

COABE and CEA Announce an Enhanced Partnership

The Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) and the Correctional Education Association (CEA) have taken another step to strengthen their partnership. COABE has announced that membership in CEA will also automatically make the person a member of COABE and eligible for COABE benefits.

In an email to CEA members, CEA Executive Board President Susan Roberts wrote:

“We are excited to inform you of an enhanced partnership with our colleagues at COABE (Coalition on Adult Basic Education), which provides you with full membership in COABE whenever you join CEA or renew your CEA membership. That’s right . . . for the price of your CEA membership, you will also have the full benefits of COABE membership and will be enrolled as a COABE member!

Over the next several weeks, you can expect to receive an email from COABE, asking you for some information so they can add you to the COABE membership. We wanted to alert you to this so you know it is not SPAM . . . it’s the real deal.

If you are an existing CEA member, you will be added to the COABE roster as well. Then, as you renew your CEA membership, your COABE membership will also be renewed. If your fellow colleagues join CEA, they can get both memberships for the price of a \$65 CEA membership.

ALSO: CEA is presenting a special “corrections strand” at the national COABE conference scheduled to be held in Baltimore, Maryland, on April 5-8, 2020.

If you have any questions regarding any of this, please feel free to email CEA’s Executive Assistant, Kiara Wilson, at kwilson@ceanational.org or Susan Roberts, CEA President, at president@ceanational.org

COABE represents the system of 55,000 adult educators in the United States. Its roll of active members continues to grow, with more than 23,000 active members and close to 40,000 educators registering annually for special events.

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With more than 2.1 million adults being incarcerated in the U.S. and more than 700,000 of them leaving federal and state prisons each year and reentering into the community, COABE believes that educating these individuals is a major concern for everyone.

COABE believes that education and skill training inside, and then continuing outside the prison walls, holds the key to not only stemming the tide of recidivism but in changing the generations that follow.



Acting on these beliefs and partnering with CEA Past President Peggy Kaiser and current CEA President Susan Roberts, COABE has established three initiatives to help adult educators who are working with incarcerated and recently released students:

1. Adding a Corrections Strand of workshops to its Annual Conference
2. Forming a Behind and Beyond the Walls (Prison Literacy) Advisory Board
3. Publishing a special Prison Literacy Edition of the *COABE Journal* in March 2019.

At last spring's 2019 COABE Conference held in New Orleans, Louisiana, the program included a Corrections Strand comprised of 18 sessions. One of those sessions was presented by Wisconsin CEA members. CEA-Wisconsin Board members Mary Davies, Moraine Park Technical College and Peggy Kaiser, Wisconsin Department of Corrections presented a workshop "Partnering to Provide Quality Education - The Wisconsin Technical College System and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections."

CEA-Wisconsin members are encouraged to consider submitting a presentation proposal for the 2020 COABE Annual Conference. If a CEA-Wisconsin member's proposal is accepted by the COABE Conference Planning committee, he/she may apply for a CEA-Wisconsin Professional Development Grant. If the CEA-Wisconsin Board approves the grant request, the applicant is eligible to receive of up to \$500 to help defray expenses to attend the 2020 COABE Annual Conference.

For more information on COABE's correctional initiatives and the 2020 COABE Annual Conference, go to www.coabe.org.

Correctional Education Loses Tireless, Determined Advocate

On July 28, John Linton posted on the Caring Bridge website, “Today is the first day of the annual conference of the Correctional Education Association, being held in Detroit this year through Wednesday. Unless my memory is failing me, I have not missed one of these National conferences since I began attending them in 1978. Some were more meaningful than others, but I believe that I always benefited. Not attending, I’m missing opportunities to renew and expand professional relations with persons from around the country committed to providing educational and library services to incarcerated persons. So I must content myself in knowing that I had a good run and did attend as long as was feasible, well past my official retirement. Still, I’m a bit sad about not being there . . .”

What kept John from attending the CEA Annual Conference was his battle against pancreatic cancer that was first diagnosed in mid-October 2018. John passed away on September 3.

John was born August 12, 1947 and grew up in Palo Alto, California. He received his BA in philosophy from Kalamazoo College in 1969. He earned a master’s degree from Harvard University’s School of Education in 1970 and began his career as a teacher in the Maryland state prisons. Eventually, John became the Director of Correctional Education at the Maryland State Department of Education.

