I. INTRODUCTION

In 1971, Chief Justice Warren E. Burger proposed the establishment of a “National Corrections Academy.” Chief Justice Burger explained that “the management and operation of penal institutions have desperately needed such a nationally coordinated program to train every level of prison personnel . . . as the Department of Justice has done with police administrators.”

“Bricks and mortar do not make a sound correctional institution any more than bricks and mortar make a university, a newspaper, or a hospital. . . . “Just anybody” cannot make a sound correctional institution any more than “just anybody” can make a good parent or a good teacher. . . . Well-trained personnel are [essential] . . . . We have yet to understand that the people who operate prisons, from the lowest guard to the highest administrator, are as important in the whole scheme of an organized society as the people who teach in the schools, colleges and universities.”

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** Litigation Associate at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan; Former Fellow, Center for Research in Crime and Justice; J.D., New York University School of Law.


3. Burger Remarks at Williamsburg, supra note 1. A year earlier, Burger had observed that effective correctional leadership training “requires a monumental effort with the best leadership and brains of labor unions, industry, the Departments of Justice, of Labor, and of Health, Education and Welfare.” Id.
In 1974, Burger’s lobbying contributed to the creation of the National Institute of Corrections (NIC), a small federal agency tasked with providing management training and best-practices recommendations to prisons, jails, and community-corrections systems. Although an important step forward, the NIC was not the prestigious and high-powered academy that Burger had in mind. Thus, in early 1981, he reprised his proposal for a national corrections academy that would be similar to the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

[The FBI Academy is] one of the great, and perhaps most lasting contributions of the Federal Bureau of Investigations . . . [It] has vastly improved the quality of law enforcement in America, both in terms of efficiency and the kind of law enforcement a decent society should achieve . . . The cost of creating and maintaining the FBI Academy is but a tiny fraction of the benefits it has conferred.

Burger explained that, like the operation of a large police department, the “operation of a correctional or penal institution is no place for amateurs. It calls for substantial professional training.” However:

At present, there is no single, central facility for the training of prison and correctional personnel . . . . In all too many state penal institutions the personnel . . . are poorly trained and some are not trained at all for the sensitive role they should perform . . . . The time is ripe to extend [the correctional training enterprise to include] a National Academy of Corrections to train correctional personnel much as the F.B.I. has trained State and local police.


5. 18 U.S.C. § 4351(a) (2006) (“There is hereby established within the Bureau of Prisons a National Institute of Corrections.”).


8. Burger Commencement Address, supra note 7 (suggesting the possibility of grafting a national corrections academy onto the FBI Academy).


In late 1981, the NIC established its National Corrections Academy on the campus of the University of Colorado at Boulder. While an important step toward implementing Burger’s vision, the academy was a small and modestly funded operation in comparison to the FBI Academy. It remains so today, with just ten full-time program specialists and a $2.5 million annual budget that has not increased since 1995. Corrections has no equivalent to the FBI Academy’s leadership course, which law-enforcement executives view as an essential professional credential.

Chief Justice Burger had a good idea in 1971. It is an even better idea today in an era of mass incarceration. Nationally, there are now almost as many correctional employees as local police officers. Although the NIC’s academy, state departments of corrections, some professional correctional associations, and some college and university criminal justice departments offer education and training for top correctional officials, none of these are a “brain center” for research, curriculum development, and leadership training. A National Corrections College (NCC) devoted to improving the human infrastructure of American and even foreign prison, jail, and community-corrections systems is sorely needed and long overdue.

Part I explains the need for a National Corrections College. Part II demonstrates why our current educational infrastructure for high-level

11. Travisono & Hawkes, supra note 4, at 70; Telephone Interview with Robert Brown, Chief, Academy Div., Nat’l Inst. of Corr. (Dec. 1, 2010). In the 1970s, the NIC conducted its training programs in classrooms and conference rooms rented from universities. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, More Warehouses, or Factories with Fences?, 8 NEW ENGLAND J. ON PRISON L. 111, 113 (1982). In October 1981, the NIC established the National Corrections Academy in rented space on the campus of the University of Colorado Boulder. Id. The Academy Division moved to a new facility in Longmont, Colorado in 1987 and then to Aurora, Colorado in 2007, where it shares a building with Federal Bureau of Prison’s Management and Specialty Training Center. Telephone Interview with Robert Brown, Chief, Academy Div., Nat’l Inst. of Corr. (Dec. 1, 2010). In the spring of 2011, the Academy Division moved to a new, slightly larger building in Aurora. Id.


14. Id.


corrections administrators is inadequate. Part III contrasts our national investment in correctional-leadership development with leadership-development investments in private corporations, the military, and police. Part IV sketches what a national college of corrections might look like, how it would run, who would staff it, whom it would serve, and how it would fit into the nation’s existing correctional-training infrastructure. The conclusion argues that cost should not thwart the proposal.

II. THE LEADERSHIP CHALLENGES FACING CORRECTIONS

Effective administration of United States prisons, jails, and community-corrections programs requires a huge corps of executives, senior-level leaders, managers, and supervisors who can set budgets and priorities, evaluate organizational performance, motivate staff to work ethically and humanely under difficult conditions, recognize and resolve inmates’ problems and complaints, lobby executive- and legislative-branch officials for necessary resources, and work productively with community groups. In addition, it is increasingly recognized that corrections officials must take responsibility for preparing prisoners for reentry into society, thereby reducing recidivism rates. Given the importance of jails and prisons for socializing a significant percentage of the population, for social control generally, and for the United States’s image in the world, recruitment, nurturing, and professional development of correctional leaders should be regarded as national priorities.

A. The Size and Cost of Corrections in the United States

The scale of the American corrections system is daunting. There are some 3376 county jails and 116 federal prisons, 1320 state prisons, and

17. See infra Table 1. The National Institute of Corrections’ Core Competencies Project identified four levels of corrections leaders (supervisors, managers, senior-level leaders, and executives), the various positions in each level, and the leadership competencies for each level. See U.S. DEP’T OF JUSTICE, NAT’L INST. OF CORR., Correctional Leadership Competencies for the 21st Century: Executive and Senior-Level Leaders, NICIC (July 2005), available at http://static.nicic.gov/Library/020474.pdf [hereinafter Executive and Senior-Level Leaders]. This article adopts these labels and categories.


20. U.S. DEP’T OF JUSTICE, SOURCEBOOK OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS, 90 tbl.1.94
264 privately-run penal facilities. On any given day, these “total institutions” house, feed, clothe, supervise, recreate, educate, and provide physical and psychological care to nearly 2.3 million inmates, including about 90,000 juvenile inmates. County jails admit and process thirteen million people annually. Probation and parole officers supervise an additional five million people. All told, at any point in time, correctional personnel supervise and provide services to nearly one in thirty-one Americans.

A large infrastructure is needed to administer this massive correctional complex. Approximately 43,500 executives, senior-level leaders, managers, and supervisors oversee 474,700 lower-level employees, as


21. Id. at tbl.1.102.

22. ERVING GOFFMAN, ASYLUMS 11 (1968). Erving Goffman coined the term “total institution” to denote “a place of residence and work where a large number of like-situated individuals cut off from the wider society for an appreciable period of time together lead an enclosed formally administered round of life.” Id. at xiii.


25. CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, supra note 16.


27. See PEW CENTER ON THE STATES, 1 IN 31: THE LONG REACH OF AMERICAN CORRECTIONS, (2009), available at http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/PSP_Paper1.pdf [hereinafter PEW CENTER]. Moreover, as of March 2009, one in eighteen men and one in eleven African American men were under some form of correctional control. Id. “In 2009, over 7.2 million people were on probation, in jail or prison, or on parole at year-end—3.1% of all U.S. adult residents or 1 in every 32 adults.” Total Correctional Population, BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS, www.bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/index.cfm?ty=t&tid=11 (last visited Nov. 25, 2011).

28. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that the number of correctional officers will grow 9% between 2008 and 2018. CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, supra note 16.

Increasing demand for correctional officers will stem from population growth and rising rates of incarceration. Mandatory sentencing guidelines calling for longer sentences and reduced parole for inmates are a primary reason for increasing incarceration rates. . . . Some employment opportunities also will arise in the private sector, as public authorities contract with private companies to provide and staff corrections facilities.

Id.

29. Id.
well as 2.5 million adult and juvenile inmates. Every state prison and large county jail system—there are at least 170 county jail systems with 1,000 or more beds—requires a corps of competent leaders, including a director and assistant directors of adult facilities, juvenile facilities, financial operations, community relations, and legal departments. Each of America’s 5,000 correctional facilities also needs a capable warden, assistant wardens, a top security officer, a physical plant manager, heads of health and recreation services, chiefs of budget and personnel, and supervising disciplinary officers. Correctional facilities also need effective leaders at the middle-management levels, for example, shift commanders and lieutenants or sergeants in charge of cell houses (including administrative and disciplinary segregation units), food services, workshops, medical services, and the school. Leaders must be constantly replenished due to retirements, resignations, and prison expansion. Thus, there is a pressing need to constantly improve the leadership skills of incumbent administrators and to identify and train the next generation of leaders.

B. Correctional Leaders Require Wide-Ranging Knowledge and Skills

Corrections executives, senior-level leaders, managers, and supervisors must exert leadership under challenging conditions. They must maintain order, discipline, and good morale among troubled, anti-social, and often dangerous inmates who live under conditions of extreme deprivation.


31. Email from Virginia Hutchinson, Chief of the NIC’s Jails Division, Nov. 23, 2010. The top ten largest county jails in the U.S., from largest to smallest, are in Los Angeles, New York City, Cook County (Ill.), Maricopa County (Ariz.), Philadelphia, Miami-Dade County (Fla.), Dallas County (Tex.), Orange County (Cal.), and Shelby County (Tenn.). Jesse Bogan, America’s Jail Crisis, FORBES MAGAZINE, July 13, 2009, available at http://www.forbes.com/2009/07/10/jails-houston-recession-business-beltway-jails.html. The Los Angeles County Jail holds nearly 20,000 inmates per day. Id.

32. See also Executive and Senior-Level Leaders, supra note 17; see generally, James B. Jacobs & Elana Olitsky, Leadership and Correctional Reform, 24 PACE L. REV. 477 (2004).

33. See Jacobs & Olitsky, supra note 32; DEP’T OF JUSTICE, NAT’L INST. OF CORRECTIONS, supra note 32; see also infra Table 1.

34. See Jacobs & Olitsky, supra note 32; infra Table 1.

Often, they must cope with severe inmate crowding, deteriorating physical plants, inadequate budgets, a constant flow of lawsuits and health problems like AIDS, tuberculosis and hepatitis. Increasingly, they are being asked to prepare inmates for successful post-incarceration reentry. The current economic recession forces corrections leaders to address all of these challenges with diminished resources.

from 1995 to 2000, and assaults on staff rose from 14,165 to 17,952). However, more recent data show that, in some jurisdictions, e.g. New York State, intra-prison violence has dropped dramatically. Bert Unseem, New York’s Prison Turnaround, CITY JOURNAL, (2010), http://www.city-journal.org/2010/20_3_snd-ny-imprisonment-rates.html; see Jacobs & Olitsky, supra note 32, at 480.


39. In 1997, released inmates accounted for 20-26% of the HIV/AIDS cases in the United States, 12 to 16% of hepatitis B infections, 29-32% of hepatitis C infections, and 39% of tuberculosis cases. Theodore M. Hammell et al., The Burden of Infectious Diseases Among Inmates and Releasees From U.S. Correctional Facilities, 1997, 92 AM. J. PUB. HEALTH 1789, 1792 (2002). Chief Justice Burger observed that “a prison is not a pleasant place, it is not even a comfortable place. It probably can never be made either comfortable or pleasant; . . . At its best, it is barely tolerable.” Burger Commencement Address, supra note 7.

40. By the end of 2011, forty-two states will face budget shortfalls totaling $130 billion (15.9% of state budgets). Elizabeth McNichol et al., CTR. ON BUDGET & POLICY PRIORITIES, States Continue to Feel Recession’s Impact (2011), http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=711. California will have a budget gap of $23 billion and New York will have a budget gap of $10 billion. Id. Forecasts for 2012 are nearly as dismal, with total state budget shortfalls expected to approach $103 billion. Id.
Corrections leaders must motivate and manage workforces that are frequently understaffed, poorly educated, under-trained, poorly paid, unappreciated, vulnerable to threats and assaults, and embroiled in interpersonal and inter-group frictions. Inmates generally resent, and sometimes act hostilely toward corrections employees. Unpleasant and unsafe duties and working conditions often result in low job satisfaction and high turnover.

41. See, e.g., Wyo. Struggles with Understaffed Prison, USA TODAY (May 6, 2007) http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-05-06-wyoming-prison-staff_N.htm (noting that in one correctional facility, more than a third of the jobs were unfilled).

42. Most state prisons require entry-level corrections employees to have a high school diploma or graduation equivalency degree. CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, supra note 16.


44. See CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, supra note 16. However, California officers earn $44,000 to $74,000 per year. STATE OF CAL., DEP’T OF CORR. AND REHAB., COMPENSATION FOR CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS (2007), available at http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/Career_Opportunities/po/docs/POASForms/CO%20Salary%20Compensation.pdf.

45. See Robert M. Freeman, Here There Be Monsters: Public Perception of Corrections, 63 CORR. TODAY 108 (June 2001) (detailing a study of the demoralizing impact of the media’s negative image of prisons on prison staff); Tim Kneist, Old Habits Die Hard: Corrections Professionals Constantly Struggle Against Negative Stereotypes, 60 CORRECTIONS TODAY 46-48 (Feb. 1998).

46. CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, supra note 16.


48. Nationally, the number of inmate-on-inmate assaults in correctional facilities rose from 25,948-34,355 from 1995-2000, and assaults on staff rose from 14,165-17,952. Census of State and Federal Correctional Facilities, supra note 35.

49. CORRECTION OFFICERS, supra note 16. “Correctional officers and jailers have one of the highest rates of nonfatal on-the-job injuries” of any occupational group. Id.


