



Florida Prison Education Project

Annual Report
2018-2019

FPEP

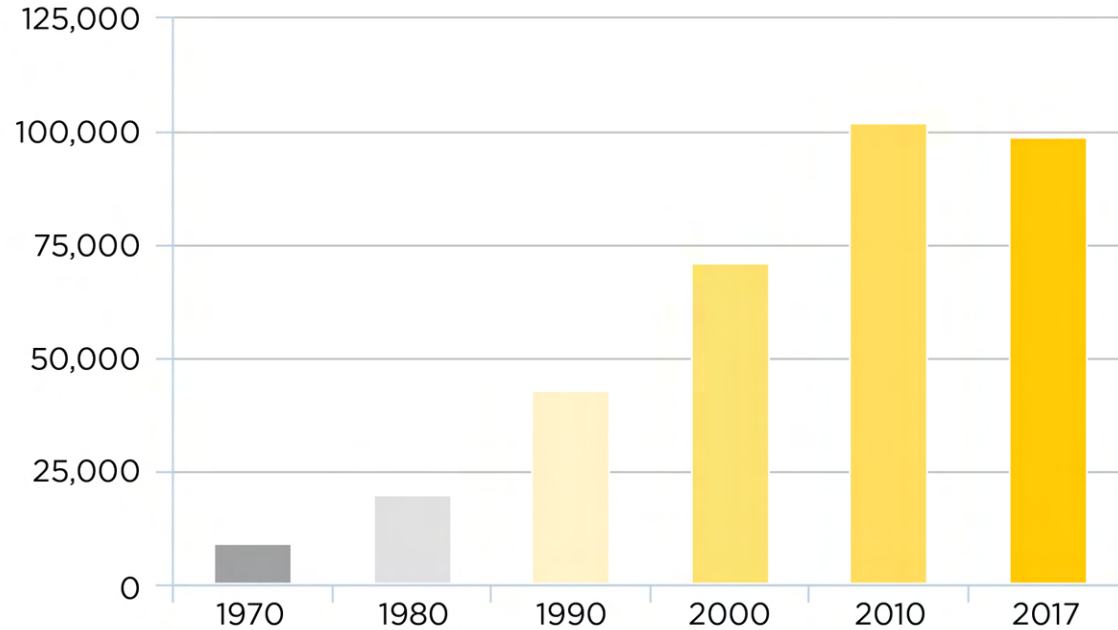
Keri Watson
June 3, 2019

Florida Prison Education Project Mission

- **Provide educational opportunities** to incarcerated and formerly-incarcerated people in Florida
- **Research** the benefits of prison education
- **Integrate the study of justice** into the University of Central Florida curriculum

Florida's Prison System

Florida's Prison Population - 1970-2017



- **3rd** largest prison system in America
- Nearly **100,000** people behind bars

Florida Prison Education Project



COST OF PRISON EDUCATION

Spending \$1 per prisoner on prison education saves \$4 to \$5 in the future for decreased rates of recidivism.



RECIDIVISM RATES

The U.S. spends \$31,000 to incarcerate someone every year. Prison education reduces the 54% recidivism rate by 40%.

Source: Office of Justice Programs, The Nation, RAND Corporation



FPEP Highlights 2018-19

- Received designation as a **UCF Community Challenge Initiative**
- Entered into an **MOU** with the Florida Department of Corrections
- Taught **6 classes to 72 students** at the Central Florida Reception Center
- **2 new classes** starting Friday, June 7



Laurie Uttich teaching Creative Writing at CFRC

FPEP Highlights 2018-19

- Hired **4 undergraduate** student interns
- Hired **2 graduate** student interns
- Directed an undergraduate **research project** on the benefits of Prison Education
- Directed a **Ph.D. dissertation** on Higher Education in Prison



Megan Hummer at the Showcase of Undergraduate Research, April 2019

FPEP Highlights 2018-19

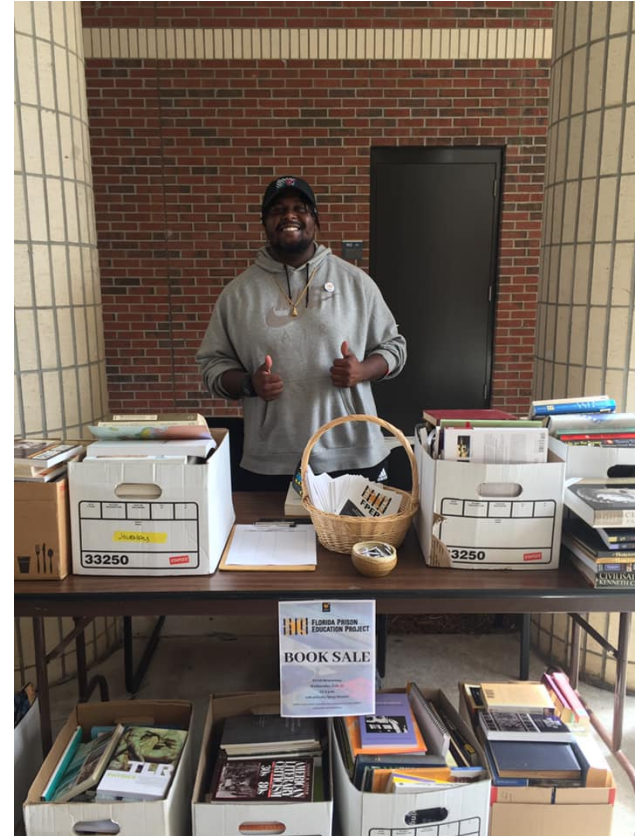
- Opened an office in Rehearsal Hall 111
- Hosted an Open House