The Office of Correctional Education (OCE) was created in 1991 by the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act, to coordinate and improve efforts to support educational opportunities in correctional settings.

When John was chosen to be the Director of Correctional Education at the U.S. Department of Education, he hit the ground running. He threw OCE’s support behind the Three State Recidivism Study being conducted by CEA Executive Director Steve Steurer, Linda Smith, and Alice Tracy. He administered federal grants, including what was commonly known as the “Youthful Offender” grant, and advocated for Congress to re-establish Pell Grants in adult prisons. John guided OCE to be involved in initiatives that promoted Literacy Behind Bars (2007), Prison and Community College Partnerships (2009), The Role of Education during Incarceration



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and Reentry (2009), Community-Based Correctional Education (2011), the Rand Meta-Analysis of Programs that Provide Education to Incarcerated Adults (2013-14), Addressing the Needs of Children of the Incarcerated (2014), Reentry Education Model (2015), Correctional Education Guidance Package (2015), and Educational Technology in Corrections (2015).

As Director of OCE, John became advisor and mentor to many, especially those who were State and Federal Directors of Correctional Education across the country. He was actively involved with CEA's Council of State and Federal Directors, bringing them information and research regarding policy and best practices. John also represented the Department of Education on the workgroup supporting the cabinet-level federal Reentry Council. He continued in this office until his retirement in 2015.

After his retirement, John continued to advocate for correctional education. John continued to exercise leadership among CEA's State and Federal Directors and attend congressional policy and committee meetings specific to advancing correctional education.

In 2016, John was formally recognized by CEA with the Lifetime Achievement award.

In September 2018, John announced another victory in the Journal of Correctional Education. Congress had passed and the President signed into law the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act which required states to set aside a minimum portion of their federal allocations to invest in the education of "criminal offenders."

Left uncompleted is another initiative that John supported. The Restoring Education and Learning (REAL) Act was introduced in the U.S. Senate, but has not yet been acted upon. This law would permanently and

fully restore Pell Grant eligibility for incarcerated persons. Congress amended the Higher Education Act of 1965, barring incarcerated people from accessing Pell Grants. Since then, there has been much debate about the wisdom of that move. The Second Chance Pell Pilot Program of the Obama Administration provided for limited and temporary exemptions for the Pell ban. The REAL Act would replace this initiative and fully restore prisoner eligibility.

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During John’s tenure as the Director of Office of Correctional Education, he continually strove to keep correctional educators informed about OCE’s initiatives and pending legislation. He regularly wrote articles for the CEA News and Notes newsletter and the Journal of Correctional Education and presented workshops at CEA training events. He saw these venues as “giving me an opportunity to share information about work at the Department of Education and to express some of my own ideas about developments, opportunities, and challenges in our field of correctional education.”

Dr. John King, the second and final Secretary of Education under President Obama, commended John Linton for his “tireless and determined leadership” saying, “John was truly a remarkable man. He lived every minute of his life with dignity, grace, humor, and peace. He inspired and touched so many lives because of his vision and determination.”

Mark Your Calendar

Region 3 & 4 Conference and Training Event

April 19-21, 2020

Embassy Suites by Hilton
Bloomington, Minnesota

April							
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14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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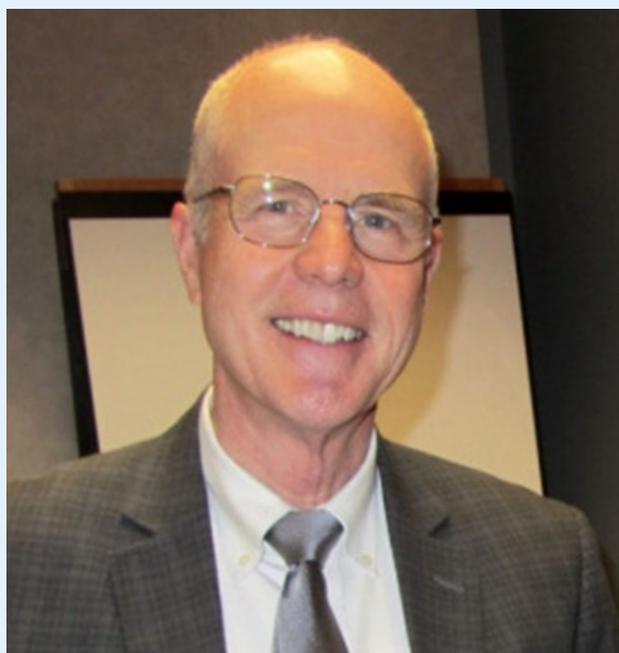
Remembering John Linton

