A Message from our President...

Heather Gay

It is almost time for our 78th CEA International Conference and Training Event! We are headed to Columbus, Ohio from July 28th to the 31st and I hope everyone can join us. Please ensure you submit your proposals for breakout sessions!

Proposal Deadline is May 31, 2024

- All sessions are 60 minutes in length.
- Presentation, panel, demonstration, and interactive sessions are appropriate submissions.
- All proposals must address the topics listed on the next page.
- Proposals are encouraged to use person first language which aligns with current research (i.e. resident, student, etc).
- Presenters are responsible for providing all handouts, if applicable.
- The lead presenter shall be notified by June 17, 2024 of the presentation acceptance status.
- The lead presenter is responsible for notifying all co-presenters of all CEA communications.
- All presenters MUST register for the 78th CEA International Conference & Training Event.

As practitioners and leaders in Correctional Education, we are used to sharing our stories and experiences with people not familiar with our work. I wanted to take this opportunity to share some data demonstrating the EXCELLENT work you are doing every day.

- Our students are 43% less likely to return to a life of crime once released.
- Our students have employment rates post release, 13% higher than those who do not participate in our educational programs.
- For every dollar spent on our programs, four is saved on the cost of reincarceration.
- Our students have a 70% reduction in misconducts.

As post-secondary educational opportunities broaden across the nation, it is imperative states ensure both equity and quality are at the forefront of planning and implementing all programs. The Vera Institute of Justice launched in 2021, the Corrections Education Leadership Academy (CELA). I was honored to be one of the first applicants admitted. The knowledge and leadership skills I gained from this academy has assisted me in both my jobs as your president and as Michigan's state education director. If in a leadership position or wanting to become one, I encourage you to visit Vera's website and apply.
78th CEA International Conference and Training Event  
July 28 - 31, 2024  
Hilton Columbus Downtown  
402 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 855-380-9591

**Full Registration**

**Must be postmarked by the dates below to receive rate**

Conference registration includes Sunday President’s Reception, Monday breakfast, Monday Teacher of the Year Gala, Tuesday continental breakfast, Tuesday Awards Luncheon, Wednesday brunch.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before June 28, 2024:</th>
<th>One day registration costs:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEA Member—$475</td>
<td>Monday ONLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Member—$540</td>
<td>CEA Member—$225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retiree/Student—$425</td>
<td>Monday ONLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CEA Member—$290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Member—$290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday ONLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Member—$175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday ONLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Member—$240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Not included in registration fee***

- **Council of Directors’ Meeting—Sunday, July 28, 2024—$105**

**Are you interested in being a facilitator?**

- Yes
- No

**Events I Plan To Attend:**

- President’s Reception
- Monday Breakfast
- Monday Gala
- Tuesday Breakfast
- Tuesday Awards Luncheon
- Wednesday Brunch

**Meal Preference:**

- Regular
- Vegetarian
- Other: _______________________

**Total payment: $______________ (Total from Registration/ Add On Events)**

Registration Link: [78th CEA International Conference & Training Event (cognitoforms.com)]

**Hotel Reservation:**

To make a reservation use the link below or call the hotel directly. (These rates are valid until July 1, 2024)

**78th CEA International Conference & Training Event - Learn about the event and search for hotels (passkey.com)**

~ $199/Night ~
2024 CEA National and Regional Board Election Results

Congratulations to the winners of the 2024 CEA Elections. Please join us in congratulating Jody Burtt (CEA Executive Board Secretary), Kim Barnette (Standards Commissioner), Belle Bodell (Standards Commissioner), Tina Cameron (Region 2 Director-elect), Michelle Pfaff (Region 4 Director), Tracie Hightower (Region 6 Director), LaKeisha Adams (Region 8 Director-elect), Dr. David Kuehl (Region 8 Assistant Director), Kristen Morgan (Council of Directors President), Danielle Nichols (Council of Directors Secretary), Shelley McKinley (Council of Directors Juvenile Justice Representative), and Terri Fazio (Council of Directors Standards Commission Liaison) on their new role. Their leadership will undoubtedly benefit our members.

