Peggy Kaiser Named New DAI Education Director

In an email sent on May 2, 2018, Director of Program Services for the Division of Adult Institutions Autumn Lacy announced that Peggy Kaiser has been hired as the new DAI – Central Office Education Director.

In the email Autumn notes, “Since May 2007, Peggy Kaiser was the Education Director for Adult Basic Education (ABE) for the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS). In that position, she provided leadership and technical assistance to ABE programming in Wisconsin’s 16 technical colleges and several county jails as well as monitored over $5 million in federal grant funds. Prior to that appointment, Peggy worked 18 years for the Wisconsin Department of Corrections with nine of those years teaching at both FLCI and CCI. Her last position was at Stanley Correctional Institution as their Education Director.”

“Peggy has been a strong supporter of Correctional Education for over 25 years. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Supervision both from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. In 2007, she was recognized by First Lady Jessica Doyle by presenting her the Wisconsin Literacy Advocate of the Year award given out annually by Wisconsin Literacy, Inc. In the same year, Governor Doyle awarded Peggy the Virginia Hart Award which is given annually to a woman in Wisconsin State government for her outstanding service and dedication.”

“Peggy will begin working in central office on May 14th. We are very excited to welcome Peggy back to the Division of Adult Institutions, where I am confident that her knowledge and experience will help us continue to move our educational and vocational initiatives forward.”
Education and Reentry:  
2018 Travels with Fair Shake

From its humble beginning in 2008 in Westby, Wisconsin, Fair Shake has grown to become one of the one of the premier resources for currently and formerly incarcerated individuals in the nation.

From its founding, Fair Shake has been an innovative new website focused on successful prisoner reentry nationwide. Through an interactive blend of electronic tools, reentry awareness, and community building; Fair Shake encourages all stakeholders to participate in the successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated people back into society.

Each year founder and executive director Sue Kastensen has seized upon opportunities to present information about Fair Shake’s web- and software-based reentry resource center to a variety of audiences. Sue has talked with inmates, educators, corrections staff and administrators, citizens and students; and she learned how Fair Shake’s information and materials have been received, how they are being utilized, and what information and materials people would like to see Fair Shake provide in the future.

Focusing on providing information for all stakeholders (former felons, families and friends, employers, property managers, communities and corrections), the Fair Shake Resource Directory has grown to over 14,500 entries and 350 Reentry Guides. Former felons can access a virtual office from any computer. In addition to email, data storage and a personal resource directory, members can create a web page to use as a supplement to employment or housing applications. Instructional tutorials are also available.

The Fair Shake website is used by an average of 2200 visitors each month and the software (the mirror-image of the website) is used by countless incarcerated people in approximately 100 institutions.

As a result of Sue Kastensen’s and Fair Shake’s leadership and tireless work to remove barriers to a second chance for those with a criminal record, in April 2016, the White House recognized Sue as one of ten individuals from across the country as “White House Champions of Change for Expanding Fair Chance Opportunities.”

The CEA-W News Review is published by the members of the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin Chapter. The opinions herein are entirely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the executive officers, the Department of Corrections, or the body as a whole.

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.

Articles for publication may be submitted to the CEA-W News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com
Through all of this growth, Fair Shake has remained headquartered in Westby, Wisconsin . . . and all of these resources have remained free because Fair Shake is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that is supported by donors. The Fair Shake donor group is comprised of 83 incarcerated donors and 42 non-incarcerated donors and Sue, donating the time and the space to hold the reentry community center together.

In 2018 Sue has continued her travels and has issued the following report:

Education and Reentry Round Table at the Capital
On Monday, February 26th, approximately 150 people attended a packed 4-hour mini-conference in the Senate Visitor Center at the Capitol in Washington, DC. Hosted by the Office of Senator Brian Schatz (D-HI), sponsored by CURE National, and organized by Steve Steurer (CURE National) with the help of John Linton (Correctional Education Association), Frank Martin (World Possible), Michelle Tolbert (RTI) and Brian Walsh (Washington Community and Technical Colleges), those fortunate enough to get into the Expanding Education and Reentry Programs in Prisons with Technology and Digital Resources presentation learned about the latest education initiatives, advancements in technology tools and the data that demonstrates the benefits of investing in education. Attendees also heard testimonials from a variety of stakeholders and learned about the plethora of reentry support available online, and in software format, for free.

