

CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

Research, Measurement, and Evaluation Committee

Thursday, October 28, 2015

2:30 p.m.

IMRP Conference Room, Downtown Campus

Central Connecticut State University

New Britain, CT 06051

Members Present: Atty. Thomas Ullmann (Co-Chair), Stephen Grant (Co-Chair), Atty. Robert Farr, Linda Frisman, Thomas Kulhawik, and Michael Norko.

Also Participating: Andrew Clark (Acting Executive Director), Atty. Leland Moore (Staff), and Brian Hill (CSSD).

MINUTES

I. MEETING CONVENED

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:36 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF September 2nd, 2015

The minutes from the 9.2.15 meeting were reviewed and approved.

III. UPDATE: Assessment of Correctional Education in Connecticut

Atty. Thomas Ullmann reported on the status of his meeting with Maureen Price-Boreland and Kim Holley, Superintendent of Education Services at the Department of Correction (DOC). He reports that the DOC is willing to provide data to the Research Committee and that Ms. Price-Boreland is working on a list of information necessary for the assessment. Atty. Ullmann indicated that once the request has been made, the committee will utilize the data to make recommendations. There ensued a discussion regarding the importance of correctional education and its correlation to recidivism along with other variable factors that affect prisoners released to the community.

IV. UPDATE: Evidence Based Sentencing Proposal

Linda Frisman provided an update on the status of the evidence based sentencing proposal. Dr. Frisman informed the committee that the proposal has been announced on the Commission website and distributed to criminal justice research entities. Dr. Frisman will be holding an open conference call on October 29th to answer questions from interested parties. Further discussion took place regarding the parameters of an eventual proposal stemming from the invitation along with an understanding that any final proposal would be presented to the full Commission.

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V. DISCUSSION: Study of Mandatory Minimums

The committee agreed to defer consideration of this study for the immediate future. There was recognition that the direction of the committee on this issue would be better reserved until the new executive director was on board and/or the development of a strategic plan was put into place.

VI. UPDATE: Special Committee on Sex Offenders

The committee briefly discussed its role in regard to the Special Committee on Sex offenders and the commission's study of sex offender registration. In addition, the committee engaged in a brief discussion of its role within the framework of the Sentencing Commission as a whole and decided to add the discussion as a standing agenda item for future meetings.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Atty. Ullmann informed the committee that Atty. Deborah Fuller has decided to resign from her position on the committee due to other commitments. The committee expressed its gratitude for Atty. Fuller's service and wished her well. Atty. Ullmann pointed out that there is now a vacancy on the Research Committee and requested that committee members email their suggestions to the committee chairs before the next meeting. Suggestion should include a need (what kind of expertise could we use) and a name.

The next meeting of the Research Committee will be held on November 20th at 1:00 p.m. in New Britain. No other business was addressed.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED

Attorney Ullmann adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:09 p.m.