



NEWSLETTER



UNESCO Chair in Applied
Research for Education in Prison





TRIBUTE TO MS NICOLE ROUILLIER

The UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison, and the members of the Steering Committee in particular, would like to pay tribute to Ms Nicole Rouillier



NICOLE ROUILLIER

The UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison would like to pay tribute to Ms Nicole Rouillier, President of the Steering Committee of the Chair and Director General of Cégep Marie-Victorin, for her remarkable commitment to her role on the Steering Committee and for her unique dedication to education in

prisons. Ms Rouillier has supported the development of postsecondary programs and services in Quebec's 13 federal penitentiaries, as well as in the community (PRET 2000), for both men and women serving sentences of two years or more. Over the last 30 years, she has promoted education among marginalized groups. Students have always been at the heart of Ms Nicole Rouillier's initiatives, regardless of their status. Over the years, there have been difficult periods of budgetary constraint and repeated attempts to abolish these kinds of programs and services, but she has always defended with conviction the value of prison education as a strategy for reintegration into society. In honour of all her years of service, working with teachers and professionals in this field, Cégep Marie-Victorin has obtained a UNESCO research chair at the college level, the first in Canada. Although it was a group effort, the leadership of Ms Nicole Rouillier has made it possible. This Chair is also the first at UNESCO to champion the theme education in prison. All students and teachers who have taken part in the noble mission of prison education are honoured to have been able to count on Ms Nicole Rouillier's unwavering support of the cause. We will always be grateful.



SYLVAIN MANDEVILLE

Ms Rouillier is going to give up her seat on the Steering Committee of the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison and as Director General of Cégep Marie-Victorin to Mr Sylvain Mandeville. Mr Mandeville has worked in colleges for 26 years and has been part of Cégep Marie-Victorin for 15 years. The UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison would like to welcome Mr Sylvain Mandeville and is confident that he will promote and defend prison education with the same passion.

CURRENT OVERVIEW OF PRISON EDUCATION AROUND THE WORLD

The Reference Centre of the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison Is Expanding

Since the last edition of our newsletter, a number of researchers, students, professionals, and friends of the Chair have submitted texts (research reports, dissertations, thesis, essays, articles, etc.) regarding prison education. We have added a number of them to the 'Reference Centre' section of our website.

The following is a brief list of texts that we have recently added:

- Davis, Lois M., Robert Bozick, Jennifer L. Steele, Jessica Saunders et Jeremy N. V. Miles. *Evaluating the Effectiveness of Correctional Education: A Meta-Analysis of Programs That Provide Education to Incarcerated Adults*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2013. http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR266. Also available in print form.
- Department for Business, Innovation and Skills of the Ministry of Justice of the United Kingdom. *Making Prison Work: Skills for Rehabilitation – Review of Offender Learning*. May 2011. London. 32 p.
- Christina Clark and George Dugdale. 2008. *Literacy Changes Lives: The role of literacy in offending behaviour – A discussion piece*. London : National Literacy Trust. 11 p.
- Tom Schuller. 2009. *Crime and Lifelong Learning: IFL Thematic Paper 5*. England and Wales: National Institute of Adult Continuing Education. 49 p.
- Denise Carreira. 2009. *Educação nas prisões brasileiras* (portugais) / *Educación en las prisiones brasileñas* (espagnol). São Paulo: Plataforma Brasileira de Direitos Humanos Econômicos, Sociais, Culturais e Ambientais (Plataforma DHESCA Brasil). 116 p.
- Campaña Latinoamericana por el Derecho a la Educación (CLADE). *El Derecho a la Educación en Contextos de Encierro – Políticas y Prácticas en América Latina y el Caribe*. 2012. 26 p.
- Somnard, Audrey. 2013. « La formation, même en prison ». *Le Quotidien*, June 15.
- Ganjapure, Vaibhav. 2013. « Yakub Memon, blasts convict, Master of Arts! ». *The Times of India*, April 13.
- Bhattacharya, Kaushik. 2013. « They make society proud ». *The Hitavada*, April 13.
- Ana Filipa da Silva Pinho. 2009. *A intervenção reeducativa e formativa com indivíduos em situação de reclusão : O trabalho do Técnico Superior de Reeducação e a Formação Profissional em contexto prisional*. Faculdade de Psicologia e Ciências da Educação da Universidade do Porto, Portugal.



