

Summary of CEA Programs & Services

Membership

CEA's primary purpose is membership services. All of our activities are because of or related to our membership. CEA has a variety of membership categories and charges dues. We serve our membership's professional development needs by publishing an academic journal devoted to correctional education, conducting conferences on a national and regional level, providing professional development materials such as videotapes, and setting standards for the operation of correctional education programs.

Special Interest Groups

CEA currently has 16 Special Interest Groups to provide area-specific information to members. These groups are: Community Corrections, Juveniles, International, Prison Arts, Vocational Education, Counselors, Female Offenders, Post Secondary Education, Special Education, Libraries, Jails, English as a Second Language, Literacy, Research, Evaluation & Training, Friends of CEA. Each group has an email discussion list available via the CEA homepage.

Chapters

CEA has many state and provincial chapters throughout the United States and Canada. Chapters allow for groups of members within one state to keep abreast of professional information specific to their state.

Standards and Accreditation

Since 1998, CEA has been accrediting correctional education programs around the world with standards that were developed by members of the association. The standards have been updated three times. The third revision split the standards into three sets. There are now standards available for Adult Institutions, Jails & Detention Centers, and Juvenile Institutions. The CEA Standards Commission is responsible for maintaining the standards and overseeing CEA's accreditation process.

Conferences

CEA conducts two annual conferences on an international level each year. In the spring the smaller Leadership Forum takes place in the Washington, DC metro area. Our annual international conference takes place after the July 4th weekend in a city in the continental U.S. CEA regions put in a proposal to host an annual international conference. A local conference committee is formed that is responsible for planning the event under the direction and supervision of the Executive Board.

Most of the CEA regions and some of the chapters host their own annual conferences as well. All the CEA conferences focus on providing professional development opportunities to attendees. These activities are usually comprised of workshops and training sessions.

CEA conferences are also about networking and socializing. One attraction to the conferences is the opportunity to meet other educators from around the world and exchange ideas and learn new things. CEA takes time at the annual conferences to recognize the contributions of individuals to the field.

Awards

At the CEA International Conference each year, CEA nationally gives out the following awards. The deadline for nominations for the Al Maresh, Lifetime Achievement, and Austin MacCormick awards is March 1 of each year. Applications and nomination forms and instructions are available on the CEA homepage.

Teacher of the Year

Each region selects their own Teacher of the Year. The minimum requirements by the national organization are that the individual must be a CEA member for two years prior to their nomination, must spend at least 51% of their work time engaged in classroom instruction, and have two years of correctional education experience.

Al Maresh Award

This award was named in honor of Al Maresh, the former director of correctional education in Minnesota and an early pioneer in the use of computers in correctional education instruction. The winner of the award receives \$1,000 check from the awards sponsor, Plato Learning.

Lifetime Achievement Award

This is the highest award offered by CEA. This award honors an individual who has made considerable contributions to the field of correctional education throughout his/her lifetime.

Austin MacCormick Award

This award honors CEA founder, Austin MacCormick. This award highlights best practices in correctional education by an institutional program.

President's Award

This award is given by the CEA President at his or her discretion to an individual who has given extensive and important service to CEA.

Publications

CEA has three annual publications. The newsletter is the *News and Notes*, published in January, April, July, and October. The *Journal of Correctional Education* is the only academic refereed journal for correctional education, published in March, June, September, and December. Annually, CEA also publishes the *Directory of Correctional Educators* which is comprised of the CEA membership. In the past, CEA has periodically published the *Yearbook of Correctional Education*.

Sales

CEA has a limited amount of merchandise for sale, mainly comprised of videotaped professional development offerings and CEA Standards booklets.

Advertising

CEA accepts advertising in all three of our publications: the *Journal of Correctional Education*, the *News and Notes*, and the annual *Directory of Correctional Educators*.

Scholarships

CEA has a scholarship program available to assist CEA members with paying for conference registrations, continuing education, and academic classes. Events are eligible as long as they contribute to the body of knowledge about the field. The Scholarship account is funded by \$5 of each individual annual international conference registration. An independent committee reviews all applications and decides on the merit of each.

Advocacy

CEA advocates on behalf of the field of correctional education to various entities. The CEA website serves as a clearing-house of information about the field and the positive impact of education on recidivism.

Projects

CEA has a variety of grants and contracts to provide services that enhance the delivery of correctional education.

CLN

CEA has two projects going with the Corrections Learning Network (CLN). CLN was created by a Star Schools Grant from the U. S. Department of Education to Education School District 101 in Spokane, Washington. CEA conducts an evaluation of the efficacy of CLN to deliver educational programs to both inmates and staff via satellite.

The second project, the “CEA-CLN Network” has just started. Since federal funding is ending soon CEA and CLN have teamed to collect subscription fees to be paid by each participating institution. CEA has partnered with CLN to develop new programming and assist with the transition from satellite based services to other delivery methods such as the internet for inmate, educator, and correctional officer training

NIFL

The National Institute for Literacy has given CEA a grant for the last 5 years to maintain and market a free web-based library of information related to literacy and correctional education. CEA is currently in its fifth year of funding for this project and CEA anticipates re-applying when the project goes up for bid later this year.

CEA Homepage

CEA has a large webpage that has had an increasing profile throughout the years. Thanks to Ralph Kaplan, our webmaster, the CEA homepage boasts an impressive amount of correctional education materials and links to other resources.

CEA Online Course

Through a partnership with the Corrections Learning Network and Eastern Washington University, CEA has created a course online called the “Fundamentals of Correctional Education”. The online course went live in January 2005. The course costs \$349. Dr. John Littlefield is the instructor.