

News & Notes

Correctional Education Association

"An International Organization" Volume 33 Number 1 January/April 2011

Executive Director's Report

By: Dr. Steve Steurer

Email: ssteurer@ceanational.org

The CEA Leadership Forum has the best line up ever of major speakers, training and workshop presentations. At the time of this writing US Secretary of Education, Arnie Duncan, is looking at his schedule as well. As usual, we are conducting both juvenile and adult strands of workshops. The GED Testing Service will provide a hands on experience with proposed new hardware and software applications for future GED tests. Nicole Chestang, Executive Director of GEDTS will be one of our luncheon speakers as well. The National Institute of Corrections will provide one day Offender Employment Specialist training. In addition, there are panels on future technology and software applications. Please see

more specifics in this newsletter or go to the CEA website for conference registration information.

I just returned from the American Correctional Association meeting in San Antonio where I attended the meetings of the Association of State Correctional Administrators. There are a lot of changes coming in corrections and no one has a crystal ball to predict exactly where things are headed. Two things impressed me, however. First, is the need for additional research on reentry. Everyone is doing reentry in one way or another but there is really little research on what works best. Second, is the need for better and more standard data collection in correctional education at all levels. While we have made the

case that correctional education generally reduces recidivism, we still don't know much about what programs or combinations of programs work best. CEA is working with Indiana University of Pennsylvania to develop the Correctional Data Repository and Information Clearinghouse to fill this gap.

At the federal level all bets are off right now regarding the direction of corrections and education funding. Until Congress sorts out what it will fund and for how much the Second Chance Act and recently passed adult education legislation will be on hold in regard to appropriations. CEA is working closely on Capitol Hill with all the other major correctional and educational associations to help Congress find its way.

Finally, CEA teamed with the
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Memorial to Ralph Kaplan

By: Dr. Steve Steurer, CEA Executive Director

Email: ssteurer@ceanational.org

Many of you knew Ralph Kaplan from his early work with the CEA website and several projects with CEA. His latest project is the Correctional Education On-

line Repository which we hope to launch soon.

I have known Ralph Kaplan for more than a decade. His fore-

sight and brilliance was always guiding light for the CEA Office and Board. Ralph had a terrific sense of what kind of technology and software was just around the corner and kept CEA up to date and ahead of the times. We will miss his sage guidance and even tempered personality. It

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Mom and Son Both Make Choices

By: Penny Richardson & Cindy Borden
Email: northstar@ekit.com

CEA is currently in the final year of a four-year research project measuring the impact of post-secondary education in almost 50 correctional facilities in seven states. A portion of that project measures outcomes of students who have been released. CEA's contractors, Cindy Borden and Penny Richardson of Northstar, are currently conducting post-release interviews of those students nationwide. Last week Northstar contacted a young man who had been released just twelve days earlier. We'll call him Steve. Here is his story (all names have been

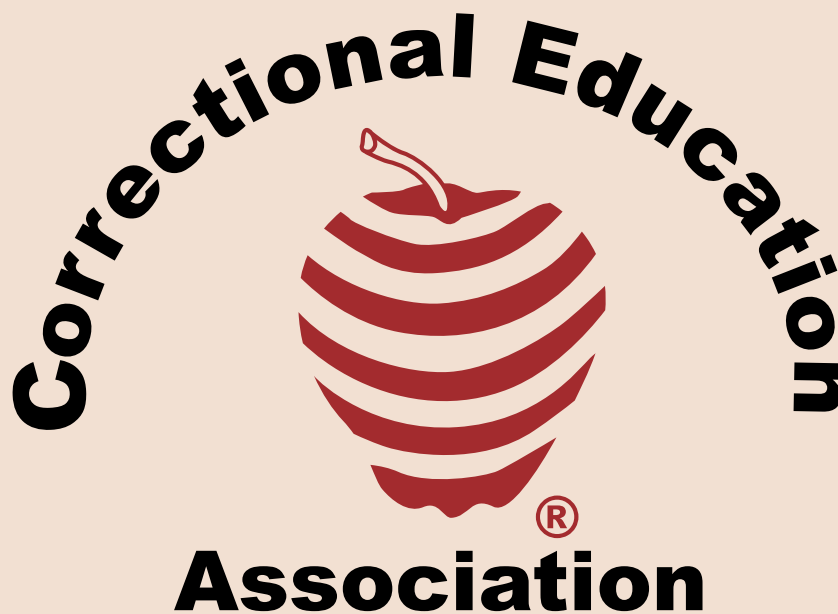
changed to protect the privacy of research participants):