A THIRD CONFERENCE FOR THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The third virtual teleconference of the Scientific Committee, which took place on June 28, 2013, brought together members (as well as associate members) to discuss the current situation and the challenges of education in prison in each of the regions that committee members represent. A significant portion of the conference focused on organizing the international forum scheduled for summer 2015.

Regarding the forum, Mr Alan Tuckett of the United Kingdom has stated that a document signed by members of the Scientific Committee may be issued before the seminar to give some guidance to the various participants for their communication and indicating what the conference will be about. Other documents may be submitted several days or weeks before the forum so that they can be translated and distributed. These documents may generate feedback and comments that will be compiled, attached to the original, and distributed. Moreover, Mr Alan Tuckett has suggested holding a virtual seminar on the subject of education in prison among members of the Scientific Committee and other guests. Thereafter, a report resulting from these exchanges may be distributed. The comments it generates would be compiled, attached to the original document, and distributed. This proposal was unanimously approved by members and it has been agreed that it will be discussed further at the next virtual conference of the Scientific Committee in November 2013.





NEWSLETTER

ARTICLES OF OUR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

As in the last edition, we are sending you articles written by members of our Scientific Committee and our associate members. These texts describe the state of education in prison in their respective countries. The following is a brief summary of each of these texts.

HUGO RANGEL

[Latin America]

Overpopulation in penitentiaries is widespread in Latin American countries, which creates significant problems in providing basic services to inmates. Prisons are notorious for repeated bloody attacks and a significant level of violence. While prison education initiatives are numerous and encouraged, incessant changes in the political sphere and among prison staff affects the viability and stability of these services. Politicians generally seem more interested in solutions proposed by security technology companies. Researchers are trying to fight back by presenting education as a solution to the crisis, but the result of this struggle is currently undetermined.

[Read the full article ►](#)

BANZA NSOMWE-A-NFUNKWA

[Democratic Republic of Congo]

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, education in prison is non-existent. However, developing this service would be beneficial since a great majority of inmates in the Republic as a whole and in the capital Kinshasa in particular are youths involved in urban gang activity. These young people are generally poorly educated or illiterate and sometimes have learning difficulties. They often come from deprived or problematic environments or were simply living on the streets. Some ex-inmates even want to return to prison, where meals are always provided. Initiatives to reintegrate former prisoners back into society are also non-existent, leading to a high rate of recidivism.

[Read the full article ►](#)

OUMAR NDONGO

[Senegal]

In Africa, inmates are still very marginalized and their time in prison is considered personally dishonorable and has repercussions on the entire family. However, reintegration is beginning to play a pivotal role in the penal system and social perceptions are progressively changing, if only through the use of more socially acceptable language, such as maison d'arrêt, or timeout house. In Senegal, education in prisons is centred on literacy and professional training. Personal development programs are usually provided by an Islamic religious curriculum. Although education is perceived more and more as a preferred path toward reintegration, Senegal needs to concentrate firstly on respecting the human rights of inmates, on incarceration conditions, and on the problem of preventive detention.

[Read the full article ►](#)

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

RETROSPECTIVE

DOCUMENTATION TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS AT CÉGEP LIONEL-GROULX HAVE DONE AN EXCEPTIONAL JOB AS INTERNS AT THE UNESCO CHAIR IN APPLIED RESEARCH FOR EDUCATION IN PRISON



NANCY ASTUDILLO



ROBERT TRUDEL

For four weeks in the month of May, the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison welcomed two interns, Ms Nancy Astudillo and Mr Robert Trudel, who are about to graduate in documentation technology at Cégep Lionel-Groulx in Sainte-Thérèse. This is part of an agreement between the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison and Cégep Lionel-Groulx to host an internship involving a

document management project. The two students accomplished a huge amount of work for the UNESCO Chair by creating paper and digital classification tools and programs, culminating in a comprehensive classification system. They also conducted a full archival review of existing documents and created a number of highly useful procedures that will make it possible for the Chair to more efficiently manage documents that are received and produced.

The UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison and its Steering Committee would like to thank Ms Nancy Astudillo and Mr Robert Trudel for their hard work and their exemplary professionalism. We wish you much success in your career and with your future endeavors.

