

NEWSLETTER



UNESCO Chair in Applied
Research for Education in Prison



www.cmv-educare.com
educare@collegemv.qc.ca

7000, Marie-Victorin, Montreal (Quebec), Canada, H1G 2J6
TEL: 1- 514 328 3832 FAX: 1-514 328 3829
Volume 2, Number 1, 2013



NEWS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE UNESCO CHAIR IN APPLIED RESEARCH FOR EDUCATION IN PRISON

The second virtual meeting was held

The second virtual conference call meeting of the Scientific Committee, which took place on September 12, 2012, brought together its members and associate members to discuss the current situation and upcoming challenges of prison education in each of the committee members regions and gave us an overview of what is being done around the world. Here are, in a nutshell, the specific points of interest mentioned by three of the members attending the meeting. You can also access the more detailed accounts written by these three committee members on our website at the following address: <http://www.cmv-educare.com/centre-de-documentation/ecrits-membres-comite-scientifique/>

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Paul Bélanger, UQAM, Montreal.

As part of its mandate to spearhead research and debate on issues related to education in correctional facilities, the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison is pleased to present a first series of three documents from different parts of the world.

Professor Joe Graffam, of Deakin University in Australia, provides a general overview of the vocational training services offered in the correctional system in his country. Mr. Azzeddine Belmahi, from the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Reintegration of Prison Inmates, presents the Moroccan program for the socio-professional reintegration of prison inmates. Mr. Robert J. Hill, of the University of Georgia in the United States, submitted a series of editorial notes concerning the right of prison inmates to receive education and social reintegration services in his country.

We invite researchers from around the world to submit manuscripts for future issues of the Chair's bulletin and thus contribute to sharing knowledge on the situation around the world.



NEWSLETTER

SUMMARY OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS' FINDINGS

JOE GRAFFAM

In Australia, there is no national correctional system. Each state has its own. As early as the start of the twentieth century, education has been provided to inmates in Australian prisons. In 1996, the Senate issued a comprehensive strategy paper that was based on five basic principles of social inclusion.

It took nearly 10 years to set up a well-articulated system of vocational training and education across the country. Now, a system is in place that provides a wide range of educational possibilities. We are, however, facing a rather unusual problem: the average length of sentences across the country is 6 months and three quarters of inmates are serving sentences of nine months or less, while requests for educational programs are high and the waiting list is long. A large proportion of inmates are not serving long enough sentences to have access to it.

[Read the full article ►](#)

AZZEDINE BELMAHI

Until 1990, the prisons in Morocco were subject to traditional and conservative policies, that is to say, they were used only to hold people captive, so to speak. After 1990, with the support of the king of Morocco, a new movement emerged advocating the promotion of human rights. Thanks to this movement, a new policy was issued in 2002 aiming at the social reintegration of prisoners. There is now a comprehensive program for prison inmate reintegration. This program focuses on basic education and vocational training, cultural and sporting activities, the development of family relationships, etc. This program has been implemented in correctional facilities in partnership with various government agencies.

[Read the full article ►](#)

ROBERT J. HILL

In the United States, the data and information about penal institutions are often biased or inaccurate. In addition, each state has its own correctional system, so it is difficult to give a general overview for the entire country. There are large discrepancies between states with respect to general incarceration rate, and great variations throughout the country in terms of incarceration according to origin or "race". The educational services, offered in American prisons, mainly focus on vocational training. As a result, the inmates will manufacture products that are being used in the prison setting (such as soap, for example). It is imperative that we move away from this approach, and also that we focus on providing education outside the correctional system to change the society's attitudes toward the detainees. [Read the full article ►](#)

In the next issue, additional texts from members of the Scientific Committee will be made available.



RETROSPECTIVE



"INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON THE ROLE OF THE UNEVOC NETWORK IN THE TRANSFORMATION OF TVET (TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING) FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE", BONN, GERMANY



From November 14 to 16, 2012, at the United Nations head office in Bonn, Germany, the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison was invited to present a communication on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the UNESCO-UNEVOC network, on the subject of the UNEVOC network's role in the transformation of TVET for a sustainable future.

