



June 20, 2023

Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Programming in Correctional Facilities

Dr. Jesse Mason, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Dr. Satasha Green-Stephen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

Agenda:

- Introduction
- Overview - Current College in Prison Programs
- Current State - Second Chance Pell
- Future State - US Department of Education Prison Education Program process
- Campus Presentations: Minneapolis College, MSU-Mankato, and St. Paul College

Department of Corrections and Federal Prisons Partnership with Minnesota State



The partnership with the Minnesota Department of Corrections directly aligns with Minnesota State's core value of providing an opportunity for all Minnesotans to create a better future for themselves, for their families, and for their communities.

Incarcerated people who participate in postsecondary education programs are

48%

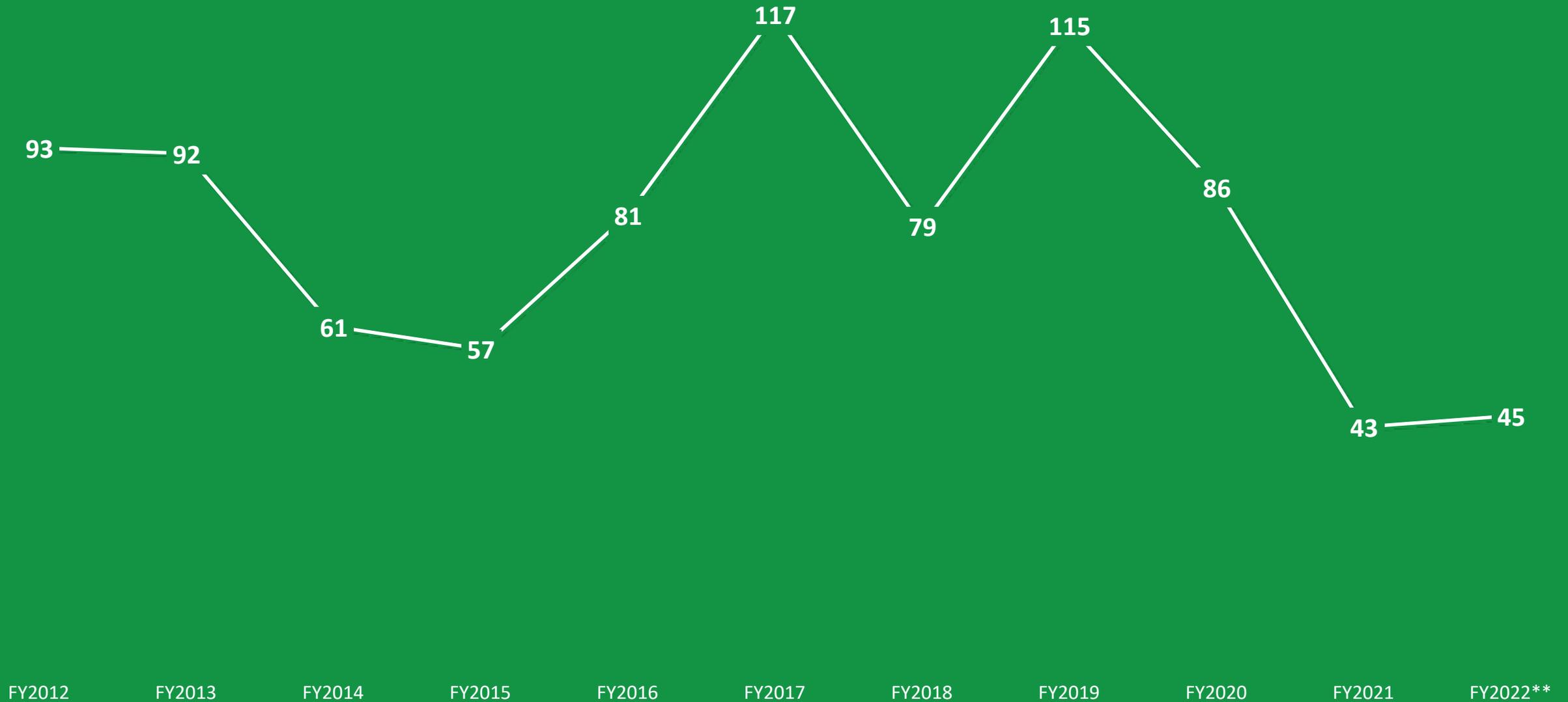
Less likely to return to prison than those who do not.

