Overview

Faith-Based Programming, Reentry and Recidivism Symposium

The symposium on “Faith-Based Programming, Reentry and Recidivism” seeks to facilitate an ongoing dialogue between research, the faith community and corrections. This will be achieved by participants attending a variety of sessions that highlight research on the impact of faith-based programming, address what is being done in Ohio, and the legal issues surrounding such collaborations.

Faith-Based organizations provide a multitude of services and assistance to offenders while incarcerated and upon release, including religious and recreational programming, mentoring, housing and basic life services. These services and programs may assist in offenders’ reentry transitions. Research has shown that religious behaviors and beliefs exert a moderate deterrent effect on individual criminal behavior (Baier and Wright 2001). Certain types of religious programming may also contribute to a reduced chance of failure for offenders following release from prison (Clear 2002). Faith-based and community organizations have long partnered with public agencies to provide care for others, but often encounter difficulties.

Institute for Excellence in Justice

The Institute for Excellence in Justice (IEJ) was established in 2006 as a partnership between the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction’s Institute on Correctional Best Practices (OICBP) and The Ohio State University’s Criminal Justice Research Center (CJRC). By combining the research power of CJRC with the expertise of OICBP, the IEJ works with criminal justice practitioners to identify and disseminate pertinent information for the development and implementation of sound policies and practices. The IEJ also works with academia to identify gaps in research that can be translated into a best practices blueprint for practitioners. These activities work to ensure that programming, decision making and policy implementation are aligned with what research concludes are best practices; thereby increasing the effectiveness in what we do to serve the academic research community, policy developers and the implementation community.

The IEJ is located within the Ohio Institute on Correctional Best Practices on the grounds of the London Correctional Institution in London, Ohio. The IEJ also has an office located within the Criminal Justice Research Center on the main campus of The Ohio State University.

For up to date information on upcoming events and to view the proceedings from previous events, please visit the IEJ web page at:

http://www.drc.state.oh.us/web/iej.htm
Session Descriptions

Session I: Ohio Correctional Based Initiatives Task Force

The Ohio Correctional Faith Based Initiatives Task Force was created with the enactment of Amended Substitute of House Bill 66. The culmination of their deliberations resulted in several recommendations as to how the faith-based and community can assist correctional agencies.

Morning Keynote: Does Religion Have a Role in Crime Prevention, Prosocial Behavior, Prisoner Reentry and Aftercare?

For this presentation, Dr. Johnson will review the religion-crimre research literature; offer reasons why we should not be surprised to discover that religion might both prevent and protect as well as foster pro-social behavior; discuss the historical role of religion in offender treatment and rehabilitation; examine what we know from recent research about the efficacy of faith-based prison programs in reducing recidivism; offer insights to the shortcomings and shortsightedness of faith-based approaches in corrections as well as the hostility and opposition leveled against faith-based organizations and individuals. Dr. Johnson will conclude the presentation with a discussion of the uniquely catalytic role that faith-based groups and individuals might yet play in a truly comprehensive and multifaceted approach to prisoner reentry. Comments will be provided by Christine Money and Townsand Price-Spratlen.

Session II: Faith and Community Forums

Presenters will discuss what is happening with the community forums and our volunteers within DRC and DYS in the areas of Community Service, the Adult Parole Authority, and religious services, as well as provide insight on what it's like for persons who are dually staff and volunteers.

Luncheon Keynote: The Essential Role of Private Voluntary Groups in Rehabilitating Offenders

America spends $40 billion annually on warehousing prisoners, yet two-thirds of them return to prison. Clearly a new model and new partners are desperately needed. Director McFarland will address how faith-based and community organizations (FBCO) can partner legally with state corrections? What are the most promising practices defining the role of FBCOs in providing both pre-release programming and post-release reentry services? Vouchers empower ex-offenders to choose among services to help them get a job, housing, drug treatment, and other essential services—all safely within the bounds of the First Amendment. Before release, FBCOs can assist with voluntary faith- or character-based units that meet constitutional parameters. Director McFarland will also identify sources of federal funding that can help jumpstart some of these initiatives.

