VIRTUAL NCHEP 2021
AMPLIFYING ACCESS
hosted by the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison
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Welcome to the Tenth National Conference for Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP). While we are delighted to celebrate a decade of gatherings with you, this year’s event also represents a novelty: the first Virtual NCHEP.

When it became clear that an in-person 2020 NCHEP was not going to be possible, we looked for ways to facilitate conversations about the challenges and unprecedented times posed to the field and to the lives of currently incarcerated students. We decided to honor the original theme of the 10th NCHEP conference -- Amplifying Access -- by inviting everyone who previously submitted their work to take part in this virtual space. Of course, this will never be able to replace the vibrant and extemporary exchanges that in-person interactions can afford this community, as we painfully learn every day. And yet, potentialities exist amidst the current limitations: we hope that the remote format will afford more people than in previous years the possibility to attend the vast array of presentations and special events this conference has to offer.

We would like to express our gratitude to the members of the 2020 NCHEP Planning Committee: Lisa Akheiluaame, Tahririh Anthony, James Bullington, Ivelisse Gilestra, Kathryn Green, Matthew Holman, Tiffany Jones, Deanna Kabler, Annie Le, Avis Mangasharian, Majid Mohammad, Eric Pereira, Brittany Riggins, Maggi Shelledy, Dameon Stackhouse and Rachel Zolensky. Although their planning efforts got abruptly interrupted by the pandemic, this conference could not have happened without their committed support.

Mostly, we are thankful for your presence, and for the opportunity to learn from you, your scholarship, and your experiences.

We would like to open this conference with a quote by Antonio Gramsci, founder of the Italian Communist Party, incarcerated for many years by Mussolini’s fascist regime. In his Prison Notebooks, which constantly remind us about how visions of abolition, resistance, and struggle must inform all of our actions, he writes: “The challenge of modernity is to live without illusions and without becoming disillusioned.” It is from this in-between space that refuses to become disillusioned, despite the present crisis, that we welcome all of you to the National Conference on Higher Education in Prison, and we thank you for your fundamental work.

With our warmest wishes,

Lauren Reed
Ved Price
Mary Gould
Jesse Gant
Valeria Dani
The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison
Virtual NCHEP Planning Team

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Keynote Session

Dr. Bettina Love
March 2, 2021 at 7:00PM
We Gon’ Be Alright, But That Ain’t Alright: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom

Dr. Love’s talk will discuss the struggles and the possibilities of committing ourselves to an abolitionist goal of educational freedom, as opposed to reform, and moving beyond what she calls the educational survival complex. Abolitionist Teaching is built on the creativity, imagination, boldness, ingenuity, and rebellious spirit and methods of abolitionists to demand and fight for an educational system where all students are thriving, not simply surviving.

Dr. Bettina Love is an award-winning author and the Athletic Association Endowed Professor at the University of Georgia. She is one of the field’s most esteemed educational researchers. Her writing, research, teaching, and activism meet at the intersection of race, education, abolition, and Black joy. Dr. Love is concerned with how educators working with parents and communities can build communal, civically engaged schools rooted in Abolitionist Teaching with the goal of intersectional social justice for equitable classrooms that love and affirm Black and Brown children. In 2020, Dr. Love co-founded the Abolitionist Teaching Network (ATN). She is the author of the books We Want to Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom and Hip Hop’s L/L: Sistahs Speak. Negotiating Hip Hop Identities and Politics in the New South. Her work has appeared in numerous books and journals, including the English Journal, Urban Education, The Urban Review, and the Journal of LGBT Youth.

Plenary Session

Danielle Sered
March 3, 2021 at 7:00PM
Accessing Repair: Transforming Violence Beyond Prisons

What repair is owed when violence is committed, and what would it mean to commit to creating access to such repair every time? Danielle Sered will speak about her book, Until We Reckon: Violence, Mass Incarceration, and a Road to Repair, and the work she leads at Common Justice, which develops and advances solutions to violence that meet the needs of those harmed, advance racial equity, and do not rely on incarceration. She will talk about what restorative justice offers as an approach to repairing serious harm, including violence, about why prisons almost always fail at the project of repair, and about what broader repair is required for the harms done by both violence and mass incarceration.