History: Offering Academic Programming in Correctional Facilities

Academic Years	Number of Mn DOC Education Programs	Number of Federal Prison Education Programs
Prior to 2012	12	10
2012-2022	16	0

- Minnesota State has a long history of providing educational opportunities to incarcerated individuals
- The 1994 crime bill banned individuals in prisons from accessing federal financial aid
- 2015 – Second Chance Pell
- 2020-- FASFA Simplification Act
- 2022--Minnesota State institutions invited as expansion sites for Second Chance Pell

INCARCERATED GRADUATES



Estimated Headcount by Institution and Academic Year	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022
Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College– Moose Lake Correctional Facility	2	2	0	0
Hennepin Technical College– MCF-Shakopee	58	38	10	2
Inver Hills Community College—MCF Shakopee, Lino Lakes, Stillwater, Oak Park Heights	178	161	102	5
Lake Superior College--MCF Moose Lake/Willow River and FCF Duluth	97	69	89	69
Minneapolis Community and Technical College– MCF Lino Lakes, Faribault, Stillwater	0	0	0	8
Pine Technical and Community College	44	15	23	38
Riverland Community College– FCF Waseca	33	14	1	0
South Central College--MCF Faribault	33	32	22	28
Metropolitan State University—MCF Faribault, Lino Lakes, Stillwater	1	4	189	44
Minnesota State University, Mankato—MCF Faribault , Shakopee and FCF Waseca	0	0	5	83
St. Cloud State University—MCF St. Cloud	0	16	2	11
System Total: 1,524	444	349	443	288

Estimated Headcount of Incarcerated Graduates in Top Academic Programs

FY2020	
Degree Programs	Headcount of Graduates
Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies AA	21
Automation Engineer Technology/Technician CERT	17
General Office Occupations and Clerical Services CERT	16
Carpentry/Carpenter CERT	14
Cosmetology/Cosmetologist, General DIP	11

FY2022 (Preliminary)	
Degree Programs	Headcount of Graduates
Carpentry/Carpenter CERT	17
Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies AA	15
Automation Engineer Technology/Technician CERT	7
Business/Commerce, General CERT	6

Current State – Second Chance Pell

- In 2015, the Obama Administration created the Second Chance Pell experiment to allow incarcerated individuals to access Pell Grant funding to pursue postsecondary education while incarcerated.
- The experiment included three (3) rounds of funding where institutions of higher education could apply to be pilot program sites and work with local Department of Correction facilities to establish Prison Education Programs. There are over 200 institutions across nearly all 50 states that are Second Chance Pell pilot programs.
- Nine (9) Minnesota State institutions were awarded Second Chance Pell pilot status though not all are currently operating Prison Education Programs.

Future State – USDE Prison Education Program Process

- Starting July 1, 2023, and under the FAFSA Simplification Act, the US Department of Education (USDE) will open the Prison Education Program (PEP) competitive process.
- Institutions not a designated Second Chance Pell pilot must apply to become an official Prison Education Program (PEP), recognized by the US Department of Education.
- Second Chance Pell pilot institutions will have until January 1, 2026, to apply to become USDE recognized PEPs as to not disrupt current student's education.
- *Note: Ability to Benefit will commence Fall 2023.*

Minnesota State Department of Corrections Partnership

Scope of Work in Progress

1. Conduct an environmental scan of current prison education programs (PEP) operating in DOC facilities:
 - ✓ to identify the current state and
 - ✓ alignment for future Second Chance Pell programing.
2. Meet with DOC post secondary education leadership
 - ✓ to explore program policy and procedure implementation, administration and technical assistance needs, Second Chance Pell grant trainings for current and prospective campus providers and
 - ✓ to identify supports for future Minnesota State institutions to complete the USDE PEP process **after July 1, 2023.**
3. Form a Minnesota State Consortium, comprised of post secondary prison education programming stakeholders:
 - ✓ to share best practices across program development, implementation and successful student and completion efforts and
 - ✓ to support the DOC Prison Education Program expansion efforts to additional facilities.



MINNEAPOLIS
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TREC Program

Transformation & Reentry through Education & Community

Tuesday June 20, 2023

Minnesota State Colleges & Universities-Board of Trustees Meeting

Presentation by:

Dr. Sharon Pierce, President

Dr. Ann Deiman-Thornton, Dean-School of Education, Public and Human Service

TREC Mission:

The mission of the TREC Program is to provide transformative college degree programs and experiences to incarcerated students as pathways to human dignity, sustainable careers, community engagement, and lifelong freedom.