LAUNCH OF THE BOOK *UNE ENSEIGNANTE EN MILIEU CARCÉRAL : L'ÉDUCATION, LA CLÉ DE LA RÉINSERTION SOCIALE* (A TEACHER IN A PRISON ENVIRONMENT: EDUCATION, THE KEY, AND SOCIAL REINTEGRATION)

Reflection and memoirs of Ms Yvette Grenier, teacher in Continuing Education at Cégep Marie-Victorin



From left to right in the picture: Ms Josée Deschênes, Director of Continuing Education and Business Services, Ms Yvette Grenier, teacher and author, Ms Nicole Rouillier, Director General of Cégep Marie-Victorin, Mr Luc Barsalou, Master of Ceremonies

On Tuesday, June 25, 2013, the book launch of *Une enseignante en milieu carcéral : l'éducation, la clé de la réinsertion sociale* (A Teacher in a Prison Environment: Education, The Key To Social Reintegration),



NEWSLETTER

written by Ms Yvette Grenier, a philosophy teacher in continuing education from 1988 to 2011 and who worked for 15 years in the prison system, was held in the atrium of the music pavilion at Cégep Marie-Victorin.

In the book, published by Laval University Press in spring 2013, Ms Yvette Grenier provides a civic and philosophical reflection on her experience as a teacher of incarcerated students.

Approximately 50 attendees, including parents and friends of the author, representatives of the Correctional Service of Canada, of the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison, of Cégep Marie-Victorin, as well as the director of continuing education and business services of Cégep Marie-Victorin, Ms Josée Deschênes, and the Director General of the Cégep, Ms Nicole Rouillier, all paid tribute to Ms Yvette Grenier.

Ms Deschênes has recalled that, "before becoming a teacher at Cégep Marie-Victorin, Ms Grenier also completed a continuing education program [...] Having always shown and maintained an interest in education, for social inclusion and for knowledge, she returned to study at Collège Marie-Victorin, where she earned a college diploma. After earning a doctorate in philosophy in France, she returned to

Collège Marie-Victorin in 1988, where she taught almost continuously until 2011 in diverse roles in the continuing education department: adult education, courses for adults 50 and up, continuing education, recognition of prior training, and prison education."

On the occasion of her last official event as Director General of Cégep Marie-Victorin, Ms Rouillier described the qualities as an educator and the author's sense of commitment. Ms Rouillier also praised the reflection of Ms Grenier, having concluded her book with a pertinent quote from Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*, "Open a school and you will close a prison."

When called upon to take the stage, Ms Yvette Grenier stated that her "book highlights a societal choice regarding the role of education in the social reintegration of ex-convicts. This choice is a significant step that must become better known [...] Education in penitentiaries is a right for all. My commitment underlines this right."

Ms Grenier added that "this commitment becomes effective when a significant number of inmates accept services that are available to them in order to earn a diploma or a certificate on site, within the establishment, and for other inmates to be able to pursue an education within or

outside prison walls."

In her book, Ms Grenier has "attempted to ask certain questions and to share a number of diverse personal experiences that we have to handle at any moment." She "dares to hope that the book will reach many people who have previously felt that there were many unanswered questions on this subject that were too complex and delicate, preventing them from participating in the debate and discussion."

Source: Luc Barsalou / luc.barsalou@collegemv.qc.ca

Our Reference Centre includes a link to the editor's website, where copies of the book can be obtained and where the first 20 pages are available, in the "[Books](#)" section.

RÉTROSPECTIVE

THE CANADIAN COMMISSION FOR UNESCO IS HOSTING THE ANNUAL MEETING OF UNESCO CHAIRS OF CANADA ON JUNE 9 AND 10, 2013



The annual meeting of UNESCO Chairs of Canada took place on June 9 and 10, 2013 in Ottawa. The meeting was organized by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. The UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison was present and participated in this most interesting meeting. A central focus was the different challenges and difficulties that UNESCO Chairs of Canada have confronted.

On this occasion, we have had the chance to meet with Ms Myriam Montrat, the new Secretary General of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. Also during the videoconferencing event, Mr David Atchoarena, Director of the Division of Planning and Development for Educational Systems (ED/PDE) of UNESCO invited UNESCO Chairs of Canada to participate in the meeting of UNESCO Chairs on Higher Education, the ICTs in education and the development of teachers, at the headquarters of UNESCO in Paris on

September 5 and 6. The UNESCO Chairs of Canada will receive an official invitation in the near future so that they can participate in the meeting.