Danielle Sered envisioned and directs Common Justice, which develops and advances practical and groundbreaking solutions to violence that advance racial equity, meet the needs of those harmed, and do not rely on incarceration. Before planning the launch of Common Justice, Danielle served as the deputy director of the Vera Institute of Justice’s Adolescent Reentry Initiative, a program for young men returning from incarceration on Rikers Island. She the author of The Other Side of Harm: Addressing Disparities in our Responses to Violence, of Accounting for Violence: How to Increase Safety and Break Our Failed Reliance on Mass Incarceration, and the book Until We Reckon: Violence, Mass Incarceration, and a Road to Repair.
Panel of Historians
March 4, 2021 at 7:00PM
Panel Discussion on the History of Policing

The audience is invited to join a conversation with Dr. Marisol LeBrón (University of Texas at Austin), Dr. Simon Balto (University of Iowa), and DeAnza Cook (Harvard University), who will be discussing the history of policing.

DeAnza Cook began her doctoral studies at Harvard University as a Presidential Scholar in 2017 after graduating from the University of Virginia. At Harvard College, Cook serves as a Teaching Fellow and Course Development Fellow for the History Department and History & Literature Program. She is also an undergraduate advisor and Resident Tutor at Cabot House. Her forthcoming dissertation traces the rise of proactive “community-oriented” and “problem-oriented” policing in Greater Boston and beyond and examines the role of the police, police partners, and African Americans in revamping police business at the dawn of the twenty-first century. In addition to her doctoral work, she is also the course administrator for a new multidisciplinary seminar, “Civil Rights, Law Enforcement, and The Constitution,” designed for law enforcement officers in her home state of Virginia.

Dr. Marisol LeBrón is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mexican American and Latino/a Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to arriving at UT, Dr. LeBrón was an Assistant Professor of American Studies at Dickinson College and a Postdoctoral Associate in Latino/a Studies in the Global South at Duke University. Dr. LeBrón received her PhD in American Studies from New York University and her bachelor’s degree in Comparative American Studies and Latin American Studies from Oberlin College. An interdisciplinary scholar, Dr. LeBrón’s research and teaching focus on social inequality, policing, violence, and protest. Her book, Policing Life and Death: Race, Violence, and Resistance in Puerto Rico (University of California Press, 2019), examines the growth of punitive governance in contemporary Puerto Rico. Dr. LeBrón is an active contributor to popular conversations about policing as well as Puerto Rico and its diaspora. She has published op-eds in The Washington Post, The Guardian and Truthout and has been interviewed by a number of news outlets.

Simon Balto is an assistant professor of History and African American Studies at the University of Iowa, and author of the award-winning book Occupied Territory: Policing Black Chicago from Red Summer to Black Power. His writing has appeared in many different publications, from Time, The Washington Post, and The Progressive to academic journals such as The Journal of African American History and The Journal of Urban History. His new research projects include a critical biography of Fred Hampton (under contract with Haymarket Books); an examination of the phenomenon of white criminals donning blackface before committing crimes during the United States’ Jim Crow era; and a history of white mob terrorism in post-Reconstruction America and the political effects thereof. These new projects are currently supported by fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies.

Reginald Dwayne Betts is a poet and lawyer, and the founding director of the Million Book Project. More significant than the books he has published and the awards he has won as a writer is that he’s helped get three men he served time with out of prison, and he is working now to get others home. His books include the memoir, A Question of Freedom, and two previous collections of poetry, Shabid’s Read His Own Palm and Bastards of the Reagan Era. In 2019, Betts won the National Magazine Award in the Essays and Criticism category for Getting Out, his New York Times Magazine essay that chronicles his journey from prison to becoming a licensed attorney. He holds a J.D. from Yale Law School.
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • MONDAY, MARCH 1

