



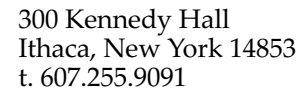
## Cornell University Prison Education Program

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**CPEP Mission:** The Cornell Prison Education Program was established to provide college courses to incarcerated individuals at maximum and medium security prisons in upstate New York, and to engage Cornell faculty and students with the vital issue of the country's burgeoning incarceration population. The Cornell Prison Education Program is dedicated to supporting incarcerated persons' academic ambitions and preparation for successful re-entry. We believe that Cornell faculty and student engagement as instructors at correctional facilities manifests Ezra Cornell's commitment to founding an institution where "any person can find instruction in any study."

### CPEP Meeting -Quarterly Meeting

Meeting Date	November 21, 2024 1:00-2:30 PM In person and zoom	
Attendance	<b>Present:</b> Andrew Bell, Emma Li, Mary Fainsod Katzenstein, Rob Scott, Toni Murdough Judy Appleton, Esta Bigler, Ghazah Abbasi, Sadé Lindsay, Jan Zeserson, Stephen Kim and Paula Ioanide <b>Excused:</b> Jamila Michener, Katherine McComas, and Bryan Sykes	
ED	Rob Scott	
Guest	Dean Mary Loeffelholz	
Item	Lead	Notes/Actions
1. Welcome/Call to order and Brief Remarks	Judy	<b>Notes:</b> Judy offered a (delayed) welcome to the new academic year and described her view that the CPEP Advisory Board has functioned as 'working' board that benefits from members bringing their 'spheres of influence' to the Board. Each member has expertise, interests, experience, scholarship and community networks that have value and can be leveraged to advance the mission of CPEP. There are many current and past examples of the benefits of the Board working in this way.
2. Approval of the minutes of April 9, 2024.	Judy	<b>Action:</b> <b>Motion:</b> Jan Z. <b>Second:</b> Mary K. All in favor. No discussion
3. Approval of the minutes of September 27, 2024.	Judy	<b>Action:</b> <b>Motion:</b> Mary K. <b>Second:</b> Mary K All in favor. No discussion
4. Endorsement of Annual Report of the Executive Director presented 9/27/24.	Judy	<b>Action:</b> <b>Motion:</b> Stephen K. <b>Second:</b> Mary K All in favor. No discussion



5. Board Vacancy/formerly incarcerated student.	Judy	<b>Action:</b> Term is 1 Year, Renewable. Three nominees were put forward and all were considered acceptable. Jesse Johnston was supported as first choice.
6. Seeking volunteers for permanent committees- descriptions in bylaws (below)  <b>a. <u>Nominations</u></b>          <b>b. <u>Curriculum</u></b>	Judy	<b>Action:</b> Call for volunteers      <b>a. <u>Nominations</u></b> -Many people leaving the board June 2025 and this year the committee will function more as a recruitment committee. Note: If you are cycling off this year it is fine to be on this committee as work will be wrapped up by June.  <b>1. Esta</b> <b>2. Stephen</b> <b>3. Judy (convenor)</b>  <b>b. <u>Curriculum</u></b> – This committee has important work to do as the bachelor’s program is developed. Associate Director of Curriculum serves as a non-voting member.  <b>1. Stephen</b> <b>2. Andrew</b> <b>3. Esta</b>
7. Update on recent campus visit by the DOCCS Commissioner	Mary K.	<b>a.</b> Mary invited the Commissioner of DOCCS, Daniel F. Martuscello to visit Cornell and lecture in Joe Margulies class on November 6. <b>b.</b> CPEP had a close relationship with a previous commissioner, Brian Fischer, and hopes to establish same with this current one. During a breakfast meeting with Mary, Joe, Colleen Barry, Rob Scott, and Katherine McComas, a number of issues of common interest were discussed (e.g. medical approaches to addiction -an area of Dean Barry’s expertise- etc.). After Joe’s class, Jan Zeserson, Mary Katzenstein, and Betsy Violette joined students who met with the Commissioner for a q/a session over sandwiches. The issue of the age of volunteers was raised. Several students present offered very cogent arguments about how the presence of undergraduate campus students enhances the quality of instruction and the experience of education for everyone and specifically for incarcerated students.



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		<p><b>Action:</b></p> <p>Jan Zeserson and Rob will follow up with the Commissioner on the TA age question, Jan via email utilizing the comments of students (as above) and Rob at his monthly meeting with the Commissioner.</p>
8. Update on November CPEP events in NYC	Rob S.	<p><b>a. Cornell Club</b> – hosted by the CC for members only.</p> <p><b>b. Alumni Event at SUNY Global</b></p> <p>Rob described the attendance and nature of the two events, both were considered successful.</p>
9. Update on Oral History Project for the CPEP Archive	Judy	<p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> Progress report on CAPE sponsored PEARS grant was attached to the agenda.</p> <p><b>b.</b> Johns Hopkins has just started an archive for Prison Archives (through a grant from Mellon Foundation).</p> <p><b>c.</b> Esta has offered the ILR NYC facility for recording CPEP community members who may live in the city.</p>
10. BA Program	Dean Mary Loeffelholz	<p><u>Notes:</u> The dean provided her presentation to the BOT summarizing the state of progress on the degree. Vote of the BOT exec committee is pending, next is approval by NY State ED and SUNY (the latter due to the involvement of statutory colleges in the degree offering), a project team is working on matters to do with financial aid, incorporating these students in university records systems, etc., current plan is for a small cohort of 25 students to be enrolled in Fall 2026 and again in Spring 2027. Q and A and discussion included the value and essential nature of in person teaching in the prison setting, how to leverage the asynchronous on line content in this context, and speculation about offering a degree other than a BPS.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that Dean Loeffelholz has been and offers to be a strong partner for us.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Curriculum Committee will be supporting development of the degree program within CPEP.</p>
<b>Brief Committee Reports - NA</b>		
11. Next Meeting		<p><b>Action:</b></p> <p>TBD</p>
12. Meeting Adjourned		<p>Following introductions all around, in person participants had a chance to visit with CPEP staff for a short social gathering.</p>