GRADUATING INTERNS

Three of our PEP interns graduated this year! Join us in celebrating them and the talents they've brought to our program:

Jordan graduated with a Bachelors in both English and Ceramics. He has been an intern with the program for three years, and is one of the main visionaries behind the first Prison Education Program art show. We are incredibly fortunate to have been graced with his grounded wisdom and deeply caring nature.

Kyra S. graduated with a double Bachelors in Indigenous, Race, and Ethnic Studies and Planning, Public Policy, and Management. She has been an intern with the program for just over a year, and she has blessed us with her fabulous management skills. She is also an effective and caring leader who will undoubtedly go on to do even more wonderful things.

Sabrina graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelors in Planning, Public Policy, and Management. She has been an intern for the program for her entire Senior year, and has assisted with putting on many of our events. Sabrina has a calming presence and is a great multi-tasker who leads by example with kindness and joy.

BOOK DONATION IN MEMORIAM OF FRED VANDEN HEED

We have received a generous gift from a community member who is donating hundreds of books from her late husband's collection. We are sending these books around the state, working with institutional libraries to select the books that will be most useful in each location. Suzy, thank you for your generosity, and we are honored to be part of Fred's legacy.

TRANSFORM LIVES WITH A GIFT TO THE PEP

Giving to this program empowers students on campus and inside prisons to be successful in their lives. Your gift will help us reach more students, recruit and train faculty to meet increasing demands, and continue serving as a national leader.

Give online: Designate your gift by typing “Prison Education Program” into the “Additional Gift Instructions” box.

Questions about making a gift? Contact Margaret Savoian at msavoian@uoregon.edu or 541-346-2027.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Nicole Ngo Lecture at Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP)
September 24, 2019
A conversation on issues in public health, including mental health

Kelly Graves
Lecture at OSP
Oct. 22, 2019
A conversation with UO Women’s Basketball Coach

The Round House Book Discussion at Columbia River Correctional Institution (CRCI)
Dec. 20, 2019
Participants explored disparities in law and justice in indigenous communities

Stephanie Wood
Lecture at Oregon State Correctional Institution
Dec. 3, 2019
Indigenous languages and histories in Meso-America and the Tribal Nations of the U.S.

Born A Crime Book Discussion at CRCI
Jan. 16, 2020
Participants considered race and resistance, and in apartheid-era South Africa

Francoise Calvin Durrant
Lecture at OSP
Jan. 29, 2020
Prof Durrant spoke to her memories of Nazi-occupied Paris and the importance of empathy in times of division

Communication Workshops at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility
Jan. 24 & Feb. 28, 2020
Attendees participated in lively public speaking exercises

“Chains of My Soul” by Miguel airbrush on canvas

“Sentinel” by Brian colored pencil on paper

TRANSFORM LIVES WITH A GIFT TO THE PEP

One of the inspirations for Inside-Out pedagogy, Paulo Freire, uses the analogy that “we make the road by walking.” Together, we as a society are making that way forward now – through protests in the streets, independent study, tough conversations, and interruption of violence and discrimination. We commit ourselves to continuing in that work – to use another quote that frequently appears in our programmatic conversations, “once you know, you owe.” The existence and impact of systemic racism is not new news to us, and we recommit ourselves to the ongoing work of social justice through education and dialogue.

INSIDE-OUT COURSES 2019-20

Oregon State Penitentiary:
Restorative Justice with Nathaline Frener
American Juvenile Justice Policy in the 21st Century with Kevin Alltucker
Water, Climate, and Environmental Justice with Mark Carey

Oregon State Correctional Institution:
Prisoner Narratives and Social Movements with Katie Dwyer
Race, Gender, and Poverty in the United States with Ellen Scott
Autobiography as Political Agency with Anita Chari

MISSON STATEMENT

The UO Prison Education Program exists in order to improve educational opportunities in Oregon prisons through for-credit college courses, workshops, lectures and beyond.

GET INVOLVED ON CAMPUS!
Join Side by Side & Discovery Group!
Email info@sidebyside.uoregon.edu for more information!

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RESPONDING TO COVID

While classes are cancelled, we have stayed active. The PEP is taking care of administrative needs (that can always use time and attention!) as well as making plans for the 2020-2021 academic year. Some of our projects have included:

- Sending book donations to prisons around the state
- Working on creating UO PEP TV - a new program to send educational programming to all Oregon prisons to show over institution TV channels (see below)
- Strategizing with the new DOC Programs and Education directors to facilitate future work
- Continuing to network and build connections on campus, hopefully to include new instructors for both Inside-Out and inside-only classes
- Grant writing and fundraising to increase our program's stability - while COVID is causing stress to many systems, recent events have also inspired many to step up the efforts of prison education and access. Hopefully more news to come!