Session III: Legal Panel

When religious programming is incorporated into the prison environment, constitutional issues are raised. The panel of experts will include attorneys with experience representing faith groups and civil liberties organizations. The panelists will share their respective positions on the issues to illuminate the concerns and inform the audience about the matters that must be kept in balance.
Speakers (In order of Appearance)

Terry J. Collins, Director, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Terry J. Collins has been employed with the State of Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) since 1977. He has served in a variety of positions including Social Worker, Labor Relations Officer, Warden, Deputy Director of prisons and Assistant Director. Governor Bob Taft appointed him Director in May 2006. Director Collins’ received a B.A. degree in Sociology and Corrections from Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky, and a M.S. in Corrections from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. Director Collins is dedicated to advancing professionalism in corrections through his membership in various organizations including the American Correctional Association (ACA), the Ohio Correctional and Courts Services Association, the National Association of Wardens and Superintendents and the Ohio Wardens and Superintendents Association. He has served as a consultant to the National Institute of Corrections and an auditor for ACA.

Michael Randle, Assistant Director, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Michael P. Randle began his career with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction in 1990 as a Correctional Program Specialist at the Ohio Reformatory for Women and was soon promoted to Correction Specialist and then was Mental Health Administrator. In 1997, he transferred to the Ross Correctional Institution as the Deputy Warden of Administration. He served as Warden at the Ross and Chillicothe Correctional Institutions before transferring to the Circleville Youth Center as Superintendent. In 2001, he returned to adult corrections as Assistant Deputy Director of the Office of Administration and then was promoted to Deputy Director in 2003. Most recently, Randle was appointed Assistant Director of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Honorable John White, Ohio House of Representatives, House District 38

State Representative John White is a native of Dayton who has been active in community service and politics for two decades. After serving the city of Kettering as councilman and then vice mayor, John was first elected to represent the 38th District of the Ohio House of Representatives in 2000, where he continues to serve today. A graduate of Alter High School and Wright State University, the representative has a B.S. in Marketing, and worked for the Reynolds and Reynolds Company as a senior manager and consultant for many years. Currently, John is Chairman of the Montgomery County Republican Party in addition to his position in the legislature.

Lauren J. Krivo, Professor of Sociology and Associate Director of the Criminal Justice Research Center, Ohio State University

Lauren J. Krivo (Ph.D., University of Texas) is a Professor of Sociology and the Associate Director of the Criminal Justice Research Center at the Ohio State University. Her current research investigates the sources of race/ethnic differences in crime, particularly violent crime, in cities and neighborhoods throughout the United States. She is also conducting research on the role of segregation and spatial features of local areas on differences in urban crime patterns, and was co-principal investigator for the National Neighborhood Crime Study. Lauren has received, either as the primary or co-investigator, nearly 2 million dollars in research grants. She has presented numerous papers at various conferences and venues on her work as well as published in a variety of scholarly journals. Currently, she is a consulting editor for the American Journal of Sociology, active member of various sociology and criminology organizations, and the 2006 co-recipient of the Julius Debro Award for outstanding contributions in service to the study of race, ethnicity crime and justice from the Division on People of Color and Crime of the American Society of Criminology.

Byron Johnson, Professor of Sociology, Baylor University and Co-Director of the Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion

Byron Johnson is a Professor of Sociology and Co-Director of the Institute for Studies of Religion (ISR), as well as Director of the Program on Pro-social Behavior at Baylor University. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Witherspoon Institute in Princeton, New Jersey. Professor Johnson’s research focuses on the role of religion in public life. Recent publications have examined the efficacy of the "faith factor" in reducing crime and delinquency among at-risk youth in urban communities, and several studies examining the impact of faith-based programs on recidivism reduction and prisoner reentry. Johnson has written extensively on domestic violence and strategic efforts to reduce family violence. He is currently conducting research on the religious identity of American evangelicals.

Chris Money, Special Assistant to the Director, Ohio Department of Youth Services

Christine Money began her career in Corrections in 1981 in Social Services at the Chillicothe Correctional Institution. She was promoted to Director of Social Services in 1982 at Lima Correctional Institution and later in 1985 appointed to Deputy Warden at the Ohio Reformatory for Women. Christine was appointed her first Warden’s duties at Franklin Pre-Release Center in 1988 and was honored to return as Warden in 1992 to ORW. Ms. Money served as the Warden at Marion Correctional Institution from 1996 – 2005. Ms. Money joined the Executive Staff at the Ohio Department of Youth Services in November, 2005, where she serves as Special Assistant to Director Tom Stickrath. She is responsible for Reentry Services which includes oversight of faith-based and community services. In
2006, DYS launched its Community Saturation Initiative. There are now trained teams in every juvenile facility and parole region to lead a major effort to recruit faith-based and community organizations to engage with youth. Recently President George Bush honored Ms. Money for outstanding leadership in Faith-Based Programming in Corrections. She holds a Bachelor of Social Services from the University of Kentucky and received her master degree in Social Services from the Ohio State University. Ms. Money believes that every individual has the capacity to change and it is her obligation as a correction’s professional to offer quality opportunities to offenders to restore their lives.

