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Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

CEA and JPay Partner to Offer Education Platform to Inmates

The Correctional Education Association (CEA) has partnered with JPay to significantly increase educational opportunities for incarcerated adults and juveniles and reduce recidivism in America's prisons. The collaboration centers on developing and implementing an open, digital education platform for use by educators, inmates and correctional staff.

Initial program offerings include preparation for the high school equivalency; pre-GED reading, writing and numeracy; English as a second language; reentry and life skills; and computer literacy. CEA and JPay will also partner with colleges and other organizations for accredited degree-seeking opportunities, including college level courses.

The system is composed of a cloud-based learning management system (LMS) for use at no cost, by any educator or administrator interested in offering digital education to their inmates. Educators will be able to load coursework online and distribute it to inmates, who will then load it onto their tablets from a kiosk or a secure wireless network in their facility. Inmate students can complete course material, assignments and tests from their tablets, as well as communicate with their teachers.

"The partnership exceeds our expectations for implementing an open, common framework for delivering educational opportunities to incarcerated individuals," said Steve Steurer, Executive Director of the Correctional Education Association. "The result, we believe, will be a giant step forward for updating and extending the reach of education in prisons, juvenile facilities and jails."

In May 2014, the White House held a meeting on technology and correctional education. One of the recommendations from that meeting included building an affordable and secure platform that would allow education providers and publishers an opportunity to connect to inmate tablets and other portable devices. JPay, in committing its development and infrastructure resources, and CEA, with its expertise and influence in inmate education, have teamed to make this vision a reality.

"We're excited to be working with CEA to build this revolutionary platform for correctional education," said Ryan Shapiro, JPay CEO. "We're proud to provide opportunities for incarcerated individuals to change their lives. (continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

We see this initiative transforming our industry, resulting in a significant decrease in recidivism.”

The power of correctional education was highlighted in a 2014 RAND Corporation study. Findings include the determination that inmates who participate in correctional education programs are 43% less likely to return to prison than those not participating. They also have better chances of gaining employment after leaving prison. A key recommendation of the study was the need for the effective use of technology in correctional education.

More details will come out in the next few months as pilots are established. The pilots will include two prisons and one jail in Maryland. Another pilot will be in Virginia and it is possible that the Washington, DC jail will be getting the platform as well.

The platform, equipment and installation will be free of charge, even after the pilots. The costs will be for the tablets and some content. The tablet will cost between \$100 and \$120. It is not a lease, but a purchase. There will be free quality materials from various sources that can be loaded on the platform and other materials from national publishers, for which there will be a charge. There will also be post-secondary education, wherever states want it. States can have their own software loaded, including student management systems. CEA is the educational partner – locating, evaluating and evaluating materials. Wherever possible teachers and students will communicate via email in order to facilitate homework uploads and downloads.

CEA and JPay share the philosophy that teachers and students are the focus of their partnership and teachers need to have current technology and know how to use the technology to reach more students. JPay has stated publicly that they are not in this for profit and CEA will set the tone.

Mark Your Calendar

Region III & IV CEA Conference

May 4-5, 2015

The Madison Concourse Hotel & Governor’s Club

Madison, WI

Executive Officers		<p>The CEA-W News Review is published by the members of the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin Chapter. The opinions herein are entirely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the executive officers, the Department of Corrections, or the body as a whole.</p> <p>It is our hope that this newsletter will be used to communicate information concerning activities, special events, new directions and policies of CEA-Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections.</p> <p>Articles for publication may be submitted to the CEA-W News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com</p>
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Layout & Design	DeNeal Ericksen, REECC	
Proofreader	Laura Reisinger, LVCV	
Collating/Folding	WRC Vocational Workshop	

CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Helps Student Pursue Her Goals

This year CEA-Wisconsin has increased the amount of the scholarship it will be awarding to \$1000. The CEA-W Scholarship Award Program is designed to assist a CEA-Wisconsin member who is furthering his/her education in the education or library services field or a member's spouse or dependent who is pursuing a university or technical college degree in any field.

The CEA-W Board is pleased to announce that this year's recipient is Jenna Mohelnitzky. Jenna is the daughter of Wisconsin Resource Center teacher Tom Mohelnitzky. Jenna will be starting her junior year at UW-Oshkosh this fall.

As an undergraduate at UW-Oshkosh, Jenna is majoring in Social Work with a Criminal Justice minor. When her bachelor's degree is completed, she plans to go on to earn a master's of Social Work degree. After graduation, Jenna hopes to pursue a job in clinical social work. She is most interested in clinical social work in mental health and rehabilitation facilities. In addition to her studies, Jenna has volunteered at the Oshkosh Public Museum and participated in a shadowing internship in Social Work at the Wisconsin Resource Center.

