RESISTING CARCERAL NATION STATES: THE FIFTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PENAL ABOLITION

JUNE 13-15, 2014 UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

ALGONQUIN TERRITORY / OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE – JUNE 12

"Artists Against State Repression: Open Stage and Art Exhibition" Café Nostalgica – 7:00pm

DAY 1 – JUNE 13

Opening Ceremony 9:00am – 9:30am

> "Welcome to Algonquin Territory"
> Albert Dumont – Spiritual Advisor, Traditional Teacher and Mediation Facilitator
> Claudette Commanda, LL.B – Kitigan Zibi Algonquin First Nation

"Welcome to the University of Ottawa" Bastien Quirion University of Ottawa Plenary – Day 1 9:30am – 12:00pm

> Bob Gaucher Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

Claudette Commanda, LL.B *Kitigan Zibi Algonquin First Nation*

Bob Lovelace Ardoch Algonquin First Nation Professor, Queen's University Supporter, Gaza's Ark

<u>Chair:</u> Justin Piché Journal of Prisoners on Prisons Criminalization and Punishment Education Project University of Ottawa

Experiences of Criminalized and Incarcerated Women 12:15pm – 1:45pm (concurrent session 1A)

"Top Freedom, Criminalization, Incarceration and Isolation" *Jeannette Tossounian*

"The Gender of Crime in the U.S.: A Feminist Diatribe on the Police and Prosecution Promoting Male Violence Against Women" Cathy Marston *Writing from Gatesville, Texas, USA*

"Patriarchy, Misogyny and Sexism: A Dialectical Analysis" Jennifer Gann *Writing from Delano, California, USA* "Re-bonding Ties as a Successful Re-entry Tool" Yraida Guanipa Yraida Guanipa Institute

<u>Chair:</u> Sarah Fiander Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

Hearing Voices: Using the Penal Press to Counter Dominant Discourses 12:15pm – 1:45pm (concurrent session 1B)

Melissa Munn Penal Press Okanagan College

Chris Clarkson *Okanagan College*

Bob Gaucher Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

Susan Nagelsen Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

Charles Huckelbury Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

<u>Chair:</u> Ben Turk *Insurgent Theatre*

Queer & Trans Prison Pen-Pal Project Roundtable: Strategy and Mutual Aid 12:15pm – 1:45pm (concurrent session 1C)

<u>Workshop Organizers:</u> The Prisoner Correspondence Project Engaging Abolition: Accessible Tools for Movement Building 12:15pm – 1:45pm (concurrent session 1D)

<u>Workshop Organizers:</u> Alex Stearns – *Prisoner Strike Solidarity Network* Tash Nguyen – *Sin Barras*

Imprisonment and the Canadian Carceral State 2:45pm – 4:15pm (concurrent session 2A)

"Business as Usual" Jarrod Shook Writing from Kingston, Ontario, Canada

"The Truth About Provincial Prisons" Jose Vivar Writing from Bath, Ontario, Canada

"International Prison Transfers" Stefan Crisbasan Writing from Springhill, Illinois, USA

"Daisy's Rehabilitation: A Story of Hope" Peter Collins Writing from Bath, Ontario, Canada

"The Person I Am Now" Neil N. Shah Writing from Kingston, Ontario, Canada

<u>Chair:</u> Ashley Chen Journal of Prisoners on Prisons Impacts of Incarceration on the Families and Loved Ones of the Criminalized 2:45pm – 4:15pm (concurrent session 2B)

"Children of Prisoners in Aotearo, New Zealand" Christine Harrison

"Families of Wrongfully Convicted Prisoners" David Lord

"From Visiting Rooms to the Struggle for Abolition" Gwenola Ricordeau

"The Journey: Our Struggles and Strengths" Natasha Brien Supporting Ourselves while Supporting Our Loved Ones (S.O.S.O.L.O)

<u>Chair:</u> Stacey Hannem *Wilfrid Laurier University, Brantford*

Grounding with My Brothers: Stories from the Margins 2:45pm – 4:15pm (concurrent session 2C)