"Edward Rhine, Deputy Director, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Edward E. Rhine, (Ph.D., Rutgers University) is Deputy Director of the Office of Policy and Offender Reentry for the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. In this capacity, he also serves as the Director of the Ohio Institute on Correctional Best Practices. Dr. Rhine’s career has included leadership and management positions in both juvenile and adult corrections. He was formerly the Chairperson of the Release Authority and Deputy Director of Parole, Courts and Community Services for the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Prior to that, he served as the Director of Field Operations for the Georgia Board of Pardons and Paroles. Dr. Rhine has written and edited numerous publications addressing the history and practice of paroling authorities, the impact of due process on prison discipline, leadership and change issues in probation and parole, offender reentry, and “best practices” in corrections. He is currently on the Editorial Committee for the American Probation and Parole publication - Perspectives. He served as the chief editor for such recent publications as ‘Transforming Probation Through Leadership: The ‘Broken Windows’ Model, and Best Practices in Corrections.’ He is the recipient of the 2004 E.J. Henderson Award bestowed by the International Community Corrections Association, and the 2005 Bennett J. Cooper Award bestowed by the Ohio Community Corrections Organization.

"Townsand Price-Spratlen, Associate Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University

Townsand Price-Spratlen, PhD is an Associate Professor of Sociology at The Ohio State University, with interests in race, faith and urban community formation. His historical research evaluates the sociodemographic factors which shaped African American community capacity during the Great Migration, and his contemporary research analyzes the relationship between a living faith and well-being outcomes among religiously active African American youth.

"Debbie Roeger, Executive Director, Opening Door of Ohio, Inc.

Following early retirement from legal practice in 1999, D. Roeger developed a private mediation practice. However, God’s plans were different than her own and she discontinued that practice at the end of 2004 when her work inside Ohio prisons began requiring her fulltime focus and commitment. After almost 2 years as a very active volunteer at Marion Correctional Institution, she received an invitation from Reginald Wilkinson to expand her volunteer programming and services into other Ohio prisons. As a result, in 2002 she began working with additional prisons to create new cooperative partnerships with the faith community and introduce no-cost programming and services related to staff and inmate dispute resolution and conflict management. As a part of this expanding work, she founded Opening Doors of Ohio, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit corporation. Their focus now includes the family members of offenders, support for Christian ex-offenders, and services to incarcerated youth and their families. Additionally, D. Roeger had the privilege of facilitating the monthly meetings of the legislatively created Ohio Correctional Faith-Based Initiatives Task Force during 2005/2006. In 2001, D. Roeger was awarded the ODRC Gold Star Award for exemplary efforts in promoting Ohio Quality Corrections and in 2004 was honored by Ross Correctional Institution staff and inmates when selected as their “Volunteer of the Year.” In addition to her J.D., she has a Master’s in Human Resources Management and a Bachelor’s in Business Administration.

"Gary Sims, Religious Services Administrator, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Prior to his appointment as Religious Service Administrator in 2000, Gary held the positions of Chaplain and Department Head of Religious Services. He is an Ordained Baptist Minister and an Associate Minister at the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio. He developed the ODRC Volunteer Death Row Ministry Team. Prior to joining the ODRC, Gary was a Special Education and Elementary Educator for Minneapolis and Pittsburgh Public Schools. For ten years, he worked for Prison Fellowship Ministries. Gary received a B.A. degree in Elementary Education from Sterling College in Sterling, Kansas; a M.A. degree in Theology and M.S degree in Special Education, both from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and a M.B.A degree from Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio.

"Shannon Teague, Administrator, Ohio Department of Youth Services

Shannon D. Teague has worked for the Ohio Department of Youth Services for ten years. Currently, she serves as the Administrator in Reentry Services coordinating faith-based and community programs for the department. She has worked in the fields of juvenile and adult corrections, mental health and substance abuse services. Prior to her current position, Shannon served as the superintendent at three juvenile correctional institutions, assistant administrator in the Office of Substance Abuse, unit manager, and social worker. Her corrections career began with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation..."
and Correction as a social worker at Ross Correctional Institution (1997). She received her bachelor’s degree in Sociology/Criminology (1992) and a master’s degree in Counselor Education/Rehabilitation (1994), both from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. She maintains a license in social work (LSW) and is a licensed independent chemical dependency counselor (LICDC).