On Tuesday, a few of the presenters, along with Steurer, Linton, Martin and Walsh, had an opportunity to meet with administrators and IT at the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP). The BOP confirmed their interest in strengthening their education department and stated they would be investing time to weigh a variety of content delivery options such as tablets, chrome books and their own zero-client system.

Reentry Week in Pennsylvania
For the third year in a row, Fair Shake engaged with state and federal prisons in Pennsylvania to recognize Reentry Week, initiated by the Obama Administration in 2016. This year was slightly different because Fair Shake started the week in a BOP facility in Michigan, presenting Fair Shake to the engaging members of the Life Connections Program. Two Pennsylvania state prisons, SCI Mercer and SCI Retreat, hosted large and well-attended reentry events.

The Federal Complex at Allenwood again offered the opportunity for Fair Shake to present in the penitentiary as well as in the medium security institution, and asked me to be the keynote speaker at the Volunteer Banquet. The keynote talk was fairly easy to write since the value of volunteers and educators can never be overstated or over-celebrated!

New states, new software release
Fair Shake will be working with the BOP to bolster the existing veteran’s pages with forms and additional links to connect veterans in state and federal prisons around the country to the support they need to find success after their sentence. The new information will be included in the upcoming software release.

The free reentry software is now being utilized in many states around the country; most recently picked up by West Virginia (following the RoundTable conference) and Wyoming. The Wyoming DOC shared a resource list which will be incorporated in the next edition of the free software. This means that the resources that were shared will be available to Wyoming DOC viewers, and also Wyoming residents incarcerated throughout the BOP or in other states that utilize the free software. Please consider sharing resources to grow the directory for everyone’s benefit!

The next release of the Fair Shake free reentry software application will be available in June. If you would like to find out more about Fair Shake, please visit www.fairshake.net/learn-more/ or contact Sue Kastensen at sue@fairshake.net.
CEA Leadership Forum Evaluations: “Look Pretty Darn Good!”

The evaluations of the 2018 CEA International Leadership Forum are in and according to CEA Treasurer Denise Justice, “Our results look pretty darn good!”

The Wisconsin Chapter of CEA hosted the 2018 CEA International Leadership Forum on March 18-20, 2018, at the Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor’s Club. Over 100 Forum attendees completed the on-line Survey Monkey with 47% giving an Overall Conference Evaluation a rating of Excellent, 39% a rating of Very Good and 15% a rating of Good. No one gave an Overall Conference Evaluation of Fair or Poor.

In addition to rating the Forum speakers and program, hotel services, and food; Forum attendees were asked to comment on:
  - What you liked best?
  - What you liked least?
  - Suggestions for future workshops
  - Suggestions for special events
  - What we can do better?
  - What did you like about the conference?
  - Do you have any suggestions for sale items?

The complete evaluation results and individual comments made to these questions may be found at https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-G7FCGKYLL.

Here is a sampling of the responses to some of the evaluation questions:

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How to Establish a County Jail Library

At the 2018 CEA International Leadership Forum held in Madison on March 18-20, I was asked by Renee Dahman, a Moraine Park Technical College instructor who works at the Washington County Jail, for information on establishing a library in her jail. Having little information on county jail libraries, I told her that I would survey my county jail educators email list for input.

I sent this list of questions to my email list:

*If you have a library in your county jail and would like to share information, please send me information on the following:*

- Who gave the permission establish a library?
- Who is in charge of supervising the library services?
- How were the library books obtained (donations, an outside library, purchased with jail funds)?
- Does the library have other materials in addition to books?
- Where are the materials housed?
- How do inmates access the library materials?
- What is the process for checking out books?
- Who is responsible for checking out books and maintaining the library?

