison life in an ethical manner.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

4:30PM–6:00PM

Location: Super Bowl II, second floor

Research, Data and Evaluation in Higher Education in Prison

Moderator:

Thomas Fabisiak, Director, Chillon Project, Life University

Presenters:

Erin L. Castro, Director of University of Utah Prison Education Project

Researching Postsecondary Educational Opportunity in Prison

Why is it so difficult, and how many programs exist? Using descriptive analysis, this presentation shares research from an ongoing study to establish an empirical baseline of postsecondary educational opportunity in prison. Particular attention will be paid to the difficulty in capturing accurate and up-to-date data regarding higher education in prison.

Adam Key, Speech Instructor, Lee College - Huntsville Center
Getting Prison Research Approved: An IRB Member Perspective

Prison research is difficult but not impossible to get approved.

As an IRB member, I will provide insight on the best way to submit research.

Joshua Miller, Director of Prison Education, Georgetown University
The Methodological Implications of Loyalty for Prison Education Research

We typically warn against loyalty to communities as a source of bias in social science research. In this paper, I show why loyalty forces us to take alternative accounts of the value and efficacy of prison education more seriously, which can lead to improvements—not bias—in our research.

Anne Weaver, Doctoral Candidate, Lesley University
A Needs Assessment of Faculty Who Teach in the Boston University Prison Education Program: Policies, Resources, and Supports

A study of the needs of the 25 full-time BU and adjunct faculty who teach in the Prison Education Program (PEP), including an online survey and select interviews of faculty and PEP administrators, was completed in Spring 2017. Findings will be presented and discussed, including possible changes in program implementation based on the feedback.

4:30pm–6:00PM

Location: Super Bowl I, second floor

Student Development in Theory and Practice

Moderator:

Rob Scott, Executive Director, Cornell Prison Education Program; Adjunct Professor in Horticulture, Cornell University

Presenters:

Abigail Beadle, Hall Coordinator, University of Iowa

Pauline Matthey, Senior Lecturer, Clemson University

Graduate Student Interns Behind Bars: An Auto Ethnographic Account of What Prison Taught Me

With Bronfenbrenner's Ecology Model as our framework, we will share the value of utilizing student affairs approaches to learning in order to inform the educational decisions made in the prison where I volunteered.

Michael Scott Brick, Director of Student Services, University of Maryland, College Park

Developing the Whole Student: Student Affairs in Correctional Settings

This discussion will offer a guide to using student affairs professionals to best support incarcerated students. In thinking about how to develop the entire student, best practices will be shared related to out of classroom and engagement experiences.

Brandon Warren, Transition Specialist, Lee College
Building Community, Promoting Arete: Emphasizing the Intellectual Virtues in Prison Education

Drawing on current research in criminology and educational theory, the main claim in this presentation is that an emphasis on the intellectual virtues will help offenders not merely survive upon release, but to thrive as a learner no matter what the content, context, and focus of their educational needs might be.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

DINNER AND FILM SCREENING • 6:30PM–9:30PM

6:30PM–7:00PM

Location: Champions Ballroom, second floor

Dinner

7:30PM–9:30PM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

Film Screening

The Return and Discussion with Bilal Chatman and David Cowan, Operations Manager, Prison University Project

In 2012, California amended its “Three Strikes” law—one of the harshest criminal sentencing policies in the country. The passage of Prop. 36 marked the first time in U.S. history that citizens voted to shorten sentences of those currently incarcerated. Within days, the reintegration of thousands of “lifers” was underway. *The Return* examines this unprecedented reform through the

eyes of those on the front lines—prisoners suddenly freed, families turned upside down, reentry providers helping navigate complex transitions, and attorneys and judges wrestling with an untested law. At a moment of reckoning on mass incarceration, what can California’s experiment teach the nation?

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

BREAKFAST AND MEETING • 8:00AM–9:30AM

8:00AM–9:30AM

Location: Ballroom Foyer, second floor

Breakfast

8:00AM–9:30AM

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

Nothing About Us Without Us—Education for Liberation

This meeting is a call to action bringing together those who have direct involvement in the criminal justice system to interrogate the current system of higher education in prison and develop an action plan to address education both inside and outside the prison walls.

Organized by **Black Women's Center for Carceral Empowerment**
Contact: Pam Kennebrew: info@pamkennebrew.com

PLENARY IV • 9:30AM–11:00AM

9:30AM–11:00AM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

...And Then Cancer Stole My Job: A Conversation on Self-Care

Presenter:

Bianca Van Heydoorn, Director of Educational Initiatives Prisoner Reentry Institute, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

11:00AM–12:00PM

Location: Hall of Fame, second floor

Wrap-up

LIST OF MEETINGS

FRIDAY LUNCH • 1:00PM–2:30PM

Free on the Outside

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

This is an open meeting for people working to bring higher education to currently and formerly incarcerated students at all levels throughout California and creating a network to better serve these students. We will discuss what is working and how we can capitalize on the successes of our individual programs to create a better network for our students and peers.

Organized by **California Colleges Network**
Contact: James Tompkins
James.tompkins6718@email.bakersfieldcollege.edu

Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison

Location: World Cup, first floor

Members of the Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison will gather for a 30-minute internal meeting (1:00pm-1:30pm) followed by an open-house meeting (1:30pm-2:30pm) in which we welcome all conference attendees to come learn about the Consortium and meet staff and alumni from Consortium programs including BPI, FEPPS, Goucher Prison Education Partnership, Wesleyan University & Middlesex Community College

Prison Education Program, Washington University in St Louis
Prison Education Project, Grinnell College's Liberal Arts in Prison Program, and the Yale Prison Education Initiative at Dwight Hall.