by: Sue Kastensen, Fair Shake Founder and Director

It is with both sadness and gratitude that I am writing today to share a story or two about my relationship with John Linton. Words cannot adequately express my feelings of respect and admiration for him. I only hope to add my small illumination of insight to the numerous qualities of such an amazing person who was taken from us much too early.

As many of the readers here know, John Linton was an extraordinary advocate for education in all forms. He could balance the inner workings of our nation's capital while remaining approachable, and even curious, about opportunities both inside and outside of traditional prison classrooms.

I met John following a Fair Shake presentation at a CEA conference in 2013. We talked briefly that day about my commitment to freely sharing information and technology. I anticipated nothing more would come of our conversation since my software did not offer formal education opportunities.



A few months later, I was surprised to receive an invitation to present Fair Shake at a White House workshop for using technology within a prison setting. I had no idea how the Office of Science and Technology Policy heard of Fair Shake, but when I walked into the Indian Treaty Room, John was there and I had my answer.

Over the next 5 years, I had the great fortune to develop a working friendship with John. We shared thoughts about education theory, current practices, education opportunities within correctional settings, and much more.

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I was always curious why he was interested in my project. After all, Fair Shake appears to be the opposite of 'education': there is no program, no 'right' or 'best' way to engage with it, and no test, survey or feedback questionnaire to demonstrate the impact of engagement. What Fair Shake offers is a non-formal collaborative approach to both reentry and personal development; a bridge from dependency and institutionalization to ownership, problem-solving, and self-directed learning. It is much more like a library or a free do-it-yourself center, available to everyone to both receive and share information.

John saw that my philosophy and approach had value. Even though there was no way the U.S. Dept. of Education could engage with it formally, we both found ways to pull Fair Shake into diverse settings resulting in the wide interest and use of the software, and the website, in prisons and jails throughout the nation.

I decided to follow Fair Shake into these educational settings by pursuing a master's degree in education. I turned to my corrections education mentors, John Linton and Jerry Bednarowski, to guide me on my journey. Two years later, with my graduation approaching, I submitted a proposal to offer a workshop at the National Conference on Higher Education in Prison; another interesting place John and I would find each other. My proposal was accepted, and I felt like I had finally 'arrived'. I was looking forward to John's attendance and participation in the workshop! Unfortunately, the conference came too late. I will feel John's presence there with me, however, and he will continue to guide me when I make my presentation.

John was a friend, a colleague and a mentor. He will continue to inspire me, thanks to the unique educational gifts he offered such as open-mindedness, creative problem-solving, networking with unlikely partners, and unwavering courage. His light will forever illuminate my path forward.

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

Correctional Education Association – Wisconsin 2020 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin, in cooperation with the International Correctional Education Association, has established the TEACHER OF THE YEAR award to recognize outstanding educational contributions by a teacher in a correctional facility.

Who Is Eligible:

To be eligible, the teacher must:

- spend at least 51% of his/her work time in classroom instruction
- have taught in correctional facilities a minimum of two years
- have demonstrated leadership qualities and be active in promoting improvements in correctional education
- have demonstrated devotion to the teaching profession as evidenced by a willingness to work beyond their job description
- have been an active member of CEA for the past year

Teachers who were nominated previous years but were not selected as the CEA-Wisconsin Teacher of the Year may be re-nominated. CEA-Wisconsin Board members are not eligible for nomination.

Nomination Process:

Anyone may submit a nomination for Teacher of the Year. The nomination may be from a colleague, a supervisor, or the teacher themselves. The nomination deadline is **January 15, 2020**.



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After the nominations are received, each nominee will be sent a questionnaire requesting more information and documentation to support the nomination. The 2020 CEA-Wisconsin Teacher of the Year will be selected at the January 2020 CEA-Wisconsin Board meeting and will be notified shortly thereafter.

