

## **STUDENT HIGHLIGHT**

### **THE EDDIE FORDHAM ACT**

Eddie Fordham, a Jack Kent Cooke Scholar, founder of the Justice-Impacted Student Organization (JISO), and a powerhouse advocating for change in Florida's carceral landscape, recently made waves at Florida State University (FSU), after a bill named after him was passed in the FSU Student Government Association (SGA), which made it so that individuals with a felony conviction can serve on SGA.

During an interview with FSView, Eddie stated “This [bill] is a major first step so that those who have lived experience or firsthand knowledge of what it’s like to either be impacted themselves or in a family that’s been impacted now have a voice at the table and can bring their diversity to the unity that this Senate represents...”



1. Bullock, Anna. "New SGA Bill Is a "Major First Step" for Justice-Impacted Students." FSView, FSU News, 2025, [www.fsunews.com/story/news/2025/11/13/new-sga-bill-is-a-major-first-step-for-justice-impacted-students/87131654007/](https://www.fsunews.com/story/news/2025/11/13/new-sga-bill-is-a-major-first-step-for-justice-impacted-students/87131654007/). Accessed 14 Nov. 2025.

# FCHEP UPDATES

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## BOOKS BEHIND BARS: REGION 4 DELIVERY



This November, FCHEP proudly donated over 80 boxes of books to seven facilities in the Florida Department of Corrections' Region 4.

Thanks to your continued support, we were able to serve more than 8,000 incarcerated learners across South Florida.

If you would like to donate books to FCHEP, please contact:  
[michael.kostis@ucf.edu](mailto:michael.kostis@ucf.edu)



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## TEACHER'S EXPERIENCE

### UWF'S INSIDE OUT PRISON-EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Dr. Nicole Niebuhr and Dr. Jennifer Brinkley brought an Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program course to the University of West Florida (UWF) in Spring 2022. It was also taught in 2024 and will be taught in Spring 2026. UWF students are taken into Santa Rosa Correctional Institution each week to have a class with incarcerated men.

The course is designated as a High Impact Practices (HIP) course and is funded through a HIP grant. The course concludes with group project poster presentations where a criminal justice policy is presented. A closing ceremony is held where students receive certificates of completion along with a keepsake book with their written letters to future students.

A former student stated, "The importance of this class extends beyond education." Another said, "It's a privilege to be able to learn about and hear about these kinds of issues from the people who are living them every day."

**Jennifer Brinkley**  
Associate Professor, Criminology, Criminal Justice, and Legal Studies  
University of West Florida



# EVENTS

**December 10, 2025**

**1 PM - 3 PM**

**FFCE & FDC: Build Your Workforce**

**Everglades CI - Reentry Center**

**1599 SW 187th Ave., Miami, FL 33194**

**December 15, 2025**

**1 PM - 4 PM**

**Exchange 4 Change**

**ECI Graduation**

**Everglades CI**

**December 17, 2025**

**3 PM - 5 PM**

**Exchange 4 Change**

**HCI Graduation**

**Homestead CI**

**March 5-6, 2025**

**Unleashing Potential FCHEP**

**Symposium 2026**

**The Celeste Hotel, Orlando, FL, 32816**

## COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

**WALTER DUNN**

I'm grateful for every chance to speak about injustice, incarceration, and reentry but what moves me most are the people who open their doors and share their spaces.



They're the quiet heroes who believe lived experience deserves a microphone, who choose compassion over comfort, and who make room for stories that are often ignored. Every invitation reminds me that my voice was once silenced, and now it's being lifted, not because of me, but because of those who believe in second chances. Their support doesn't just give me a platform... it gives hope to everyone still waiting to be heard.

**Contact: [motivationalwalt@outlook.com](mailto:motivationalwalt@outlook.com)**

## FCHEP IN ACTION

Are you passionate about expanding access to higher education in prisons? Join us at the Florida Coalition for Higher Education in Prison (FCHEP) and become part of a transformative movement. Whether you're interested in volunteering with us, partnering organizations, or simply learning more, FCHEP is your gateway to involvement.



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