Workshop Organizers: Brandon Hay and Junior Burchall Black Daddies Club

Resisting the War on Gangs: Inside and Outside 2:45pm – 4:15pm (concurrent session 2D)

Workshop Organizers: Rachel Herzing and Jess Heaney *Critical Resistance* The Violence of Incarceration 4:30pm –6:00pm (concurrent session 3A)

"The Child is Prey" Jerry Lashuay Writing from Freeland, Michigan, USA

"Prison Living is Not So Easy" Victor Becerra Writing from Soledad, California, USA

"Poor Living Conditions" Derrick Tucker Writing from Raiford, Florida, USA

"The Culture of Incarceration" Benito Gutierrez Writing from Tracy, California, USA

"Gratuitous Brutality and a Solution To It" James Bauhaus *Writing from Lawton, Oklahoma, USA*

<u>Chair:</u> Sarah Fiander Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

Prisoners Without Bars: Racism, Torture, Secret Trials and Indefinite Detentions 4:30pm –6:00pm (concurrent session 3B)

"When Release on Bail Becomes a Financial Burden" Dr. Hassan Diab Justice for Hassan Diab

"Torture by Proxy" Abdullah Almaki *Torture survivor* "Detained 11 Years Under a Security Certificate: No Charge, No Evidence" Sophie Harkat *Justice for Mohamed Harkat Committee*

"How Torture, Racism, Secret Hearings, Indefinite Detentions, Extradition and Refugee Interdiction Imprison Millions" Matthew Behrens *Stop Canadian Involvement in Torture*

<u>Chair:</u> Matthew Behrens Stop Canadian Involvement in Torture

Radical Utopianism in 'A Prisoner' Project in Emergent Ethics 4:30pm –6:00pm (concurrent session 3C)

'Roy Smith''Billy Bob Thornton''John Johnson'

<u>Chair:</u> Karen Raddon *Queen's University*

Sharing Successes, Challenges, Strategies and Experiences of Participating in Abolition Work 4:30pm –6:00pm (concurrent session 3D)

Roundtable Organizers: Red Bird Prison Abolition

Kate Pleuss Alec Armstrong Wes Coleman Lauren Karaffa Regina Martin The Secret Trial 5 (documentary screening) 7:00pm – 10:00pm

Discussion with Amar Wala, Noah Bingham and Madeleine Cohen (production team members)

<u>Chair:</u> Sophie Harkat Justice for Mohamed Harkat Committee

DAY 2 – JUNE 14

Plenary – Day 2 9:00am – 10:00am

> Thomas Mathiesen Norwegian Association for Penal Reform University of Oslo

Michael Alston National Jericho Movement

<u>Chair:</u> Bob Gaucher Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

Disability Incarcerated: The Interface of Imprisonment and Disability 10:00am – 11:30am (concurrent session 4A)

Chris Chapman York University

Liat Ben-Moshe University of Toledo AJ Withers Community Organizer

<u>Chair:</u> Jennifer Kilty University of Ottawa

Colonization, Racism, Resistance and Criminalization I 10:00am – 11:30am (concurrent session 4B)

"The Criminalization of Indigenous Land Defenders in the Context of Economic Colonialism" Ben Powless

"Grassroots Work for Abolition and Academia in the Anti-Violence Field" Gladys Radek – *Tears 4 Justice / Gitksan Wet'suwet'en Territory* Vicki Chartrand – *Prison Letters / Bishop's University*

"Community-based 'Crime Prevention' and Racialized Incarceration" Bronwyn Dobchuk-Land *City University of New York*

<u>Chair:</u> Jean-Philippe Crete University of Alberta

Perspectives from Canada 10:00am – 11:30am (concurrent session 4C)

"A Civilized Society? The Culture of Punishment in Canada" Andrea Hughes Criminalization and Punishment Education Project University of Ottawa "Prison is as Harmful to the Cagers as it is to the Caged: One Chaplain's Thoughts on the Need for Prison Abolition for the Sake of the Staff" Kate Johnson *Queen's University*

"Finding Penal Abolitionism in Québec" Pascal Dominique-Legault *Université Laval*