Scholarships are Back!

*Jody Burtt, CEA National Secretary*

After being dormant for several years, the Correctional Education Association (CEA) is pleased to announce scholarship opportunities have returned. The CEA Awards Committee will award three $750 scholarships to members wanting to continue in post-secondary education courses, attend the CEA Forum or CEA International Conference and Training Event.

The CEA Professional Development Scholarship Award was redesigned with member needs and interest in mind. The program eligibility, criteria, timeline, and dates are organized within the application, and posted on the website. [Apply Today!](mailto:secretary@ceanational.org)

The CEA Awards Committee and Executive Board are excited to offer a renewed Professional Development Scholarship Program supporting membership and providing the opportunity to benefit from higher education. This opportunity could provide new perspectives and ideas to conferences through presentations.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions regarding scholarship opportunities. [secretary@ceanational.org](mailto:secretary@ceanational.org)
CEA Forum 2024

LuAnn Picket, 2024 CEA Forum Co-chair

Region V and the Texas Chapter of the Correctional Education Association (CEA) want to thank everyone who attended the 2024 CEA Forum in Addison, Texas! The conference was a success in large part due to the number of attendees and representation from over 35 states. Attendees roamed the range of opportunities together and participated in powerhouse general sessions and informative, forward-visioned breakout sessions. There were sessions for attendees working with youthful learners, postsecondary students, and adult residents.

A couple of special highlights from the conference included the Eclipse Extravaganza and the Alumni Panel. The eclipse was a memorable event that was made special by experiencing it with our fellow colleagues in the great Lone Star State. The Alumni Panel gave everyone a highly motivational “shot in the arm,” as they heard firsthand how programs helped make our former students successful upon reentry into society! Honorable Faith Johnson served as an excellent facilitator as she asked our panel the questions attendees all wanted to know regarding how programming provided former students support in changing their life pathways.

Education in corrections is a wonderful field of service, and the gathering of colleagues across our nation to share ideas and experiences only helps everyone increase skills and knowledge. Once again, thank you for investing time and resources to attend the Forum. Your investment will reap benefits for the success of the students. Hope to see everyone in Ohio in July!

CEA Accreditation Auditor Training

The CEA Standards Commission is accepting applications from qualified and experienced correctional educators for Accreditation Auditor Training to be held during the International Conference and Training Event in Columbus, Ohio, July 28 – 31, 2024.

Selected applicant trainees will participate in a pre-conference virtual meeting, two half-day training sessions at the conference (July 29 and 30), a post conference virtual meeting, and complete a Training Audit with an experienced auditor. Training auditors will evaluate the performance of trainees for successful completion of all training segments required for Certification as a CEA Accreditation Auditor. Certified Auditors receive travel reimbursement and an honorarium for conducting an audit and completing the Audit Report.

Standards Commission contact: commission@ceanational.org

Applications must be received by June 7, 2024. Apply Today!
Michigan has 2nd Lowest Return to Prison Rate in State History

DeAnna Giles

According to the Department of Corrections, Michigan is among the top 10 states with the lowest return to prison rate.

LANSING, Mich. (WILX) - “Re-entry has a significant impact on the community,” said Kyle Kaminiski. The same community that you, your family and friends live in.

That’s why Kyle Kaminiski with the Michigan Department of Corrections says giving people the skills to stay out of prison should be important to everyone. And now, the state has the second-lowest rate of individuals returning to prison within the first three years of being released.

“We see education as a key component in people’s long-term success,” said Kaminiski. “Another key component is evidence-based programming. They might have needs related to substance use disorder. They might have needs related to cognitive behavioral thinking.” Schooling, drug counseling, and mental health. All resources are provided to inmates before being released.

