

Leveraging Research to Transform America's Prisons

Speaker Biographies

Opening remarks

Preeti Chauhan is vice president of the Justice Policy Center at the Urban Institute. She is also an associate professor of psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York (CUNY) and an associate professor of psychology and criminal justice at the Graduate Center at CUNY. She is cofounder and former director of the Data Collaborative at John Jay College. Her research interests include examining the role of macro-level factors that may create and sustain racial disparities in arrests, incarceration, and victimization. Her work has informed criminal justice policies and reform initiatives in New York City, New York State, and in other jurisdictions around the country. Chauhan has received numerous awards, including the Feliks Gross Endowment Award and the Donal EJ McNarma Junior Faculty Award, and was named a Tribeca Disruptor Foundation fellow. She serves on the board of directors of the New York City Criminal Justice Agency, on the science advisory group of ThriveNYC, and is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, Committee on Law and Justice. She is also on the editorial boards of *Law and Human Behavior*, *Psychology of Violence*, and *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*. Chauhan received a BA and BS from the University of Florida and a PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Virginia. Her predoctoral clinical internship was completed at the New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Jocelyn Fontaine is the Vice President of Criminal Justice Research at Arnold Ventures. She is committed to the use of rigorous social science methods to change policy and practice and contribute to the public discourse on crime, victimization, and the justice system. She identifies research gaps and promising opportunities for research to inform policy reform and advance racial justice in several programmatic areas across the Criminal Justice Initiative. Prior to joining Arnold Ventures, Jocelyn was a senior researcher in the Justice Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where she directed projects on corrections and reentry issues, gun violence, violence reduction programs, and police-community trust-building efforts. Jocelyn has significant expertise with multi-site evaluation studies, quantitative and qualitative research methodologies, interfacing with various justice system stakeholders, community groups and affected communities, and translating research evidence into policy and practice. Before joining Urban, Fontaine worked on corrections issues under the Pew Charitable Trusts' Public Safety Performance Project after working as a research assistant on violence and victimization issues in the Office of Research and Evaluation at the National Institute of Justice (U.S. Department of Justice). Jocelyn received her doctorate in justice and public policy from the School of Public Affairs at the American University and her bachelor's in sociology/criminology from Villanova University.

Sarah Rosen Wartell is the third president of the Urban Institute since it was founded in 1968. During her tenure, Urban celebrated a milestone anniversary by moving into a state-of-the-art research and convening facility and launched its Next50, a strategy to advance upward mobility, equity, and shared prosperity by bringing the power of knowledge to help changemakers accelerate solutions. Under Wartell's leadership, Urban aims to leverage cutting-edge technology and data science; understand and confront structural racism; and deliver timely, relevant, and actionable research to communities, capitals, board rooms, and wherever innovators are pursuing bold ideas. Previously, Wartell was deputy assistant to the president for economic policy and deputy director of the National Economic Council. She also worked in various roles at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. After government service, Wartell was the founding chief operating officer and then executive vice president of the Center for American Progress. Her work focused on the economy and housing markets, and she directed the Mortgage Finance Working

Group and the Doing What Works government performance program. Before her tenure in government, she practiced law with the Washington, DC, firm Arnold & Porter. Wartell currently serves on the boards of Enterprise Community Partners and the Georgetown Day School, Bank of America's National Community Advisory Council, and the Sadie Collective's Advisory Board. She previously served on the boards of the Low-Income Investment Fund, the Center for Urban Science and Progress at New York University, and the Corporation for Enterprise Development (now known as Prosperity Now). Her areas of expertise include community development, consumer finance, asset building, and housing finance. Wartell has a bachelor's degree with honors in urban affairs from the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs. She has a law degree from Yale Law School.

Keynote conversation

Vivian D. Nixon is Writer in Residence at Columbia Justice Lab's Square One Project where she helps to sustain a conversation about the root causes of inequity in American justice systems and work toward eradicating systems that are based on punishment and create equity across systems of wellbeing. Recently retired from the non-profit sector, Vivian is the former Executive Director of College & Community Fellowship (CCF) an organization she joined as a student when she was released from prison in 200. CCF continues to help women access education and higher education credentials. An ordained minister of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and is grateful to have received the John Jay Medal for Justice and fellowships from the Ascend Program at the Aspen Institute, Open Society Foundations, the Pen America Writing for Justice Program, as well as a number of other humbling recognitions, and opportunities to serve.