51. In 1981, Chief Justice Burger cited a study that found an “astonishing rate of turnover of correctional personnel . . . [o]ne state has 54%, one 60%, another 65% and another 75% turnover.” Burger Commencement Address, supra note 7, at 3. Burger rhetorically asked how “any human enterprise [can] be effective with that rate of turnover” and suggested “that there is a correlation between . . . the rapid turnover and the amount of
Running a prison or large jail under these conditions requires a diverse set of skills.\footnote{52} For example, correctional leaders should be thoroughly versed in applicable legislation, case law, and administrative rules. Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to define goals and motivate and communicate expectations to staff and inmates, are also vital. Administrators must be good problem-solvers and capable strategists, designers, and implementers of short-, medium- and long-term plans for preventing violence, improving living conditions, solving individual and organizational problems, and preparing inmates for reentry. To achieve these goals, corrections leaders must be able to deal effectively with staff, union leaders,\footnote{53} legislators,\footnote{54} the courts, executive-branch officials, law-enforcement officers,\footnote{55} civil rights organizations, psychological and training.” \footnote{Id.; see also Ojmarrh Mitchell et al., The Impact of Individual, Organizational, and Environmental Attributes on Voluntary Turnover Among Juvenile Correctional Staff Members, 17 JUST. Q. 333 (2000) (providing an insightful study of how organizational factors create stress and turnover). One study found that turnover rates among correctional officers are 15.4\% in publicly run prisons and 40.9\% in privately run prisons. Tracy Huling, Building a Prison Economy in Rural America, in Invisible Punishment: The Collateral Consequences of Mass Imprisonment 202 (Marc Mauer & Meda Chesney-Lind, eds., 2002). George Camp’s 1996 study found that while prison populations were rising, prison staffs were shrinking. Turnover rates could be as high as 50\% in some institutions, though not in entire systems. See Nat’l Inst. of Corr., U.S. Dep’t of Justice, Managing Staff: Corrections’ Most Valuable Resource 19-20 (1996), available at http://www.nicic.org/pubs/1996/013216.pdf. Another problem is the brief tenure (an average of approximately three years) of state prison directors. Directors typically leave office when a new governor takes office or if there is a prison scandal or crisis. Telephone Interview with Bob Brown, Nat’l Inst. of Corr., Acad. Div. (Oct. 20, 2003). Whether a leader can be effective with such a short tenure is subject to serious question. Id. The staff’s expectation that the head of the system will soon be gone is itself a recipe for organizational stagnation. Id.}

52. Executive and Senior-Level Leaders, supra note 17, at vii. An NIC study observes, “The nature of the correctional environment has changed significantly in recent years. The technological revolution, globalization, and evolving workforce demographics are just a few of the factors that are influencing and changing correctional agencies/organizations.” \footnote{Id.}

53. In some states, unions have substantial influence over correctional operations. For example, the California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA), representing more than 30,000 California prison employees, is one of the most influential lobbyists in California politics. About Us, Cal. Corr. Peace Officers Ass’n, http://www.ccpoa.org/union/about.


physical healthcare providers, advocacy and volunteer groups, and the media.56

III. THE CURRENT CORRECTIONAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING INFRASTRUCTURE IS INSUFFICIENT

The country’s infrastructure for correctional-leadership development consists of a hodgepodge of training programs run by state departments of corrections, the NIC, the Federal Bureau of Prison’s (FBOP) Staff Training Academy, the American Correctional Association (ACA), other professional correctional associations, individual correctional facilities, and some colleges and universities. There is no national institution to identify and prioritize correctional-leadership-development needs, evaluate best training practices, develop and disseminate quality curricula, conduct cutting-edge research, and deliver training to a significant number of high-level corrections leaders. Indeed, there are no national standards for corrections training or a corrections-training equivalent to the organizations that accredit American institutions of higher education.

In 1981, Chief Justice Burger observed that the states “have no real training resources available”57 and that “[w]ithout special training, prison personnel can become part of the problem rather than part of the solution.”58 A leading corrections textbook, published in 1990, stated that inadequate correctional-leadership development leaves American prison administration “dominated by uncreative thinking, ungrounded and idiosyncratic conceptualization, and an unwarranted commitment to traditionalism.”59 In 2011, correctional leadership and skills training is, in many ways, even less adequate.60 This is due in part to: the downsizing or

56. Add to these factors the effect of privatization on the prison system. Between 1995-2000, the number of private penal facilities rose from 110-264. Census of State and Federal Correctional Facilities, supra note 35. Many prison reformers and reform organizations are opposed to private prisons as a matter of principle. Others point to poorly performing private prisons. For example, in 2000, thirty-three private prisons were operating under court order or consent decree, up from fifteen in 1995. Id. at 9. Privately-run prisons also tend to have higher staff turnover (probably due to lower pay) and higher inmate escape rates. See Scott D. Camp & Gerald G. Gaes, Growth and Quality of U.S. Private Prisons: Evidence from a National Survey, 1 CRIMINOLOGY & PUB’L POL’Y 427 (2002).


58. Id.


elimination of state-level correctional-training programs in the current public-sector budget crisis; high turnover of correctional executives leaving insufficient numbers of experienced personnel to show new leaders the ropes; understaffing of prisons, jails, and community-corrections programs, leaving little or no time for training; and the perception, by legislators, policymakers, and the public, that correctional management does not require extensive training. Furthermore, four decades of prison growth has caused many mid- and senior-level managers to be promoted to top positions much faster, and with much less training, than their predecessors. One study found that 90% of new wardens did not receive any orientation prior to, or just after, assuming their position. Over half reported no formal mentoring.

A. State and County Correctional Leadership Training

Most state prisons and county jails treat any training beyond entry-level as a luxury. Most state corrections systems lack sufficient manpower to leadership-and-the-future-of-corrections (last visited Sept. 5, 2011).


62. Eric G. Lambert, To Stay or Quit: A Review of Literature on Correctional Staff Turnover, 26 AM. J. CRIM. JUST. 61, 62 n.1 (2001). As much as $20,000 is spent recruiting, testing, hiring, and training each new correctional staff member. Id.


65. Id. Perhaps the need for a new-wardens-orientation manual indicates a lack of formal training for wardens. Id.

66. Entry-level training includes instruction on such topics as “constitutional law and cultural awareness, inmate behavior, contraband control, custody and security procedures; fire and safety; inmate legal rights, written and oral communication, use-of-force, first aid, . . . and physical fitness training.” Jess Maghan, CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT: 21ST CENTURY—USA 4 (2002), available at http://www.jmfc.com/CorrOfficersChangingEnvironmnt.pdf. Among the forty-two state and federal correctional agencies included in a recent survey, introductory or basic training can range from 40-400 hours of introductory training, which includes both classroom and on-the-job training. RICHARD P. SEITER, CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATION: INTEGRATING THEORY AND PRACTICE 324 (1st ed. 2001). See Table 2 (providing a summary of the most comprehensive state correctional training programs).
release key personnel for weeks, or even days, of training. Some correctional-leadership-development initiatives have been discontinued on account of a budget crisis or a new administration’s different priorities. Probably no state has the resources to pay for a first-rate training program.