When asked if he was going to continue in college, Steve answered, "Of course!" He said that he filled out his FAFSA form and all college enrollment applications months earlier while in prison and that he received a full Pell grant and is enrolled full-time in a local community college. "I take my Compass test January 4 and start classes January 10. I can't wait! People say to me, 'So ... 12 years. What are you doing now?' and I can say,

'I'm in college full time.' I'm really proud of that."

Steve said he'd been in prison since he was 19 years old. "My Mom stuck with me the entire time. In fact, let me tell you about her. She's 50 years old and has never had a driver's license. She lives in a very small town and has never needed one. When I told her my release date, she went down to the DMV and got her first driver's license. She scooped up my sister and said, 'I'm going to pick up my boy!' It ended up that they drove through a horrendous snow and ice storm and my sister said, 'Mom, I'll drive.' But Mom was determined and said, 'No, I got my license and I'm go-

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"Transforming Lives"

Membership

By: David Webb,
CEA Vice-President
Email: dwebb@ashland.edu

As 2011 begins, I have been reflecting on what it has meant to me to be a member of CEA. I have had many thoughts of the friends I have made and the friendships we have forged that will last a lifetime. I think of the many fun times I have shared with these friends and others I barely know. I smile at the thoughts of the countless hours spent laughing at the stories being told at a meal or in a hospitality room. I look back with angst at the long hours spent in board meetings and at some of the tough decisions that have had to be made in the best interest of CEA and its members. But I take pride in the fact that we have been able to keep CEA moving in a positive direction, with the leadership of Dr. Steve Steurer and the hard work of the CEA office staff, even in these difficult financial times and in the uncertain times of state budget cuts.

I know that being a member of CEA and participating in countless conferences and board meet-

ings has helped me develop into the leader and administrator I am today. I am very thankful for the many individuals and leaders of CEA who have shared their wisdom and insights with me throughout the last decade. Great people and leaders like Dr. Owen Modeland, Dr. Jerry McGlone, Denise Justice, Don Kiffin, Peggy Meyers, and many others. I hope to someday develop into the leader that these individuals have inspired me to try to become. I think of CEA members who have contributed so much to CEA in ways that can go unnoticed because they work behind the scenes like Jerry Bednarowski, John Dowdell, Steve Gallo-way, Ralph Kaplan, and countless others. Because of their hard work and dedication CEA members benefit from the parenting newsletter, a fantastic website, the North Carolina repository for teaching materials and numerous professional development offerings both on-line and at conferences. Ralph Kaplan will be remembered for his quiet leadership, dedication to CEA and the work we are trying to do, and hard work behind the scenes.

As I reflect, the other thing that comes to mind is the work CEA has done in several different states to keep correctional education moving forward by trying to help them avoid cuts by demonstrating and documenting the value of correctional education for our students today. Several examples come to mind including work in Maryland, California, Ohio, Illinois and others. The leadership of CEA, especially Dr. Steve Steurer and some of our past presidents, have written letters to legislators, encouraged members on the front lines and even testified before State Legislators regarding jobs and funding for correctional education. We haven't always been as successful as we would like, but the effort and support has always been there and, in my mind, will always be there.

I want to encourage you to make the most of your membership in CEA. Look to make new friends, take advantage of training and professional development opportunities at conferences or on-line, look for ways that you can get involved in your state chapter, in

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Clara Elizabeth Jackson Carter Foundation Award

By: Dr. Steve Steurer, CEA Executive Director
Email: ssteurer@ceanational.org

One year ago CEA was asked to administer a post secondary grant for \$25,000 to the Jesse Dunn Correctional Facility Connors College program in Oklahoma. All the grant money is

passed on to the program to pay for tuition and books. The staff who run the correctional education choose the inmates who are receive the "scholarships". The Carter Foundation has renewed its grant for 2011 with another

\$20,000 grant.