Qualities to Be Considered:

- Teaching excellence
- Classroom and program innovation
- Professional development activities
- Ability to serve as a representative for correctional education in the state of Wisconsin

Awards:

The CEA-Wisconsin Teacher of the Year will receive a plaque attesting to their achievement. He/She will receive a \$250 stipend and will be furnished expenses to compete against winners from five other Region III States at the **2020 Region 3 & 4 Conference and Training Event on April 19-21, 2020 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton in Bloomington, Minnesota**. If the Wisconsin Teacher of the Year is selected as the Region III Teacher of the Year, he/she will be furnished expenses to attend the 75th Correctional Education Association International Conference & Training Event to be held next summer.

Email your nomination letter by January 15, 2020 to Holly Audley (HollyO.Audley@wisconsin.gov)





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Last Call for CEA-Wisconsin Creativity Contest

Last call for incarcerated writers and artists to submit their works for the annual CEA-Wisconsin Creativity Contest!

Each year CEA-Wisconsin publishes a booklet made up of 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. The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2019.

Go to www.ceawisconsin.org and click on "Awards & Contests," then "Creativity Contest," to access and print the Creativity Contest Official Rules and Submission Release Form.

Updated County Jail Directory Now Available

The update of CEA-Wisconsin's *Directory of Education Programs in Wisconsin's County Jails and Juvenile Detention Center* has been completed and is now available on the www.ceawisconsin.org website. Click on "Publications," then "County Jail Directory."

CEA-Wisconsin hopes this directory will enable teachers and volunteers working in county facilities to contact their colleagues working in other facilities to ask questions, share ideas, and pool resources.

Everyone listed in the directory will also be added to our email list so they will receive:

- Updates of the directory
- CEA-Wisconsin and Parenting Connection newsletters
- Information relating to teaching in county jails and detention centers
- Information on conferences and training opportunities

To join CEA go to: www.ceanational.org

Friend of Correctional Education Touts the Offenders' New Skills

Since 1989, the Wisconsin Chapter of the Correctional Education Association has shown its appreciation to individuals and organizations who have helped to improve educational opportunities for offenders in Wisconsin correctional facilities by honoring them with the Friend of Correctional Education Award. Since the award was founded, the contributions of 91 individuals and organizations have been recognized by the CEA-Wisconsin Board.

This year, CEA-Wisconsin is again recognizing one of these volunteers with the Friend of Correctional Education Award. Those receiving this award may be volunteers who have contributed time and effort to an education program, community agency employees who have presented special workshops, business people who have donated funds or materials to make programs more effective, or advocates of correctional education. Certificates for these Friend of Correctional Education Award winners are presented at special ceremonies held at the facilities involved.

The 2019 Friend of Correctional Education Award winner is James (Jim) Golembeski. Jim Golembeski is the Executive Director of the Bay Area Workforce Development Board, and he has been a strong partner with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections for many years. Jim provides support for those who are incarcerated throughout the state and he regularly advocates in the business community on behalf of those who are releasing from incarceration. Jim not only works to help individuals who have been released from incarceration obtain gainful employment, but he partners with several correctional institutions around the Bay Area to encourage employers to connect with those who are currently incarcerated. Of note, Jim has worked closely with the Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution to bring employers into the facility on an annual basis as part of the institution's career fair to interview inmates who have completed various Career & Technical Education training.

Jim advocates on behalf of the currently incarcerated through various means, including in the media, as he regularly touts the skilled workforce that is coming out of the correctional institutions. Jim is never short on passion, and he often jokes that he's "going to work a few more years and then retire to help incarcerated people full time." There is no stronger friend of correctional education than Jim Golembeski.



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Nominate a Friend of Correctional Education

Do you know someone who has been noteworthy in their support of correctional education?

This person may be a volunteer who contributes time and effort to an education program, a community agency employee who has presented a special workshop, a business person who has donated funds or materials to make programs more effective, or an advocate of correctional education in some way.

If such person has contributed to your facility's education program, you may submit him/her name for the CEA-Wisconsin "Friend of Correctional Education Award." Nominees cannot be employed by the Department of Corrections, the Department of Health and Family Services, or a county jail.