Indeed, it makes little sense for a state to invest heavily in correctional-leadership training because other states will simply recruit the expensively trained executives. It is in every state’s economic self-interest to spend as little money as possible on training and to use incentives and bonuses to hire effective leaders away from the corrections departments and facilities that trained them (i.e., a race to the bottom). Economies of scale also stand in the way of each state creating its own correctional college with a full-fledged faculty and curriculum. Only the largest states could generate a large enough flow of leadership candidates to justify maintenance of a high-quality training facility.

B. National Institute of Corrections

In 1974, two years after the Attica Prison riot and bloody retaking, Congress established the NIC as an agency within FBOP. The Law

68. Id. at 486, 487 n.38, 489 n.40.
69. Id. at 489.
70. Id.
73. Berger stated:

[Correctional leadership training] cannot be done efficiently with 50 states unless there is some degree of coordination between the states, and between states and the federal system. . . . It makes little sense in the Twentieth Century to have each state suffer the waste and inefficiency which accompanies the maintenance of a complete range of facilities. Only the large states can [avoid this inefficiency].

PROPOSED NATIONAL CORRECTIONS COLLEGE

2012 Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA)\(^7^6\) provided the NIC with its first three years of seed money ($5 million per year).\(^7^7\) Congress made the NIC’s budget a line item in FBOP’s budget for only one year (1977).\(^7^8\) Since then, FBOP has been responsible for deciding the NIC’s budget (which ranged from $10-$15 million from the late 1970s through the early 1990s).\(^7^9\) In 1995, FBOP increased the NIC’s budget to $20 million.\(^8^0\) The budget has remained the same ever since, despite inflation and the vast expansion of prisons, jails, and community corrections.\(^8^1\)

The NIC is headquartered in Washington, D.C.\(^8^2\) and is divided into seven divisions.\(^8^3\) Its main training unit is the Academy Division,\(^8^4\) located

\(^{76}\) The LEAA, a former agency within the U.S. Department of Justice, was established by the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 and abolished in 1982. In addition to administering federal money to state and local law enforcement agencies, it funded law-enforcement-related educational programs and research. LEAA’s successor agency is the Office of Justice Programs.

\(^{77}\) Telephone Interview with Tom Beauclair, Deputy Director, Nat’l Inst. Of Corr. (Dec. 7, 2010).

\(^{78}\) Id.

\(^{79}\) Telephone Interview with Robert Brown, supra note 11.

\(^{80}\) Id.


\(^{83}\) Id.

\(^{84}\) Divisions, supra note 83. NIC’s prisons, jails, and community services divisions also offer training programs. See Nat’l Inst. of Corr., Prisons Division, NICIC, http://nicic.gov/Prisons (last visited Nov. 9, 2011); Nat’l Inst. of Corr., Jails Division, http://nicic.gov/JailsDivision (last visited Nov. 9, 2011); Nat’l Inst. of Corr., Community Services Division, NICIC, http://nicic.gov/CC (last visited Nov. 9, 2011). For example, the Prisons Division offers specialized training related to prison operations and the Jails Division conducts programs on jail administration, inmate behavior management and new jail planning. Nat’l Inst. of Corr., Prisons Division, NICIC, http://nicic.gov/Prisons (last
on two floors of a four-story building in Aurora, Colorado, and called the National Corrections Academy. The Academy Division’s annual budget, like the budgets of NIC’s other six divisions, is around $2.5 million. This is much less than the leadership training budgets of many corporations. For example, Intel University has an annual budget of more than $150 million and Motorola University has an annual budget of more than $120 million. The Academy Division’s ten full-time instructors, (called “correctional program specialists”), plus approximately 100 part-time consultants who are practicing or retired correctional leaders and a few academics, teach or run in-residence courses, online-broadcast courses, E-Learning Center courses, virtual-online courses, training initiatives, and technical assistance events. The Academy’s three flagship leadership-
development courses are the Executive Excellence Program, the Correctional Leadership Development Program, and the Management Development for the Future Program. Its other two core leadership courses are Essential Skills for New Supervisors and Unleash Your Leadership Competency Potential.

In 2010, the Academy Division delivered training, mostly via distance-learning modules, to nearly 59,000 corrections personnel, from line-level officers to executives. However, only 120 executive-level officers each year receive training lasting more than four hours whereas the FBI National Academy provides weeks of training to approximately 1000 federal, state, local and foreign law-enforcement leaders per year. Indeed, over 90% of participants in the Academy Division’s training programs receive online instruction of four hours or less and fewer than 800 students per year (very few of whom are executives or senior-level leaders) receive any kind of training in excess of four hours. Moreover, the Academy Division is not effectively linked to academia.

Although the NIC plays an important role in providing state and local correction’s departments with various types of training and technical assistance, it is only a kernel of the NCC that we are proposing. The NIC’s National Corrections Academy seeks to provide training, policy recommendations, and a site for professional interchange among correctional executives. But it has never been funded at anything close to the level needed to fulfill Burger’s vision of a correctional equivalent of the FBI Academy. Whereas the FBI Academy has a 385-acre campus, the National Corrections Academy is located in one small building. Whereas the FBI Academy has a large library, two dormitories, a mock town, research centers, and laboratory buildings, the National Corrections Academy began offering virtual courses in which an Academy instructor and ten to twenty corrections supervisors and/or managers meet online to study subjects such as crisis management and building morale among subordinates. Approximately eighty participants took these virtual online courses between January and October 2010. See infra Table 3.


See supra note 91.

Interview with Robert Brown, supra note 11.


Interview with Robert Brown, supra note 11.

Academy has only a few rooms for classes and conferences.\textsuperscript{99}

C. Professional Associations

Several professional associations, comprising different categories of corrections personnel, offer various courses of varying quality.\textsuperscript{100} There has never been a comprehensive study of this corpus of instruction and curricula. But there is good reason to believe that, with few exceptions, the quality is not high. Significantly, for our purposes, few of these courses are addressed to the top echelons of corrections administrators. Moreover, the vast majority of correctional associations’ training programs run only a few hours long (not nearly enough time for substantial learning or collaboration); run only a few days per year (not nearly enough capacity to train even a small percentage of the American correctional leadership corps); do not rigorously evaluate the participants (the majority of courses have no or very easy exams and quizzes); and are not accredited or rated by an independent educational body.

