**Heather J. Erwin, J.D., Ed.D.**

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**EDUCATION**

**Doctor of Education**, Northcentral University, 2018

Dissertation:  *Identifying the Multiple Intelligences of Incarcerated Men Enrolled in High School through Five Keys Charter School at San Francisco County Jail to Examine Student Motivation in Corrections Classrooms*. ProQuest (2019), Dr. Chris Jenkins, Advisor.

Honors: Alpha Delta Epsilon Honor Society; National Society of Leadership and Success

**Juris Doctorate**, University of Iowa School of Law, 2000

Honors & Activities

* President, International Law Student Association
* Legal Clinic Student Advocate: Mayan Land Rights, Rights of Indigenous Populations
* Education Abroad: Cape Town, South Africa; Dublin, Ireland; Belize City, Belize; Geneva, Switzerland
* Research Assistant: Professor Adrien Wing (Critical Race Feminism Studies) and Professor James Anaya (United Nations Working Group on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)

**Bachelor of Arts**, English, University of Iowa, 1994

**PROFESSIONAL** **EXPERIENCE**

**Arizona State University** Tempe, AZ

*Senior Fellow, Justice Impacted Students, 2024-present*

* Designing potential pilot projects aligned with design principles. Leverage ASU's resources to establish accessible, impactful and scalable solutions for justice-involved learners
* Initiating, facilitating and maintaining collaboration with key partners
* Drafting an early vision for the broader suite of justice-involved learner offerings

**American Institutes for Research (AIR)**  Remote

*TA Consultant, 2022-present*

* Contributes to projects focused on higher education in prison, restorative justice, addressing youth violence, and supporting reentry success
* Facilitates client Communities of Practice (CoP) for peer support
* Designs, directs, and identifies opportunities for data collection across agencies
* Strategizes new business opportunities through proposal writing

**University of Iowa Division of Student Life** Iowa City, IA

*Interpersonal Violence Prevention Coordinator, 2023-present*

* Coordinated the Division’s Bureau of Justice Assistance Office on Violence Against Women Campus Violence Intervention grant deliverables (this grant closed 3/31/24)
* Contributes to Anti-Violence Coalition working groups
* Serves as staff point of contact for The Student Advisory Committee on Sexual Misconduct (SACSM)

**University of Iowa College of Public Health**  Iowa City, IA

*P3 Funded Researcher, 2022-present*

* Conducting case study research to capture the experiences of people who engaged health services while incarcerated in the state of Iowa
* Coordinating student researchers
* Organizing research dissemination efforts

**University of Iowa, Liberal Arts Beyond Bars College in Prison Program**  Iowa City, IA

*Director, 2017-2021*

* Directed education program offering 12-15 courses, with 12-15 faculty, to an average of 78 students annually
* Liaised with Department of Corrections leadership on issues including volunteer faculty training, staff and student outreach, course and study hall scheduling, and computer lab monitoring
* Amplified voices of people impacted by incarceration and the broader criminal legal system
* Advocated for policy change and reform at the local, state, and federal levels
* Managed program budget of $150,000, raised funds for program support, and oversaw statewide grant coordination
* Recruited and oriented students and provided student advising to approximately 22 students each year
* Coordinated grant proposals
* Created necessary documents for program managements: handbooks, training manuals, Memorandums of Understanding, schedules

**Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)** Washington, DC (remote)

*Senior Advisor, 2018-2020*

* Advised on the creation of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of quality programming in Higher Education in Prison
* Conceptualized and conducted research relating to KPIs
* Lobbied for access to educational opportunities and the alleviation of racially disproportionate impacts on incarcerated students of color and other minoritized populations
* Conceptualized and developed The HEP Commencement Project, which publishes incarcerated students’ commencement addresses in traditional formats and through other multi-media modalities
* Contributed to grant proposal writing
* Participated in Degrees When Due project that helps students who left their degree pathway to re-engage and achieve degree attainment

**Vera Institute of Justice**  New York, NY (remote)

*Senior Program Associate, 2016- 2018*

* Analyzed federal, state, and institutional policy on access to higher education in prison
* Provided guidance and technical assistance to Second Chance Pell Experimental Sites college in prison partners
* Acted as a conduit for networking and connections among colleges and universities offering access to higher education for incarcerated students
* Oversaw curriculum development for incarcerated students at partner colleges
* Developed and delivered professional development lectures for college and university educators and corrections staff