We would like to highlight the involvement of a number of special guests who made important statements during this meeting: Mr Gordon Platt, Senior Director of Political Strategy, International and Intergovernmental Affairs of Canadian Heritage; Ms Monique Zaloum, Senior Political Advisor in International Relations at the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada; Mr Brent Herbert-Copley, Vice President of the Research Division of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada; Ms Julia Dicum, Acting Supervisor of Human Development and Gender Equality at the Canadian International Development Agency; Ms Anne Rhéaume, UNESCO Affairs Coordinator at the Quebec

Ministry of International Relations, the Francophonie, and External Trade; Ms Jennifer Humphries, Vice President of Member Services, Public Policy and Communications at the Canadian Bureau for International Education; Ms Marie-Josée Fortin, Program Director of the International Partnership of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC); Ms Ann Weston, Director of the Special Initiatives Division of the International Development Research Centre; Mr Marcel Courchesne, Analyst of the Council of Ministers of Education of Canada; and Mr Tom Tunney, Senior Manager and Head of University and College Programming at the World University Service of Canada (WUSC). Lastly, we would like to acknowledge the excellent work of the host of the meeting, Mr Budd Hall, Co-Director of the UNESCO Chair on Community Research and the Social Responsibility of Higher Education, at the University of Victoria.

NEWSLETTER

THE UNESCO CHAIR IN APPLIED RESEARCH FOR EDUCATION IN PRISON HAS BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING OF THE FRANCE-QUEBEC COOPERATION PROJECT



An initial meeting was held between various partners of the project, including Ms Sonia Bradette, Coordinator of Educational Services in Provincial Prisons, Rivière-du-Nord School Board; Ms Jacqueline Comeau, Coordinator of Educational Services in Federal Prisons, Seigneurie-des-Milles-Iles School Board; Mr Daniel Beauvais, Research Engineer, INS HEA in Suresnes; and Mr Philippe Scholasch, Deputy Head of the Interregional Pedagogical Unit of Lille - Lycée Pénitentiaire. These partners graciously invited Mr Jean-Pierre Simoneau, Director of Operations at the UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison to participate in this meeting.

This project is supported by the Ministry of International Relations, the Francophonie, and External Trade of Quebec and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic (General Consulate of France in Quebec City) as part of the 64th Session of the Permanent Commission for France-Quebec Cooperation. It is supervised by the Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sport of Quebec. It follows an exploratory mission conducted in Suresnes and in Lille in March 2012 by Ms Sonia Bradette, Coordinator of Educational Services in Provincial Prisons, which also received financing from the Ministry of International Relations of Quebec.

The goal is to make teaching materials available to teachers of education in prison for students that have received little education, since there are significant limitations in terms of conventional materials. In prisons, students have little or no access to new technologies (e.g. Internet). The purpose of the project is to provide teachers with a common digital work environment conducive to sharing expertise, while making the French language a priority. Moreover, this will allow teachers to apply more engaging techniques and to share their expertise with other teachers who are new to the field.

For more information regarding this ongoing project, please contact Ms Bradette (bradettes@csrdn.qc.ca) or Mr Beauvais (daniel.beauvais@inshea.fr).



PRINCIPAL FUTURE ACTIVITIES

An agreement has been signed by the Ministry of Public Safety and the Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sport

The UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison has signed an agreement with the Ministry of Public Safety and the Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sport to initiate an applied research project. It will consist of a provisional overview of prison education. Thereafter, the research will examine more closely the impact of education on the social reintegration and employability of former inmates as well as the impact of training programs on security in penitentiaries. The project started at the beginning of October.

The next annual meeting of UNESCO Chairs of Canada will take place at Cégep Marie-Victorin in summer 2014

In the week of June 16, 2014, the annual meeting of UNESCO Chairs of Canada, organized by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, will take place at Cégep Marie-Victorin. The Cégep and its UNESCO Chair in Applied Research for Education in Prison are pleased to host this event.

Organizing a seminar in Brazil in February 2014

Following a videoconference that took place on October 24, 2013 between Ms Magda Zanotto and Mr Jean-Pierre Simoneau, it has been agreed that the five-day seminar will be held in Brazil in February, 2014. This seminar has been made possible thanks to the participation of Federal Institutes of Education, Science and Technology of the Brazilian states of Alagoas, Ceará, Piauí, Rondônia, and Tocantins.

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.

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