Announcing the inaugural Incarcerated Scholars Conference

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison (“the Alliance”) is pleased to announce the first annual Incarcerated Scholars Conference (ISC), which will be held virtually, October 29-30, 2024. The theme that will frame this year’s conference is:

Vital Voices and Visions

If you are a student or former student of a higher education in prison program who is currently incarcerated, you are formally invited to submit a proposal!

Following the success of the 13th National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP), the Alliance continues to seek ways to center scholarship from scholars experiencing incarceration. The inaugural Incarcerated Scholars Conference will feature two days of presentations from across the United States. We are committed to challenging the field to envision how higher education in prison serves as a conduit for connection, collaboration, and the creation and exchange of invaluable knowledge. We firmly advocate for the incorporation of student voices and experiences as essential elements in shaping high-quality practices. It is our belief that meaningful enhancements to higher education in prison settings cannot be achieved without attentively and deliberately listening to the perspectives of the students we aim to serve.

We welcome you to submit a proposal for a 30-minute presentation or a work of art that we may feature during the conference.

Deadline for submission is July 17, 2024. Notifications of acceptance or decline will be sent August 1, 2024.

Registration opens August 15, 2024. Conference will take place October 29-30, 2024.

Email: isc@higheredinprison.org
Website: higheredinprison.org/isc
Call for Presentation Proposals

Proposals should plan for 30 minutes of presentation and 30 minutes of engaging in discussion with the audience through Q&A. If your presentation features multiple speakers, we encourage you to provide a moderator. If you need support with your proposal, contact us at isc@higheredinprison.org.

Conference presentations may address topics aligned with the following tracks:

➢ Inside Leadership: How can student advisory councils, student government, etc. enrich higher education in prison?
➢ Classroom Culture: How can we build supportive learning environments within the carceral space?
➢ Student Support Services: How can we improve financial aid, student advising, peer support, and tutoring practices?
➢ Beyond the Classroom: How can higher education in prison impact people, communities, and the world at large?
➢ Lessons Learned: In order to improve quality practices, what are some of the most valuable lessons you would like to share with prison education programs, practitioners, prospective students, and corrections?

Proposals may be submitted by a proxy in the event that the student is unable to do so themselves. However, in order to participate in the conference, participants will need to have some form of Zoom access on the day of their presentation (either October 29 or 30, 2024). For all presenters, we recommend confirming with their respective correctional facility’s Public Information and/or Victim’s Services offices that they have permission to participate ahead of time.

30-minute Presentation Proposal Requirements

I. Name and contact information

II. Title of presentation

III. Description of presentation
   A. Format options:
      1. Written overview (1250 characters or around 250 words max).
      2. Phone call. Phone call. In order to schedule a call, email us at isc@higheredinprison.org with the subject “Incarcerated Scholars Conference call request”.

IV. Three to five discussion questions you’d like to address during Q&A.
V. Media Release for each presenter. (Please email us if you will have trouble providing this.)

VI. You will be asked to respond to the following questions:
   A. Are you working with someone on the outside whom we can contact if we have trouble reaching you? If so, please provide their name and email address.
   B. Will all presenters be available to present on October 29 and October 30 via Zoom?
   C. Are there special circumstances that we should know about your ability to access Zoom?

Currently incarcerated individuals and proxies may submit proposals using this online form or via mail to the following address:

Alliance for Higher Education in Prison
Attn: Incarcerated Scholars Conference Proposals
1801 N. Broadway, Suite 417
Denver, CO 80202

The proposal portal will open on April 15, 2024 and the deadline for submissions is July 17, 2024. Notifications of acceptance or decline will be sent August 1, 2024. Access more information and the submission portal at higheredinprison.org/isc.

Have questions? Contact us at isc@higheredinprison.org.
Call for Artworks

Calling all artists and creatives! The Incarcerated Scholars Conference will feature art from currently incarcerated people. We encourage all forms of submissions: audio, video, performance, poetry, etc. All submissions should be less than 5 minutes. Written submissions should take less than 5 minutes to read out loud.

Submissions may include, but are not limited to:

- Poetry
- Spoken Word
- Dance
- Visual Arts (i.e., painting, drawing, etc.)
- Performance Art
- Short film (fictional or nonfiction)

**Artwork Submission Requirements**

I. Name and contact information.

II. Title of artwork.

III. Artist statement or description of the artwork and how it relates to higher education in prison.

IV. Upload of the artwork as an image, document, or video file. *If your piece is selected, what you submit will be what is presented at the conference.*

V. Submission of a media release.

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