**The WiderNet Project; Each One Reach One AmeriCorps** Iowa City, IA

*Prison Project Coordinator, 2009-2014*

* Curated and promoted Corrections Off-line Education Platform (COEP) digital library
* Negotiated and drafted contracts for delivery of COEP library with partnering agencies
* Conducted outreach and networking to identify additional program partners and sites for COEP library
* Identified potential funding, conceptualized the education approach, and wrote grant proposals

**ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

**University of Iowa College of Education**  Iowa City, IA

*Adjunct Professor*

*2024-25 (scheduled)*

* First Year Seminar: Exploring Courage, Restoration, and Resiliency

2022-23

* Honors Primetime: The Second Prison, Collateral Consequences of Incarceration
* Graduate Seminar: The Second Prison, Collateral Consequences of Incarceration on a Higher Education Campus

**University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts & Science**  Iowa City, IA

*Adjunct Professor*

2021-22

* Honors Primetime: The Second Prison, Collateral Consequences of Incarceration
* Independent Study supervisor — Social Justice

2018-19

* Rhetoric: 1030
* First Year Seminar
* Introduction to Grant Writing
* Non-Profit Effectiveness

**University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts & Sciences**  Iowa City, IA

Research Assistant Supervisor

2021-22

* Community Engagement Project within Legal Clinic, Iowa College of Law

Practicum Supervisor

2018-19

* Department of Gender, Women, & Sexuality Studies: Social Justice Majors

**SELECTED INVITED LECTURES**

Second Chance Pell Reinstatement for Incarcerated Learners

US Department of Education sponsored Second Chance Act grantee convening (October 25, 2023)

Coordinating Technical Assistance Intermediaries for Higher Education in Prison

Ascendium Education Group: TA Intermediaries Convening (October 22, 2023)

Technology at the Intersection of Justice and Education

National Conference on Higher Education in Prisons (NCHEP) (November 7, 2022)

Unlocking Potential: Providing Access to Education for People in Prison

Vera Institute of Justice: Best of Conversations on Justice Reform (January 30, 2020)

Integrating Mental Health Care into Prison Classrooms

Kirkwood Community College, Department of Developmental Psychology and Social Psychology (September 20, 2018)

The Importance of Libraries and Library Science to College in Prison Programs

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Library and Information Sciences (February 2, 2018)

Incorporating Social Justice Topics in Social Studies Classes

U.S. Department of Education: Literacy, Information & Communications System (October 28, 2017)

Addressing the Needs of Students with Learning Challenges in Secure Classrooms

U.S. Department of Education: Literacy, Information & Communications System (July 22, 2017)

Reimagining Prison: Round Table

Vera Institute of Justice (April 4, 2017)

Beyond Second Chance Pell: College in Prison Funding Challenges

National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (November 7, 2016)

Education Technology in Corrections

U.S. Department of Education: Literacy, Information & Communications System (July 15, 2015)

Working Toward Educational Partnerships

Correctional Education Leadership Forum (March 16, 2014)

**PUBLICATIONS**

Erwin, H., Meiman, S., & Seroszinski, A. (In progress). *Proximity and Policy:  Why Relationships Matter in College in Prison Programs and How to Build Good Ones.* Institute for Higher Education Policy: Washington, DC.

Erwin, H., Pasteralski, L., Pagues, E. (Forthcoming, 2024). *“They Were Savagely Intellectually Curious”: Evaluating Rigor and Equity in Prison Higher Education*.

Erwin, H. (2024). *Statewide Cross-Sector Partnerships and Collaborations* in Corbett, E. Collection for Bloomsbury Press.

Erwin, H. & Rhodd, A. (February, 2022). *Reflections on Race, Technology, and the Pandemic: Correspondence on Race in the Time of COVID*. Journal Committed to Social Change on Race and Ethnicity (JCSCORE), Special Issue: Similar Challenges in a Different Setting: Racism and Higher Education in Prison.

Delaney, R., Erwin, H. & Smith, L. (2018). *Examining the Motivation of Incarcerated Students to Enroll in Correctional Education Programming*. American Institute of Research (AIR), Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC).

Erwin, H., Hudson, J., & Tolbert, M. (2015). U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education. *Educational Technology in Corrections*, Washington, DC.