To nominate a Friend of Correctional Education go to www.ceawisconsin.org and complete a brief description of the Friend's contribution to correctional education on the Nomination Form.

After your nomination is received, the CEA-Wisconsin Board will review it at its next regularly scheduled meeting. If the Board approves the nomination, arrangements will be made to have a Board member present the certificate at an event at your facility.

For more information contact Holly Audley, Wisconsin Department of Health Services Division of Care and Treatment Services, HollyO.Audley@dhs.wisconsin.gov or 608-266-2862.

Tell Us About Your Program

Email your article to

JerryBednarowski@new.rr.com

Friend of Correctional Education Nomination Process Revamped

For the past 20 years, the Wisconsin Chapter of the Correctional Education Association has been recognizing individuals and organizations who have helped to improve educational opportunities for offenders in Wisconsin correctional facilities by honoring them with the Friend of Correctional Education Award. In each of those years, a notice soliciting nominations for the award was included in the May/June issue of the CEA-Wisconsin newsletter.

Unfortunately, because the nominations were done on a specific time-line, sometimes arrangements for a public awarding of the Friend of Correctional Education certificate could not be made. To give the winners of the Friend of Correctional Education Award the recognition they deserve, the CEA-Wisconsin Board has made these changes to the nomination process:

- There will be no due date for nominations for the Friend of Correctional Education Award. They can be made any time of the year.
- A Call for Nominations notice will be published in the CEA-Wisconsin newsletter twice each year – in the May/June and November/December issues.
- The Call for Nominations notice and form will be posted on the www.ceawisconsin.org website year-round.
- After receiving a nomination, the CEA-Wisconsin Board will consider it at its next regularly scheduled meeting and determine if the Friend of Correctional Education Award will be made.
- If the nomination is approved, the Board will attempt to make arrangements for a CEA-Wisconsin Board member to attend a graduation ceremony, job fair, staff meeting, holiday celebration or similar event at the nominating institution to present the award to the winner.

The CEA-Wisconsin Board hopes that these changes will make the nomination for the Friend of Correctional Education Award more convenient for the nominators and give the winners the public recognition they deserve.

Check out the nomination notice in this newsletter or on the www.ceawisconsin.org website and nominate an individual and organizations who have helped your program.

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Send Your Article Submissions, Comments and Suggestions to:

CEA-Wisconsin Newsletter Co-Editor
CEA-Wisconsin Newsletter, Co-Editor
CEA-Wisconsin Webmaster

Jerry Bednarowski, DHS Retired
Amanda Hillestad, JCI
Chisim Metternich, WRC

jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com
amanda.hillestad@wisconsin.gov
chisim.metternich@wisconsin.gov

The CEA-Wisconsin Newsletter is published by the Executive Board of the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin. The opinions herein are entirely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the CEA-Wisconsin executive officers, the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, or the CEA-Wisconsin membership as a whole.

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.

President's Message

As the leaves fall, days become shorter, and we prepare for the holiday season, it is the perfect time to reflect on all of the things we have for which to be thankful. After attending the Common Grounds Conference in October, I was left feeling inspired and grateful. I am especially thankful for those involved in correctional education: from support staff, administrators, educators, library staff, paraprofessionals, volunteers, and other supporters. Your daily work creates incredible opportunities for men and women across the state – opportunities to learn, to dream, and to set and achieve their goals. Your work creates more responsible, respectful, and productive citizens and communities for us all to enjoy.

I encourage everyone take time during the upcoming holiday season to reflect on the successes and challenges of the year, but most of all to establish and renew the relationships that are most meaningful to us. There is absolutely no substitute for connectedness.

A few reminders:

- Please encourage participation in CEA Wisconsin's [Creativity Contest](#) . The deadline for submissions is **December 1, 2019**.
- Please nominate an outstanding teacher for the [CEA-W 2020 Teacher of the Year](#). Nominations are due **January 15th, 2020**.

CEA Wisconsin's Board is working hard to plan activities for 2020 and beyond. We are always open to feedback on how we can better serve our members. Please feel free to email me with any suggestions you may have!

Blessings to you and yours,

Emily Propson
Emily.propson@dhs.wisconsin.gov.