The response I received was immediate and extensive. I received information from 15 county jails. I compiled the information into a single document. When finalized, I sent the document to my county jail educators email list. The document included the names and email addresses of the people who responded to the questionnaire so the county jail instructors could contact each other to ask for further details and share information.

If you would like to read the results of the survey, but did not receive the email, you may contact me at jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com and I will email the results to you.

Call for Presentations

73rd CEA International Conference & Training Event
August 26-29, 2018
Sheraton Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana

You are cordially invited to submit a workshop proposal for the Correctional Education Association International Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, August 26-29, 2018. The Conference is seeking professionals who can share their expertise and experience with correctional educators in an enlightening and stimulating fashion. All sessions are set for 75 minutes. This is your opportunity to share information about your program or services with correctional professionals from around the world! To submit a proposal, go to www.ceanational.org and click on “Conferences.”

To join CEA go to: www.ceanational.org
Project Proven Helps those in Criminal Justice System

Kemesha Harper’s future is bright. The La Crosse woman is on track to graduate from Western Technical College in La Crosse this spring with a degree in human services. She wants to work with at-risk youth. But what makes her story remarkable are the details of her life leading to her future.

Harper is a black single mother, living in public housing, with six operating-while-intoxicated arrests and various stays in the La Crosse County Jail. “There was a point in my life where everything was going wrong,” she told Wisconsin Public Radio. “At the time I was working at a call center, and I absolutely hated going to work every day, and I was battling addiction. I knew that I wanted to make a change.”

Enter Project Proven, a program that has existed and been paid for by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) since 2013. The program, started by Western Technical College and the La Crosse County Jail, is one of three DOE pilot programs throughout the country used to provide jobs and schooling to people who’ve been incarcerated.

Project Proven is a voluntary program for any adult inmate. Referrals are made by the corrections and court systems. Classes are held at the jail on topics like jobs, career planning and substance abuse. In the program’s first five years, about 1,000 inmates have received services. The success rate is running at about 30 percent.

The main partnership is between Western Technical College and the La Crosse County jail, but various other organizations are also helping inmates. The La Crosse program is being offered to inmates in Trempealeau and Monroe counties. Project Proven has helped inmates in the three counties with things like taking basic adult education courses, obtaining a GED, or taking college courses, said Project Proven Manager Tonya Van Tol.

Now, the La Crosse chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) is trying to raise $12,000 to start an endowment fund that would provide $2,000 in annual scholarship money that could be used by people of color who are in jail and join Project Proven. If the endowment is successful, it would be the first time Project Proven had money specifically designated to help minorities.

“If you just choose a comfortable life and you only worry about yourself, you don’t create the community that we really need to create,” said La Crosse SURJ member Pat Lunney. “Wisconsin has the largest percentage of African-American men incarcerated in the country. La Crosse is no different to that.”

Of the 878 people who were booked for an alleged crime between February and December 2017, 76 percent were white and 19 percent were black, said Tonya Van Tol, a manager for Project Proven, citing La Crosse County Jail statistics. She said the most recent La Crosse County statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau show 92 percent of the population is white and 1.5 percent is black. She said it’s time the program started working to help people of color who have been incarcerated find a better life.

“The money that the SURJ donors are looking at supporting us with would help with things like rent, deposits, child care assistance, transportation, work boots, work clothes, interview clothes,” Van Tol said. “Small, simple things that really can stand in people’s way and be major barriers for them.”

Harper received a different scholarship through Project Proven last summer that helped her pay her rent and other bills she had. “These things are so very important,” she said. “I work two part-time jobs, I have an internship and I’m a full-time student. The help is definitely appreciated.”

by: John Davis
Wisconsin Public Radio
CEA-Wisconsin
2018 Scholarship Program

Again this year CEA-Wisconsin will award a $1,000 scholarship to a CEA-Wisconsin member or a member’s spouse or dependent.