Corrections’ largest professional association is the American Correctional Association (ACA), which has more than 20,000 members.\textsuperscript{101} ACA’s Leadership Development for the Corrections Professional Program is a seventy-two hour course taught approximately seven hours per day for ten days by current and retired senior- and executive-level correctional officers at participants’ home correctional facilities.\textsuperscript{102} Participants include correctional supervisors, managers, senior-level leaders, and executives.\textsuperscript{103} Those who complete the course receive an ACA certificate as well as continuing education credit from Sam Houston State University’s Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice.\textsuperscript{104}

Other correctional associations also provide training programs of various duration, scope, and quality. The Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA) runs an annual two-day All Directors Training

\textsuperscript{99} Id.
\textsuperscript{100} See infra Table 4.
\textsuperscript{102} AM. CORR. ASS’N, Leadership Dev. for the Corrections Professional Program, ACA, https://www.aca.org/development/leadership.asp (last visited Nov. 25, 2011). The course is customized to each participating penal institution and covers, among other things, The Role of the 21st Century Leader; Team Building and Empowering Employees; Assessing Organizational Cultures; Managing and Leading Change; and Fostering Innovation. Id.
\textsuperscript{103} Id.
\textsuperscript{104} Some correctional agencies favorably consider continuing education credits when evaluating staff for promotions or pay increases. AM. CORR. ASS’N, Continuing Education Opportunities, ACA, https://www.aca.org/development/ceo.asp (last visited Oct. 26, 2011).
Program and a three-day New Directors Training Program, where the directors of state departments of corrections (the heads of the state prison systems) meet to share information and ideas on issues such as communicating with the media, fiscal management, racial disparity, and inmate reentry.\(^{105}\) These operate like professional conferences at which the various state corrections leaders meet to share experiences.\(^{106}\) But there are no comprehensive curricula or formal evaluations.\(^{107}\)

The American Jail Association (AJA) recruits high-level jail administrators (two per seminar) to lead more than thirty two-, three-, four- and five-day “professional development seminars” (twenty to fifty students per seminar) annually for mid- and senior-level managers.\(^{108}\) In 2009, AJA also partnered with the Correctional Management Institute of Texas (CMIT), the National Association of Counties (NAC), and Sam Houston State University (Texas) to form the National Jail Leadership Command Academy (NJLCA), a one-week in-residence course at Sam Houston State University where thirty-six mid-level corrections managers (above line-level supervisors)\(^{109}\) focus on such topics as Hiring and Keeping the Best, Big-Picture Thinking, Collaborative Partnerships, and Essential Leadership Skills.\(^{110}\) Although the NJLCA is among the most intensive and

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106. Corrections Directions, supra, note 105, at 12.


108. Telephone Interview with AJA Representative, Dec. 14, 2010. AJA does not evaluate the seminar students’ performance or knowledge (i.e. there are no quizzes, exams or final projects). Id.


comprehensive training initiatives in American corrections, it is not
designed for senior- or executive-level corrections leaders, it trains fewer
than 120 corrections officials per year, and it provides only one week of
instruction. This demonstrates that even the best correctional-training
programs cannot provide long-term, sustained training to even a modest
percentage of the nation’s prison, jail, and community-corrections leaders.

The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) runs semi-
annual three-day “training institutes” at which correctional executives,
subject-matter experts (e.g. victim advocacy, reentry, juvenile justice,
women in corrections), policymakers, and researchers conduct workshops
for different levels of probation, parole, and juvenile justice personnel on
such topics as officer safety, sex-offender management, and reentry. 111 We
know of no independent evaluation of these courses. But even if their
quality is high, three days of training, while better than no training, is
insufficient to prepare current and future leaders for the many and diverse
responsibilities of running a correctional system.

Some international correctional associations offer trainings or develop
training resources. For example, the International Association of
Correctional Training Personnel (IACTP) sponsors an annual three-day
conference for correctional trainers and educators from various countries
(but primarily from the United States), providing around two dozen ninety-
minute workshops on issues such as A Multigenerational Workforce and
Preparing Supervisors to be Change Leaders. 112 The International
Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA) does not offer training
programs, but does produce and distribute a Basic Training Manual for
Correctional Officers and the United Nations Handbook for Prison
Leaders. 113 Like the American correctional associations, these international
associations do not operate like a school, do not have full-time faculty, do
not develop curricula and do not sponsor comprehensive research.

D. University-Based Programs

There are hundreds of college- and university-based Criminal Justice
departments, in the United States and abroad, that provide education for

111 Workshops at a Glance, AM. PROBATION AND PAROLE ASS’N, http://www.appa-
net.org/institutes/2011_orlando/attendee/docs/workshops_AG.pdf (last visited Sept. 20,
2011). The 2011 program’s workshops included Underage Drinking; Reentry; Probation,
Parole and the Victim; Supervising the Burned Out Officer; Comprehensive Approach to
Sex Offender Management; Partnerships in Addressing DWI Offenders; and Implementing
Business Intelligence Tools for a Performance-Driven Agency. Id.

112 27th Annual Trainers’ Conference, INT’L ASS’N OF CORRECTIONAL TRAINING

113 About ICPA, INT’L ASS’N OF CORRECTIONAL TRAINING PERSONNEL,
undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees. Indeed, at least 350 criminal justice departments in the United States offer masters degrees and fifty-nine offer Criminal Justice doctoral degrees.\textsuperscript{114} A handful of college- and university-based Criminal Justice programs offer shorter, non-degree leadership training courses to correctional personnel aspiring to leadership positions.\textsuperscript{115} These university-based programs do not provide professional-development training for high-level correctional administrators. They are most valuable for providing background education for young people who might seek careers in the field.

IV. CONTRASTING OUR NATIONAL INVESTMENT IN CORRECTIONAL LEADERSHIP WITH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENTS IN OTHER SECTORS

Leadership training is pervasive in both the public and private sectors of the United States.\textsuperscript{116} Private companies, large and small, spend billions of dollars per year grooming promising junior employees for future leadership roles and sharpening the skills of current managers and executives. The military runs more than a dozen graduate colleges to train its senior-level leaders for top-level assignments and posts. The FBI Academy runs a prestigious police-leadership training course, which has come to be seen as a de facto prerequisite for promotion to chief or sheriff of a large police department. Many municipalities run or sponsor their own training academies for police and other civil servants. The New York City Leadership Academy, for example, recruits and develops public-school leaders.

A. Corporate “Universities”

Many large corporations devote enormous resources to their leadership-training facilities, often called “corporate universities.”\textsuperscript{117} More than 3000


\textsuperscript{116} See Bernard Wydra, Entry Selection, Training, and Career Structure in the Public Penitentiary Service, (2006), available at http://www20.gencat.cat/docs/Justicia/Documents/ARXIOUS/doc_17765534_1.pdf (detailing foreign leadership training programs); E-mail from Martin Horn, Lecturer, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and former Director, New York City Department of Corrections (Dec. 4, 2010) (on file with the author).

\textsuperscript{117} Denise R. Hearn, Education in the Workplace: An Examination of Corporate
companies worldwide, including Disney, Boeing, Motorola, and McDonalds, have facilities and faculties to train managerial- and executive-level leaders.\textsuperscript{118} Many spend millions (and some tens or hundreds of millions) of dollars per year on skills and leadership training. For example, McDonald’s Hamburger University, established in 1961, is headquartered on an eighty-acre campus in a Chicago suburb.\textsuperscript{119} It has nineteen full-time faculty members (restaurant operations experts) who, each year, teach four different curricula (Crew Development, Restaurant Managers, Mid-Management, and Executive Development) to more than 5000 in-residence students (managers and franchise owners) from more than 119 countries.\textsuperscript{120} The university’s campus has thirteen classrooms, three kitchen laboratories, a 300-seat auditorium, and twelve interactive “education-team” rooms as well as dormitories and faculty offices.\textsuperscript{121} Hamburger University has satellite campuses in Sydney, Munich, London, Tokyo, Hong Kong, and Brazil.\textsuperscript{122} Each of the university’s four curricula is delivered via a combination of classroom instruction, hands-on laboratory work, restaurant simulations, and computer e-learning modules.\textsuperscript{123} The Mid-Management and Restaurant-Managers curricula are accredited by the American Council on Education. Thus, students who complete these programs earn, in addition to a diploma, approximately twenty-one college credits (roughly one semester of college-level work).\textsuperscript{124} Like most corporate universities’ training programs, Hamburger University also encourages employees to return to the university at key points in their McDonald’s careers to obtain skills and competencies necessary for succeeding at the next corporate level. Over the past fifty years, Hamburger University has trained more than 80,000 restaurant managers, mid-managers, and franchise owners/operators.


