Prisoner Reentry and Reintegration: Improving Data Collection and Methodology to Advance Theory and Knowledge

Rutgers University-Newark
Center for Law & Justice
123 Washington Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Thursday, April 14
Center for Law and Justice Building, Room 020

8:30 – 9:15 am Breakfast

9:30 – 10 am Welcome: Elsa Chen, Andrea Leverentz, Johnna Christian

10:00 – 11:45 am Session 1: Issues and Themes in Research on Reentry

- Merry Morash, Michigan State University: “Pitfalls, Strengths, and ‘Saves’ for Women Leaving Prison”
- Janet Garcia-Hallett, Rutgers University-Newark: “Unpacking the Black/White Dichotomy: Examining Narratives of Reentry Among African American, West Indian, and Hispanic Mothers”
- Candace Kruttschnitt, University of Toronto: “A Different Approach to Examining Prisoner Re-entry: Life as a Film”

11:45 – 12:45 pm Lunch

1:00 – 2:00 pm Baker Trial Courtroom, Center for Law and Justice

Jeremy Travis, President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Shadd Maruna, Dean, Rutgers-Newark School of Criminal Justice in Conversation about Prisoner Reentry Research and Policy
2:15 – 3:45 pm Session 2: Methods for Researching the Social Context of Reentry
- Johnna Christian, Rutgers University-Newark: “Formerly Incarcerated Men’s Negotiation of Family Support”
- Kristin Turney, University of California, Irvine: “Conducting In-Depth Interviews with Jailed Fathers and Their Family Members: Opportunities and Challenges”
- Andrea Leverentz, University of Massachusetts, Boston: “The Meaning of Place and Space for Returning Prisoners”

4:00 – 5:30 pm Session 3: Challenges of Reentry Policy and Practice
- Faye Taxman, George Mason University: “Reentry Challenges: Building Capacity in the Community”
- Jeff Mellow, John Jay College of Criminal Justice: “High-Level Implementation: Key Factors to Promote Successful Comprehensive Reentry Initiatives”
- Kristen Zgoba, New Jersey Department of Corrections: "The Chicken or the Egg: What Came First, Policy or Research?"

5:30 pm School of Criminal Justice West Faculty Wing

Reception with Rutgers University School of Criminal Justice, co-hosted by Dean Shadd Maruna

Friday, April 15
Center for Law and Justice Building, Room 020

8:30 – 9:00 am Breakfast

9:00 – 10:30 am Session 4: Innovative Methods for Researching Reentry
- Sara Wakefield, Rutgers University-Newark & Derek Kreager, Pennsylvania State University: “The Prison Inmate Networks Study (PINS): Using Social Network Analysis to Understand the Incarceration and Reentry Experience”
- Naomi Sugie, University of California, Irvine: “Utilizing Smartphones to Study Disadvantaged and Hard-to-Reach Groups”
- Jeffrey Morenoff, University of Michigan:
- David Kirk, University of Oxford: “The Maryland Opportunities through Vouchers Experiment (MOVE)”
10:30 – 12:00 pm Group Discussion
Tales from the Field: Working with Criminal Justice Organizations
Margaret diZerega, Vera Institute of Justice and Michael Ostermann, Rutgers University-Newark

12:00 – 1:15 pm Lunch: Todd Clear, Moving Forward in Prisoner Reentry Research and Policy

1:30 – 3:15 pm Session 5: Research Informing Policy and Practice
• Reuben Miller, University of Michigan: “‘You’re in a Room Full of Addicts!’ Prisoner Reentry as a Social Institution and the ‘Making Up’ of the Ex-offender”
• Alexandra Cox, State University of New York, New Paltz: “Sentencing-focused Reentry Practice: Lessons from Policy, Research and Practice”
• Beth Huebner, University of Missouri, St. Louis: “Missouri Sex Offender Fail to Register Model”
• Thomas LeBel, University of Wisconsin: “An Ever-present Dilemma for Former Prisoners: If, When, and How to Disclose (or Conceal) One’s Criminal Past”
• Elsa Chen, Santa Clara University & Ericka Adams, North Central College: “‘I’ve Risen Up from the Ashes that I Created’: Expungement and Female Offenders’ Narratives of Desistance and Self-Reinvention”

3:30 – 4:30 pm Closing Discussion
Next steps – Collaboration and Publication Opportunities

Co-sponsored by the Sociology and Law & Social Sciences Programs