11:00AM–12:30PM
The Possibility Report: From Prison to College Degrees in California
Danny Murillo, Campaign for College Opportunity

1:00PM–2:15PM
Individual Papers: Surveying the Landscape
Access to Higher Education in Prison via Distance Learning: Emotional Costs and Rewards
Prof. Helen Irma Lepp Friesen, University of Winnipeg
Access and Barriers: Lessons Learned From Second Chance Pell Grant Institutions
Audrea Dakho, University of Michigan - Dearborn

2:30PM–3:30PM
The Role and the Impact of Theological Education in the Prison Setting
William Eric Waters, New York Theological Seminary
Mark Chapman, New York Theological Seminary

4:00PM–5:00PM
Where’s the STEM? Understanding the factors that limit and support access to high-quality STEM education in prisons and reentry programs across the United States
Jill Farrington Stockwell, Princeton University
Neil Schiavo, Education Development Center
Robert Matthews Tyner, Band Prison Initiative
Stanley Andrisse, Prison Cells to PhD, Johns Hopkins University, Howard University

5:30PM–6:30PM
Virtual Networking Event
All conference attendees are welcome to participate.

7:00PM–8:00PM
Works-In-Progress
Applying for Educational Justice: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Community College Reentry Program Grant Applications
Elif Asli Yucel, University of Southern California

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • TUESDAY, MARCH 2

11:00AM–12:30PM
Undanced Dances through Prison Walls During a Pandemic
Suchi Branfman, Dancing Through Prison Walls, Justice Education at Claremont Colleges, Scripps College
Selina Ho, Dancing Through Prison Walls, Scripps College
Ernst Fenelon, Jr., Dancing Through Prison Walls, Prison Education Project

1:00PM–2:00PM
College, Responsibility, Re-entry: MyTERN, A Collaboration Between College, Community, and Corrections
Hilary Janine Binda, Tufts University, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)
Arthur Bembury, Partakers, College Behind Bars Mentoring, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)
Jeffrey Raphael, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)
Claudia Guetta, Tufts University, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

2:30PM–3:30PM
Individual Papers: The Politics of Higher Education in Prison
Patrick Filipe Conway, Boston College
Crossing Borders for Access: Amplifying the Role of Identity Narratives in Prison Education
Tim Barnett representing a collective of students from Northeastern Illinois University and the Prison+Neighborhood Arts/Education Project (PNAP)

4:00PM–5:00PM
Amplifying Access to Prison Journalism and Prison Journalism Education
Kate McQueen, University of California Santa Cruz
Yukari Kane, Northwestern University, Shaheen Pasha, Penn State University
Jesse Vasquez, San Quentin News, Razvan Sibii, University of Massachusetts Amherst

5:30PM–6:30PM
Accessing the Past: Connecting the Past and Present in Carceral Spaces
Laura Rogers, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Patrick Berry, Syracuse University
Tobi Jacobi, Colorado State University at Fort Collins
Mary Ellen Sanger, Colorado State University at Fort Collins
Dr. Bettina Love
Dr. Love’s talk titled “We Gon’ Be Alright, But That Ain’t Alright: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom” discusses the struggles and the possibilities of committing ourselves to an abolitionist goal of educational freedom, as opposed to reform, and moving beyond what she calls the educational survival complex. Abolitionist Teaching is built on the creativity, imagination, boldness, ingenuity, and rebellious spirit and methods of abolitionists to demand and fight for an educational system where all students are thriving, not simply surviving.

We Gon’ Be Alright, But That Ain’t Alright: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom
Dr. Bettina Love

11:00AM–12:30PM
The Intersectionality of Inside Out
Donna Randolph, My New Journeys

Ruth Delaney, The Vera Institute of Justice
Kayla James, The Vera Institute of Justice
Allan Wachendorfer, The Vera Institute of Justice

11:00AM–12:30PM
Individual Papers: Equity in Policy
Upholding Pedagogical Values During a Crisis, and Thereafter
Dr. Robert Tynes, Bard Prison Initiative

The Threat of Recreating Inequity by Offering a Bachelor’s Degree
Daniel McGloin, Wesleyan University