Our specific 2020-2021 course plans are still uncertain, as is so much in our lives right now. Updates will be posted to our website at prisoned.uoregon.edu

ANNOUNCING UO PEP TV

Coming Summer 2020 - we are launching a UO PEP TV initiative that will send educational content to all 14 Oregon Department of Corrections institutions. This is part of our core goal of bringing as much of the University of Oregon life as possible to folks inside. Each institution's internal TV system will show curated lectures from the Oregon Humanities Center. Some of our first talks will include James McWilliams discussing food sustainability, Leonard Mlodinow on flexible thinking, and Diane Cohen on art as social activism.

Each week, UO PEP TV will provide programs that will bring a broad range of perspectives, ideas, and new voices inside. While this is particularly useful during the COVID epidemic, we plan to continue this project long-term.

A special thank you to the Oregon Humanities Center for their support!

LEGISLATIVE WORK GROUP ON HIGHER EDUCATION IN PRISON

We are proud to take part in this work group focused on expanding and improving access to education in Oregon prisons, convened by Senators Dembrow and Frederick, and consisting of bi-partisan legislators interested in both education and criminal justice issues. The group also includes representatives from colleges and universities with prison education programs, members of the State’s Higher Education Coordinating Committee, members representing job training opportunities, one formerly incarcerated and two currently incarcerated students, and other community members. We are proud that Trevor, a former Inside student and member of our ACE steering committee at OSP, and Mark - one of our UO graduates at OSCI are both members. Juliette is a representative from Coffee Creek, where she is a leader in PSU's expanding college program.

We have discussed a broad range of ideas and challenges, ranging from technological barriers to the value of different education levels, formats, philosophies, and topics. We held two inside listening sessions, one at OSCI and one at Coffee Creek, both of which provided powerful testimony to the power of education to transform lives. We are glad for the chance to collaborate with others, and to hopefully better coordinate and expand the educational opportunities statewide.
CO-AUTHORED CHAPTER PUBLISHED
ACE, our leadership group at OSP, has completed a rigorous co-writing project for The Prison Cell: Embodied and Everyday Spaces of Incarceration. The collected chapters focus on the complexities of carceral spaces. As we discuss in our chapter “Prison as Palimpsest: The Dialectics of the Cell and Everyday Life,” a cell serves many functions, from cage to home to workplace. We discuss how people adapt the space and adapt to the space, and the ways that a cell’s significance shifts for those serving long sentences. We look forward to reading the other chapters, and appreciate the editors’ choice to include authors who are currently incarcerated in this academic work.

WRITING WORKSHOP SERIES
This winter, PEP writing workshops proved incredibly popular among students at OSP, OSCI, and CRCI. The workshops, which are intended to promote familiarity and confidence with academic writing, attracted 80 students in total. Attendees practiced crafting theses, outlines, topic sentences, and body paragraphs as individuals and in small groups. To conclude each workshop, students came together to produce a completed essay. Given the workshops’ success at each location, we hope to offer similar opportunities in the future!

ACADEMIC ADVISING AT OSP
In January, PEP hosted its first-ever academic advising session for current and prospective students at OSP. Jamie Bufalino, Department Head of General Social Sciences, and academic advisor Tami Hill spoke about UO degree requirements, after which students were invited to meet one-on-one with advisors to ask questions about their individual academic goals. The evening was a great success; attendees included regular PEP participants, folks planning for upcoming release dates, and students currently pursing graduate work at UO. We hope to facilitate more advising events moving forward!

INSIDE-ONLY COURSES
We are excited to celebrate our three most recent inside-only undergraduate courses at OSP and OSCI – Early Chinese Philosophy, Fundamentals of Algebra, and University Mathematics 1. Throughout the Fall 2019 and Winter 2020 terms, professors Steve Durrant and Craig Tingey committed their time and expertise to teach these courses, which helped many inside students fulfill their UO graduation requirements. Congratulations to all the students who participated in these courses!

INSIDE ART SHOW
On January 31, PEP held its first-ever Inside Art Show at OSP. The show provided a space for some of the fantastic artists inside to display their work and, most importantly, to be present and active in communal celebration of their creative efforts. There were over 50 attendees, including multiple outside artists from Eugene, who all came together to honor the talent of artists at OSP.

All of the work featured in this newsletter issue was part of this show, and was subsequently donated to the program as part of the parallel outside show.

OUTSIDE ART SHOW UPDATES
The art show we had planned to hold on campus during spring term has been suspended, alongside our other programing, due to COVID-19 related health concerns. Even still, we are doing everything we can within the current limitations to stay true to the commitments we made to all of the wonderful artists who graciously donated to this exhibit. We will update everyone with more detailed information as soon as we are able.

TRANSFORM LIVES WITH A GIFT TO THE PEP
Make your check payable to “University of Oregon Foundation Prison Education Program Fund.” Mail to:
Gift Services
University of Oregon Foundation
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Eugene, OR 97403-2254