As I write this, it appears that the 2020 pandemic is coming to a close, and I am personally ecstatic about seeing friends and colleagues next week in Tucson. While I understand that many of our members must continue to limit their travel, I want to personally thank the Arizona Correctional Education Board and staff for hosting this monumental conference. The conference committee has worked extremely hard to bring together some of the best and brightest in the field of correctional education in order to share the latest and most innovative developments. You will find that CEA continues to offer a unique experience with dynamic workshops, continuing education credits, state-of-the-art exhibitors, fascinating speakers and networking opportunities that are a must for anyone in our industry. I want to extend a special thank you to our exhibitors, supporters and sponsors without which this event would not be possible.

This past year has presented some unique needs, one of which is the need to network. Due to the innovation of your CEA leaders, correctional educators have been afforded the opportunity to continue networking through a virtual conference, biweekly calls of the Council of Directors, and the new CEA Givitas Community. Personally, I hope that the need for another virtual conference never arises, but the biweekly leadership meetings and the CEA Givitas Community have proven to be a blessing to many.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship from AZTEC, Data Recognition Systems, Essential Education, and ATLO, CEA was able to launch a centralized communication platform, The CEA Givitas Community, to give all members a place to ask for help and offer assistance to others. Many of you have already received valuable information from other members in the community. In addition to the open membership dialog, CEA announcements are posted on the community in order to keep the membership aware of news and updates. I encourage every CEA member to take advantage of this networking resource. CEA members can log in to the community at CEA.Givitas.com using their unique email address associated with their CEA Membership. And, as always, Kiara Wilson, CEA Executive Assistant, kwilson@ceanational.org, can answer any questions regarding your membership information.

Don’t forget! CEA has issued a Guidance for Special Education in Adult Facilities, which can be found on the CEA National website, or by clicking here.
Ingram Has State's First Automotive Service Writer Program

Ingram State Technical College’s 100 percent incarcerated student population isn’t necessarily the first group anyone would consider when discussing one-of-a-kind training opportunities. However, with the approval of the Alabama Community College System, this summer they will lead the way as the College launches Automotive Service Writer program.

Ingram State president Annette Funderburk said the program was developed in direct response to industry demand. "Each employer we spoke with regarding the program was enthusiastic in their support," she explained, "it was apparent early in the process that there is a real need for workers with this skill set."

Funderburk said the curriculum for the new program was developed in-house, with guidance from industry professionals. Students in the 26-credit hour program will learn basic automotive systems and technology, then combine that knowledge with strong customer service and communications skills, computer expertise and an understanding of logistics.

Long-time Ingram State automotive mechanics instructor Shawn Moore will be the instructor for the new program, which will be offered first to female students at the College's Tutwiler instructional service center.

As part of his preparation to lead the initiative, Moore spent time "shadowing" a senior service consultant at a nearby dealership.

Rick Trammell, Senior Service Consultant at Jack Ingram Nissan in Montgomery, Alabama described service writing as an "excellent career". "The job can be challenging at times, but it comes with good pay and longevity," he said. "There's a big shortage of service advisors in the industry, and we are excited to be a part of the new opportunity at Ingram."

Ingram State is a member of the Alabama Community College System, fully accredited by the Council on Occupational Education. The College provides adult education, GED preparation and testing, career technical education and job placement assistance to incarcerated students exclusively.
A New Way to Enable Incarcerated Individuals to Consume Online Content

Access2online Inc is a private-sector corporation running a business inside Oregon’s state prison for women. They train incarcerated individuals to audit and remediate websites and online documents to be accessible to the disabled -- and then provide the hands-on IT job skills with a future.

The training includes earning Trusted Tester certificates from the federal Office of Accessible Systems and Technology, a challenging 3-month program with an intense 1-week final where they must score at least 90%. Of course, the obstacles with that relate to the rule against unmonitored internet access for the incarcerated analysts, and the fact that such certificate programs are now all online, along with many of the educational resources needed.

The traditional response is to dispatch the prison’s IT group to “sanitize” an online destination, that is, to make sure every possible communication option has been disabled, except of course the exam submissions. This is a significant request involving many man-days of effort. And worse, it would need to be done for every online educational resource -- and redone whenever the online destination changes its content without warning.