After, Charles Roltsch works with parolees on finding housing and jobs. All in hopes of helping them build a better quality of life.

“There’s only 300 decisions a day when you’re in prison, but when you’re out of prison, that’s something like 3000 decisions you have to make, so it can be very jarring mentally,” said Charles Roltsch.

According to the Citizens Research Council of Michigan, in 1998 the return to prison rate reached 45.7%. Now the Michigan Dept. of Corrections says that rate dropped to 22.7%. Or about 1 in 5. This declining rate impacts more than the individual.

“The reality is there’s probably a neighbor or somebody else in your community who’s going through this or their families going through this, and so, for the sake of strengthening your community, you should be rooting for their success,” said Kaminiski.

Society’s role is looking at them not as recidivist but as someone who is planting their roots and growing and not falling back into the system,” said Roltsch.

Kaminiski says there’s a connection between the return to prison rate and the crime rate. With fewer people re-offending, communities can also expect to see a lower overall crime rate.

According to the Department of Corrections, Michigan is among the top 10 states with the lowest return to prison rate.

Copyright 2024 WILX. All rights reserved.
Lowell Correctional Achieves Florida's First CEA Accreditation

Contributions by FDC and CEA Standards Commission

The Florida Department of Corrections’ (FDC) Bureau of Education is proud that Lowell Correctional Institution (CI), one of the nation’s largest female correctional institutions, recently became FDC’s first institution to have its Education Program accredited by the Correctional Education Association (CEA).

Lowell’s journey to CEA Accreditation began in the summer of 2022 at a CEA Accreditation workshop at the International CEA Conference held in Tampa, Florida. During the workshop, several FDC and CEA staff collaborated to develop a plan to bring Florida into the accreditation process. In February 2023, educational leadership from throughout the state participated in a CEA Accreditation Training presented by the CEA Standards Commission at the Florida Women’s Reception Center in Ocala, Florida.

Lowell’s Correctional Program Administrator (CPA), Dr. David Kuehl, accepted the challenge of leading Lowell’s efforts to become the first education program in Florida to be CEA accredited. This was especially noteworthy considering Lowell CI’s distinction of including every mission available for females housed by FDC: general population, restrictive housing, youthful offenders, incentivized programming, death row, and work camp. FDC Leadership was confident in Dr. Kuehl’s ability to lead the institution to full accreditation as he approached the challenge with an “If Lowell can do it, any institution can do it, too” attitude.

During the following months, the Lowell team gathered data, supporting documents, and policies for the 61 qualitative CEA Standards for Correctional Education Programs in Adult Institutions. Bureau of Education Chief Gwen Brock, Region 3 CPA Dr. Cathy Tapley, and CPA Dr. Kuehl traveled to the February 2023 CEA Forum in New Orleans, LA, and met with CEA Standards Commissioners. A formal plan was agreed upon for a pre-audit in the fall and the final audit in November 2023.

Lowell and FDC were fully engaged, and all efforts were being made to document FDC policies and procedures and showcase the quality education programs to bring accreditation to the Department and Lowell. It was an intense learning period, but the hard work paid off. In November 2023, Lowell CI underwent Florida’s first CEA Accreditation audit.

In April 2024, Lowell CI received recognition and accreditation certificates at the CEA Forum in Addison, TX, becoming the first CEA accredited FDC institution. On stage to receive this honor were Director of Programs and Re-Entry Patrick Mahoney, Bureau of Education Chief Gwen Brock, Lowell CI Warden Leslie Pippin, Region 3 CPA Dr. Cathy Tapley, and Lowell CI CPA Dr. David Kuehl. Working in an accredited school is a source of pride. In recognition of their commitment, professionalism, and quality instruction for their students, all Lowell education staff have received “CEA Accredited” pins. During the pinning of the teachers, education supervisors, education support staff, and Placement and Transition Specialists, the Warden of Lowell CI acknowledged all educational staff members. They were congratulated by the Lowell Administration one at a time as their name, title, and contribution to the educational process were read aloud. What an excellent way to recognize the education department for a job well done!
Lowell Correctional Achieves Florida's First CEA Accreditation

As FDC continues its journey to statewide CEA Accreditation, the next step is to add five institutions to the list to become accredited by June 2024: Baker Re-Entry Center, Charlotte CI, Desoto CI, Holmes CI, and Lancaster CI. Dr. Kuehl is working with the leadership of FDC and these facilities to ensure the best possible collection of policy and procedure documentation and presentation of instructional programs for successful audit experiences.

