

## HIGHER EDUCATION AND REENTRY

The Prisoner Reentry Institute's Educational Initiatives provide a multifaceted strategy to increase the number of people with criminal records who go to college and succeed there.

### *Providing higher education is a wise investment*

An investment in education is an investment in...

- ...**public safety**. Those who participate in correctional education are 43 percent less likely to return to prison after release than those who do not.\*
- ...**workforce development**. Those who participate in academic or vocational programs obtain employment at a rate 13 percent higher than those who do not.\*
- ...**the children, families, and communities** to which incarcerated students eventually return. Research has shown that children are more likely to attend college when their parents have done so.

### *The Prison-to-College Pipeline (P2CP) provides much needed access to education before and after release — and the results speak for themselves*



Photo Credit: Richard Perry/New York Times

- 95% of P2CP students in the community are currently employed, enrolled in training programs, or working in internships
- Over 50% of released P2CP students have enrolled or are in the process of enrolling in college in the community
- Only 12.5% P2CP students have been reincarcerated, compared to 42% statewide

*PRI's College Initiative program supports students who wish to continue their education in the community after release, through support services and peer mentoring*

\*Rand Corporation. (2013) *Evaluating the Effectiveness of Correctional Education*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance.



Released P2CP students enjoy a happy reunion with John Jay students and PRI staff

## *CUNY Prison-to-College Pipeline (P2CP)*

Founded in 2011, the Prison-to-College Pipeline (P2CP) is the result of a dynamic partnership between the City University of New York (CUNY) and the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS).

### **Accredited College-Level Courses**

- 46 students incarcerated at Otisville Correctional Facility have earned college credits in a variety of rigorous introductory courses taught by professors from John Jay and Hostos.
- Students who maintain a grade point average of C or better have a guaranteed seat at CUNY after release.
- With increased funding, we could offer two additional courses, making our students full-time.

*P2CP students can earn up to 12 college credits per year*

### **Learning Exchanges**

50 students from John Jay and Hostos have participated in monthly Learning Exchanges. For a full academic year, campus students learn alongside their incarcerated counterparts inside a classroom in Otisville Correctional Facility with faculty from across the disciplines.



*Learning Exchanges bring John Jay campus students to learn alongside P2CP students at Otisville Correctional Facility.*

*Due to high demand for college and college prep, PRI has provided over 5,000 contact hours of remedial education and CUNY Assessment Testing at 6 correctional facilities*

### **Developmental Education**

PRI's new Developmental Education program:

- builds reading and writing skills that allow students to succeed in either P2CP or college in the community
- prepares students to pass the CUNY Assessment Test, the results of which are good for up to ten years.
- equips released students to enroll immediately in any CUNY institution upon their return to the community.

### **Increasing Intellectual Life in Prison with the Tribeca Film Institute**

In partnership with the Tribeca Film Institute, PRI offers a film screening series open to all those incarcerated at Otisville and Shawangunk Correctional Facilities. In addition to screening a wide variety of movies and documentaries, TFI trains members of the Lifers and Long Termers Association to facilitate film-based discussion with the larger prison population.