\textsuperscript{118} \textit{Id.}


\textsuperscript{121} \textit{Id.}


\textsuperscript{123} \textit{Id.}

\textsuperscript{124} \textit{The American Council on Education has approved many Restaurant Manager and Mid-Management curricula for college credit. Careers, McDonalds,} http://www.aboutmcdonalds.com/mcd/careers/hamburger_university/college_credit_connection/earn_college_credits/calculate_your_credits.html (last visited Sept. 18, 2011).
That McDonald’s Corp. spends far more money to train its leadership cadre than does the government in training the nation’s high-level corrections leaders is telling. McDonald’s invested $40 million in 1983 to give its training facility the resources to operate a year-round university.\(^1\) In 1991, Motorola University’s operating budget was $70 million.\(^2\) In 2005, Intel Corp. allocated $377 million for leadership development.\(^3\) By contrast, in 2011, the federal government’s National Corrections Academy has a $2.5 million annual operating budget, even though annual corrections expenditures are approximately $70 billion.

**B. Military Graduate Colleges**

The fourteen American military graduate colleges and nine federal service academies demonstrate the quantity and quality of leadership training that the United States government is capable of providing.\(^4\) The Army War College and Naval War College, for example, offer multi-month (or longer) residential and non-residential courses, award diplomas and/or bachelors, masters and Ph.D. degrees, and prepare military and civilian leaders for high-level commands.\(^5\)

Consider the Army War College (AWC), established in 1901 in response to revelations of Army failures during the 1898 Spanish-American War.\(^6\) AWC’s mission is:

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\(^4\) U.S. OFFICE OF PERS. MGMT., PREPARING FOR THE SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE: THE FEDERAL CANDIDATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (2004), available at http://www.opm.gov/fedcorp/opm_candidate.pdf (stating the purpose is to “train outstanding leaders of the future for the Federal Government who will guide us through the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century.”). This fourteen-month program includes three nonconsecutive weeks of residential training (a one-week initial assessment period, a one-week Focused Skills seminar and a one-week Strategic Leadership Seminar), several one-day skills-training workshops, a group leadership project and other meetings and workshops with mentors, instructors and team members. *Id.* Students’ sponsoring agencies pay tuition and expenses. *Id.*


To prepare selected military, civilian, and international leaders for the responsibilities of strategic leadership; educate current and future leaders on the development and employment of landpower in a joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational (JIIM) environment; research and publish on national security and military strategy; and engage in activities that support the Army’s strategic communication efforts.\footnote{U.S. DEPT. OF THE ARMY, Organization and Function United States Army War College, TRADOC Regulation 10-5-6, at 5 (Ft. Monroe, Virginia: United States Army Training and Doctrine Command, Sept. 15 2006), available at http://www.tradoc.army.mil/tpubs/regs/r10-5-6.pdf.}

AWC seeks to develop “senior leadership competencies necessary for success in the contemporary operational environment that contributes to the development of senior leaders.”\footnote{About the U.S. Army War College, U.S. ARMY WAR COLLEGE, http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/about/aboutUs.cfm (last visited Oct. 1, 2011).}

AWC’s full-time faculty, headed by a “commandant” (an Army major-general),\footnote{See U.S. ARMY WAR COLL., http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/about/docs/Martin.pdf (last visited Oct. 1, 2011). Several colonels and a former ambassador to Iceland make up the rest of the AWC’s leadership cadre. U.S. ARMY WAR COLL., http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/about/docs/van%20voorst.pdf (last visited Oct. 1, 2011); U.S. ARMY WAR COLLEGE, http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/about/leadership.cfm (last visited Oct. 1, 2011).} consists of more than sixty military and civilian professors with impressive academic credentials.\footnote{Telephone Interview, AWC representative (Dec. 2, 2010).} Most AWC students are United States Army officers, from senior captains (eight to ten years experience) to lieutenant general (thirty to thirty-five years experience).\footnote{About, U.S. ARMY WAR COLL., http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/about/programOverview.cfm (last visited Oct. 1, 2011).} However, there are also students from the other United States military branches, foreign militaries, and civilian United States government agencies, such as the Pentagon, State Department, and National Security Agency.\footnote{Id.}

AWC offers two graduate-level academic programs. The Resident Program, for approximately 380 students per year, is a ten-month-long course of study aiming to hone the commander’s ability to formulate and communicate a vision for their commands; understand and develop strategic concepts; improve such leadership skills as critical thinking, self-awareness and consensus-building; draw lessons from the history of warfare; “develop broader intellectual and professional horizons”; understand the political, economic, military and informational elements of national power; and “cultivat[e] values-based, [sic] ethical climates and
cultures throughout their commands [in ways that will] inspire others to think and act.” The curriculum includes six core courses, five elective courses, a national security seminar, a strategic decision-making seminar, several specialized seminars (e.g. Military Leaders and the Media, Economics of National Security, Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century and War-Torn Societies) and a research project on military strategy. Those who successfully complete these requirements receive a Master of Strategic Studies degree. Students in the Distance Education Program, approximately 500 per year, take the same curriculum online over a two-year period.

AWC hosts research institutes that provide data, research findings, reports and recommendations to students and faculty. For example, the Strategic Studies Institute, staffed by more than twenty-five civilian faculty members, high-ranking military officers and others, publishes studies and strategic recommendations for Defense Department officials, Congress, universities, news media, think tanks and military institutes. Each year, the Chief of Staff of the Army invites international fellows from select countries to visit AWC in order to “study, research, and write on subjects of significance to the security interests of their own and allied nations.”

Imagine an NCC whose mission was to prepare selected correctional leaders for the responsibilities of strategic leadership; educate current and future leaders on the development and employment of correctional authority in a joint, multiregional and interagency environment; conduct

137. Id.
139. U.S. Army War Coll., U.S. Army War College Academic Programs, http://www.carlisle.army.mil/asawc/about/academicPrograms.cfm (last visited Oct. 1, 2011). AWC also runs shorter leadership-training courses, including a one-week Adjutants General National Security Seminar, a two-week Joint Flag Officers Warfighting Course, a one-week Joint Forces Land Component Commander Course and a one-week Senior Reserve Component Officer Course. Id. For less-senior officers, AWC’s Pre-Senior Level College offers a thirteen-week (in-residence and online) course called Basic Strategic Art and a six-month course called Defense Strategy. Id.
140. Id.
and publish research on correctional strategy; and engage in activities in support of state and local correctional systems’ strategic communication efforts.\textsuperscript{144} Such a college would train senior and executive level correctional officials to formulate, communicate and achieve goals via critical thinking, self awareness, consensus-building skills, and learning from successes and failures.