This invitation by UNESCO-UNEVOC to present CEGEP Marie-Victorin's UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison (including its mission, objectives and activities) was a unique opportunity to discover an organization that, up until to now, had remained unknown to us. We met many energetic people and learned

about their bold and imaginative practices and initiatives. We hope to develop further collaboration with the UNESCO-UNEVOC network and its various centres across the world.

Our conference was held as part of a workshop, to which representatives of three other international UNESCO chairs were participating, namely those of Russia, China and Jordan. More than 115 people participated in this international forum where 52 countries were represented. CEGEP Marie-Victorin was represented by Mr. Jean-Pierre Simoneau, director of operations for the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison, who made a presentation in English. Given the presence of other UNESCO Chair representatives, the conference was an opportunity to look into the possibilities of creating links and potential partnerships with TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training). A few examples of the technical and vocational training offered by some agencies in the UNESCO-UNEVOC network seem very well suited

to meet the needs of the adult students to whom we offer training, either in penitentiaries or in the community at large.

9TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STUDY GROUP ON EDUCATION IN PRISON (GESEC), LA PLATA, ARGENTINA

On October 5 and 6, 2012, the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison of CEGEP Marie-Victorin was invited by the Study Group on Education in Prison (GESEC) to participate in the "9th Annual Meeting of the Latin-American educators and theses on education in prison", which was held in La Plata, in the Province of Buenos Aires in Argentina. The meeting celebrated the 10th anniversary of the GESEC.

Many researchers, practitioners, teachers and representatives of organizations advocating the right to education had the opportunity to exchange on the general theme of correctional education. More than 400 participants attended the

NEWSLETTER

presentations and participated in various working sessions and workshops about the right to education, educational practices in prison, as well as the difficulties and the future prospects for education in correctional facilities in Latin America.



From left to right: Ms. Florencia Perez Lalli, President of GESEC, M.G. Francisco Scarfo, vice president of GESEC and coordinator of the Commission on University Education in public prisons, UNLP, Argentina, Dr. Fernandes Elinaldo Juliao, University Paulo, Brazil, Dr. Camilla Crosso, the Latin American Campaign for the Right to Education (CLADE) Sao Paulo, Brazil, Jean-Pierre Simoneau, director of operations of the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for prison education, Rosana Arriaga, traductor.

This meeting allowed a first contact between the organizations and country representatives and the director of operations of the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison, and it is a first step toward developing new projects to support education in prison.

A NEW COLLABORATIVE PROJECT WITH THE RCCFC (NETWORK OF CEGEPS AND FRANCOPHONE COLLEGES OF CANADA) BETWEEN CEGEP MARIE-VICTORIN AND COLLÈGE BORÉAL OF SUDBURY, ONTARIO

From November 5 to 8, 2012, CEGEP Marie-Victorin, host of the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison, and Collège Boréal met in Sudbury in the context of the "Education, a meeting toward freedom" project, supported by the Network of CEGEPs and Francophone Colleges of Canada (RCCFC).

Representatives of the two colleges have visited three institutions in these few days: Collège Boréal, the Cecil Facer Youth Centre and the Sudbury Jail. The visits concluded with a conference luncheon that brought together various actors in the field of education and other resources working with individuals under judicial control. The objective was to share practices in working with young people and adults and with men and women subject to judicial control in the Greater Sudbury area and publicize the mission of the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison at CEGEP Marie-Victorin.

At the end of these discussions, several participants expressed their need for additional meetings of the same kind, to be held at least once a year, with a greater number of managers, stakeholders and beneficiaries to take stock of the better and not so better practices and to discuss the development of new intervention strategies for people under judicial control, whether they are living in institutions or in the community.



Mr. Raoul Cantin, Mrs. Nicole Lefebvre, Mr. Daniel Bouchard, Ms. Tina Montgomery, Mr. Jean-Pierre Simoneau

RETROSPECTIVE

AN EXCHANGE MEETING ON "EDUCATION IN PRISON" ON THE CARLETON-SUR-MER CAMPUS OF CEGEP DE LA GASPÉSIE-ET-DES-ÎLES



On January 22, 2013, the Department of Correctional Intervention Techniques of CEGEP de la Gaspésie et des Îles invited CEGEP Marie-Victorin's UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison to present a paper as part of a meeting held on its Carleton-sur-Mer campus under the theme of "Education in Prison".