All this came about as a result of the book *Come On People* written by Bill Cosby and Alvin Poussaint. CEA would like to thank Dr. Poussaint for his continuing support.



Improving Education for Incarcerated Adults and Juveniles

Principal Investigator: Lois M. Davis, Ph.D.

RAND Corporation

Tel. 310-393-0411, ext. 7330; Email: lmdavis@rand.org

A large body of research shows that having a low level of education is a major risk factor for criminal behavior. To this end, the criminal justice system—at both the state and local level—provides many educational services to inmates during incarceration, with the goal of reducing recidivism by improving inmates' employment prospects when they return to their communities. Little, however, is known about how effective these programs are.

In support of The Second Chance Act of 2007—which identified correctional education as a high-priority area—the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice, has awarded a research grant to ***provide a comprehensive understanding of the current state of correctional education and where it is headed, which correctional education programs are effective, and how effective programs can be implemented across settings***. The grant was awarded to the RAND Corporation—a nationally recognized non-partisan, non-profit public policy think tank—and their partner, the Correctional Education Association (CEA), a non-profit professional association serving educators and administrators who provide services to students in correctional settings.

The project's goal is to improve correctional education and its delivery by providing objective, empirical evidence about the efficacy of different programs and their curricular components. To accomplish this goal, we will work closely with correctional education policymakers, experts, administrators, educators, and academic researchers to understand how correctional education is being provided across the United States and the unique challenges involved in doing so and how correctional education is adapting in response to changing budgetary constraints, political pressures, and emerging technologies. Our project will include both a systematic scientific review of research on existing programs and a series of in-depth case studies of new and innovative programs. Our work will culminate in a series of publications, including a website designed specifically for practitioners, that will provide information about the range of correctional education programs and strategies available and rate their effectiveness; identify which program components are most closely associated with positive outcomes; highlight innovative programs and approaches; and provide guidance on how to develop and administer high-quality education in a correctional setting.

This project is being led by Dr. Lois Davis (Principal Investigator) and Drs. Robert Bozick and Jessica Saunders (Co-Principal Investigators) of the RAND Corporation.

Memorial continued from page 1

was Ralph who developed and created the first CEA webpage. He was the brains behind the National Institute for Literacy Correctional Education webpage and managed all of our listserves for years, until his recent death in December.

Ralph was one of the calmest people that I have even known. While many others were running around like chickens with their heads cut off he would quietly

address the situation and give wise and appropriate advice. He just understood that anger and off-the-cuff emotional responses did not help solve the problem. I hope to have learned some of his lessons.

Many of us knew Ralph had a wide range of interests, but because he was also a fairly private man, who did not flaunt his talents I was surprised to learn about some of his wide-ranging interests from a recent con-

versation with his brother Joel. Besides being a professional student, with a Ph.D. and other graduate degrees, he was also a pilot and a woodworker. He had many friends in different hobbies and clubs that few people knew about them.

The CEA Board will discuss his legacy at the March CEA Board meeting in Annapolis and try to find a way to keep his legacy alive.

President's News and Notes

By: Dr. Don Kiffin, CEA President
Email: don.kiffin@doc.state.ok.us

It really is so hard to say goodbye to yesterday. We witnessed the yesterdays of 2010, and CEA's most heartbreaking moment was the loss of a champion. Quietly, our unheralded champion repeatedly seized opportunities in the midst of countless challenges that were presented in his life. But often, the opportunities presented and the challenges undertaken served a single, exclusive, albeit exceptional purpose. That is, our champion, without a showy display, advance acclaim, or fanfare skillfully and masterfully completed many of his voluntary tasks not for himself but rather to help others. In my most humble opinion, our champion knew that service to others is the pivotal ingredient for leadership.

Oh yes, he was truly a great leader. Without a doubt, our champion devoted himself to a positive purpose. Without a doubt,

our champion turned weaknesses into strengths. Without a doubt, our champion exerted a kind of calm discipline to get the job done. Without a doubt, our champion used his gifts to the fullest extent. Last, but surely not least, our champion strived for excellence each and every day.

Often, we wonder why things happen as they do. We contemplate on why the good seems to be snatched prematurely away from us. But at some point within the innermost corners of our mind, we realize that the tomorrows are not promised to any of us and the yesterdays that many of us had taken for granted were truly awesome gifts.