The challenge went out to Access2online’s external programmers to automate their way out of this problem. The result they call DrawbridgeX, a plain internet router with some interesting control software.

Acting like a regular firewall, DrawbridgeX can be set to deny all internet access except to a designated URL, what the industry calls blacklisting URLs while whitelisting one URL. The problem is that within such a whitelisted URL, we can find lots of educational content along with forbidden communication opportunities. Beyond the obvious mailto links which are actually harmless since incarcerated individuals lack email software, there may lurk seemingly harmless options to leave comments about a class or instructor. Unscrupulous learners could use that as a message platform to communicate unmonitored with their outside associates. Other website options could give them access to many other vulnerabilities that must be sanitized.

This is where DrawbridgeX has another access layer on top of being a regular firewall. DrawbridgeX automatically blacklists every process on a website except the browser’s ability to display text and graphics. Such a process includes every submit button, every javascript call to do anything, and every snippet of code (PHP, ASP, C++, etc) -- all blocked, blacklisted, and inoperable to the user.

continued on next page...
A New Way to Enable Incarcerated Individuals to Consume Online Content

When a user encounters a process that is legit and needed, for example the form to submit their tests, they request the prison sysadmin to whitelist and allow that one process. The sysadmin then goes to the URL and manually examines the requested test form. If she finds it secure and required, she makes a DrawbridgeX setting change allowing that one process to be whitelisted and used.

Now Access2online finds themselves in an unusual position. They have built a solution to their problem but suspect many others with the same problem. So this is a call to the readers to collaborate, to see if they would like to try DrawbridgeX to solve internet access problems for their students. If interested, shoot an email to Peter Shikli at pshikli@access2online.com or call 503-570-6831.

AWS Welding Certification Offered to Indiana Youth

Indiana’s Division of Youth Services is pleased to announce that nine Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) students are participating in a welding program provided through Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana. They attend two four-hour class sessions each week. They also are enrolled in IVY111 which is taught by LJCF teacher Ms. Mucker. Once the students complete the courses, they will have earned their AWS certification, four college credits and will have a duffle bag full of PPE, along with some basic tools. Prior to their release, they will work with their transition coordinators, Mrs. DeWitt and Mrs. McAninch, to find job placements in their communities. The students are very appreciative of this opportunity to earn gainful job skills.
Join corrections educators from across the country at CTE Inspired. Hosted by iCEV, the nation’s leading creator of Career & Technical Education (CTE) curriculum and resources, the FREE three-day event is designed to offer professional development and networking opportunities for CTE educators. Because of CTE educators’ busy and varying schedules, as well as increased demand for professional development opportunities, CTE Inspired will be held twice: July 27-29 and August 9-10. While the same sessions will be streamed on both conference dates, participants can attend one or both conference dates, depending on their schedules and availability.

CTE Inspired will showcase three dynamic keynote speakers:

- Angela Duckworth, Ph.D.
  - Founder and CEO, Character Lab
- Temple Grandin, Ph.D.
  - Animal Science Professor, Colorado State University
- Daymond John
  - Founder/CEO of FUBU, Presidential Ambassador for Global Entrepreneurship and Star of ABC’s Shark Tank and CEO of The Shark Group

The event will feature 90 sessions focusing on a variety of topics, such as instructional strategies, pedagogy, industry certifications and subject-specific workshops. Five sessions will be specifically focused on corrections education. Session topics will include metacognition, course implementation, certificates of completion, funding sources, technology platforms, as well as emotional and workforce support. ATLO Software, a turnkey computer training and testing lab provider, will host a session on platform security and online vocational and professional certification training and testing. In addition to sessions led by educational and industry leaders, the event will include live Q&A and round-table sessions for attendees to engage with presenters and build meaningful connections with other attendees. The virtual exhibit hall will consist of booths for all of iCEV’s subject areas and booths for each industry certification available on the iCEV Certification Testing Platform, in addition to booths hosted by edtech tool providers and CTSO organizations.

