

NEWS RELEASE

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SIAS, U of R add degree option to Corrections Worker program

New diploma grads can pursue Justice Studies degree

October 28, 2005 – SIAS and the University of Regina signed an agreement today that increases learning options for graduates of SIAS's Corrections Worker diploma program. Graduates from the two-year program will now be able to apply for advanced standing in the university's Bachelor of Arts, Justice Studies degree program.

"This agreement allows Corrections Worker grads, in effect, to parachute into the degree program," says Barb Bremner, associate vice president and acting dean of community services, SIAS. "It means that students in two years with SIAS can have immediately marketable skills, while at the same time positioning them to build on their diploma with further study."

The University of Regina's Justice Studies program is interdisciplinary and presumes a broad conception of justice – one that encompasses criminal and legal justice, as well as social, restorative, community and international aspects of justice. Once admitted to the program, Corrections Worker students will be treated identically to other University of Regina Faculty of Arts students, with full rights and responsibilities.

"This agreement is a win for everyone involved – our students, our institutions and the province as a whole. It makes the University of Regina more accessible to students around Saskatchewan and enables Corrections Worker students to benefit from the expertise at both institutions," says Thomas Chase, dean of arts, University of Regina.

"This agreement creates a wonderful opportunity for staff committed to life-long learning to pursue their academic endeavours," says Brenda Lepage, warden at the Saskatchewan Penitentiary. "More importantly it has the potential to strengthen our greatest resource: our people."

Corrections Worker graduates who meet entry requirements can complete the degree program in as little as two-and-a-half years. The agreement applies to graduates of the Corrections Worker program that came into effect in January 2004. Applications from graduates who attended prior to the 1994 program will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

SIAST has negotiated credit transfer options, including entry into degree programs, with a number of universities and colleges across Canada. Additional information is available in the SIAST calendar.

SIAST is Saskatchewan's primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise and innovation. Almost 12,000 students are registered in SIAST programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws more than 27,000 individual course registrations. It operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and provides a number of courses and programs through distance education.

The University of Regina is a dynamic institution with nine faculties and 23 departments. The institution has an established reputation for excellence and innovative programs leading to bachelor, master and doctoral degrees. Thirteen research units enhance teaching and research opportunities on campus. The university serves more than 13,000 full- and part-time students and employs more than 1,000 faculty and staff.

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