Accordingly, our champion has given us many gifts. And, as we try to further understand the complexities of life, I would like to thank our champion, our colleague, and to many, our friend for his passion, his enduring love

for CEA, and for his immeasurable gifts.

I give to you for a while a child of mine God said, For you to love him while he lives and to mourn him when he's dead. It may be until he is just two years old or perhaps 93. But will you, until I call him back, take care of him for me?

He will bring his charm to gladden you and his stay may be brief, But you will always have his fondest memories as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise that he will stay long since all from earth returns. But there are important lessons taught down there I want this child to learn.

I looked the whole wide world over in search of teachers true And from the throngs that crowd life's busiest lanes I have selected you.

Now, will you give him all your love, nor think the labor vain, Nor hate me when I come to call to take him back again.

God marveled when his parents said "Dear Lord, thy will be

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Education And Training Resources

The graphic for the CEA Media Drive advertisement shows a sleek, black and silver external hard drive on a blue gradient background with a grid pattern. To the right of the drive, the text reads: "Introducing: CEA Media Drive" in large, bold, white letters, followed by "Maximize Your Education Resource Budget!" in a slightly smaller, bold, white font.

Our new "CEA Media Drive" will help your classroom stand out! Imagine teaching a program with everything at your fingertips. Lesson plans, video lessons and Powerpoint slides. Just open a folder on the drive and you're ready to get started! CEA and NIC have partnered to bring you the best of 21st Century inmate educational and staff training programming in a secure, computer hard drive that transcends typical correctional institution policies restricting internet access

Programs

Re-Entry:

1. Staff Supervision Training For Corrections Professionals.
2. Building Agency Success: Developing An Effective FTO/OJT Training Program
3. Locking Up H1N1: CDC Criminal Justice Join Forces
4. From The Battlefield To The Homefront: Welcoming Employees Back To Work
5. PMR: Public & Media Relations And Workforce Development.
6. Women And Work: Gender Responsivity And Workforce Development.
7. Effective Training Design And Development
8. Innovative Reentry Strategies: The Emerging Role Of Correctional Industries
9. Corrections Budget In Free Fall: Finding Opportunities In Turbulent Times
10. Essential Skills For New Supervisors
11. No More "My Way Or The Highway" Embracing the 21st Century Workforce

Staff Training:

1. Thinking for a Change (NIC)
2. The Path To Success - Bob Dunwoody
3. Merging Two Worlds - AZ Dept. Of Education
4. Pam Hogan Productions - including Interpersonal relationship, Communicating responsibly, money management, applying for jobs in the the technology age and more.
5. Parenting From The Inside.
6. MRSA - What You Need To Know
7. AVON Foundation - Breast Cancer Awareness
8. Public Health Training Network
9. Women And Tobacco - CDC
10. You Can Quit - Rod Hickman
11. Smokeless Not Harmless

For More Information Contact CEA At 800-783-1232
or ssteuer@ceanational.com

CEA RECOGNIZES AWARD RECIPIENTS

By : Maureen Steffen, Awards Committee Chair

Email: msteffen@bop.gov

On Monday of the International Conference, the Awards Luncheon was held to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of correctional education. Dr. Mary Parker, Professor of Criminal Justice at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock was the Keynote Speaker for the event.

Correctional Education Advocate Award

This is CEA's newest award and is presented to someone who is supportive of correctional education, although not necessarily involved in the everyday educational process. This year's award recipient is Walter McFarlane, retired Superintendent for the Department of Correctional Education in the state of Virginia. During his tenure, Mr. McFarlane was a visionary leader who

took a good agency and led it to a position of national prominence. Norris Williams, Region II Director, accepted the award on his behalf.

Executive Director's Commendation Award

Dr. Stephen Steurer, CEA Executive Director, presented this year's Executive Director's Commendation Award to Dr. Murray Ellison. Dr. Ellison received the award for his work as Chair of the President's Council and Special Interest Groups.

President's Award

President Denise Justice selected John Dowdell for the President's Award. Mr. Dowdell, Co-Editor for the Journal of Correctional Education, was recognized for this work as well as his involvement in several projects to include the companion workbook

to "Come On, People", the CEA Media Drive, and the NCLOR online resource.