Steven T. McFarland, Director, Task Force for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, US Department of Justice

Steven T. McFarland became the director of the Task Force on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in the U.S. Department of Justice in May 2005, and reports to the Deputy Attorney General. Previously, he served prisoners abroad as Vice President for Programme and Partnership Development for Prison Fellowship International (2002-05); helped advise U.S. foreign policymakers regarding religious persecution as the first Executive Director of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, an independent advisory body of the federal government (1999-2002); advocated and litigated for religious liberty in the U.S. as Director of the Christian Legal Society’s Center for Law and Religious Freedom (1991-99); and practiced commercial and First Amendment law in Seattle (1980-91).

Greg Trout, Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

As chief counsel, Greg Trout (J.D., Capital University) provides the Department with legal advice concerning inmate and staff health and safety, labor and employment concerns, legislation, contracts, and internal policy. He has defended the Department in class action suits arising from a maximum-security prison riot; challenging the adequacy of statewide mental health care for prisoners; and seeking improvements in conditions of confinement at numerous prisons. Mr. Trout was admitted to the Ohio Bar in 1978, and worked in the Corporations Section of the Secretary of State’s Office. He began his corrections career in 1979 as staff counsel with the ODRC. He has served as Chief Legal Counsel for ODRC since 1989.

Joseph Mancini, Assistant Attorney General, Ohio Attorney General’s Office

Joseph Mancini is an Assistant Attorney General in the Corrections Litigation section of the office of the Ohio Attorney General. In recent years, his primary focus has been defending prisoner class action lawsuits. He received his J.D. degree from Case Western Reserve University Law School and his B.A. from Case Western Reserve University. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Order of the Coif. Before joining the Attorney General’s office, he was engaged in private practice in Cleveland, Ohio.

David Goldberger, Professor of Law, Ohio State University

David Goldberger (J.D., University of Chicago Law School) teaches a civil clinic practicum, Constitutional Law, and a course on the First Amendment. He came to Ohio State in 1980, after serving as Legal and Legislative Director of the Illinois Division of the American Civil Liberties Union. Prior to working at the ACLU, he was a staff attorney for the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, specializing in law reform legislation. While in practice, he represented clients in a wide range of civil liberties cases. His research and writing focus on the free speech decisions of the United States Supreme Court. He continues to litigate civil liberties cases on behalf of clients unable to afford counsel.

Douglas Berman, Professor of Law, Ohio State University

Douglas Berman (J.D., University of Harvard Law School) principal teaching and research focus is in the area of criminal law and criminal sentencing, though he also has teaching and practice experience in the fields of intellectual property. Professor Berman is the co-author of a casebook, Sentencing Law and Policy: Cases, Statutes and Guidelines, published by Aspen Publishers. In addition to authoring numerous publications on topics ranging from capital punishment to the federal sentencing guidelines, Professor Berman has served as an Editor of the Federal Sentencing Reporter for nearly ten years, and also now serves as co-managing editor of the Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law. During the 1999-2000 school year, Professor Berman received the Ohio State University Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching which is given to only 10 persons each year from an eligible pool of nearly 3,000 faculty members. Professor Berman is the sole creator and author of the widely-read and widely-cited web log, Sentencing Law and Policy. The blog receives well over 50,000 "hits" per month (and had over 20,000 hits the day of the Supreme Court's major sentencing decision in United States v. Booker).

T. Austin Stout, Assistant Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Mr. Stout received a BA in Social Sciences from the Ohio State University in 1974, and his JD from the Ohio State University College of Law in 1977. He was admitted to the Ohio bar later that year. After ten years of general legal practice, a substantial portion of which was devoted to criminal defense, he accepted a position as staff counsel with the ODRC, assigned to the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. In 1992 he was transferred to legal services in the Department’s central office. In 1996 he was promoted to his present position of Assistant Chief Counsel, for the ODRC. In this position he provides legal advice and assistance to correctional personnel on a variety of legal issues confronting them in the operation of correctional institutions. In this capacity, he provides advice and counsel to department personnel regarding legal issues, and the development of policies related to the provision of religious services and faith based programming to Ohio inmates.