Purpose: The CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Award Program is designed to assist CEA-W members or their spouses/dependents that are pursuing a degree at an accredited university or technical college.

Scholarships Details: CEA-Wisconsin awards a scholarship of $1,000. The scholarship will be awarded to a CEA-W member who is furthering his/her education in the education or library services field or a CEA-W member’s spouse or dependent who is pursuing a university or technical college degree in any field. The recipient must provide verification of enrollment in an accredited university or technical college.

Eligibility:
☑ Applicant must be a current CEA-W member, member’s spouse, or member’s dependent.
☑ Applicant must be pursuing (full or part-time) a graduate, undergraduate, or technical degree at an accredited university or technical college.
☑ Applicant must be entering his/her freshman, sophomore, junior, senior year, or graduate school. First year students must have been officially accepted by the college/university they plan to attend.
☑ Past winners are not eligible.

Application: Applicants must complete the application form that can be found on the www.ceawisconsin.org website, provide all required attachments, and submit the entire package to the address below no later than July 1, 2018. Incomplete or late application packages will not be accepted for consideration.

Selection: The scholarship recipients will be selected by the CEA-Wisconsin Board. Criteria for selection will include academic record and financial need, as well as school, community, or association activities. Recipients will be notified in writing.

For more information contact:

Holly Audley
CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Committee
Division of Care and Treatment Services
Wisconsin Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street, Room 850
Madison, WI 53703
608-266-2862
hollyo.audley@dhs.wisconsin.gov
2018 Friends of Correctional Education Award
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 special workshops, 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, submit his/her name for the "Friends of Correctional Education Award."

Nominees cannot be employed by the Department of Corrections, Department of Health and Family Services, or a county jail.

To nominate a Friend of Correctional Education, send his/her name, a description of the contribution to correctional education (250 words or less), the institution(s) where the Friend of Correctional Education made his/her contribution and the nominator’s name to:

Willa MacKenzie
Western Technical College
400 7th Street North
La Crosse, WI  54601-608
mackenziew@westerntc.edu

Submission Deadline is:  July 1, 2018

CEA-Wisconsin Board Installs Officers

The CEA-Wisconsin Board will have a new look when it meets in May.

President-Elect Dave Hines will assume the office of President of the Wisconsin State Chapter. He will be replacing Laurie Jarvis who has served on the CEA-Wisconsin Board as the Jail/Detention Center Member 2007-2014, President-Elect from 2014-2016 and President from 2016-2018.

Dave Hines is now retired after working 24 years in Correctional Education as a Librarian, Teacher and Education Director at both New Lisbon Correctional Institution and Oshkosh Correctional Institution. Twenty of those years were at OSCI and four at NLCI. Dave has a Bachelor's Degree in Biology (UW-Milwaukee), a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science (UW-Milwaukee), as well as a Master's Degree in Career & Technical Education (UW-Stout). He has been a member of the Correctional Education Association for most of the last 15 years and served on the CEA-Wisconsin Board as an At-Large and Medium Security Representative from 2012 to 2016 and President-Elect from 2016 to this year.

Assuming the office of President-Elect is Emily Propson. Emily is currently the Education Director at the Wisconsin Resource Center, and has worked for the State of Wisconsin – DHS or DOC – for the past 8 years. Emily has a Master’s Degree in Administrative Leadership with a concentration in Adult Education from UW-Milwaukee. Emily served on the CEA-Wisconsin Board as an At-Large Representative from January 2016 to July 2017 and as Treasurer from July 2017 to this May.

The new CEA-Wisconsin Treasurer is Tim Malchow. Tim is a teacher at the Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution. Tim taught high school math for more than 15 years in Nebraska and Michigan. He also taught English as a Second Language (ESL) for one year in Ukraine, two years in China, and six months in
Saudi Arabia. In 2014 he started working at KMCI as a correctional officer. In 2015 he began teaching math at KMCI. Tim has been the Medium Security Representative since July 2017.