Nancy Van Styvendale, University of Alberta, Canada
Karrie Auger, Norquest College, Canada

1:00PM–2:00PM
Inspired Minds: Creative Writing for Good Relations and Anti-Colonial Critique
Nancy Van Styvendale, University of Alberta, Canada
Karrie Auger, Norquest College, Canada

1:00PM–2:00PM
Individual Papers: Equity in Policy
Covid19 and the Political Landscape? Witnessing the Costs of the Current Legal Order
Prof. Doran Larson, Hamilton College and The American Prison Writing Archive

Amplifying Technological Equity
Dr. Kurtis Tanaka, Ithaka S+R

Watering the Roses that Grew from Concrete
Dr. Anacany Torres, Santiago Canyon College

2:30PM–3:30PM
Zooming Toward Amplified Access
Deanna Kabler, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern

Kelin Smith, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern
Barry Mintz, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern
Christopher Jacobs, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern

Eric Pereira, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University
Chris Agans, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University
Tia Ryans, NJ.F.O.R.T.E. House

Regina Diamond-Rodriguez, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University
Tyreek Rolon, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University
Vernon Johnson, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University

Can We Provide Access to Campus Without Housing?
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

4:00PM–5:00PM

Meet The Landscape Project Cohort
Christina Dawkins, A4Abolitionists, Cohort Program Facilitator
Members of the Higher Education in Prison Landscape Project Cohort

4:00PM–5:00PM

Utilizing Education Technology to Support Expanded Program Access
Noah Freedman, Nucleus
Emmanuel Luvert, Multnomah Education Service District - Juvenile Detention Education Program
Noel Vest, Stanford University; Dirk van Velzen, Prison Scholars

7:00PM–8:00PM

Humanizing Mathematics: Is An Accessible and Creative Mathematics Even Possible?
Eden Meredith Badertscher, Education Development Center
Otis Brian Jennings, Objective Data Systems
Amy Shapiro, Bard Prison Initiative
Jason O’Malley, Re-Entry Coaching Academy
Avery Agles, The Prison Teaching Initiative at Princeton University
Jodie Lambert, Operation Restoration

PLENARY SESSION • 7:00PM–8:00PM

Accessing Repair: Transforming Violence Beyond Prisons
Danielle Sered, Common Justice
What repair is owed when violence is committed, and what would it mean to commit to creating access to such repair every time? Danielle Sered will speak about her book, Until We Reckon: Violence, Mass Incarceration, and a Road to Repair, and the work she leads at Common Justice, which develops and advances solutions to violence that meet the needs of those harmed, advance racial equity, and do not rely on incarceration. She will talk about what restorative justice offers as an approach to repairing serious harm, including violence, about why prisons almost always fail at the project of repair, and about what broader repair is required for the harms done by both violence and mass incarceration.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • THURSDAY, MARCH 4

11:30AM–12:30PM

Lauren Solina, Tennessee Board of Regents

11:30AM–12:30PM

NY-CHEP and the Transformative Power of Collaborative Partnerships
Timothy McCorry, Medaille College
Rachel Sander, SUNY System Administration
Marianne Kupin-Lisbin, University of Rochester
Elisabeth Santiago, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison
Lisette Bamenga, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

11:30AM–12:30PM

Making the Barriers Bearable
Sal Corbin, Friendship Place
Jean Michel Giraud, Friendship Place

1:00PM–2:00PM

Individual Papers: Collaboration and Partnerships
Towards Empowered and Resilient Students
Max Klapow, Washington University in St. Louis
Victoria Thomas, Washington University in St. Louis

From Potential to Proposed Bill: Educationally Empowered, Incarcerated Individuals Contribute to Sentencing Reform
Phillip V. Smith II, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern, Wake Forest, NC
Timothy W. Johnson, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern, Wake Forest, NC

Bringing Service-Based Learning to Incarcerated College Students
Dr. Justus Ghormley, Notre Dame/Holy Cross College
Orange is the New Black: How Higher Education in Prison De-stigmatizes People Returning from Prison to a Racist Society
Kentel Weaver, Tufts University