<u>Chair:</u> Susan Haines Criminalization and Punishment Education Project

Research for Action: What Kinds of Information Do Activists Need and How We Go About Getting It 10:00am – 11:30am (concurrent session 4D)

<u>Workshop Organizers:</u> EPIC – End the Prison Industrial Complex

Education and Incarceration 11:45am – 1:15pm (concurrent session 5A)

""Making a Lotus Grow from the Mud': How Prisoners Create Meaning from their Prison Experience" Rebecca Bordt Depauw University

"Popular Education and In-Prison Organizing: Currently Imprisoned Women Facilitating Movement Growth" Colleen Hackett *University of Colorado*

"Taking to the Streets and in the Detention Facilities: Youth Justice, Hip Hop and Transformative Justice" Mysnikol Miller, Anthony J. Nocella II, Kable Reid and Reies Romero Save the Kids <u>Chair:</u> Claire Delisle *University of Ottawa*

Colonization, Racism, Resistance and Criminalization II 11:45am – 1:15pm (concurrent session 5B)

"Racist-Imperialist-Patriarchy [R.I.P.]: Penal Colonialism and the Abusive Legacies of White Supremacy" Viviane Saleh-Hanna University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth

"The Gap Between Indigenous Spirituality and Public Policy" *Danny Homer*

"Untitled" Syrus Marcus Ware

"Constituting the Citizen: Race, Prison and the Canadian Identity" Terrence Hamilton University of Toronto

"Spaces of White Supremacy" Sadhana Bery University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth

<u>Chair:</u> Viviane Saleh-Hanna University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth

International Perspectives I 11:45am – 1:15pm (concurrent session 5C)

"The Process of Abolition" Jehanne Hulsman *Hulsman Foundation* "On the Strategic and Purposive Uses of Abolition" Mecke Nagel SUNY Cortland

<u>Chair:</u> Kat Armstrong Women in Prison Advocacy Network

Prison Radio: On Media, Prisoners and Prison Issues 11:45am – 1:15pm (concurrent session 5D)

Workshop Organizer: Dee Blues of CKUT's Prison Radio Show

Isolation and Deaths in Custody 2:30pm – 4:00pm (concurrent session 6A)

"An (Im)moral Performance: Examining the Effects of the 'Psy-carceral Complex' in the Ashley Smith Case" Jennifer Kilty *University of Ottawa*

"Institutional Trauma and Activist Stigma: An Abolitionist Consideration of Secure Care Following the Ashley Smith Case" Ardath Whynacht *Mount Allison University*

"Involuntary Solitary Confinement and Its Negative Implications for Canadian Prison Officers" Rose Ricciardelli and Hayley Crichton *Memorial University*

"Detention as Death Row: What Should We Do with the Prison's Deadly Nature?" Caroline Pelletier *Université Laval* <u>Chair:</u> Brett Story University of Toronto

Indefinite, Arbitrary and Unfair: The Truth About Immigration Detention 2:30pm – 4:00pm (concurrent session 6B)

Workshop Organizers: Mac Scott, Swathi Sekhar and Syed Hussan End Immigration Detention Network

International Perspectives II 2:30pm – 4:00pm (concurrent session 6C)

"Spanish Penal Changes: On the Criminalization of Political Movements" Mirka Pozas Reintjes *Campaign Against Torture and Ill-treatment in Prison*

"An End to the 'War on Drugs': Staying on Top of a Shifting Carceral Landscape" Colleen Hackett – *University of Colorado* Ben Turk – *Insurgent Theatre*

"Evolving Standards of Decency: A Study of Political Perversity" Susan Nagelsen and Charles Huckelbury Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

<u>Chair:</u> Adina Ilea Criminalization and Punishment Education Project University of Ottawa Don't Fence Me In: Stories from the Inside 2:30pm – 4:00pm (concurrent session 6D)

Workshop Organizers: Termite Collective

Leadership, Resistance and Isolation 4:15pm – 5:45pm (concurrent session 7A)

"The Prison Inside: A Genealogy of Solitary Confinement as Counter-insurgency" Brett Story University of Toronto

"Lessons in Leadership Learned from Irish Republican Resistors" Claire Delisle *University of Ottawa*