By participating in conference events and features, attendees will earn points toward their attendee profile. One hundred attendees will be awarded $100, and 300 attendees will win $1,000. Additional prices will include books published by the keynote speakers, classroom technology products and iCEV SWAG.
CEA Working With NEXUS Mental Health to Offer Insight into the Justice System

For close to three years, CEA has been involved with NEXUS, a group whose mission is to “bridge multiple gaps in mental health support with a unique community of traditional and nontraditional mental health stakeholders, focusing on critical junctures in care to move from hopeless to hopeful.”

NEXUS focuses on three demographics, including women, youth, and individuals involved in the justice system. They are “working with traditional mental health stakeholders as well as those not typically associated with mental health support but who possess invaluable insights, such as those with lived experience, case managers, law enforcement officers, prison administrators, parents, community center volunteers, and school tutors, to name a few.

CEA was first approached by NEXUS as a “nontraditional stakeholder” to provide more information to the group regarding mental health training for criminal justice professionals (including correctional educators) and to discuss the correctional educator’s role in the rehabilitation and reentry process.

Later, CEA was invited to be part of the NEXUS Steering Committee, to offer continued insight to the group regarding mental health and the justice system. According to NEXUS, “What sets us apart from other respected and effective mental health initiatives is our groundbreaking collaborations with traditional and nontraditional stakeholders in mental health. We’re also examining mental health best practices in individual communities and evaluating how best to use them for the greatest impact on the unmet needs of our 3 key groups.”

For more information on NEXUS, visit its website at https://www.nexusmentalhealth.com.

CEA State Directors Calls

When COVID-19 shut the world down in March 2020, our colleagues needed help. How could we keep education services going? Then CEA President Susan Roberts gathered the State Directors on weekly calls so they could communicate and share ideas. They found it helpful to learn how states outside their own were able to keep students connected to learning.

These calls were so helpful that they have become routine. CEA President Kim Barnette and Council of State Directors President, Heather Gay, along with her team from Michigan, continued the calls, which are held every other Thursday at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. The calls are often COVID-19 related, but they also include other topics. This connection has been a valuable support for the State Directors of Correctional Education.

If you or someone you know are a State Director and would like to participate with the group, please contact Heather Gay at gayh@michigan.gov, or burttj@michigan.gov to receive the notifications.
CEA Awards
Andrea Buttross, Awards Committee Chair

**Austin MacCormick Award**
The CEA sponsors several awards annually to worthy recipients. The **Austin MacCormick Award** recognizes an individual who has demonstrated best practices. The winner must be a CEA member. The practices/program should be able to be replicated and implemented by correctional educators in order to develop or modify their own program. The deadline to apply for this award is **June 1st**.

**Lifetime Achievement Award**
The **Lifetime Achievement Award** may be presented to someone who has made a major contribution to the field of correctional education during their professional work life. The award will honor an individual’s longevity within the profession because he/she provided leadership, vision and momentum toward excellence. The Lifetime Achievement Award may be awarded to a teacher, counselor, supervisor, manager, administrator, aide, employee of CEA, or any other position which involved education as its primary duty. This award, however, is not for someone who has only given a few years of service, gained sudden notoriety, or given political support in the short term; it is meant to reflect a lifetime of service to the correctional education field. The honor can be awarded posthumously or to someone still living. In any given year if there are no nominations, or if a nomination does not meet the eligibility criteria, the award will not be presented. The deadline for application is **June 1st**.

**Correctional Education Advocate Award**
The **Correctional Education Advocate Award** is an award for a candidate who skillfully promotes the purpose of correctional education, actively campaigns to initiate and continue educational programming in correctional settings; enthusiastically supports correctional educators and their students; proficiently defends the significance of correctional education and publicly places a value on educating inmates. The deadline for the application is **June 1st**.

**Teacher of the Year**
Lastly, the CEA recognizes teaching excellence by celebrating **Teacher of the Year** winners from each of the CEA Regions. Each Region is encouraged to select a Teacher of the Year to be recognized at the upcoming national conference. Regional Directors are encouraged to select their teachers soon and to submit their information by June 1st to the National Office and the National Secretary (Awards Committee Chair).

