
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

DIVISION OF PRISONS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES BULLETIN

Theodis Beck, Correction Secretary
James French, Prisons Director
Jane Young, Education Director

Volume 2, Issue 4
September 2000
Arthur Clark, Editor

DR. JANE YOUNG ASSUMES NEW DIRECTOR POSITION

Jane Young, Ph.D., Director of DOP Educational Services since June 1996, begins new duties on September 27 as Director of Education at the NC Department of Juvenile Justice where she will oversee education programs at five training schools and ten detention centers serving approximately 1,000 students. Dr. Young describes her new position as "a rare career opportunity and exciting challenge." She also expressed her indebtedness "to the many people who have worked extremely hard over the years to enhance correctional education in North Carolina" and with whom she "looks forward to continuing these partnerships" in her new post.

JOBSTART PROGRAM UNDERWAY

JobStart, a pilot project designed to prepare inmates to secure and retain gainful employment following release, is now being implemented at the five field-test sites: Morrison Youth Institution, NC Correctional Institution for Women, Polk Youth Institution, Sandhills Youth Center, and Western Youth Institution. Project teams from each of these institutions participated in an implementation workshop, August 9-10 in Raleigh, at which DOC Secretary Theodis Beck once again expressed his support for JobStart, which also includes the involvement of JobLink Centers and a cadre of Community Corrections staff.

GREENVILLE (SC) TECH DELEGATION VISITS ALBEMARLE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

A delegation of educators from Greenville Technical Community College in South Carolina visited Stanly Community College and Albemarle Correctional Institution on August 8 to learn how community colleges support correctional education in North Carolina. The visit was hosted by Stanly CC, where the initial information session was held, after which a tour of the Albemarle CI facility was conducted. Participating in the "Our Partnership Panel" presentation for the visitors were: Dean Lonnie Swanner, Corporate and Professional Education, and Dr. Mary Avery, Dean for Learning Resources/Adult Literacy, of Stanley CC; Sharon Thompson, Coordinator of Correctional Education, NC Community College System; ACI Administrator Michael York, ACI Assistant Superintendent for Programs John Hamlin, and James Moss, Educational Services Coordinator at ACI; and, for Educational Services, Dr. Jane Young, Director, and Anne Tew, Liaison to Community Colleges.

LENOIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE HOLDS FIRST RECRUITING SOCIAL AT ECI

Lenoir Community College held its First Annual Recruitment Social at Eastern Correctional Institution on July 20 to inform inmates about the upcoming term of courses and to answer questions about the programs available to them through LCC. The event was so successful, with over 70 attendees, that a second session was held July 26. For details, contact Desha Lane, Educational Program Supervisor at ECI.

DUPLIN CORRECTIONAL CENTER AND JAMES SPRUNT COMMUNITY COLLEGE CELEBRATE BASIC EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS TRAINING (BEST) GRADUATION

A class of 12 inmates from Duplin Correctional Center was recognized in graduation ceremonies conducted at James Sprunt Community College on July 27 for successfully completing the Basic Employability Skills Training program conducted by the college and Duplin County JobLink Center. For information about the program, which prepares graduates for employment upon release, contact DCC Superintendent John Crawford. **See photo of graduating class below.**



YOUTH OFFENDER PROGRAM RECEIVES POSITIVE REPORT

The federally funded Youth Offender Program, now beginning its third year of operation at six youth institutions, received an encouraging evaluation report on its second year of performance. The evaluators from UNC-Chapel Hill School of Education stated in their conclusion, "The program has expanded and improved this year, and student inmates are valuing education more highly. As the student inmates become more oriented to work and education, they will have new needs for information and planning. While this will be demanding for the program, it is a positive sign that student inmates are learning about conventional life and wish to make a successful transition to the community." The program, which enrolls offenders 25 years or younger at Foothills Correctional Institution, Morrison Youth Institution, NC Correctional Institution for Women, Polk Youth Institution, Sandhills Youth Center, and Western Youth Institution, combines postsecondary instruction with job-readiness and cognitive skills training.

SUSAN BEEBE PRESENTS AT CEA CONFERENCE

Susan Beebe, Coordinator of the Exceptional Students Program, DOP Educational Services, delivered a presentation entitled "Child Find: The Challenges of Identifying Special Needs Students in Adult Prisons" at the Correctional Education Association Conference in Cincinnati on July 18. The presentation explained the background leading up to the development of the program and how Child Find works within Division of Prisons today, the goal of which is to identify and serve those inmates who are eligible to receive Exceptional Students Program services.