"The Worst of the Worst': Learning from Each Other to Resist Long-term Solitary Confinement" Denis O'Hearn *Binghamton University*

<u>Chair:</u> Ardath Whynacht *Mount Allison University*

Racism and Deportation in Ontario 4:15pm – 5:45pm (concurrent session 7B)

Deepan Budlakoti Justice for Deepan

Sarah Mallette-Sillah Justice & Honour for Muhammed Sillah Yavar Hameed Hameed & Farrokhzad

<u>Chair:</u> Stacy Douglas *Carleton University*

International Perspectives III 4:15pm – 5:45pm (concurrent session 7C)

"Developing Healthy Relationships: Women Supporting Women to Remain in the Free World" Kat Armstrong *Women in Prison Advocacy Network*

"Australia 2014: Penal Colony on the Move" Brett Collins *Justice Action*

Homonormativity, Police Legitimacy and Writing Alternate Histories" Emma Russell Monash University

<u>Chair:</u> Colleen Hackett *University of Colorado*

Everyday Abolition | Abolition Evereday: Stories and Art of Everyday Resistance to the PIC 4:15pm – 5:45pm (concurrent session 7D)

Workshop Organizers: Lisa-Maria Alatorre and Chanelle Gallant Everyday Abolition | Abolition Everyday The Shadow of Lucasville (documentary screening) 7:00pm – 10:00pm

Introductory Keynote: Denis O'Hearn Binghamton University

Discussion with survivors of the Lucasville uprising calling from death row at Ohio's supermax prison

<u>Chair:</u> Ben Turk *Insurgent Theatre*

DAY 3 – JUNE 15

Experiences and Critiques of Mass Incarceration in the Golden State / Gulag 9:00am – 10:30am (concurrent session 8A)

"The Unintended Consequences of Bad Deals" Kenneth E. Hartman Writing from Lancaster, California, USA

"Deterrence, Rehabilitation and Punishment" Harry C. Goodall *Writing from Soledad, California, USA*

"The Politics of California's Prison Overcrowding" Forrest Lee Jones Writing from San Quentin, California, USA

"A Formal Request for a Comparative Study of California Prisoners Serving Life Sentences Without Parole to Those Serving Life Sentences With Parole" Dortell Williams *Writing from Lancaster, California, USA* "The Making of a Phantom Guerilla and Pseudo Revolutionary" Kevin D. Sawyer Writing from San Quentin, California, USA

<u>Chair:</u> Sarah Fiander Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

The 'Other' Abolitionists: Unpacking the End-Prostitution Camapaign 9:00am – 10:30am (concurrent session 8B)

"Carceral Feminism and Maternalism: Unpacking the Contradictions" Stacey Hannem *Wilfrid Laurier University, Brantford*

"Odd Bedfellows Indeed: The Alliance of Evangelical Christians, Conservatives and (Some) Feminists in *Bedford*" Chris Bruckert and Brittany Ruthven *University of Ottawa*

"Beyond the Rhetoric and State Propaganda: What Do Swedish Sex Workers Say?" Robyn Maynard *Stella Montreal*

"A 'Made in Canada Swedish Model'? Stigma, Violence and More Exclusion" Emily Symons POWER – Prostitutes of Ottawa Work Educate Resist

<u>Chair:</u> Melissa Munn *Penal Press Okanagan College* Researching and Resisting Carceral Nation States 9:00am – 10:30am (concurrent session 8C)

"What If Your Project Fails? Confronting Disappointment and Demoralization" Joshua Price *Binghamton University*

""Wrexham Prison Blues': Resisting the UK's Largest Prison" Robert Jones *Cardiff University*

"Alabama Prison Struggles and Prison Labour Organizing" Jordan House York University Industrial Workers of the World

<u>Chair:</u> Jean-Philippe Crete University of Alberta

Resisting Immigration Detention: Voices from the Inside and Outside 9:00am – 10:30am (concurrent session 8D)

<u>#migrantstrike Workshop Organizers:</u> Tings Chak Mina Ramos Voices from the Central East Correctional Centre

Reform and Abolition 10:45am – 12:15pm (concurrent session 9A)