**OTHER WRITINGS**

Doke-Kerns, J. & Erwin, H. (June 20, 2020). *Lift ban on Pell Grants so correction departments and colleges can expand their work.* The Des Moines Register.

Ajinkya, J. & Erwin, H. (February 3, 2020). *OPINION: Iowa offers the nation some lessons about graduating incarcerated students from college: Helping institutions develop smarter practices for education behind bars.* The Hechinger Report.

Erwin, H. (April 4, 2018). *New Report Highlights California’s Success in Expanding Access to College for Incarcerated People: And Shows the Rest of the Country How It Can Be Done.* Vera Institute of Justice, Think Justice Blog.

Erwin, H. & Normore, T. (2016). *Restorative Justice Approaches.* Re-entry Today Magazine, v6, pg. 10-11.

**MEDIA CITATIONS**

Pauly, M. (February 8, 2022). *A Notorious Prison Tech Giant is Poised to Cash in on Pell Grants for Incarcerated People: Millions of dollars in college financial aid will soon be available to prisoners. Aventiv has taken note.* Mother Jones.

Novitch, E. (November 13, 2018). *UI students learn alongside inmates through college in prison program: The UI’s college in prison program, Liberal Arts Beyond Bars, continues to grow after its first-ever co-learning course.* The Daily Iowan.

Novitch, E. (May 7, 2018). *College prison program to bring undergrads and inmates together.* The Daily Iowan.  
[Charis-Carlson](https://www.usnews.com/topics/author/jeff-charis-carlson), J.  (April 24, 2018). *University of Iowa Brings Higher Education to Prison: The program, which aims to reduce recidivism, enables inmates to earn college credit for liberal arts courses.*  U.S. News & World Report.

**SELECTED CONSULTANCIES**

* **Unlocked Labs**, St. Louis, MO (2022-present)

*Policy Expert and SME for Higher Education in Prison*

* **Committed to Change Consulting**, LLC, Los Angeles, CA (2013-2017)

*Reentry Curriculum Design and Development*

* **Vant4ge Learning**, Salt Lake City, UT (2015-2016)

*Director of Education Content Curation*

* **Kratos Learning** (Contracted to U.S. Department of Education, OCTAE), Washington DC (2012-2017)

*Literacy Information and Communication System (LINCS) Subject Matter Expert, Resource Reviewer and National Trainer in Correctional Education, Diversity, and Higher Education*

* **Alison.com** Free Learning Online, Galway, Ireland (2015)

*Corrections and Reentry Solutions Specialist*

* **American Prison Data Systems** (APDS), New York, NY (2014-2016)

*Education Director*

* **EDUSS Learning**, Denver, CO (2013-2015)

*Correctional Education & Iowa Title 1 SES Program Director*

* **Correctional Education Association** (CEA), Columbia, MD (2012-2015)

*Technology Subject Matter Expert*

**UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY SERVICE**

* **University of Iowa Center for Human Rights**, Iowa City, IA

Advisory Board Member, 2019-present

* **Ithaka S+R**, New York, NY

Advisory Board Member and Subject Matter Expert, 2019-present

* **Iowa CURE**, Des Moines, IA

Advisory Board Member, 2018-present

* **The Pacific Institute Community**, Seattle, WA

Board Member and Education for Underserved Populations Specialist, 2016-2019

* **Iowa Justice Action Network**, Cedar Falls, IA

Advisory Board Member, 2016-present

* **Committed to Change**, Los Angeles, CA

Founding Board Member and Education Director, 2015-2018

* **Inside Out Reentry Community**, Iowa City, IA

Board Member, 2015-present

* **Barbara Bush Foundation** **Symposium on Technology in Adult Education**

Participant, 2016

* **White House Summit on Technology in Reentry**

Participant, 2015

* **Ford Foundation**

Correctional Education and Reentry Working Group Member, 2014

**LICENSES & ASSOCIATIONS**

* National Society of Leadership and Success (2019-present)
* Incarceration Nation Network (2019-present)
* American Corrections Association (2015-present)
* Iowa State Bar Association (2012-present)
* Correctional Education Association (2012-present)
* Midwest Correctional Education Association (2012-present)
* American Bar Association (2012-present)
* Commission on Adult Basic Education (2010-present)