Jenna feels that the key to being successful in the social work field is developing a sound informational background, having the ability to understand other people's situations, and being able to listen to others.

The CEA-W Board wishes Jenna good luck as she continues her studies and hopes this scholarship will help her reach her goals.

The 2015 CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship will be announced in the May/June 2015 issue of this newsletter. CEA-Wisconsin members or their spouses or dependents are encouraged to apply.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Funds Restored

On Tuesday, July 22, President Obama signed into law the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act enacted by large bipartisan majorities in both the House and the Senate, finally bringing an end to a decade-plus wait for congressional renewal of the nation's preeminent job training legislation – the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. The White House is also releasing its Ready to Work: Job-Driven Training and American Opportunity plan to expand pathways to the middle class. The plan expands many effective strategies that better prepare disadvantaged adults and youth to be successful in the workplace.

Key improvements in the bill include its heightened emphasis on meeting the education, skills and employment needs of the millions of individuals who are unemployed or under-employed and face multiple barriers to employment, as well as urban youth and youth of color who are out of school or have been subject to any stage of the criminal justice process. The term "Individuals with Barriers to Employment" is broadly defined to encompass individuals who are homeless, low-income, youth who are in or aged out of foster care, ex-offenders, long-term unemployed and persons with disabilities.

Although modest increases in funding for core programs are authorized in the bill, programs suffered such damaging recent cuts that the FY2017 authorized funding levels in the bill would only restore funding to FY2010 levels.

Two TCI Teachers Earn Highly Qualified Correctional Educator Certificate

Two Taycheedah Correctional Institution teachers were among the first cohort of students to successfully earn CEA's Highly Qualified Correctional Educator Curriculum Certificate. Pat Lanari and Tim Lanari were among the 22 students to complete the three courses required to earn the certificate offered by the Correctional Educational Association in conjunction with California State University, San Bernardino.

This unique program, offered completely online, prepares participants as highly qualified correctional educators to work in prisons and alternative institutional settings. The Curriculum requires individuals to complete three courses: *Social and Cultural Dynamics of Institutional Education*, *Teaching the Correctional Student*, and *Correctional Educational Leadership*. The courses can be taken for CEU's, undergraduate, or graduate credit. The courses are instructed by three world-renowned professors in correctional education: Drs. Randall Wright, Bill Muth, and Thom Gehring.

The three courses involve the students in reading books, researching reports, engaging in weekly online discussions with their colleagues, writing reports, and working on cooperative projects to engage the students in reflective thinking relevant to their work environment, teaching, and working with their fellow educators, correctional administrators, and correctional officers. The classes expose teachers, administrators, counselors, and correctional staff to correctional programs throughout the country and abroad.

The ability for correctional educators to work in the "Borderlands" is the major theme of the *Social and Cultural Dynamics of Institutional Education* course. *Teaching the Correctional Student* focuses on models of teaching, efficacy of assessment instruments, the WIKI, and the use of educational listservs. *Correctional Educational Leadership* focuses on the history of correctional education; reviews enabling legislation related to the Correctional School District Model; writing proposals; effective evaluation techniques, such as the Clinical Supervision Model; skills and characteristics of correctional educators; special education legislation; recidivism; and program evaluation.

The professors created activities that make the materials presented personally relevant to your lives, work experiences, and correctional work setting. The teachers, counselors, and administrators who took the class created camaraderie through their weekly on-line discussions and on-line chat related to the course readings and projects. The benefits were gained by discussing each class member's work conditions, personal victories, and personal struggles. The diversity of the class, from both the colleagues' positions and geographical locations in correction settings, allowed students to be exposed to multiple perspectives on the readings and class activities.

Pat and Tim summarized their experiences in the courses as follows:

As we discovered, almost all correctional educators unintentionally end up working in correctional education. Therefore preparatory educational training is lacking. This has been our experience. The cultures and borderlands within correctional institutions offered great discussions and insights. The history and evolution of correctional education is explored. Teaching strategies and resources provide opportunities for experimentation. Leadership, structural patterns of correctional education, as well as current and future trends both nationally and internationally are studied. Correctional education is viewed from all perspectives.

An added bonus was the computer knowledge that develops as a result of the discussions and assignments. Part of our experience included joining and participating in internet listservs applicable to correctional education. These listservs provided a forum for ongoing collaboration and information. Other networking opportunities were introduced to provide future resources. Additional resources were presented that related to specific topics in corrections as well as and testing and evaluation.

These courses enlightened us to the rich heritage of correctional education going back centuries and helped us better appreciate the role we play as correctional educators. Sharing perspectives, experiences, and challenges with peers throughout the United States supported the commonality of forward looking goals we all strive for. Studying under instructors who are doing cutting edge evidenced-based research in correctional education added greater relevance and efficacy to our teaching.