Amy Fettig serves as the Executive Director for the Sentencing Project. Prior to joining The Sentencing Project, Fettig served as Deputy Director for the ACLU's National Prison Project. At the ACLU she litigated federal class action prison conditions cases under the Eighth Amendment. Her practice focused on claims regarding medical and mental health care in prison, solitary confinement, sexual assault in detention settings, and comprehensive reform in juvenile facilities. Fettig also founded and directed the ACLU's Stop Solitary campaign seeking to end the practice of long-term isolation in our nation's prisons, jails and juvenile detention centers through public policy reform, legislation, litigation and public education. Fettig served as a leading member of the national coalition seeking to end the practice of shackling pregnant women. A national expert on prisoner rights law and criminal justice reform, she has also provided technical legal assistance and advice to advocates around the country and has served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center, where she taught courses on public interest advocacy. Prior to law school, Ms. Fettig worked with incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people and their families in New York City. She holds a B.A., with distinction, Carleton College; a Master's from Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs; and a J.D. from Georgetown University. Ms. Fettig is a member of the New York State Bar (2002) and the Bar for the District of Columbia (2006).

The Prison Research and Innovation Initiative: An Evidence-Based Approach to Prison Reform

David Pitts is a senior fellow in the Justice Policy Center and principal investigator for the Prison Research and Innovation Initiative. His research focuses on understanding and mitigating the harms of incarceration on those who live and work in America's prisons. Pitts comes to Urban from the Vera Institute of Justice, where he led work about the experiences of incarcerated transgender people, postsecondary education in prison, family visitation, and solitary confinement. In addition to his criminal legal system research, Pitts has written extensively on issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion in public policy. He has consulted for

government organizations at all levels, from small cities to federal agencies, and has taught a variety of courses to graduate students in public policy and criminal justice programs. A native of Birmingham, Alabama, David earned a bachelor's degree from Birmingham-Southern College; master's degrees from Indiana University and the University of California, Irvine; and a PhD from the University of Georgia.

Using Research to Promote the Humanity and Well-Being of Incarcerated People

Darryl Chambers is a doctoral candidate at the University of Delaware: Center for Drug and Health Studies. Chambers works on the Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG) project, the Safe Haven Program, the Suicide Prevention Grant, and Crime Mapping within Wilmington, Delaware in addition to his work as Co-Investigator on the PRIN project in Delaware. Prior to becoming a graduate student, Chambers worked with a number of notable professors at the University of Delaware, including as a research assistant for several federally funded projects such as The Infant Care Project conducted by social psychologist Mary Dozier and The "Safe Communities" Training and Employment Participatory Action Research Project conducted by social psychologist Yasser Payne. He holds a B.A., in Sociology from University of California, Davis and a Master's in Criminology from the University of Delaware.

David Garlock is a successful returning citizen and criminal justice reform leader. Garlock and his brother received 25-year sentences in Alabama after taking the life of their abuser. A client of Equal Justice Initiative, he was released on parole in 2013 after serving more than 13 years and pursuing several educational opportunities while incarcerated. He subsequently obtained his bachelor's degree from Eastern University and was the Lancaster Program Director for New Person Ministries, a reentry program for men who have been convicted of sex offenses and other returning citizens, from 2017-2020. Garlock graduated from JustLeadershipUSA's Leading with Conviction fellowship program in 2019. Garlock currently serves as the Central Pennsylvania Field Organizer for Straight Ahead! Organization. He is Co-Chair of the Board for the Lancaster County Reentry Coalition. He also serves as a board member for the National Association for Rational Sex Offense Laws, the Pennsylvania Association for Rational Sex Offense Laws, the Pennsylvania Reentry Council, and the Eastern University Prison Education Program. Garlock enjoys educating the next generation of criminal justice professionals on rehabilitation and advocating in various spheres for an effective and equitable justice system. He is a frequent speaker at colleges and universities, criminal and social justice conferences, and community events, and he appeared in the film *Just Mercy* (2020). David resides in Coatesville, PA with his family, where they enjoy serving with their local church.