1:00PM–2:00PM

Elevating Voices and Bridging Distance through Narrative and the Creative Arts
Hannah Rachel Bacon, Marymount Manhattan College
Jennifer Fecu, Stand Up Speak Out

Erie Greenwell, Marymount Manhattan College
Jazzelle Bustos, Stand Up Speak Out

Aileen Baumgartner, Bedford Hills College Program
Christina Remley, Stand Up Speak Out

Thursday Session Schedule 13
1:00PM–2:00PM

**Culturally Diverse Populations in Collegiate Recovery Programs**

Anna Lee Trevino, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

Thomas Kimball, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

Lyle Yates-Bourasa, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

Jaime Devenport, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

Justin North-Olague, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

2:30PM–3:30PM

**Lessons from Saint Dolly: Working Toward an Ethic of Mutual Aid in the HEP Community**

Members of the Southern Higher Education in Prison Collective

2:30PM–3:30PM

**Creative Collaboration: Curating a New Partnership Between the Division of Youth Services and CSU Pueblo**

Kathryn Elizabeth Starkey, Colorado State University Pueblo

Kristyn Noelle White Davis, Colorado State University Pueblo

Erin Osterhaus, Division of Youth Services

Emma Mitchell, Colorado State University Pueblo

Jason Engel, Colorado State University Pueblo

2:30PM–3:30PM

**Characterizing the Intersection of Substance Use Disorder, Mental Illness, and Higher Education in Prison Re-entry**

Noel Vest, Stanford University School of Medicine

O’Dell Johnson, Research Institute of Social Equity (RISE)

Donna Madison-Bell, Five Keys Charter Schools and Program

David Morelos, Research Institute of Social Equity (RISE)

4:00PM–5:00PM

**California Statewide Student Caucus (for Rising Scholars Network)**

Nohealani Casperson, FITED/LIFE

Laura Electa Hayes, FIRSTCORE

Jasmin Lopez, FIRSTCORE

Brittany Morton, Homeboy Industries

Isaac Gonzales, ELAC

Amada Alvarez, ELAC

4:00PM–5:00PM

**College Gateway**

Linda Agripino, College Gateway at Red Rocks Community College

Dr. Neil Gowensmith, University of Denver

Cathy Lachman, Founder of College Gateway at Red Rocks Community College

4:00PM–5:00PM

**Bringing Business Schools to Prison**

Tierney T. Fairchild, Resilience Education

Whitney Johnson, Resilience Education

Sandra Navalli, Columbia Business School, Tamer Center for Social Enterprise

Damon Phillips, Columbia Business School, Tamer Center for Social Enterprise

Domini Elizon, Graduate of Resilience Education Programs and Entrepreneur

Dr. Wendy Lyle-Jones, Principal of Buckingham, Dilwyn and Rustburg Men’s Correctional Centers

5:30PM–6:30PM

**Jamii Sisterhood: Building a Movement For and About Black Women in Higher Education in Prison**

Dr. Erin Corbett, Co-founder and CEO of Second Chance Educational Alliance

Dr. Bahiyah Muhammad, Associate Professor of Criminology at Howard University

Dr. Breea Willingham, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at SUNY Plattsburgh

5:30PM–6:30PM

**From the Facility to the Community**

Dr. Michael Tyrone Williams, North Carolina Department of Public Safety

6:30PM–7:30PM

**A New Digital Tool to Expand Access to College and Reentry Services**

Heather Erwin, University of Iowa

Aliza Fones, University of Northern Iowa

Katie Rodgers, Coe College

7:00PM–8:00PM

**Collaborative Research in a College-in-Prison Program**

Heather Erwin, University of Iowa

Aliza Fones, University of Northern Iowa

Katie Rodgers, Coe College
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • THURSDAY, MARCH 4

7:00PM–8:00PM
Expanding Equity and Access Through a Robust Network: How California’s Rising Scholars Network Implements Statewide Change

