

Florida Correctional Education Association

Quarterly Newsletter Spring 2024

Welcome From Florida Chapter President

Dear CEA-FL Members,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I welcome you to the inaugural edition of the Correctional Education Association Florida Chapter's quarterly newsletter. As President of CEA-FL, I am honored to extend my warmest greetings to each and every one of you.

First and foremost, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all our members for their unwavering dedication to the field of correctional education. Your commitment to improving the lives of incarcerated individuals through education is truly commendable, and it is this dedication that drives our association forward.

Our mission at CEA-FL is not only to promote excellence in correctional education but also to foster a sense of community among professionals working in this vital field. Through collaborative efforts and shared expertise, we can make a significant impact on the lives of those we serve.

As we embark on this journey together, I encourage each of you to actively engage with the newsletter and take advantage of the valuable resources and insights it offers. Whether it's sharing best practices, highlighting success stories, or discussing emerging trends, our newsletter aims to be a platform for meaningful dialogue and knowledge exchange.

Furthermore, your feedback is instrumental in shaping the future direction of our association and ensuring that we continue to meet the evolving needs of our members. I invite you to share your thoughts, suggestions, and ideas for content that you would like to see featured in future newsletters. Your input is invaluable, and together, we can create a publication that truly reflects the interests and priorities of our community.

In closing, I want to express my sincere appreciation for your ongoing support and participation in the Correctional Education Association Florida Chapter. Together, we have the power to make a difference, and I am confident that our collective efforts will lead to positive outcomes for all.

Thank you once again for your membership and dedication to our cause. I look forward to our continued collaboration and the many successes that lie ahead.

Warm regards,

Robert S. Melgaard

Empowering Incarcerated Individuals Through Education and Rehabilitation

2024 Election Results

Dr. David Kuehl from Lowell was elected Region 8 Assistant Director.

We congratulate Dr. Kuehl on his new position.

Chapter Leadership

President

Robert S. Melgaard Robert@floridacea.org

Vice President

Adam Ryalls Adam@floridacea.org

Treasurer

Jamie Rowan Jamie@floridacea.org

Secretary

Conner Birdsong
Conner afforidacea.org

Florida CEA Is Up And Running

This Spring we have been busy. We have formed a committee on Professional Development, Financial Management, Membership and Public Relations, and Website and Newsletter. These committees have begun meeting and have selected their leadership.

Future issues of this newsletter will keep you apprised of Chapter activities and a calendar of events.

The website, www.floridacea.org, is operational, but we are in need of a volunteer to be our Web Designer/Manager. If you would like to help out please email Cynthia with the Website/Newsletter committee.

Looking forward to an outstanding year!

Professional Development Committee

Robert Melgaard – Lead - <u>Robert@floridacea.org</u> Jarrod Mesloh - <u>Jarrod.Mesloh@fdc.myflorida.com</u> Jynelle Robinson - <u>Jynelle.Robinson@fdc.myflorida.com</u> Heather Rainey - <u>Heather.Rainey@fdc.myflorida.com</u> Donnie Pickford - Donnie.Pickford@fdc.myflorida.com

Website Development and Newsletter Committee

Cynthia Scott – Lead - <u>Cynthia.Scott@tcc.fl.edu</u>
Tara Keihn - <u>Tara.Keihn@fdc.myflorida.com</u>
Jamie Newberry - <u>Jamie.Newberry@securustechnologies.com</u>
Adam Ryalls - <u>Adam@floridacea.org</u>

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Erica Averion - <u>Erica@flcorrectionalexcellence.com</u>

Katrina Cooke - katcooke777@gmail.com

Financial Management Committee

Justin Wilson – Lead - <u>JuWilson@polk.edu</u>
Bryce Forrester - <u>Bryce.Forrester@fdc.myflorida.com</u>
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Kaylie Sims - <u>Kaylie.Sims@fdc.myflorida.com</u>



Our vision for the Correctional Education Association Florida Chapter is to be the leading catalyst for positive transformation within the corrections system by championing education as a powerful tool for rehabilitation and reintegration. We envision a future where every incarcerated individual in Florida has access to quality education, equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and hope necessary to break the cycle of incarceration and become productive members of society.