Jesse Jannetta is a senior policy fellow in the Justice Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where he leads projects on prison and jail reentry, community antigang and antiviolenace initiatives, police-community relations, parole and probation supervision, and risk prediction. He is the project director for the Safety and Justice Challenge Innovation Fund, the principal investigator for the Evaluation of Procedural Justice in Probation project, and a member of the leadership team for the Prison Research and Innovation Initiative. He was previously project director for the Transition from Jail to Community initiative, the process and fidelity assessment lead for the evaluation of the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice, and coprincipal investigator for evaluations of the Los Angeles Gang Reduction and Youth Development strategy and the Chicago Violence Reduction Strategy. He applies mixed-methods approaches to process and impact evaluations and provides direct technical assistance to jurisdictions improving justice system functioning. Before joining Urban, Jannetta was a research specialist at the Center for Evidence-Based Corrections at the University of California, Irvine. He conducted several projects, including an evaluation of GPS monitoring for sex offender parolees, an analysis of parole discharge and violation response policies, and an analysis of the role of the Division of Juvenile Justice in

the California juvenile justice system, measuring the scope of correctional control in California and assessing inmate and parolee programs in terms of evidence-based program design principles. Jannetta holds a BA in political science from the University of Michigan and an MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School.

Mindi TenNapel serves as Executive Officer 2 and the Director of Statistical Analysis Center for Iowa Department of Human Rights. TenNapel oversees the research activities within the Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP) and serves as the Principal Investigator on the PRIN project in Iowa. Prior to joining the Iowa Department of Human Rights, TenNapel served as the Director of Clinical Research in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Kansas Medical Center. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Radiological Sciences from the University of Iowa; both an M.S. and Ph.D. in Epidemiology from the University of Iowa; and an MBA from the University of Iowa, Tippie College of Business.

Dr. Ronald Day is the Vice President of Programs and Research at the Fortune Society and serves as an Advisory Board member on Urban's PRIN project. Ronald is passionate about reentry, promoting desistance, dismantling mass incarceration, and addressing the stigma of incarceration. He provides oversight for Fortune's Education and Employment Services, and for Individualized Correction Achievement Network (ICAN), a New York City Department of Correction (NYCDOC) initiative that provides pre and post release services to people incarcerated in NYC jails. Ronald formerly served as the AVP of Fortune's David Rothenberg Center for Public Policy, which advocates to reduce reliance on incarceration, promote model programming for the incarcerated population, change laws and policies that create barriers for successful reintegration, and foster a just and equitable criminal justice system. Ronald has been the recipient of several awards, including the Citizen's Against Recidivism Bridge Builder Award and the Justice Research Fellowship. He is the former host of Fortune's original show *Both Sides of the Bars* on Manhattan Neighborhood Network. He is a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Committee on Evaluating Success among People Released from Prison (a division of the Committee on Law and Justice), and a co-PI on Pathways Home: Desistance from Crime in the Context of Parole (a research project funded by Arnold Ventures and Trinity Wall Street). Ronald has a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the CUNY Graduate Center/John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and a Master's in Public Administration from Baruch College (CUNY). Ronald is also formerly incarcerated.

Understanding the Unique Needs of the Correctional Workforce

Alan Cormier serves as the Chief of Operations for the State of Vermont Department of Corrections. Prior to his position as Chief of Operations, Cormier served the Vermont Department of Corrections in various roles, including Superintendent and Facilities Executive. Previously, Cormier was the Executive Director of the New England Council on Crime and Delinquency. From his experience with many facets of the Department of Corrections, he is skilled in policy oversight, correctional facility management, and probation and parole management. He is a national consultant in leadership development with extensive operational knowledge of correctional systems. Cormier holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice Administration from Granite State College.

Jeffrey Lin serves as an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Denver and is the Co-Principal Investigator of the PRIN project in Colorado. His research focuses on the complex dynamics of crime and punishment – particularly as they pertain to the development or revision of public policies and correctional practices. He has an extensive record of conducting correctional research in partnership with government agencies across a range of criminal

justice settings. In Colorado, he has worked closely with the state's Division of Criminal Justice and Department of Corrections on numerous research projects. He also maintains an ongoing research partnership with a local sex offender treatment agency. In his research, he has examined juvenile sentencing practices (New York), probation supervision (New York), parole violation and revocation patterns (California and Colorado), decarceration and correctional system transformation (California and Colorado), sex offender community supervision (Colorado), and the effectiveness of different forms of correctional programming (California and Colorado). Each of these projects has produced findings that directly inform state correctional policies and practices. Lin holds a B.A. in Sociology from Northeastern University; an M.A. in Sociology from New York University; and a Ph.D. in Sociology from New York University.