Rebecca Silbert, Foundation for the California Community Colleges
Leslie LeBlanc, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office
Kellie Nadler, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office
Javier Rodriguez, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office
Chelsea Esquibias, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office
Eric Gentry, Chabot College
Jessica Dobson, Norco College

PLENARY SESSION • 7:00PM–8:00PM

Panel Discussion on the History of Policing
Dr. Simon Balto, University of Iowa
DeAnza Cook, Harvard University
Dr. Marisol Lebrón, University of Texas at Austin

The audience is invited to join a conversation with Dr. Marisol Lebrón (University of Texas at Austin), Dr. Simon Balto (University of Iowa), and DeAnza Cook (Harvard University), who will be discussing the history of policing.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, MARCH 5

11:30AM–12:30PM
Pretexts & Pedagogy
Chris Dickson, College Unbound
Peter Dickson, College Unbound

11:30AM–12:30PM
Teacher Perceptions of Teaching and Learning both Students Currently Incarcerated and “Traditional” Students
Joanna Weidler-Lewis, The Pennsylvania State University

1:00PM–2:00PM
Virtual NCHEP Conference Debrief
All conference attendees are welcome to participate.

1:00PM–2:00PM
How Accessible is Critical Pedagogy?
Logan Middleton, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Celena Todora, University of Pittsburgh
Nate Maertens, Inver Hills Community College

2:30PM–3:30PM
Higher Education in Prison: A Faculty Perspective in Changing Times
Brenda Lyseng, Inver Hills Community College
Vicky Knickerbocker, Inver Hills Community College
Nate Maertens, Inver Hills Community College
Christine Petrich, Inver Hills Community College

2:30PM–3:30PM
Amplifying In-Person: Reframing the Debate on Technology in the Prison Classroom
Sheila R. Meiman, Raritan Valley Community College RISE
Kurtis Tanaka, Ithaka S + R
Ethan Anna, Mt. Tamalpais College (formerly the Prison University Project)
Heather Erwin, University of Iowa Liberal Arts Beyond Bars
Dr. Erin Corbett, Second Chance Educational Alliance, Inc.


**Friday Session Schedule**

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**4:00PM–5:15PM**

**Individual Paper Presentations**

**Preparing Incarcerated Students for Change**
Marianne Goodfellow, North Country Community College
Sarah Kilby, North Country Community College
Dan Snyder, North Country Community College

Carceral Health is Public Health
Patrick Franklin Hibbard, O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs
Andrea D Jonata, INPEP, Project ECHO (Fairbanks School of Public Health-IUPUI)

Drawing One’s Own Conclusions: Teaching Graphic Narrative Memoir in Prison
Gina Hausknecht, Coe College

Tumultuous 2020: Amid a Pandemic Success and Resilience Prevails
Marco Rios, College of the Redwoods–Pelican Bay Scholars

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**4:00PM–5:00PM**

**Ensuring Access During COVID-19 Using Learning Technologies**

Maura Kathleen Grady, Ashland University
Mary Deloe, Ashland University
Miles Wood, Ashland University (alumnus)
Ben Castro, Ashland University (alumnus)
Kristen Theriot, Ashland University (alumnus)

Carrie Tomko, Ashland University (faculty)
Candace Chambers, Ashland University (faculty)
Kelly Crowl, Ashland University (instructional designer)
Ginny Maher, Ashland University (site director)

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**5:30PM–6:30PM**

**Gender is Learned: On Gender and Sexuality Studies in the Carceral Classroom**

Reuven Lorin Goldberg, Princeton University
Valeria Dani, Alliance for Higher Education in Prison/Cornell University

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**PLENARY SESSION • 7:00PM–8:00PM**