Organized by **Bard Prison Initiative/Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison**
Contact: Jessica Neptune: jneptune@bard.edu

SATURDAY BREAKFAST • 8:00AM–9:30AM

In-prison Environmental Programs and Creating Re-entry Bridges

Location: World Series II, second floor

A meet-up for people interested in, and or, working with eco-literacy, community gardening and "inner gardening" programs working within prisons. How can we also link these programs to employment in the green economy when people go home?

Organized by **Insight Garden Program**
Contact: Amanda Berger: Amanda@insightgardenprogram.org

Volunteerism in Prison Classrooms

Location: World Cup, first floor

This is an open meeting to discuss how to utilize volunteers in correctional classrooms in a way that is beneficial to the professors, incarcerated students and volunteers. We hope to answer the following questions during our session: How can volunteers help incarcerated classroom(s)? What type of training

do volunteers need? What are some of the obstacles that the volunteers face and how can prisons address those obstacles?

Organized by **The Petey Greene Program**
Contact: Jessica Weis: jweis@peteygreene.org

LIST OF MEETINGS

SATURDAY LUNCH • 1:00PM–2:30PM

Supporting College After Incarceration

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

Meeting Description: This meeting is hosted by From Prison Cells to PhD, Inc., and is an open meeting to support anyone working to build a career after incarceration. From Prison Cells to PhD, Inc., helps people navigate the sometimes confusing college application process and the even more frustrating

loan/grant process. In this meeting we will discuss our educational counseling workshop.

Organized by **From Prison Cells to PhD, Inc.**
Contact: Stanley Andrisse: sandris2@jhmi.edu

Southern States Programs Planning Meeting

Location: Super Bowl I, second floor

This meeting gathers prison higher education programs located in the south to build community and begin preliminary conversations on regional issues related to the work.

Organized by **Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project**
Contact: Kyes Stevens: kyes@auburn.edu

Alliance for Higher Education in Prison Overview

Location: World Cup, first floor

Alliance for Higher Education in Prison Founding Board members will present a brief history of the Alliance and an update on our work since the Board was formed in 2016. Member of the higher education in prison community are welcome to come to meet advisory board members and ask questions about the Alliance.

Organized by **Alliance for Higher Education in Prison Founding Advisory Board**
Contact: Mary Gould: mary.gould@slu.edu

SUNDAY BREAKFAST • 8:00AM–9:30AM

Nothing About Us Without Us—Education for Liberation

Location: Stanley Cup, first floor

This meeting is a call to action bringing together those who have direct involvement in the criminal justice system to interrogate the current system of higher education in prison and develop an action plan to address education both inside and outside the prison walls.

Organized by **Black Women's Center for Carceral Empowerment**
Contact: Pam Kennebrew: info@pamkennebrew.com

EXHIBITS • TRIPLE CROWN ROOM

Voices of Oklahoma's Incarcerated Women: A Grounded Theory Study

Yasminda Choate, University of Oklahoma

This poster presentation outlines the research methodology for a Constructivist Grounded Theory study of incarcerated women in Oklahoma. This study will obtain critical information on the experiences incarcerated women have with seeking higher education in the context of prison.

Future IDs Art Workshop and Project

Future IDs was designed in a collaboration between artist **Gregory Sale** and members of the Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) — **Aaron Mercado, Dominique Bell, Dr. Luis Garcia, Jose Gonzalez, Kirn Kim, and Ryan Lo**

Future IDs Art Workshop and Project is an ongoing socially-engaged art project about individual stories of transformation and how, collectively, those stories can help reframe the narrative of re-entry. It comprises workshops, exhibitions and public programs. The central idea is to create new identification cards for future selves — for a dream job, a role in society, or a continuing role with family, such as father or mother.

FITE (From Incarceration to Education) Film

Skylar Economy, Photogénie Films

This short film follows four formerly incarcerated students at UC Berkeley, each a member of Berkeley's Underground Scholars Initiative. The documentary shows their journey to higher education, and the successes and tribulations of achieving higher education post-incarceration.

Expanding Impact through Public-Private Partnerships

The Wesleyan University & Middlesex Community College Prison Education Program

In 2016, Middlesex Community College and Wesleyan University initiated a partnership to better serve the students of the Center for Prison Education (CPE). This presentation examines lessons learned from the first year of this partnership and provides suggestions for how it can serve as a model for other programs both in Connecticut and around the country.

Higher Education in Jails and Prisons Programing List

Victoria Bryan and **Rebecca Ginsburg**, Education Justice Project
We're updating and expanding the national directory of prison higher education programs. Please come by to input your program's information and receive a hard copy of our current listing.

National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs

Kaia Stern, Prison Studies Project, Harvard University
This exhibit will feature the national directory of higher education in prison programs. Viewers can browse the directory and upload data about their programs.

Books about Incarcerated People

Jean Trounstone, Professor, Writer, Activist
This exhibit features two books by Jean Trounstone: *Boy with a Knife: a Story of Murder, Remorse, and a Prisoner's Fight for Justice*; and *Shakespeare Behind Bars: the Power of Drama in a Women's Prison*. The books are for sale to NCHEP participants for \$15 each.

The Petey Greene Program Overview

Jessica Weis, Program Director, The Petey Greene Program
The Petey Greene Program supplements education in correctional institutions by preparing volunteers, primarily college students, to provide free, quality tutoring and related programming to support the academic achievement of incarcerated people. During this exhibit, you will learn more about the Petey Greene Program including our 7 minute video where our incarcerated students and volunteers talk about the positive effects of the Program.

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