Over sixty participants from various sectors of intervention had the opportunity to share ideas at the meeting. The morning was spent watching the "Education, a meeting toward freedom" documentary and hearing a presentation about CEGEP Marie-Victorin's forty years of experience in college training and about the

community support program for parolees (PRET 2000). Finally, a presentation of the mission, objectives and activities of the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison concluded this first part of the meeting. The afternoon session was dedicated to a plenary involving all participants, and to a discussion on each participant's real experiences in relation to prisons and social reintegration and on the importance of education for people under judicial control.

A DELEGATION FROM THE CHINESE PROVINCE OF SHANDONG VISITING CEGEP MARIE-VICTORIN

From November 21 to 23, 2012, CEGEP Marie-Victorin hosted a Chinese delegation in the context of a training program promoting partnerships between colleges of the Shandong Province (China) and Quebec's colleges. The guests also visited three other partnering colleges, namely, CEGEP Vanier, CEGEP John Abbott and CEGEP André-Laurendeau.

The UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison at CEGEP Marie-Victorin made a presentation to the visitors on the subject of college education in prison. The delegation learned about the College's educational experience in correctional settings as well as in the community, and more specifically in regard to the development of professional and civic skills.



NEWSLETTER

THE PRESIDENT OF PRISONER AID NEPAL (PA NEPAL), MRS. INDIRA RANA MAGAR, VISITED THE UNESCO CHAIR IN APPLIED RESEARCH FOR EDUCATION IN PRISON

On September 18, 2012, the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison received the visit of Prisoner Aid Nepal's (PA Nepal) president, Mrs. Indira Rana Magar. The PA Nepal organization provides help to incarcerated women and their families. It implements a number of educational programs for men, women and children in prison, making family visits and providing care to detainees experiencing mental health problems.

Mrs. Rana Magar first visited Maison Thérèse-Casgrain in collaboration with the

general management of the Elizabeth-Fry Society of Quebec (SEFQ). This halfway house attends to women in the Montreal area as well as in the greater southwest area of the province of Quebec. Each year, it accommodates approximately 100 women undergoing all manners of social reintegration processes.

Mrs. Rana Magar then accompanied Mr. Jean-Pierre Simoneau, director of operations at the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison, in visiting the Joliette Institution, thanks

to the collaboration of Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), and in particular thanks to Mr. Jean-François Cusson, Coordinator - Community outreach (of CSC's regional office in Laval). The Joliette Institution is a multi-level correctional facility for women inmates. Mrs. Dominique St-Jean (CSC) accompanied them during the visit.



From left to right: Christine Tremblay (SEFQ), Indira Rana Magar (Nepal Pa), Jean-François Meilleur, Ruth Gagnon (SEFQ).



From left to right: Jean-Pierre Simoneau (UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in prison), Indira Rana Magar (Nepal Pa), Mrs Dominique St-Jean (Correctional Service of Canada).



KEY UPCOMING EVENTS

Five-day workshop to develop an educational service offer for the Brazilian correctional system

The five-day seminar scheduled for fall 2012 as part of the agreement with the Brazilian ALAGOAS, CEARÁ, PIAUI, RONDÔNIA and TOSCANTINES Federal Institutes of Education, Science and Technology was postponed. It will now take place in 2013.

Internship agreement with CEGEP Lionel-Groulx

An agreement was signed between the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison and two students from CEGEP Lionel-Groulx to carry out their internship as part of an intervention project in documentation management. The project will begin in May 2013.