"Ending the Obscenity of Prisons" Tiyo Attalah Salah-El Writing from Dallas, Pennsylvania, USA "Collaborative Efforts to Achieve Penal Reform" Jon Marc Taylor Writing from Licking, Missouri, USA

"Proposals for Penal Reform" Bobby Joe Smith III Writing from Lawton, Oklahoma

"Mass Incarceration: The Further Compromise of Public Safety" Shawn Fisher Writing from Shirley, Massachusetts, USA

"Methods of Delegitimizing the Prison Industrial Complex" Joe Convict Writing from Canada

<u>Chair:</u> Ashley Chen Journal of Prisoners on Prisons

Restorative, Transformative and Social Justice 10:45am – 12:15pm (concurrent session 9B)

"The Aftermath of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa: Operation, Gaps and the Need for Social Justice" Vusi Wiseman Kweyama *University of KwaZulu-Natal*

"Justice as Lived Experience" Margot Van Sluytman

"From Responsibilisation to Transformation? Rethinking Accountability Strategies within Community-based Anti-violence, Anti-carceral Work" Sarah Lamble *Birkbeck, University of London* <u>Chair:</u> Shanisse Kleuskens University of Ottawa

Critical Criminological Perspectives 10:45am – 12:15pm (concurrent session 9C)

"The 'Other' Prisoners: Engaging Penal Abolitionists in Discussions on 'Sex Offenders'" Adina Ilea and Susan Haines *Criminalization and Punishment Education Project*

"Treating the 'Dangerous Offenders': From Justice to Safety – Legal Fiction or the Fiction of Legality?" Monika Platek University of Warsaw

"Penal Abolition as the End of Criminal Behaviour" Michael J. Coyle *California State University – Chico*

Chair:

Andrea Hughes Criminalization and Punishment Education Project University of Ottawa

"There is No Justice, There is Just Us": A Restorative Justice Approach to the Incarceration of People Who Use Drugs 10:45am – 12:15pm (concurrent session 9D)

Workshop Organizers: Rittenhouse Public Action Briefing and March to End Immigration Detention 12:15pm – 3:00pm

<u>Organizers:</u> No One is Illegal End Immigration Detention Network

Closing Plenary 3:00pm – 5:00pm

> Part I: Building International Solidarity to Resist State Repression

Discussion on the proposals from prisoners on what ICOPA can do to support behind prison walls, what was learned at ICOPA 15, and how to take that knowledge forward to build solidarity and resist state repression across the world

Part II: Building Towards ICOPA 16

Selection of host site / organizers for the next conference, identification of key initiatives to be taken-up between now and the next conference, and formation of international steering committee for ICOPA to serve until the next conference

<u>Chair:</u> Rachel Herzing *Critical Resistance*

Participating Organizations and Contact Information

Black Daddies Club Website: http://theblackdaddiesclub.com/ Email: brandon@theblackdaddiesclub.com

Criminalization and Punishment Education Project Website: http://cp-ep.org/ Email: cpep.action@gmail.com

Critical Resistance 1904 Franklin Street, Suite 504 Oakland, California 94612 USA Website: http://criticalresistance.org/ Email: crnational@criticalresistance.org

End Immigrant Detention Network Website: http://endimmigrationdetention.com/ Email: migrantstrike@gmail.com

End the Prison Industrial Complex (EPIC) Suite #409, 427 Princess Street Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L 5S9 Website: http://epic.noblogs.org/ Email: epic@riseup.net

Everyday Abolition | Abolition Everyday Website: http://everydayabolition.com/ Email: everydayabolition@gmail.com

Hameed & Farrokhzad 43 Florence St. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K2P 0W6 Website: http://hf-law.ca/ Email: yhameed@hf-law.ca Hulsman Foundation Website: http://www.loukhulsman.org Email: j.hulsman5@upcmail.nl

Industrial Workers of the World General Headquarters PO Box 180195 Chicago, Illinois 60618 USA Website: http://www.iww.org/ Email: ghq@iww.org

Insurgent Theatre Website: http://insurgenttheatre.org/ Email: insurgent.ben@gmail.com