FDC is proud to be part of the CEA Accreditation process and looks forward to expanding CEA Accreditation statewide.

FDC Accreditation Recognition April 2024 - Dr. David Kuehl, Warden Leslie Pippen, Bureau Chief Gwen Brock, Dr. Cathy Tapley, Director Patrick Mahoney, CEA Commissioner Constance Nealon, CEA President Heather Gay, CEA Exec. Director Peggy Kaiser
**Ex-offender Portal**
Find free, online resources to help individuals move past a criminal record including tips and information to help search, apply, and begin a new job.

**Reentry Portal**
Career, training, and job search resources for use inside a correctional institution or other secure facility without internet connection.

Email info@CareerOneStop.org with questions or information on how to deploy this portal

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment & Training Administration
Welcome to Our Newest Members!

February - April

Alaska

Heidi Olson
Douglas Gordon

Arkansas

Elma Gatewood
Rachel Hawkins
Edwina Mosby

Arizona

JoLaunda Rodriguez
Jennifer McLaughlin
Laura Smith
Ryan Schrenk
Dane Valdivia
Sherry Johnston
Samatha McCullough
Heather Tyler

California

Joseph Heuring
David Navarro
April Spikener
Nicole Crosby
Lorraine M Trombino
Jacob Rule
Lisa McCarty
Karla Lechuga

Colorado

Taylor Fallik
Ved Price

Connecticut

Marnie Lourenco
Matt Connell

District of Columbia

Joseph Plese

Delaware

Sydney Fisher

Florida

Jon Reed
Bradley Janowski
Patrick Mahoney
Jenna Colvin
Sherri Jackson
Christopher Dang
Marla Albertie
Leslee Pippin
Silvana Heppner
Thomasina Hurtt
Cindy Keys
Janet Rivera
Isiah Sledge

Georgia

Autumn Whitworth
Matthew Scott

Illinois

Karen Swanson

Indiana

Mike Thombleson
Stacey King
Katie Walton
Hugh McLeish

Kansas

Richard Jones
Andrea Black
Sherry Watkins
Jeanette Libal
Lori Hamilton
Dave Mullins

James Herren
Martin DeVader
LaDonna Torrey
Cindy Rowland
Chaz Havens
JW Patterson
Christy Spena
Tess Yurik

Louisiana

Camila Gonzalez
Donovan Lagrange

Massachusetts

Sherri Travers
Hilary Binda
Rebecca Lawrence
Lisa Millwood
Ashley Tutera
Caren Harrington
Marion Brown

Maryland

Michael Hayes
Sohn A Butts

Michigan

Lisa Fellows
Eileen Cannon
James Allis
Mike Snyder

Minnesota

Jenna Dreier

Missouri

Kelly Howery
Michelle Workman

Montana

Robert Abreu

Micah Umphrey
McKenna Stefalo

Nebraska

Scott English

New Hampshire

Gregory Magoon

Nevada

Daniel Gonzales

New York

Javier Rivera DeBruin
Sue Schmitz
Kayla James

Ohio

Matthew Oatley
Adriane Cole
Stephanie Ciesla
Maria Kibele
Michael Jackson
Shawn Coder
Edwin Ricker
Billie Conrad
Betsy Hauck

Oklahoma

Ramona Curtis

Oregon

Eric Sawyer
Aundrea Majewski
Izzy Lefebvre
Michelle Coxe
Ben Sharvey
Sandra Staklis
Shalee Hodgson
Ryan McCarthy
Erin Creech
Welcome to Our Newest Members!