**Felon: An American Washi Tale**

Reginald Dwayne Betts, Million Book Project

Dwayne will present an excerpt of the solo show that he is developing based on the poems in his collection Felon. The work addresses the experience of incarceration and the challenges of having a complicated conversation about crime and punishment in contemporary America. This presentation is built of three parts. First, a segment of dramatic performance that combines recitation of verse with storytelling. Second, a discussion framing the show within the contemporary political moment but also the literary context reaching back to the work of Etheridge Knight, Lucille Clifton, and John Edgar Wideman. Finally, there will be a question-and-answer period allowing Dwayne to explore the issues raised with the audience.
Call for Proposals for the 2020 NCHEP

For ten years, the National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP) has served as a space for collaboration, listening, discussion, dissent and debate. It exists as a hub for the exchange of information, and for opportunities to network in support of deepening the important academic, advocacy and activist work happening in higher education across the country. Bringing all of this work together, the planning committee for the 2020 NCHEP is pleased to invite proposals that advance efforts to strengthen the field of higher education in prison and amplify access for students.

The 2020 National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP) will mark the 10th Annual national convening of the higher education in prison community. Though we are excited about this historic conference, we acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic affects us all and will shape the conference itself in profound ways, including ways we cannot fully anticipate. We understand the gravity and sensitivity of the situation while at the same time desiring to create a spirit of togetherness in spite of the difficulty. We hope to continue building momentum and strengthening our community while remaining flexible during these trying times.

The 2020 Conference has a central goal: to build upon and mobilize the energy, expertise and experience of the higher education in prison community. Each year, the NCHEP plays a vital role in helping our community expand access to quality higher education in prison, as well as academic re-entry support services, to people who are currently and formerly incarcerated.

The theme for this year’s conference, as chosen by its Planning Committee, is Amplifying Access, which opens doors for a wide range of presentation topics, and to a wide range of possible presenters. We seek proposals that take up this theme in aspirational, transformational, disruptive and productive ways. “Amplifying Access” expresses a call to action to center issues of access, equity and quality in the field of higher education in prison. Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we especially invite presentations that address any of the many access-related challenges for the higher education in prison community that we already have or will continue to face (e.g., partnerships, transition resourcing or sustaining funding). We also see “Amplifying Access” as a challenge to the field to think aspirationally about our work. It is an invitation to embrace the possibilities and challenges presented to our work as it gains popular support, to operate from an abundance rather than a scarcity mindset, and to take the field in directions not yet traveled and through barriers not yet traversed. It is an invitation for growth and innovation.

We envision the conference as a space to imagine creative collaborations and partnerships, strategies and solutions to amplify access and generate productive and accessible conversations. We emphasize “amplifying” access because envisioning new ways to work together is to imagine the future, which could mean alternatives to or the abolition of prisons, envisioning new ways to work together is to imagine the future, conversations. We emphasize “amplifying” access because highlighting and generating productive and accessible presentations.

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Presentation Tracks

- Collaborations and Partnerships: Working Across Campus, Corrections, and/or the Community
- Elevating Voices: Narrative, the Arts, and Creative Expression
- Equity in Policy and Practice: Access, Quality, and Pathways to Success
- In the Classroom: Perspectives on Teaching and Learning
- Surveying the Landscape of Higher Education in Prison: Research, Evaluation, and Assessment
- The Politics of Higher Education in Prison: Advocacy, Activism, and Abolition

Presentation Formats

- Individual Paper Presentation
- Panel Discussion
- Performance, Media Presentation or Creative Work
- Poster Session
- Work-in-Progress Paper
- Workshop/Training Session

Submission Process Timeline

- Call for Proposals Announced: April 6, 2020
- Submission Deadline: May 11, 2020
- Currently Incarcerated Submission Deadline: June 30, 2020
- Submission Review Process: May 11 - May 25, 2020
- Accept/Decline Announcements Sent: June 15, 2020
- Virtual NCHEP was announced (January 2021)
- Virtual NCHEP was hosted via Zoom (March 1–5, 2021)