C. The FBI Academy

The FBI Academy is recognized throughout the world as the leading institution for training police officials. Located on a Marine Corps base in Quantico, Virginia, the Academy’s campus includes two dozen classrooms, eight conference rooms, three dormitories (accommodating over 900 occupants),\textsuperscript{145} a 1000-seat auditorium, forensic laboratories, a library, and dining halls.\textsuperscript{146} It has approximately 180 full-time faculty members and a roughly $75 million annual budget.\textsuperscript{147}

The FBI Academy has two flagship programs dedicated to leadership development.\textsuperscript{148} Its National Academy is a ten-week in-residence course of study, offered four times per year, to high-level American and foreign law-enforcement leaders.\textsuperscript{149} Admission is highly competitive. The course trains approximately 250 executives and managers of police departments, sheriffs’ departments, military police organizations, and other law-enforcement agencies from the United States and over 150 foreign countries\textsuperscript{150} on such subjects as law, behavioral and forensic science,

\begin{footnotesize}
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\item These dormitories are filled virtually year-round. Indeed, the FBI Academy often rents additional rooms in area hotels to accommodate students and visiting fellows. Telephone Interview with FBI Academy representative, FBI Headquarters, Washington D.C., (Dec. 14, 2010).
\item Id. Applicants must be nominated by a commissioner, superintendent, police chief, head of a county police agency or head of a state police or highway patrol organization. Applicants must be at least twenty-five years old, must have attained the rank of lieutenant, must have a high-school diploma, and must agree to remain in law enforcement for at least three years after graduation. FED. BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, Nomination of Law Enforcement Officers to Attend the National Academy, FBI, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/training/national-academy/na-nominations (last visited Oct. 1,
terrorism, leadership development, communication, and fitness. This includes foreign police officers facilitating good relations between American police and their foreign counterparts and building general goodwill with foreign countries. It aims “to support, promote, and enhance the personal and professional development of law enforcement leaders by preparing them for complex, dynamic, and contemporary challenges through innovative techniques, facilitating excellence in education and research, and forging partnerships throughout the world.” Successfully completing the National Academy has become a de facto prerequisite for achieving top positions in state, federal, and local policing. One Assistant U.S. Attorney called the FBI Academy “the temple where leaders of law enforcement come to receive their mission.”

The FBI Academy provides leadership training via its Leadership Development Institute (LDI), which seeks to “foster[] innovative, applicable, and effective leadership practices and encourag[e] a spirit of respect and cooperation between and among FBI employees and our law enforcement and intelligence community colleagues worldwide.” LDI is in charge of leadership education in the following FBI subunits: (1) The National Executive Institute (NEI), which provides a one-week leadership


152.  See FED. BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, International Training, FBI, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/training/ilea (last visited, Oct. 1, 2011). The FBI Academy also trains 800 new agents per year. New Agent Training, FBI ACADEMY, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/training/sat (last visited Nov. 25, 2011). The twenty-week in-residence new-agent training program includes 850 hours of instruction in academics (e.g. law, ethics, intelligence, behavioral and forensic science and interrogation), case exercises (in a mock town on the FBI’s Academy’s campus called Hogan’s Alley), firearms training (handgun, shotgun, submachine gun) and operational skills (e.g. physical fitness, self-defense and surveillance). Id. By contrast, the Federal Bureau of Prisons’ (FBP) training program for new federal correctional employees is a three-week in-residence course called Introduction to Correctional Techniques. About Staff Training Centers, FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS, http://www.bop.gov/about/train/index.jsp (last visited Nov. 25, 2011). The Staff Training Academy also offers a few specialized courses, e.g. Bus Operations, Marksman Observer, and Witness Security. Id.


154.  Id.


156.  Id.

157.  Id. LDI has two units: the Community Leadership Develop Unit and the FBI Leadership Development Unit. Id.
course, several times per year, to the chiefs of the largest law enforcement agencies (agencies with more than 500 officers serving a population of at least 250,000) in the United States, Canada, the U.K., and Australia. 158 (2) The Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (LEEDS), a five day leadership course offered several times per year to the chiefs of mid-size (50-500 officers) police departments; 159 and (3) Regional Command Colleges, which provide a forty-hour leadership course, nearly two dozen times per year, to the top officers of smaller (fewer than fifty officers) police departments. 160

The federal government is far more committed to excellence in policing at all levels of government than excellence in incarceration. 161 The 1994 Violent Crime Control & Law Enforcement Act established the Community Orientated Policing Services (COPS Program) to help state and local police departments: (1) increase the number of police officers deployed in American communities; (2) foster interaction between police officers and communities; (3) encourage innovation in policing; and (4) develop new technologies for assisting officers in reducing crime. 162 Congress allocated $8.8 billion for the COPS Program over six years. 163 This money flowed as grants to state and local police departments, primarily to hire additional officers. 164 The COPS Program is still funded at


163. Id.

164. Id.
hundreds of millions of dollars per year.\footnote{165}

The FBI Academy provides an important example of what correctional-leadership training would look like if the federal government considered the nation’s correctional infrastructure a higher priority. Perhaps the legislators think apprehending criminals is much more important and complex than confining, protecting, and rehabilitating them. Just as the FBI Academy has established the United States as a world leader in democratic policing,\footnote{166} the NCC’s aspiration would be to establish the United States as the world leader in democratic corrections. Success, or even substantial progress, in achieving this goal would have huge payoffs for domestic tranquility and for the United States’s international reputation for respecting human rights.

V. A FRAMEWORK FOR A NATIONAL COLLEGE OF CORRECTIONS

The proposed NCC would be similar to Chief Justice Burger’s vision of a highly prestigious institution dedicated to researching, teaching, and promoting competent, effective, and ethical correctional leadership.\footnote{167} The NCC would stand at the apex of the nation’s correctional-training infrastructure by: providing leadership and management education; generating, evaluating, and certifying curricula; promoting and disseminating best training protocols, courses, and pedagogies; and serving as a forum for connecting federal, state, and local correctional leaders with one another, with foreign prison and jail officials, and with high caliber academics and corporate leaders.\footnote{168} As the FBI Academy did for police in the 1970s,\footnote{169} the NCC should produce major improvements in the quality of professional correctional leadership. That, in turn, should produce major improvements in, among many other things, prison and jail efficiency, prison and jail safety, prisoner productivity, ex-offender reentry, caring and mentoring staff, and reductions in recidivism. Rather than merely reacting to the public’s shifting complaints about the need for prisoner rehabilitation, toughness on crime, reentry or cost efficiency (as the American correctional-training providers have done for decades), the NCC should be the nation’s leader in creating correctional policy, shaping the

\footnote{165} Id.
\footnote{168} Id. Chief Justice Burger suggested that a national academy of corrections “should also provide technical assistance to state and local institutions on a continuing basis.” Id.
\footnote{169} See discussion supra Part III.B.1 and accompanying footnotes.
public’s perception of corrections, and keeping the quality of correctional-training high.