Justice & Honour for Muhammed Sillah Muhammed Sillah Box 4500 541 Highway 36 Lindsay, Ontario, Canada K9V 4S6 Website: http://justiceformuhammed.wix.com/sillah Email: justiceformuhammed@gmail.com

Justice Action Trades Hall - Lv 2, Suite 204, 4 Goulburn St Sydney, New South Wales 2000 Australia Website: http://www.justiceaction.org.au/cms/ Email: ja@justiceaction.org.au Justice for Deepan OPIRG Carleton 326 Unicentre, Carleton University 1125 Colonel By Drive Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5B6 Website: http://www.justicefordeepan.org/ Email: justicefordeepan@gmail.com

Justice for Hassan Diab Website: http://www.justiceforhassandiab.org/ Email: diabsupport@gmail.com

Justice for Mohammed Harkat Website: http://www.justiceforharkat.com/news.php Email: sophielamarche@hotmail.com

Kitigan Zibi Community Services P.O. Box 309 1 Paganakomin Mikan Maniwaki, Quebec, Canada J9E 3C9 Website: http://kzadmin.com/Home.aspx

National Jericho Movement P.O. Box 2164 Chesterfield, Virginia 23832 USA Website: http://www.thejerichomovement.com/ Email: richmondjericho@gmail.com

No One Is Illegal Website: http://www.nooneisillegal.org/ Penal Press c/o Melissa Munn Department of Sociology Okanagan College 7000 College Way Vernon, BC, Canada V1B 2N5 Website: http://penalpress.com/ Email: mmunn@okanagan.bc.ca

Prisoner Correspondence Project QPIRG Concordia c/o Concordia University 1455 de Maisonneuve O Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3G 1M8 Website: http://www.prisonercorrespondenceproject.com/contact Email: nfo@prisonercorrespondenceproject.com

Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition Website: https://prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity.wordpress.com/ Email: prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity@gmail.com

Prison Letters c/o Vicky Chartrand Assistant Professor Department of Sociology Bishop's University 2600 College Street Sherbrook, Quebec, Canada J1M 1Z7 Website: https://prisonlettersottawa.wordpress.com/ Email: prison.letters.ottawa@gmail.com

Prostitutes of Ottawa/Gatineau Work, Educate and Resist (POWER) Website: http://www.powerottawa.ca/ Email: powerottawa@gmail.com Prison Radio Show c/o CKUT 90.3 FM 3647, University St. Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 2B3 Website: https://prisonradioshow.wordpress.com/about/ Email: prison@ckut.ca

Redbird Prison Abolition P.O. Box 1291 Columbus, OH 43216 USA Website: http://www.redbirdprisonabolition.org/ Email: RedbirdPrisonAbolition@gmail.com

Rittenhouse 314 Jarvis Street Suite 100 Toronto, ON M5B 2C5 Website: https://joanr73.wordpress.com/ Email: Rittenhouse@bellnet.ca Phone: 1 416 972 9992

Save the Kids Website: http://savethekidsgroup.org/ E-mail: reies1976@gmail.com

Sin Barras P.O. Box #8443 Santa Cruz, CA 95061-8443 USA Website: http://sinbarras.org/ Email: sinbarras@gmail.com S.O.S.O.L.O. Supporting Ourselves while Supporting Our Loved Ones Website: http://www.meetup.com/S-O-S-O-L-O/ Email: sosolo411@gmail.com

Stella Montréal 2065, rue Parthenais, bureau 404 Montréal, QC H2K 3T1 Website: http://chezstella.org/ Drop-in phone: +1 514 285 8889 Administration phone: +1 514 285 1599

Stop Canadian Involvement in Torture Website: http://caravan-stoptorture.blogspot.ca/

Tears 4 Justice Website: http://www.ahki.ca/tears-4-justice.php

Women in Prison Advocacy Network P.O. Box 345 Broadway, NSW 2007 Australia Website: https://www.wipan.net.au/ Email: info@wipan.net.au

Yraida Guanipa Institute P.O. Box 441653 Miami, FL 33144 USA Website: http://yginstitute.org/en/ Email: Yraida@yginstitute.org