Public participation program with Senegal

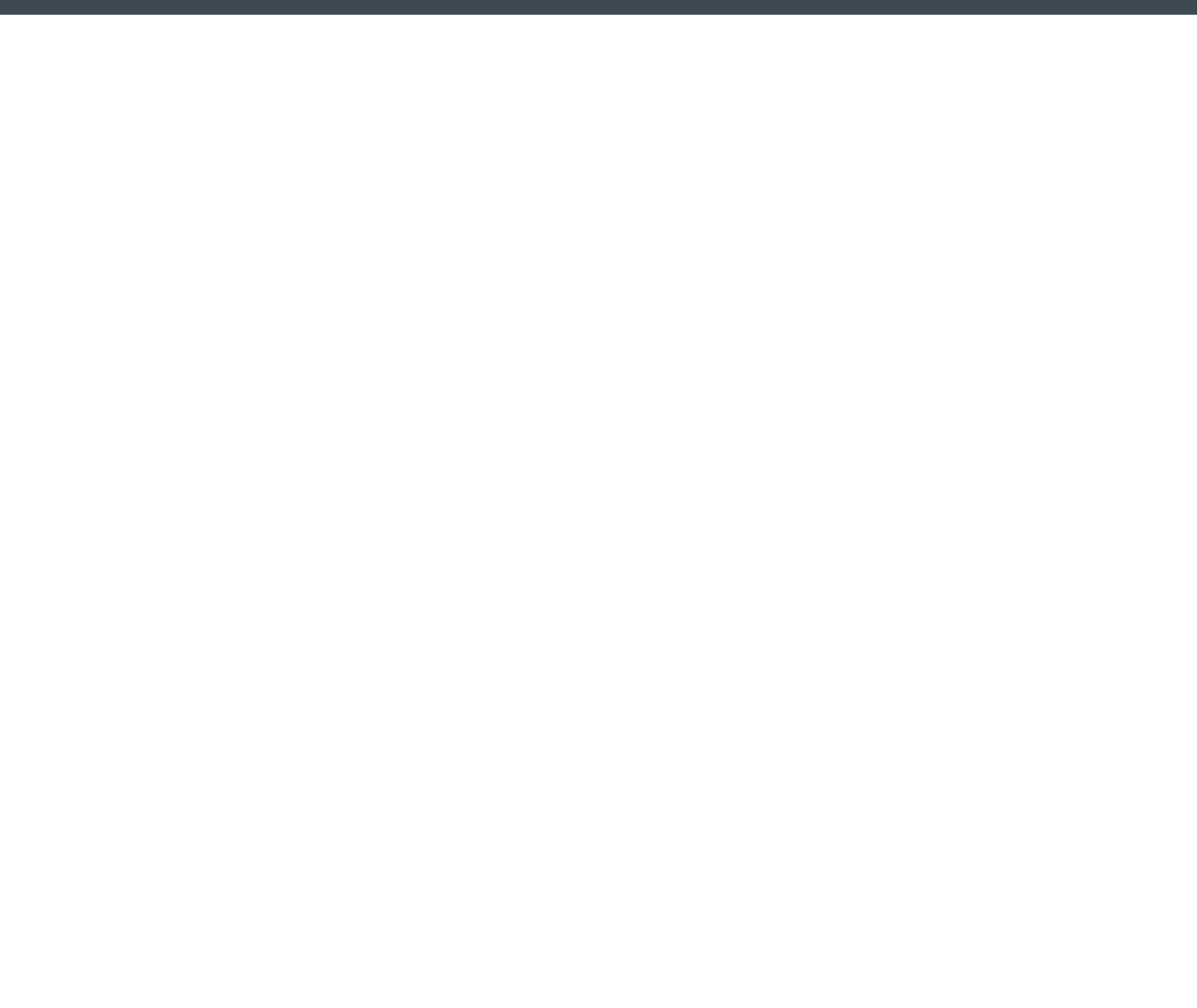
Mr. Jean-Pierre Miron, head of the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison, recently contacted the Senegalese UNESCO Committee to work on a proposal for a seminar that would bring together representatives of twenty countries and the objective of which would be to obtain a general overview of the field of correctional education. The seminar would be held in the west of Africa, Dakar, in Senegal in July 2014.

Proposed international conference on education in prison in 2015 and subsequent production of a manifesto

The UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison is planning an international conference that would focus on practices in correctional education and that would lead, eventually, to the production of a manifesto. This conference will bring together forty participants from more than 25 countries.



NEWSLETTER



Feel free to forward this newsletter to all
your contacts

Also, to help us to expand our network, send
as the names and contact details of relevant
persons and organizations.

web : www.cmv-educare.com
email : educare@collegemv.qc.ca



UNESCO Chair in Applied
Research for Education in Prison



7000, Marie-Victorin, Montreal (Quebec), Canada, H1G 2J6
TEL: 1- 514 328 3832 FAX: 1-514 328 3829

ISSN 1929-0845