



Florida Correctional Education Association

Quarterly Newsletter July 2024

Letter From Florida Chapter President

Dear CEA-FL Members,

I am delighted to welcome you to the second edition of our quarterly newsletter. As President of the Correctional Education Association of Florida (CEA-FL), it is my pleasure to share with you the latest updates and highlights from our dynamic community.

In this edition, we are excited to introduce a new feature: the Member Spotlight. We believe that each of our members contributes uniquely to our organization, and this spotlight allows us to recognize and celebrate the achievements and contributions of one of our own. Stay tuned to learn more about our featured member!

Additionally, we will be sharing updates from a valued correctional education college partner. Their insights and initiatives continue to enrich our field, and we are eager to showcase their latest developments.

Our committee updates section will keep you informed about the ongoing work and initiatives of our various committees. These updates highlight the dedication and efforts of our committee members in advancing the mission of CEA-FL.

As we navigate through the upcoming months, we have planned a schedule of virtual meetings that offer opportunities for engagement, learning, and collaboration. Please mark your calendars with these important dates to ensure your participation and contribution to our discussions and activities.

Finally, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to our new members who have joined our community recently. Your presence strengthens our association, and we look forward to your active involvement in our endeavors.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in CEA-FL. Together, we are making a difference in correctional education in Florida and beyond.

Warm regards,
Robert Melgaard

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TSC and FDC Partnership = Success

As of July 1, 2024, Tallahassee Community College officially changed its name to Tallahassee State College. According to the school's website, this is the third name for the institution, opening as Tallahassee Junior College in 1966 and transitioning to Tallahassee Community College in 1970. Now 54 years later, college president, Dr. Jim Murdaugh, was quoted as saying, "The new name reflects who we are as an institution, better recognizing our institutional status and impact."

One facet of the institution is providing services to the Florida Department of Corrections. Vice-President of Workforce Development, Shelly Bell stated, "Tallahassee State College's partnership with the Department of Corrections is crucial to reducing recidivism rates by equipping inmates with the skills, knowledge and industry credentials to improve their employment prospects and help to ensure successful reintegration into society."

Current programs being offered through TSC at FDC facilities include:

1. Gadsden Re-Entry Center - CTE/GED Prep; Electrical Program; HVAC Program
2. Jefferson CI - CNC Machining Program; Electrical Program
3. Liberty CI - Masonry Program; Welding Program
4. Quincy Annex - Culinary Program
5. Taylor CI - Building and Trades Program; Plumbing Program
6. Wakulla CI - Virtual Hybrid Literacy Program

Mrs. Bell concluded, "TSC understands that our programs assist with enhancing personal development, improving self-esteem and providing a sense of accomplishment for inmates." This belief was exemplified in a recent exit ticket from the *Literacy for Life* class, when a student wrote, "TCC reminds me of the story of the blind man in the Bible who had the scales removed from his eyes; the scales are removed from mine. Every day I learn something new and apply it daily. What I learn here in TCC eliminates confusion."

Congratulations

Region 8's Teacher of the Year



We are thrilled to announce that Mr. Jerry Lynn, a dedicated member of CEA-FL, has been honored as the Correctional Education Association (CEA) Region 8 Teacher of the Year.

This prestigious recognition is a testament to Mr. Lynn's exceptional contributions and unwavering commitment to correctional education.

Mr. Lynn will proudly represent CEA-FL and CEA Region 8 at the upcoming Correctional Education Association's International Conference this summer. During this event, he will also compete for the distinguished title of National CEA Teacher of the Year.

Join us in celebrating Mr. Lynn's remarkable achievement and wishing him the best of luck at the international conference. His dedication and passion continue to inspire us all.

Upcoming Events

Virtual Happy Hour-Held the third Thursday of each month

FDC Leadership Summit- September 4th

Committee Updates

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is discussing promotional materials to be used at the upcoming FDC Leadership Summit.

Our Chapter membership has grown over the last three months. Let's give a special welcome to our new members. We are happy to have you as part of our team.

New Members

Christopher Dang, Dennis Braun

Isiah Sledge, Jackie Mills

Janet Rivera, Jeff Arnot

Jeffery Creel, Jenna Colvin

Leslee Pippin, Marla Alberti,

Robert Britt Mills, Sherri Jackson

Professional Development Committee

We are excited to share some developments from the Professional Development Committee! Our team is in the planning phases of several initiatives aimed at enhancing the professional growth of our members. Here's a sneak peek into what's coming up: training webinars, guest speakers, and potential live events.

If you have a story that you would like to submit for possible use in the newsletter, please email it to adam@floridacea.org

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7 Red Hills

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Florida International University

Home Builders Institute (HBI)

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Palm Beach State College

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PRIDE

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