Oregon
Doug Dalton
Gabrielle Headings
Patty Coble
Jacqueline Alvarado
David Shine
Deleena Saechao
Valerie Jackson
Christine Otto
Freya Kniaz
Daniel Carter
Kim Pohl
Karie Will
Ken Jerin
Belinda Pascual
Katherine Baggett
Ed Hensley
David Regal
Benjamin Molin
Thomas Joseph
Jaime Clarke
Linda Simpson
Tony Matias
Brianna Garcia
Alex Gaston
Debra Kitchin
Adam Whalen
Donna Lewelling
Michael Conn
Deborah Arthur

Enrique Rivera
Nahlee Suvanvej
Samuel Wilson
Lisa Regan-Vienop
Pennsylvania
Darren Hack
Robert Burkett
Monica Morgan
Shannon Lindholm
Zachary Carpinello
Jacob Greer
John Leone
Brandon Mytrysak
Melissa Pease
Daniel Plowman
Daniel Tenerowicz
Steve Thomas
Darryl Byers-Robinson
John Noey
Russell Wintersteen
Melvin Alexander
Susan Williams
Casey Blair
Jane Powell
Nikki Werttz
William Reese
Dale Causer
Daniel Skiles
Adam Wheeler
Neil McConnell
Dawn Harper
Matthew Mathias
Jason Vello

Rhode Island
Kelley Tinaro

South Carolina
Casey O'Donnell-Chavis

Texas
Valerie Catchings
Patricia Webb
Angela Payne
Jesus Mercado
Monica Stansberry
Tarsha Williams
Rachael Berhe
Theresa Rappaport
Leticia Serna
Megan Hart
Jeremy Thomas
Simon Solis
Patricia Kelley
Leland Moore
Debra Coulliette
Kristin Tucker
Vanessa Dotson

Utah
Christopher Sullivan

Virginia
Joe Dellinger

Washington
Shauna Hammond
Warren Davis
Linda Saunders
Gita Mahalaxmi Bangera
Maria Ethier
Manda Edwards
Joanne Munroe
Kelly Robertson

Wisconsin
Laura Horst
Tanner Velden
Jason Fenske
John Michels
Lisa Mlodzik
Lucas Richards
David Damkot
Sue Ellingham
Cynthia Holzman
CEA Annual Conference & Training Event 2024

July 28-31

“Education In Corrections
The Heart of Rehabilitation”
SAVE THE DATE

Region 1 CEA Conference
September 25, 26 & 27, 2024
Hotel 1620 | Plymouth, MA

If you are interested in being a vendor or presenter, please reach out to:

Meghan Crowley, Conference Chairperson
Meghan.Crowley@doc.state.ma.us

Kevin Kavanaugh, CEA Region 1 Director
region1@ceanational.org
INMATES WHO PARTICIPATE IN CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS HAD 43% LOWER ODDS OF RECIDIVATING THAN THOSE WHO DID NOT.

“Evaluating the Effectiveness of Correctional Education”
by RAND Corporation

Heavy equipment operators are in high demand. States can reduce recidivism by training inmates how to operate heavy equipment and fill these in-demand jobs using cost-effective, easy-to-use and reliable Cat® Simulators with authentic Cat controls. Learners practice skills that transfer to real-world, good paying jobs.

CAT® SIMULATORS

learn@catsimulators.com
1.309.266.2640
www.catsimulators.com
Ashland University believes in the power of a second chance. We’ve offered higher education programs to justice-involved individuals since 1964. We also want to help people who were formerly incarcerated complete a degree, to help them create a pathway to a brighter future.