GRADUATION HIGHLIGHTS FROM ACROSS DIVISION OF PRISONS

- ◆ Lumberton Correctional Institution held its annual commencement ceremony for academic and vocational graduates on May 25. Forty-four current or former LMI inmates were recognized for receiving the GED certificate while two inmates were awarded certificates for completing vocational programs in Heating/Air Conditioning, Carpentry and Electrical Wiring. David Canady, South Central Region Chaplain, was the guest speaker, and refreshments were provided by the Men's Alliance Club and Robeson Community College, LCI's partner in education.
- ◆ Pasquotank Correctional Institution held commencement exercises July 28 for its largest graduating class since the opening of the facility in 1995. Graduates received certificates for completion for the following programs as conducted by College of the Albemarle: GED (43); Electrical Installation (12); Carpentry (9); Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (8); and Foodservice Technology (10). Mrs. Althea Riddick, COA Instructor/ Program Coordinator for Office Systems Technology, was the guest speaker, while PCI Administrator Ernest Sutton and Dr. Sylvester McKay, COA President, presented certificates.
- ◆ Avery/Mitchell Correctional Institution and Mayland Community College held the first graduation ceremony at A/MCI on August 11. Sixty-one graduates were recognized for completion of programs in GED (29), Computer Applications (17) and Commercial Cleaning (15). Dr. Jane Young, Director of DOP Educational Services, delivered the graduation address while special guests Diana O'Shields and Helen Bailey provided musical accompaniment.
- ◆ Hyde Correctional Institution conducted its GED and vocational program graduation on August 2. There were eight GED graduates, five in Horticulture, 11 in Electrical Wiring, six in Welding, and four in Drafting. Ms. Judy Jennette, Director of Public Relations for Beaufort County Community College delivered commencement remarks in which she challenged the graduates to "be important" by using what they have learned to help others. Dr. Swarn Dahiya and Nathaniel Boykin of DOP Educational Services attended the ceremony.
- ◆ Albemarle Correctional Institution, on August 18, in association with Stanly Community College, held its first semi-annual commencement exercise for graduates of programs conducted at the facility by SCC. Mr. Sherrill Smith, President of S&D Construction Co. in Albemarle and a staunch supporter of ACI, delivered the graduation address. Dr. Michael Taylor, President of Stanly CC, along with James Moss, ACI Educational Services Coordinator, presented awards for the community college programs while Timothy Steed, Program Assistant II at ACI, presented certificates for completion of other educational programs offered at ACI. Also participating were ACI Administrator Michael York and Charles Garner, ACI Chaplain, among other facility and college staff. The number of graduates completing program requirements in the past six months is as follows: Electrical Wiring (11), Heating and Air Conditioning (12), GED (15), Fatheread (4), Character Education (10) and Napoleon Hill (18).

DOC ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS ELECTS OFFICERS

DOC-AE, an affiliated sub-group of the North Carolina Association of Educators, held its installation of new officers on Saturday, August 26, at Trailblazers in Sanford, NC. Outgoing officers were: Debbie Williams, President; Rick Hamilton, Secretary; and Deborah Wood, Treasurer. Officers for 2000-2001 are: John McKoy (Polk Youth Inst.), President; Wayne Clay (Sandhills Youth Ctr.), Vice-President; Florence Williams (NC Correctional Inst. for Women), Secretary; and Marilynn Richardson (Morrison Youth Inst.), Secretary. In launching the program year, President McKoy announced a goal of achieving "a more inclusive participation of all teachers in correctional education" and that a general meeting of all DOC-AE members would be held this fall. Information about DOC-AE may be received from any officer.

FACILITATORS COMPLETE "CHANGES" TRAINING

Educators from six institutions completed facilitator certification training, August 15-18 in Raleigh, in the second part of the two-course cognitive behavioral training sequence being conducted at these institutions. Previously trained to conduct the first course in the series, CHOICES, the facilitators are now also certified to facilitate CHANGES, which builds on the cognitive skills introduced in CHOICES. Graduates of this second cadre of facilitators to be trained in CHOICES and CHANGES are: Mary O'Neil, Foothills Correctional Institution; Janice Mack and Deborah Wood, Morrison Youth Institution; Nell Best and Dr. Ann Mullin, NC Correctional Institution for Women; James Pilley and Dr. Brian Sweeney, Polk Youth Institution; Art Dunne, Suzanne Jones and Rick Smith of Western Youth Institution; and Mark Gupton of Educational Services. The trainer for this and all prior certification sessions was Dr. Steve Parese of SBP Consulting, Danbury, NC.

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT OPUS SCREENS DEVELOPED

After many months of program development spearheaded by Susan Beebe, Coordinator of DOP's Exceptional Student Program, with valuable technical assistance from Kathy Sledge and other members of DOP's Information Systems staff, a series of OPUS screens has been developed as a means of electronically transmitting Exceptional Student Program (ESP) information among facilities, departments and individual staff members. This method of transmittal will expedite the timely transfer of information, allow for easier access to student data, and establish a system of accountability for meeting timeline requirements of local and state procedures, including biannual reports to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and for maintaining compliance with federal regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The new OPUS screens will also allow staff to generate reports reflecting the number of students referred, evaluated and placed in the Exceptional Student Program in a more efficient, effective manner than has been previously possible, and will also enable staff to conduct periodic evaluations and to make improvements in ESP programming. Susan Beebe and Rose True, ESP Compliance Specialist, are now conducting training sessions throughout the state, orienting staff who will use the screens as part of their position duties. For details about this important innovation, contact Susan Beebe in Educational Services.

Note: Submit news items for the bulletin's next issue by October 31 to A. Clark, DOP Educational Services, Fax: 919-715-5785 or e-mail: cal15@doc.state.nc.us.