The program is for Wardens, Deputy Wardens, and Jail Superintendents. We encourage agencies to send a team of two. The nominee(s) will be contacted by our office and provided additional information about the program. Wardens have continually given very positive feedback to the University saying, “This program is truly one of the best seminars we have ever attended.” This program is very popular and will fill up fast. Only the first 30 nominees will be accepted. Please register early!

To register, please visit our website at www.cmitonline.org.

"Having the participants present 'what works' information from their home departments ensures that new and creative ideas are shared." - Karen Rohling, Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility, Kansas

Program Logistics

- The training fee of $550 covers training materials, meals, and refreshment breaks.
- A welcome reception and dinner will be held on the first evening.
- Tours of state and federal facilities are included in the program.
- Transportation to and from the airport is provided by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.
- Participants will receive a complimentary one-year membership in NAAWS as well as a copy of View From the Trenches: A Manual for Wardens by Wardens.

"The academic setting made a perfect learning environment, something we don't always have in the prison setting. The tours of the facilities were beneficial in that we were able to look at the physical plant differences and similarities to the institutions in our own states as well as the differences and similarities of our policies and procedures." - W.J. Sullivan, Warden, California Correctional Institution

Sam Houston State University is a member of The Texas State University System
Who We Are & What We Do

In 1994, the Correctional Management Institute of Texas (CMIT) was created with the vision of developing and delivering leadership and management development training programs to personnel in adult and juvenile corrections as well as institutional corrections agencies.

In 1994, CMIT launched the Wardens Peer Interaction Program, one of the core programs offered by the Institute. It has since become a popular and invaluable tool in the Warden’s toolkit. The program is a unique opportunity for Wardens, Deputy Wardens, and Jail Superintendents from local, state, federal, private, and military agencies to engage each other through presentations and discussions on the most challenging issues and promising practices in corrections today.

CMIT is host to the National Jail Leadership Command Academy and the Senior Level Corrections Leadership Development Program to complement its Mid-Management Program and other correctional leadership offerings.

The North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents (NAAWS) has served correctional leadership since the 1940s. Originally a social network for Wardens, NAAWS has developed into a national association of more than 1200 Wardens, Superintendents, and Deputy Wardens from local, state, and federal jurisdictions. Private prison leaders are a significant part of the NAAWS membership.

In 1979, NAAWS began to recognize outstanding leadership through its Warden of the Year program, a tradition that has continued since then. In the early 1990s, NAAWS began to recognize acts of bravery in the line of duty with the Medal of Valor.

In an exciting new collaboration, CMIT and NAAWS are teaming up to bring the very popular Wardens Peer Interaction Training Program to a new level.

Program Objectives

- Provide a forum for Wardens to network with peers
- Discuss current management and direction of prison operations and programs
- Identify and discuss critical issues facing prison management
- Explore and discuss best practices and prepare strategies for handling critical correctional challenges

“Powerful would be the word I would use to describe the training. It provided a barometer of where we are as a state and where we can go.” - Sheryl Lockwood, Assistant Deputy Director, Iowa Department of Corrections

Past Program Topics

- Recruitment and Retention in Corrections
- Managing the Elderly in Corrections
- Incident Management Systems
- Security Threat Groups
- Medical Issues
- Offender Re-Entry in the Community
- Substance Abuse Initiatives
- Private Sector Issues in Prisons

Facilitators

Richard Stalder joined the Louisiana Department of Corrections in 1971 and worked his way up the ranks from correctional officer to Secretary of the second-largest state agency in Louisiana. He is past President of ACA.

Art Leonardo is currently Executive Director of NAAWS. Throughout his career he served in a variety of posts in the New York State Department of Correctional Service, including as Deputy Commissioner for Operations.

Doug Dretke served for 26 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, capping his career as Director of the Correctional Institutions Division of TDCJ. He is currently Executive Director of CMIT.

The Wardens Peer Interaction Program was featured in the April 2009 ACA Corrections Today issue on Professional Development.

See More of CMIT and NAAWS at:

- www.cmitonline.org
- www.correctionsone.com/cmit
- www.naaws.corrections.com
- www.cmitonline.blogspot.com

Check us out on Facebook!

See Back Panel for Program Logistics