Curtiss Named DAI Education Coordinator

Kelly Curtiss officially started her position as Education Coordinator for the Division of Adult Institutions (DAI) in the Office of Program Services on July 28, 2014. Kelly comes to DOC from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville where she was an Outreach Specialist and Academic Advisor. Kelly coordinated with DAI Education Directors throughout Wisconsin to advise incarcerated students with registration, course preparation and financial aid. Kelly has also held positions as Graduate Assistant at UW-Platteville and Admissions Advisor at DeVry University.

Kelly has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Central Michigan University and a Master of Science in Adult Education from UW-Platteville. She is also a member of the National Academic Advising Association and the Wisconsin Academic Advising Association.

Kelly's experience and education will serve her well in her new role for DAI – coordinating career and technical education, managing grants, and providing leadership for future vocational programming.

In Memory of Two Wonderful Educators

Jack Doruff

John A. "Jack" Doruff passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, July 20, 2014, at his Stager Lake cabin in Crystal Falls, Michigan.

Raised in Chicago, Jack moved with his family to Northern Minnesota, where he attended a year of college at Bemidji State College. In 1962 he joined the army where he was trained to be a linguistic interpreter at the Presidio on the Monterey Peninsula. He spent much of his military time in Germany interpreting codes used by the Russian army. After his military service, Jack studied at the University of Minnesota, where he obtained a Master of Education Degree. After graduation he taught Education students at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

Jack began his career in corrections teaching at the minimum security Gordon Correctional Center. During this time he met and married his wife, Mary. In 1999, Jack was promoted to Education Director of Minimum Security Prisons, headquartered in Black River Falls. This position took him to each prison where he was available to help with any questions or problems that center's education department might have. In 2003, Jack transferred to the Green Bay Correctional Institution to be the Education Director. At the Green Bay facility he continued his passion to help teachers and students. He maintained that position, when he retired in 2012. Even after retirement, he continued helping prisoners by being a part of a program called Challenges and Possibilities.

Pat Pagel

Patricia Ann Pagel passed away August 22, 2014. Pat was a graduate of Marian College with her Masters degree in teaching. She was employed most recently at the Oshkosh Correctional Institution where she taught employability skills and managed their high school equivalency program until she retired in 2008.

According to her Education Director Dave Hines, "Pat was one of the most pleasant people to have ever worked with. She never showed a bad day even if she was having it! She was a wonderful teacher and person."

14th Annual CEA-W Creativity Contest

Once again, CEA-Wisconsin invites incarcerated writers and artists to submit their works for the fourteenth annual edition of the CEA-Wisconsin Creativity Contest. Each year CEA-W publishes original prose, poetry, and ink drawings from Wisconsin's jail, prison, and juvenile facility populations. All levels of writers and artists are encouraged to offer submissions. Authors and artists whose works are selected will each receive two free copies of the booklet when it is published in May.

Encourage your learners to express themselves in drawings (black ink on 8½ by 11 white paper) and writings up to 1000 words including poems, letters, essays, and short stories. Winners are selected from all levels, so urge beginning writers to give it a try. Submissions are accepted between September 1st and December 1st. Please ask entrants to read the contest rules and legibly fill out the submission form. Entries can be sent to Libby Kraft at the Wisconsin Resource Center address on the submission form.

Members of the Creativity Contest Committee are Nancy Alderton (OSCI), Margaret Done (MSTF), Laurie Jarvis (FVTC), Libby Kraft (WRC), Linda Lentz (JBCC), Pandora Lobacz (LHS), Tim Mahoney (WRC), Sharon Nesemann (WRC), Laura Riel (OCI), and Mary Davies (WRC).

The booklets are typeset by inmates at Taycheedah Correctional Institution and printed by inmates at Columbia Correctional Institution. This publication reflects the professional commitment of CEA-Wisconsin members to promote literacy. Each CEA-W member gets a free copy of the booklet. If you want to join the committee, contact Mary Davies at mary.davies@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