Dana Plunkett-Cafourek serves as the Prison Research and Innovation Network Manager (PRIM) for the Missouri Department of Corrections (MDOC) within the Moberly Correctional Center (MCC). In her role as PRIM, she coordinates prison operation innovations and research to shine a much-needed light on prison conditions and pilot strategies to promote the well-being of people who live and work behind bars. In her role, Plunkett-Cafourek works closely with University of Missouri research partners, MDOC leadership, MCC staff, and people incarcerated in MCC to raise awareness of the PRIN and legitimize the project. She has served MDOC in multiple roles, including as an Executive I, for a total of eight years in corrections. Plunkett-Cafourek holds a B.A. in Criminal Justice and Corrections, and a minor in Psychology, from Columbia College.

Scott Semple previously served as Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Corrections and currently supports Urban's PRII project as an advisory board member. Scott joined the Connecticut Department of Correction as a frontline Correction Officer in 1988 at the high security Cheshire Correctional Institution. During his tenure, he served the agency in numerous administrative capacities, to include pre-service training coordinator, external and legislative affairs, and warden of the state's only correctional facility dedicated for men requiring comprehensive treatment services for significant mental illness. As commissioner, Scott successfully implemented several performances based and progressive correctional practices designed to support both staff and incarcerated people. Most notable, they include the Emerging Adult Units known as the TRUE Unit (located in Cheshire) and the WORTH Unit (located in Niantic). He has also repurposed an existing correctional facility and other specific housing units for specialized populations to provide a therapeutic environment designed to support community reintegration. Scott implemented numerous agency-wide staff wellness initiatives to support, respond, and improve policies evolving around the complex and unique needs associated with the health and welfare of correctional professionals and their families. On January 1, 2019, after more than 30-years of service to the agency, Scott retired from public service. He now provides professional consult through Semple Consulting, LLC on various criminal justice and correctional related endeavors. Specifically, Scott serves as a Senior Expert for Falcon Inc., a well-respected consulting entity for correctional and community services.

Rick Raemisch served as the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Corrections and is a member of the advisory board on Urban's PRII project. He successfully implemented prison reforms in Colorado and, except 15 days' maximum punitive segregation, has ended the use of restrictive housing. Rick is a recognized leader on prison reform and is highly sought after to participate as a subject matter expert at both the national and international level. He has testified on corrections matters before a U.S. Senate Sub-Committee involving the overuse of segregation, and has participated in numerous forums on corrections at prestigious universities including Yale Law School, New York University School of Law, and John Jay College. Rick has also assisted and been a member of the U.S. Delegation to the U.N. meetings in Cape Town and Vienna to re-write prisoner standards, now known as the Mandela Rules. He has authored a number of corrections articles including in the New York Times and has also been profiled by them. Rick

was honored as one of the Public Officials of the Year for 2018 by Governing and he also received the 2018 International Corrections and Prisons Association Head of Service Award, both in recognition of the numerous prison reforms implemented in Colorado. He received the nationally distinguished Tom Clements Award by the Association of State Correctional Administrators in 2017, awarded annually to a member who displays innovation and achievement as a leader in the corrections profession. Rick was also awarded the 2016 Sam Cochran Award by the National Alliance on Mental Illness for his work in implementing widespread reforms in the use of solitary confinement in Colorado prisons.

Closing remarks

Nancy Rodriguez is professor in the School of Social Ecology at the University of California, Irvine, and serves as an advisory board member on Urban's PRII project. Her research interests include inequality and the collateral consequences of mass incarceration. Throughout her career, Dr. Rodriguez has collaborated with law enforcement, courts, and correctional agencies. She has written two books: *Images of Color, Images of Crime* (2005, Oxford University Press) and *Immigration Enforcement, Youth and Families: Policy in the Absence of Comprehensive Immigration Reform*. Dr. Rodriguez was appointed by President Obama as the director of the National Institute of Justice, the scientific research arm of the U.S. Department of Justice, where she served until 2017. She currently serves as a professor in the Department of Criminology, Law and Society at the University of California, Irvine. She is a recipient of several awards for her research, including the W.E.B. DuBois Award from the Western Society of Criminology and the Coramae Richey Mann Award from the ASC Division on People of Color and Crime. She received a B.A. from Sam Houston State University and a Ph.D. from Washington State University.