Complete information and nomination forms regarding each of the awards is available on the [www.ceanational.org](http://www.ceanational.org) website, or e-mail [Andrea.Buttross@la.gov](mailto:Andrea.Buttross@la.gov) for more information.

The CEA 75th CEA International Conference & Training Event

This past summer, 2020, would have been the 75th CEA International Conference, and also the 50th birthday of the Windham School District in Texas. Our Texas colleagues were excited to host the conference in Austin, TX. But then…COVID.

CEA is pleased to announce that the 75th CEA International Conference will be held August 22-25, 2021 in Austin, TX. We still want to commemorate the 75th and 50th dates with the theme, **“Polishing Diamonds and Gold: Celebrating, Honoring, and Expanding a Successful Legacy.”**

The conference will be held **IN PERSON** at the Renaissance Austin Hotel. Please save the dates and watch the CEA website for additional information.
Kansas Department of Corrections Expands Educational Resources to Include Premium Full-Text Database Content

Cris Fanning, Ph.D., Director of Education at Kansas Department of Corrections

Topeka, KS Understanding the value that quality educational resources bring to incarcerated students and the fundamental role these resources play in support of an individual’s future opportunities, the Kansas Department of Corrections has embarked on a first of its kind project to deliver academic and business content on a scale not previously offered. In partnership with EBSCO Information Services and American Prison Data Systems (APDS), Kansas Department of Corrections will offer students secured and supervised access to over 6,000 full-text journals and magazines available from the EBSCO Academic Search Complete and Business Source Complete databases.

Having learned about a new Correctional Education service provided by EBSCO during an Adult Education State Director’s meeting held in September 2020, we engaged with EBSCO to better understand how their college-level service could fit our existing education programs administered by various college and university partners within the state of Kansas. Quickly realizing that the EBSCO offering had the same breadth and currency of full-text content available to any student enrolled in a post-secondary program, it was clear that by making this content available to our students we could greatly enhance their chances to excel in their enrolled programs. Making the decision to move forward with deploying the EBSCO resources within our existing APDS-hosted learning portal, a project team was assembled. Project deliverables such as private network, web server hosting, Single Sign-On user authentication, instructor approval workflow for full text requests, available reporting metrics and user training all were carefully planned and implemented. Working collaboratively across three organizations in the context of a pandemic with its mandatory work-from-home model did not inhibit our ability to deliver on-time project milestones.

Our collaboration with EBSCO and APDS has allowed us to continue making our students and their access to high-quality educational resources the highest priority.

About Kansas Department of Corrections

Through its strategic plan, Pathway for Success, the Kansas Department of Corrections’ Vision, ”Transforming Lives for the Safety of All,” is becoming reality by (1) Investing in Individuals; (2) Creating an Environment for change and Well-Being; (3) Enhancing and Maximizing communication; (4) Fostering Dignity and Safety; and (5) Engaging and Strengthening Our Partnerships. In addition, KDOC now benefits from over four decades of scientific research defining the key principles to reducing crime, principles that align with this statutory purpose. The history of KDOC dates back to the founding of the state of Kansas.

About EBSCO

Based in Ipswich, MA, EBSCO is the leading provider of research databases, e-journals, magazine subscriptions, e-books and discovery service to libraries of all kinds. For more than 70 years, EBSCO has partnered with libraries in the public, private and government sectors worldwide to improve research with quality content and technology. Through continued investment in the library business, EBSCO works to ensure the long-term success of its customers through vision, action and innovation.
Michigan

Hello from Michigan, Friends and Colleagues! We have numerous irons in the fire right now to make our state a solid piece of the CEA Community. As a newly formed chapter, we already have many new members, and a plan in motion to grow our membership even more by reaching out the county jails and institutions.

We are very excited to announce that we are hosting our 1st Annual Education Academy June 28th – July 1st. This is a virtual conference focusing on Teaching in a Virtual Classroom. This has become an important part of our state as we learn to navigate education with COVID concerns. MDOC – Offender Success has finally approved a proposal for the teachers and instructors to have Internet in the classroom. This will open a variety of avenues for our teachers, using and accessing new technology and resources for the success of our students. It is the hope of the CEA-MI Executive Board to have two conferences per year focusing on techniques, resources, and implementation to better serve our student population.