FPEP Highlights 2018-19

*FPEP Volunteer and BMC Outreach
Coordinator, Josh Watson*

- Trained 24 faculty
- Met with current **UCF students** who were formerly incarcerated
- Partnered with UCF Registered Student Organization **Black Man's Candor**



FPEP Highlights 2018-19

- Collected **5,000+** books for Florida's Prison Libraries
- Received a **\$50,000** National Endowment for the Arts Grant
- Raised **\$950** in individual donations
- Brought the NEA Big Read (**\$15,000** annual grant) to Florida prisons
- Pending:
 - **\$60,000** Laughing Gull Foundation Grant
 - **\$250,000** NEH Grant



FPEP Highlights 2018-19

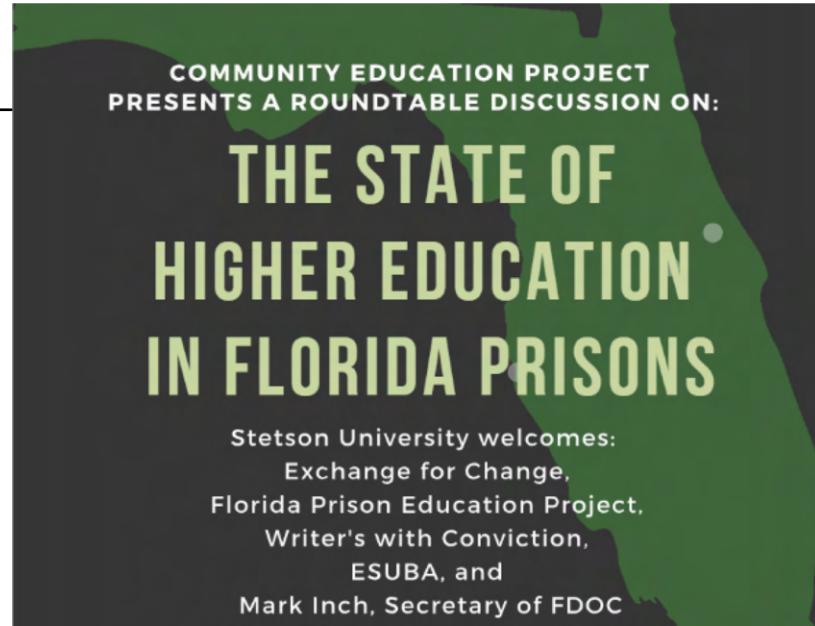
- Presented at the:
 - **National Conference for Higher Education in Prisons** (November 2018, Indianapolis)
 - **Southeast Museum of Photography** (February 2019, Daytona Beach)
 - **Art and Society Conference** (June 2019, Lisbon, Portugal)



Keri Watson presenting at the SE Museum of Photography

FPEP Highlights 2018-19

- Joined the **Southern Collective of Higher Education in Prison Programs**
- Presented at the **Summit on Higher Education in Florida Prisons** (March, Deland)



Keri Watson and FDOC Secretary Mark Inch



FPEP Highlights 2018-19

- Built a **Webcourses** page
- Launched a **Website**
<http://cah.ucf.edu/fpep/>
- Launched a **Facebook** page
<facebook.com/FloridaPEP>
- Launched a **Twitter** account
<twitter.com/FloridaPEP>
- Launched an **Instagram** account
<https://www.instagram.com/floridapri/soneducationproject/>



FLORIDA PRISON EDUCATION PROJECT

Founded in 2017, FPEP is an initiative of the University of Central Florida that seeks to offer a high-quality undergraduate education to people who are incarcerated in Central Florida.



What's Next?

- Join us at **6:00pm on Oct. 24, 2019 for a talk** by Baz Dreisinger
 - Founding Academic Director of John Jay's Prison-to-College Pipeline program, and author of *Incarceration Nations: A Journey to Justice in Prisons Around the World*
- Join us for *Illuminating the Darkness: Our Carceral Landscape*
 - **UCF Art Gallery** Fall 2020
- Expand our course offerings to **other prisons**
- **Partner with State Colleges** to offer credit-bearing courses
- Offer **online** courses at Florida Prisons
- Get more **faculty and students** involved



Thank you for your continued support!