CEA-Wisconsin Creativity Contest Rules

1. Entries are limited to writers who are incarcerated in prisons, juvenile facilities, and county jails located in Wisconsin. People in alternative correctional programs such as bracelet monitoring, probation, or parole are not eligible.
2. All entries must be the original work of the entrant. Plagiarism, copying someone else's work and claiming it as your own, is against the law and is not acceptable!
3. Artwork must be black ink/dark pencil on white paper and allow for at least a one-inch margin around a standard 8.5 x 11" page. Wider and darker lines allow for better reproduction. Photocopies are allowed, but the teacher or representative must see the original work at the time of submission.
4. Writing is judged on voice, organization, and creativity. Any form of writing is acceptable: poems, essays, short stories, letters, etc. Writing can be as short as one paragraph, but should not exceed 1,000 words. Entries must be typed, double-spaced, with a maximum of 2 pages.
5. Only one submission for each category, art and writing, will be accepted from each entrant.
6. CEA-W reserves the right to publish excerpts of submitted entries.
7. The enclosed release form must accompany the entry. The instructor is responsible for explaining that the work will undergo the usual editing process which any publication undergoes. All writing technicalities (punctuation, grammar) will be corrected. Instructors are advised not to correct students' work. Assistance in writing should include suggestions for expanding ideas, development of themes, and organization. Over-correcting by instructors interferes with the voice of the writer. Entries may be reviewed locally by the Education Director or by DOC Central Office for appropriateness and security consideration as needs and policies dictate.
8. Entries must be signed by the Education Department contact person and received at the address on the release form by December 1, 2014. Winners will receive publications by May, 2015. **No submissions will be returned.** Writers whose work is not accepted will not be notified.
9. The writer should include an address where he/she can be contacted in May, 2015. Booklets will be sent to the institutional address in care of the Education Contact Person, as listed on the form, for distribution to the winners. Books will be distributed in early May 2015.

- 10. Writers retain copyright to their work. CEA-W has first publication rights and rights to the collection of work. Winners will receive two (2) copies of the book. No payment for published work will be provided.
- 11. Students may have their essays published anonymously. The release form, however, must contain the student's real name and signature. This information will be used by contest coordinator only and kept confidential. Write "anonymous" or use initials (no pseudonyms, please) on the writing or drawing submitted, and staple the two together.
- 12. Illegible submission forms or entries may be disqualified.

SUBMISSIONS RELEASE FORM
Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin
"Creativity Contest 2014"

Libby Kraft
Wisconsin Resource Center
PO Box 16
Winnebago, Wisconsin 54985-0016
(920) 426-4310 ex. 4410

I hereby give the CEA-W permission to publish the following work(s), if selected for the contest publication. **These works are my original, unpublished writings and/or artwork.** I understand that the selections may be minimally edited. I further understand that after publication all rights will return to me, however, original works will not be returned. The titles of the works submitted (maximum two) are listed below:

A. Title(s): *May submit only one (1) of each category.*

Writing: _____

Art: _____

B. CEA-W will send each person whose work was selected two copies of the book. Please clearly print your full name and mailing address as of May, 2015. Illegible submission forms may result in disqualified entries.

(Full Name)

(Inmate Number)

(Mailing address – Street Address)

(Institution where currently residing)

(Mailing address -- City, State, Zip)

Check here if this is a juvenile facility.

C. On the line below, please print the way you would like your name to appear in the book if selected. You may only use your institution name, first name with last initial, initials only, or anonymous. No aliases.

(PRINT your name, initials, or anonymous)

D. Sign and date. By signing I verify that these works are my original, unpublished writings and/or artwork.

(Signature)

(Date)

E. Education Department Contact Person. (For correctional facilities and county jails, the contact person will be responsible for distributing booklets to winning authors.)

(Signature)

(Facility)

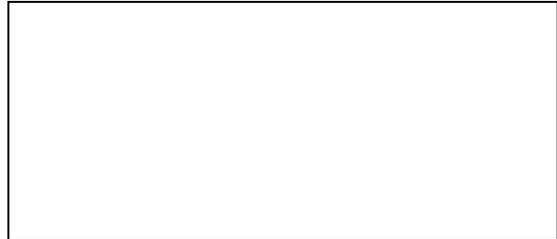
(Print Name)

(Contact Info -- Phone or Email)

Please circle one: **Jr/Sr High School (DJC)** **ABE** **Intermediate** **HSED** **Post High School**

NOTE: This form must accompany all submissions. Incomplete or incorrect submissions forms may disqualify the entry. Submissions must be sent to Libby Kraft, WRC, by December 1, 2014.

CEA-Wisconsin News Review
Sharon Neemann, CEA-W Secretary
Wisconsin Resource Center
P.O. Box 16
Winnebago, WI 54985



President's Message

*"If you want your life to be a magnificent story,
then begin by realizing that you are the author
and every day you have the opportunity to write a new page."
— Mark Houlahan*

Happy New Year! For many of us, September means the beginning of a new school year and another opportunity to "write a new page." For me, it is a time for fresh starts and renewed energy to support the educational goals of our students. I find this quote inspiring – encourage your students to submit something for the creativity contest – check out professional development opportunities like the Highly Qualified Corrections Educator Certificate – think of the ways you could use cloud-based learning – start writing your new page today!

Laura
lreisinger@lvcv.org

Learn All About CEA-Wisconsin at:
www.ceawisconsin.org