Dear Colleague,

On October 2nd-3rd, 2008, we will be holding a conference entitled, "The Inside-Out Prison Exchange: Expanding the Boundaries of Learning" at the IUPUI campus in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program was initially established at Temple University in Philadelphia in 1997 in order to create a dynamic partnership between institutions of higher learning and correctional systems. Inside-Out classes bring college students together with incarcerated men and women to study as peers in a seminar held behind prison walls. Inside-Out courses provide a life-altering experience that allows students to rethink what they have learned in the classroom, gaining insights that will help them to better pursue the goal of creating a more effective, humane and restorative criminal justice system. At the same time, the Inside-Out program challenges men and women on the inside to place their life experiences in a larger social context; it also rekindles their intellectual self-confidence and interest in further education, and encourages them to recognize their capacity as agents of change — in their own lives as well as in the broader community.

In 2003, supported by a Soros Justice Senior Fellowship, Inside-Out founder Lori Pompa took Inside-Out nationwide. The first Inside-Out National Instructor Training Institute, held in July 2004, was attended by instructors from a dozen states. To date, 57 instructors from 44 colleges and universities nationwide have been trained in this pedagogical approach.

Inside-Out Indiana was established in 2006, when two instructors from IUPUI, Roger Jarjoura (Criminal Justice) and Susan Hyatt (Anthropology) completed the Inside-Out instructor training. In Summer 2007, Jarjoura and Hyatt co-taught the first Inside-Out Indiana class at a local men's facility, the Plainfield Reentry Educational Facility (PREF). In Spring 2008, Jarjoura taught another class at PREF and during Summer 2008, Jarjoura and Hyatt co-taught a class at the Indiana Women's Prison. At the conference, Inside-Out founder Lori Pompa will give a keynote address in the evening of Thursday, October 2nd. On Friday, October 3rd, you will have the opportunity to meet both "outside" students (from IUPUI) and "inside" (incarcerated) students who have participated in these courses along with Inside-Out instructors from neighboring states who will discuss their experiences with this transformative pedagogy.

As founder Lori Pompa always says, "This kind of learning changes lives." To that, we would also add that "this kind of teaching also changes lives." It has changed our lives as faculty members and we urge you to join us in this discussion. Inside-Out courses have been taught in a range of disciplines, including Criminal Justice, Anthropology, Political Science, English and History so we invite you to forward this message on to any colleagues who may be interested in exploring this approach to teaching and learning.

For more information, please contact us at: inout@iupui.edu Registration materials will soon be available through that address. The cost of the conference is free for students, \$10.00 for everyone else.

We look forward to welcoming you to Indianapolis in October.

Susan Hyatt, Anthropology

Roger Jarjoura, Criminal Justice

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