**PROGRAMS**

AU offers associate degrees in business and general studies, along with five bachelor’s degrees:

- Business Administration
- Communication Studies
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Multidisciplinary Studies
- Organizational Leadership & Development

**SUPPORT**

We provide extra support for these students, from FAFSA assistance to orientation, advising and success coaching to help them succeed.

**REACH OUT TODAY**

If you’d like to recommend individuals for this program, please contact Chris Schwan in Admissions at 419-207-4580 or cschwan@ashland.edu
2023-2024 Executive Board

President-elect
Andrea Buttross
presidentelect@ceanational.org

President
Heather Gay
president@ceanational.org

Vice President
Susan McKee
vicepresident@ceanational.org

Treasurer
Denise Justice
treasurer@ceanational.org

Secretary
Jody Burtt
secretary@ceanational.org

Executive Director
Peggy Kaiser
(443) 537-8102
pkaiser@ceanational.org

Executive Assistant
Kiara Graham
(443) 459-3080
kwilson@ceanational.org

International Representative
Leban Ayiro
internationalrep@ceanational.org

Council of Directors Representative
Kristina Hartman
directorsrep@ceanational.org

Juvenile Justice Representative
Rhea Bowman
juvenilejustice@ceanational.org

Standards Commission Chair
Connie Nealon
commission@ceanational.org

Publications
John Dowdell
publications@ceanational.org

National Partnership of Juvenile Services Representative
Randall Farmer
NPJSrepresentative@ceanational.org

Regional Representative
Leban Ayiro
internationalrep@ceanational.org

Region II Director
Tina Cameron
region2@ceanational.org

Region III Director
Matthew Denman
region3@ceanational.org

Region IV Director
Michelle Pfaff
region4@ceanational.org

Region V Director
Charles Bell
region5@ceanational.org

Region VI Director
Tracie Hightower
region6@ceanational.org

Region VII Director
Michael Deiana
region7@ceanational.org

Region VIII Director
Julie Orange
region8@ceanational.org

2023-2024 Standards Commission

Connie Nealon
Chairperson
commission@ceanational.org

Rhea Bowman
juvenilejustice@ceanational.org

Norris Williams
biker4life628@yahoo.com

Peggy Kaiser
pkaiser@ceanational.org

Kiara Graham
kwilson@ceanational.org

Fran Warsing
fwarsing.cea@gmail.com

Andrea Buttross
presidentelect@ceanational.org

Belle Bodell
bodellb@michigan.gov

Terri Fazio
tfazio1340@gmail.com

Lisa McGlone
lisaawilliams@hotmail.com
In This Issue:

1. A Message from our President...
2. 78th CEA International & Training Event Registration
3. 2024 CEA National & Regional Board Election Results
4. Scholarships are Back!
5. CEA Accreditation Auditor Training
6. Michigan has 2nd Lowest Return to Prison in State
7. Lowell Correctional Achieves Florida’s First CEA Accreditation
8. Career One Stop Ad
9. Welcome to Our Newest Members!
10. Save the Date!
11. CAT Simulators Ad
12. Ashland University Ad
13. 2023-2024 Executive Board/Standards Commission

National Office address: CEA
P.O. Box 14429
Norfolk, VA 23518

Or

CEA
2461 E Little Creek Rd #14429
Norfolk, VA 23518

(Packages/boxes sent to this address)

Office staff:
Peggy A. Kaiser
Executive Director
443-537-8102

Kiara A. Graham
Executive Assistant
443-459-3080

CEA News and Notes is published quarterly with issues being distributed to all members in February, May, September, and December. All issues are posted on the CEA website, www.ceanational.org. Articles are always encouraged and should generally be 500 words or less. All contributions are subject to editing for space and clarity. Contributions should be sent to Peggy Kaiser, pkaiser@ceanational.org.

CEA News and Notes accepts full and half-page advertisements. For deadlines and advertising rates, please contact CEA. E-mail: pkaiser@ceanational.org or kwilson@ceanational.org

Web: www.ceanational.org
©2023 Correctional Education Association