Life Time Achievement Award

This is the highest award offered by CEA. The award honors an individual's longevity within the profession because they provided leadership, vision, and momentum toward excellence. This year's winner is Dr. Owen Modeland of Oklahoma. Dr. Modeland's educational career spans more than 65 years beginning as a teacher when he was seventeen years of age. The following year, he became principal in the same Kansas school system. While serving as teacher and administrator, he pursued his college education. For 24 years, he served as teacher, principal, and superintendent in Kansas schools. Dr.

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Mom & Son continued from page 2

ing to pick up my boy.' She drove all the way to the prison, which is a long ways for her, and all the way back. I'm living with her now hoping to pay back some of those 12 years."

When asked if he felt the college classes he took in prison were helpful to him, Steve responded, "Oh, yeah! Let me tell you how many ways! First the atmosphere they create in the prison is amazing. Then they taught me time

management, social skills, how to problem-solve, all kinds of things. I used to be late for everything and had no sense of how to get things done. Now I think, 'OK, I've got to do one, two, and three and here's how I'm going to do them.' They made all the difference. I was a mess when I went to prison. It's the best thing that ever happened to me."

He also discussed some of the choices he made in prison. "Well, in there," he said. "it's all about

choices. I chose to hang out with older guys, guys who had lots of time to do, guys who were interested in school. I made choices."

Often we first connect with parents or grandparents when trying to find released students. This Mom in particular, after she understood who we were and why we wanted to speak with her son, was happy to give us his cell phone number. She's thrilled to have her boy back.

2010 - 2011 CEA Executive Board

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Modeland received his doctorate from Oklahoma University and became a professor at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, where he remained for 20 years, serving as professor of education and psychology, Chairman of the Education Department, and Director of Teacher Education. Dr. Modeland joined the Oklahoma Department of Corrections as the

Superintendent of Schools in October 1990. His contributions to CEA at the state, regional, and national level are numerous. Most recently, 2006 – 2008, he served as our National President.

Lastly, scholarship recipients for this year include Judy Burkle, Maria Pirro, and Ernestina Titone. All were awarded “free” registration for the conference.

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done” And all the joy this child will bring the risk of grief will surely run.

We shelter him with tenderness. We love him as we may.

And all the happiness we have come to know our gratefulness will always be here to stay.

But if the angels call him back much, much sooner than we had planned. We must brave the bitter grief we share and try to understand.

So, as we travel deeper into this

new year and say our tearful goodbyes to the yesterdays, our champion would want the CEA family to continue to use our gifts to educate the uneducated, to lift up the downtrodden, and to reach out and touch somebody’s hand in order to make this world a better place if we can. Our champion in life, Mr. Ralph Kaplan, did these things remarkably well and his legacy will continue to and forever touch CEA since he graciously named our organization as a beneficiary of his estate.

Membership continued from pg. 5

your region or at the national level, and share your thoughts and opinions with the national office and the board of directors on what CEA can do to help make your professional life better and to strengthen you as a leader. What you get out of CEA will be directly related to the effort you are willing to put into CEA and helping this professional organization grow.

In the future, I am hoping to spotlight some of the CEA members who are doing great things. Therefore, please send me an e-mail and let me know what you or one of your colleagues are doing to benefit your students, your institution, or CEA in general. Have a great year!!

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Rand Corporation and won a major federal Second Chance Act grant to identify best practices in adult and juvenile correctional education. CEA and Rand will be contacting all state administrators about the programs that they consider the best in academic, vocational, life skills/reentry and juvenile education. If you want more information please look on the CEA Website for the Rand-CEA Best Practices announcement.

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It's time to register for the 66th Annual CEA Conference, Soaring to New Heights, **July 17-20, 2011**. Conference participants will be coming from throughout the United States and several other countries. The conference planning committee is working hard to make the conference an excellent professional development opportunity for attendees.

To make a reservation please call the hotels below directly (these rates are valid until June 22nd):
Charleston Marriott Town Center – 1-800-228-9290 – Conference Rate: \$95.00 for all rooms

Embassy Suites Hotel – 1-304-347-8700 – Conference Rate: \$129.00