In January 2021, the MDOC Principals & Administration voted for Karmyn St. Andrew, Thumb Correctional Facility, as its Teacher of the Year. She will compete with the other state winners for the Region 3 Teacher of the Year in AZ. Karmyn is a hard worker with innovative ideas. She will be honored at the CEA-MI June Event.

CEA Receives Grant from Strada Education

CEA has received a $244,000 grant from Strada Education Network to fund, “A COVID-19 Collaboration for Providing Education Services in Correctional Settings,” a proposal submitted during the summer of 2020. Strada Education Network’s mission is to improve lives by forging clearer and more purposeful pathways between education and employment.

This project, the first of its kind, involves a CEA collaboration with APDS to provide secure devices in two jurisdictions for a period of two years. Following that, those jurisdictions will continue to fund the devices for an additional two years, resulting in four years of access to programming for incarcerated individuals.

CEA recognized that COVID-19 had severely impacted student access to educational and rehabilitative programming for incarcerated individuals. APDS, a public benefits corporation, approached CEA about a collaboration which would leverage technology to provide access to needed programming. The proposal, submitted to Strada Education Network, not only includes funds to purchase the hardware with basic programming, but also includes funds to evaluate the project. A research team led by Dr. Susan Dewey from the University of Alabama, will work with CEA and the selected jurisdictions to collect and analyze data to evaluate the impact of the tablet use among incarcerated individuals.

Additionally, educators in the jurisdictions will be provided with professional development relevant to engaging students in on-line learning. Dr. Susan Roberts, Past-President of the CEA Executive Board, will be responsible for providing this professional development, and is coordinating the entire grant project.

Since the award of the grant, CEA and APDS identified two jurisdictions, the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS), and the Kansas Department of Correction (KDOC), to be involved with the project. Strada Education Network supported this choice based on its other projects in these states.

CEA is proud to lead this collaboration among Strada, APDS, NCDPS, KDOC and the University of Alabama. It perfectly aligns to CEA’s mission to “empower our members to provide transformational learning opportunities.”
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Correctional Education Association

May 2021

Correctional Education Association

1st Annual CEA-Michigan Education Academy: June 28 – July 1, 2021
75th International CEA Conference & Training Event: August 22-25, 2021 in Austin, TX
59th Annual CEA Region 1 Conference: September 29 - October 1, 2021 in Cape May, NJ

For details about upcoming events, go to https://ceanational.org/conferences

CEA 2021 Upcoming Events

Save the date!
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In This Issue:
1 A Message From Your President
1 CEA Guidance for Special Education in Adult Facilities
2 Ingram Has State’s First Automotive Service Writer Program
3-4 A New Way to Enable Incarcerated Individuals to Consume Online Content
4 AWS Welding Certification Offered to Indiana Youth
5 Inspired
6 CEA Working With NEXUS Mental Health to Offer Insight into the Justice System
6 CEA State Directors Calls
7 CEA Awards
7 The CEA 75th CEA International Conference & Training Event
8 Kansas Department of Corrections Expands Educational Resources to Include Premium Full-Text Database Content
9 Michigan
9 CEA Receives Grant from Strada Education
10 Ashland Ad
11 Test Genius Ad
11 Save the date!
12 2020-2021 Executive Board/Standards Commission

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CEA News and Notes is published four times a year. The newsletter is available to all members. All issues will be posted on the CEA website, www.ceanational.org. The CEA will publish a newsletter on a quarterly basis with issues being distributed to members in the months of February, May, September and December. Subscriptions are included in annual membership dues, Comments and/or articles from our readers are invited but should not exceed two typed pages without approval of the editor. All contributions are subject to editing for space, clarity and other reasons.

Contributions should be sent to Susan Roberts, pastpresident@ceanational.org

CEA News and Notes accepts full and half-page advertisements. For deadlines and advertising rates, please contact CEA:
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