New to the CEA-W Board is Medium Security Representative David Prochnow. Dave is the Teacher Supervisor at Fox Lake Correctional Institution. He is in his 19th year of correctional education. Dave started as a teacher of Adult Basic Education in 1999 Fox Lake Correctional and then promoted to Education Director at Kettle Moraine Correctional in 2013, Education Director at Waupun Correctional in 2015, and Teacher Supervisor at Fox Lake Correctional in 2016. From 2009 to 2013 he also worked as an adjunct Adult Basic Education Instructor in the Student Success Lab at Moraine Park Technical College. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Broadfield Social Studies from UW-Stevens-Point and a Master’s degree in Professional Development from UW-LaCrosse.

All of the other CEA-Wisconsin Board members up for election this year were unopposed and will be returning for another term. Continuing on the board are:

- **Secretary** – Margaret Done, MSDF
- **Maximum/Minimum Security Representative** – Pam Schmidt, CCI
- **Education Director Representative** – Peggy Kaiser, WTCS
- **At-Large Representative/Editor** – Jerry Bednarowski, Retired

**The Best Escape Anyone Can Have . . .**

*81st Annual WSSA Conference & Training Institute*

*June 13 & 14, 2018*

*Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin*

Wisconsin Social Service Association will be providing an escape . . . and an opportunity for Wisconsin’s Human Service providers to connect at its annual conference on June 13-14 in Wisconsin Dells.

Among the workshops scheduled for the Best Escape Anyone Can Have . . . Conference are two that relate to corrections:

**Addressing the Special Needs of Children with an Incarcerated Family Member**

Presented by Tim Schwaller, Assistant Clinical Professor at UW-Milwaukee, Helen Bader School of Social Welfare and Therapist, Professional Services Group, West Allis, Wisconsin

About one in 43 children in the U.S. resident population under the age of 18 have a parent in prison. Children with parents and family members in prison are often hidden victims who present developmental, behavioral and academic concerns. This workshop will (1) explore what research tells us about the adverse effects of parental incarceration on children; (2) identify the special needs of children and families with an incarcerated member; (3) provide practical ideas and suggestions to support these children and their caregivers; and (4) share resources.

**Escaping the Revolving Door of Recidivism**

Presented by Sue Kastensen, Founder and Director of Fair Shake

Fair Shake is a free tool for all stakeholders to use to support successful reentry. With the nation’s largest reentry resource directory, specific pages for employment, education and each stakeholder group, as well as a free ‘office in the cloud’ for those coming home, you’ll find something for everyone. Fair Shake is completely free: no contracts to sign, no obligations to fulfill, no data to collect; just use the information in whatever way works best for your professional or personal life! Helping people to help themselves . . . this is how we will escape the revolving door of recidivism.

For more information on the 81st Annual Wisconsin Social Services Association Conference and to register, visit the WSSA website at [www.wssa.ws](http://www.wssa.ws).
President’s Message

I have enjoyed serving as CEA-Wisconsin’s President for the past two years. I have served on the CEA Board as the Community Corrections Representative, the President-Elect, and the President. My ten-year involvement with CEA has afforded me the opportunity to meet and work with exceptional colleagues. I have established life-long friendships with people who share my commitment to education, my passion for my work, and my enthusiasm for learning. Correctional Educators are a unique group of individuals. It takes a person with a special “something” to work with students in extremely challenging and unusual environment. I am not sure I know what that “something” is, maybe is “heart,” but I do know that the people I have met through CEA have it! As we look to the future of CEA, it is vitally important for our members to remain active and serve in leadership roles.

These quotes continue to speak to me.

“Prison itself is a tremendous education in the need for patience and perseverance. It is above all a test of one’s commitment.” Nelson Mandela

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” Nelson Mandela

Let’s use our passion, patience, and perseverance to change the world.

Laurie Jarvis
jarvis@fvtc.edu