TREC Programming

Lino Lakes

- Associate of Arts
- Associate of Arts w/emphasis in Creative Writing
- Associate of Arts w/emphasis in Philosophy
- Associate of Arts w/emphasis in Communication Studies
- Associate of Science in Business Mgmt
- Certificate in Entrepreneurship

Stillwater

- Associate of Arts



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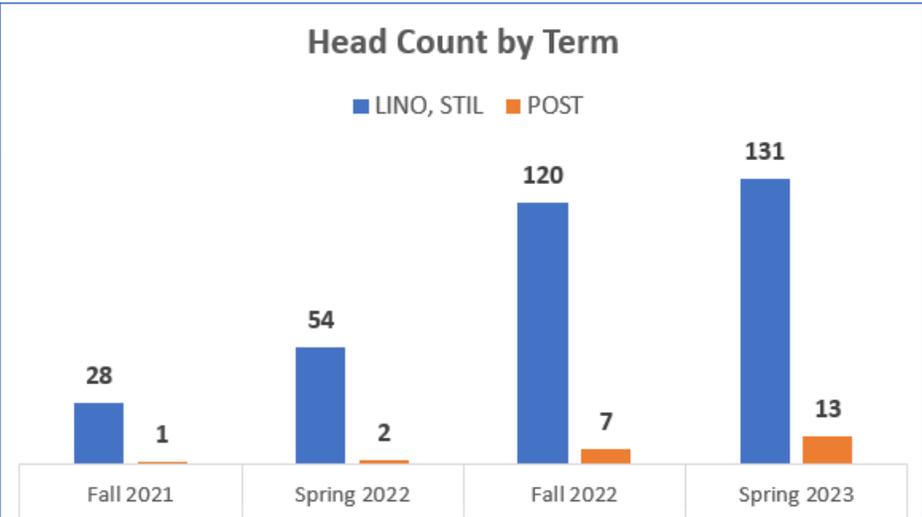
TREC Degrees Conferred: 15



Total Students Served: 202



Total Credits Earned: 2,961



TREC Program Structure

- Ann Deiman-Thornton, Dean of TREC Program
- Matthew Palombo, TREC Coordinator & Faculty
- Maran Wolston, TREC Coordinator & Faculty
- Michael Valesano, TREC Coordinator

Many others on the Minneapolis College campus contribute to making this a successful program



Questions/Comments



MINNEAPOLIS
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A Member of
Minnesota State

Scholars Serving Time

Higher Ed Prison Programming at
Minnesota State University, Mankato

June 20, 2023

Anne Dahlman, PhD

Interim Associate Provost for Academic Affairs



OUTLINE

- History and Overview of SST at MNSU, Mankato
- Successes
- Challenges and Opportunities

BRIEF HISTORY



- Faculty members taught courses at Waseca Shakopee facilities 2010—2020 through the “Inside Out”-program
- In 2020, contract secured from Bureau of Prisons to offer an AA-degree at FCI Waseca (3-year contract)
- 2021, the AA degree programs offered at Minnesota Correctional Facilities at Shakopee and Faribault
- Today, we offer the AA degree program at Shakopee for 24 students (rolling enrollment), most are Pell eligible

DR. VICKI HUNTER
SCHOLARS SERVING TIME PROGRAM COORDINATOR



STUDENTS SERVED



- Faribault

- From 2021-2022 (5 semesters)
- Offered 24 classes
- 40 part-time students (at least one class)
- 20 full-time students (four classes every semester)
- 8 students graduated with an AA degree

- Shakopee:

- From 2021-2023 (6 semesters)
- Offered 23 classes
- Started with 9 students (full-time students)
- Summer 2023 graduation – 10 graduating
- Currently 24 students (full-time)





Scholars Serving Time – Fall 2022 Graduation

By Vicky Hunter

SUMMER 2023 GRADUATION

- Official ceremony
- Led By Provost Hood

April 27TH, 2023

Greetings Provost David Hood,

As you know, there will be a graduation ceremony on Thursday July 13TH, 2023 from 12:30p.m. to 2:30p.m. for The Scholars Serving Time Program at MCF Shakopee. The first class will be graduating and it would mean so much to us if you would attend. This is a moment that we want to share with you, and everyone involved in making this program a reality. We've worked very hard academically, and Dr. Hunter always tells us how much you and many others have worked to make this program what it is today.

We are extremely grateful, for you and the work that you've done to organize and arrange the logistics necessary for the establishment and sustentation of this program. But most dear to us, taking a chance on those who many consider not worthy of a second chance. We hope to see you at the ceremony, so you can see the fruits of your labor realized.

Sincerely Shakopee Mavericks!

Jessica Kiehl
Camisha Njiru
Sharrie Dirk Binder
Buffy French
Megan Thorsen
Cheryl Albert
Amanda L. Keltner
Parah Hoyer
C. Bell
Anna Shinkaranko

MOVING FORWARD

- Add a 5-semester Bachelor's Program (Sociology with Nonprofit Leadership Certificate and Minor in Spanish)
- Infuse with high demand professional skills in research, bilingual employees, and leadership potential
- Double students served (24 students in AA and 24 in BS-degree)

-> ***10% of incarcerated individuals at Shakopee served***



CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Creating a sustainable financial model that accounts for services provided by offices such as financial aid and advising
- Space capacity for education at corrections facilities
- Opportunity to streamline services for *new* student populations on campuses
- Existing collaboration across three MinnState institutions involved in prison education, potential for further collective capacity building



St. Paul College



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