2020 NCHEP Planning Committee

- Dr. Lisa J. Akheilume, Department Chair at Alvin Community College
- Tahira Anthony, 2020 NCHEP Co-Chair, Legislative Director, New York State Senate
- James Bullington, Coordinator at the Prison College Program, Adams State University
- Justesse Gilesta, Community Organizer, College and Community Fellowship
- Kathryn L. Green, Professor of History at Mississippi Valley State University
- Matthew Holman, 2020 NCHEP Co-Chair, Researcher at University of Utah Prison Education Project
- Dr. Tiffany Jones, Senior Director of Higher Education Policy, The Education Trust
- Deanna Kabler, Student Success Coordinator for North Carolina Field Mentor Program, College at Southeastern

AN OVERVIEW OF THE 2021 VIRTUAL NCHEP

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Submission Process Timeline

- Call for Proposals Announced: April 6, 2020
- Submission Deadline: May 11, 2020
- Currently Incarcerated Submission Deadline: June 30, 2020
- Submission Review Process: May 11 - May 25, 2020
- July 1–July 15: Currently incarcerated submitters
- Accept/Decline Announcements Sent: June 15, 2020
- Virtual NCHEP in person was postponed (June 2020)
- Virtual NCHEP was announced (January 2021)
- Virtual NCHEP was hosted via Zoom (March 1–5, 2021)

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Call for Proposals for the 2020 NCHEP

For ten years, the National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP) has served as a space for collaboration, listening, discussion, dissent and debate. It exists as a hub for the exchange of information, and for opportunities to network in support of deepening the important academic, advocacy and activist work happening in higher education across the country. Bringing all of this work together, the planning committee for the 2020 NCHEP is pleased to invite proposals that advance efforts to strengthen the field of higher education in prison and amplify access for students.

The 2020 National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP) will mark the 10th Annual national convening of the higher education in prison community. Though we are excited about this historic conference, we acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic affects us all and will shape the conference itself in profound ways, including ways we cannot fully anticipate. We understand the gravity and sensitivity of the situation while at the same time desiring to create a spirit of togetherness in spite of the difficulty. We hope to continue building momentum and strengthening our community while remaining flexible during these trying times.

The 2020 Conference has a central goal: to build upon and mobilize the energy, expertise and experience of the higher education in prison community. Each year, the NCHEP plays a vital role in helping our community expand access to quality higher education in prison, as well as academic re-entry support services, to people who are currently and formerly incarcerated.

The theme for this year’s conference, as chosen by its Planning Committee, is Amplifying Access, which opens doors for a wide range of presentation topics, and to a wide range of possible presenters. We seek proposals that take up this theme in aspirational, transformational, disruptive and productive ways. “Amplifying Access” expresses a call to action to center issues of access, equity and quality in the field of higher education in prison. Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we especially invite presentations that address any of the many access-related challenges for the higher education in prison community that we already have or will continue to face (e.g., partnerships, transition resourcing or sustaining funding). We also see “Amplifying Access” as a challenge to the field to think aspirationally about our work. It is an invitation to embrace the possibilities and challenges presented to our work as it gains popular support, to operate from an abundance rather than a scarcity mindset, and to take the field in directions not yet traveled and through barriers not yet traversed. It is an invitation for growth and innovation.

We envision the conference as a space to imagine creative collaborations and partnerships, strategies and solutions to amplify access and generate productive and accessible conversations. We emphasize “amplifying” access because envisioning new ways to work together is to imagine the future, which could mean alternatives to or the abolition of prisons, envisioning new ways to work together is to imagine the future, conversations. We emphasize “amplifying” access because highlighting and generating productive and accessible presentations.

Presentation Tracks

- Collaborations and Partnerships: Working Across Campus, Corrections, and/or the Community
- Elevating Voices: Narrative, the Arts, and Creative Expression
- Equity in Policy and Practice: Access, Quality, and Pathways to Success
- In the Classroom: Perspectives on Teaching and Learning
- Surveying the Landscape of Higher Education in Prison: Research, Evaluation, and Assessment
- The Politics of Higher Education in Prison: Advocacy, Activism, and Abolition

Presentation Formats

- Individual Paper Presentation
- Panel Discussion
- Performance, Media Presentation or Creative Work
- Poster Session
- Work-in-Progress Paper
- Workshop/Training Session