

Outstanding Writing Award – Jacob Night

Presented by: Dr. William Oliver

The Commissioner's Reentry Proposal- Drug Treatment continuum for incarcerated individuals and Outstanding Writing Award

I was quite pleased to hear the news that my former student, Jacob Night was named this year's recipient of the Department of Criminal Justice Outstanding Writing Award. What I recall most about Jacob was that I missed him if he missed class because he always asked great questions and was one of the first to raise his hand when I posed a question.

Jacob's paper, *The Commissioner's Reentry Proposal-Drug Treatment continuum for Incarcerated Individuals*, addresses the complexity of addressing drug addiction among offenders during and following a period of incarceration. As such, Jacob addressed a major gap in correctional policy and practice, that is, how to provide a continuity of care to incarcerated persons who receive drug treatment during their incarceration and ensure continued access to such treatment upon their release and return to the community. Jacob did an excellent job at reviewing the literature pertaining to drug use among criminal offenders, the lack of availability of drug treatment for incarcerated offenders, and the lack of access to drug treatment as offenders' transition from correctional institutions back to the community. What was exceptionally outstanding about Jacob's paper was the detailed descriptions of the treatment programs that he included in the paper to support the policy proposal that he put forward. After reading Jacob's paper I inserted a note to him, which stated, 'I can tell that you learned something.' Jacob, it was my pleasure to have you in my seminar on corrections class. Outstanding job young man!