A. Expansion of the NIC

The NCC should be the next step in the maturation of the NIC. Indeed, Chief Justice Burger’s original vision for the NIC was a full-scale, well-funded, year-round academy similar in size and prestige to the FBI Academy’s sprawling campus in Quantico, Virginia.\textsuperscript{170} The NIC describes itself as “a center of learning, innovation and leadership that shapes and advances effective correctional practice and public policy” and pursues the following goals: “effective management of prisons, jails and community corrections programs and facilities”; “enhanced organizational and professional performance in corrections”; “community, staff and offender safety”; “improved correctional practices through the exploration of trends and public policy issues”; and “enhanced services through improved organizational and staff effectiveness.”\textsuperscript{171} The NIC’s Academy Division has four decades of experience in correctional-leadership training at the national level, a corps of experienced correctional trainers, a Colorado facility devoted to correctional training, a sizeable e-library of correctional training materials, and extensive links with state departments of corrections, county jails, professional correctional associations, and some university-based academics.\textsuperscript{172}

The NIC and its Academy have made significant investments in studying the competency requirements of correctional leaders. For example, in 2005 and 2006, the Academy Division published two thick reports that “provide a tool for refining [NIC’s] leadership training programs and for helping correctional agencies and organizations of all sizes identify the most appropriate candidates for leadership training.”\textsuperscript{173} The reports provide recommendations on recruitment, placement and retention of leaders, and on development of leadership skills.\textsuperscript{174} They identify the necessary leadership competencies of four levels of correctional leaders: executives,

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\textsuperscript{170}. See supra Part II.C.2.


\textsuperscript{172}. See FED. BUREAU OF PRISONS, Central Office – National Institute of Corrections (NIC), BOP, http://www.bop.gov/about/co/nic.jsp (last visited Nov. 7, 2011); see also NAT’L INST. OF CORR., Correctional Training Opportunities, NICIC, http://nicic.gov/Training (last visited Nov. 11, 2011); Fran Zandi, New Jail Resources and Training from NIC, CORRECTIONS TODAY (June/July 2011), at 75-76.

\textsuperscript{173}. Executive and Senior-Level Leaders, supra note 17, at iii; Manager and Supervisor Levels, supra note 18, at iv.

\textsuperscript{174}. Executive and Senior-Level Leaders, supra note 17, at iv; see also Manager and Supervisor Levels, supra note 18, at iv.
senior-level leaders, managers, and supervisors. These impressive reports also introduce strategies, techniques, and frameworks for implementing each competency. An expanded NIC—with a much larger physical plant (e.g., lecture halls, seminar rooms, dormitories, research centers, conference rooms, a library, offices and an auditorium) and a larger corps of faculty and staff—could use these reports to generate, disseminate, and teach rich correctional-leadership curricula.

B. The NCC’s Size, Organization, and Capabilities

To establish its identity and bona fides, the NCC needs comfortable facilities. It must have a venue conducive to serious study and attractive to correctional managers and academics. There must be ample classrooms, dormitories, faculty and administrative offices, research centers, and conference rooms. There should be up-to-date technology for operation of the institution and for delivery of training. The NCC should have a large library that makes accessible, onsite and online, American and foreign correctional studies, reports, recommendations, articles and books.

American prisons and jails are not well-regarded abroad or even at home; changing the reality and the perception should be a top national priority. The NCC therefore requires a distinguished dean who has a reputation as a correctional leader, innovator, and educator; this dean will be the face of the institution and of American corrections. There should be at least twenty-five full-time faculty members, including world-class corrections leaders and scholars who have made their marks in such areas as management, public administration, law, psychology, sociology, ethnic studies, organizational politics, and corrections and criminal justice. It is important that the NCC be able to accommodate a small number of American and foreign academics and distinguished correctional administrators for periods of several weeks to several months. The envisioned NCC will attract Americans and foreigners who relish the opportunity to interact with top-notch faculty and fellow correctional leaders in other states, regions, and countries.

The NCC’s students should be executive-level prison, jail, and

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175. See infra Table 1 (providing a list of the competencies for each level of correctional leadership).

176. See Executive and Senior-Level Leaders, supra note 17, at xviii, xix, xxv; see generally Manager and Supervisor Levels, supra note 18.

177. Burger Commencement Address, supra note 7, at 4–5 (suggesting that a national corrections academy could be grafted to the FBI Academy or that “the United States could acquire the facilities of a small, centrally located college which is closing its operations.”).

community-corrections administrators. The heads of state and county correctional agencies could nominate candidates for enrollment, but the NCC must have control over admissions. Having NCC, rather than state or local correctional directors, be primarily responsible for the admission of its students would help ensure that the selection process does not become politicized and that the quality of each incoming class is high. The NCC’s courses should not require students to be in-residence for more than three consecutive weeks; busy prison and jail personnel will not be able to leave their jobs for longer than that. Thus, the NCC should provide courses that combine residential, online and independent study. For example, students could take two weeks of intensive in-residence classes, followed by several months of studying and researching, followed, six months later, by another in-residence period in which papers and projects would be critiqued.

The NIC’s Academy Division already has experience with courses like this; its Executive Excellence Program requires its students to take two consecutive weeks of in-residence classes at the National Corrections Academy followed by six online classes over a period of months and a subsequent four-day in-residence stint. Similarly, John Rakis, a former correctional manager and longtime NIC trainer, annually conducts two 180-hour Offender Workforce Development Specialist Partnership Training courses, which train jail, probation and parole officers to prepare prisoners for reentry. The first week of the program is in-residence, followed by several months of self-study, completion of a practicum and online assignments, followed by a concluding in-residence week. Approximately twelve instructors (three at a time), all nationally recognized reentry practitioners and academics, teach each course to thirty-six students.

The NCC should aim to develop courses that make correctional executives more effective leaders. We envision a core curriculum that draws on business school and public administration curricula adapted for corrections. These core courses should include management, leadership,

182. Telephone Interview with John Rakis, former Deputy Executive Director of the New York City Board of Correction (Dec. 2, 2010).
183. Id.
law, human relations, budgeting, cost-benefit analysis, and organization theory. The NCC should offer specialized short courses on topical issues such as dealing with stakeholders, integrating social networking into corrections, controlling gangs, setting goals, measuring progress, and preparing inmates for reentry. The architects of NCC’s curricula should also obtain information, from correctional educators and practitioners, about students’ learning styles in order to determine the proper combination of lecture, group work, brainstorming, and interactive computer instruction. Bringing each state’s top correctional trainers, leaders and future leaders together to get to know each other, share ideas, and form coalitions would facilitate this process. All of NCC’s courses should aim not only to develop students’ leadership skills, but also to produce educational materials, curricula, and policy ideas for future NCC use. The courses would give faculty an opportunity to interact with correctional leaders from all over the country. The faculty would then be well-positioned to provide recommendations to agencies conducting searches to fill leadership positions.

Time spent at the NCC should not be a boondoggle. NCC’s courses must be rigorous, require background reading, homework, and out-of-class projects, quizzes, and exams. Perhaps a graduation requirement should be a management-improvement project in which students, after completing the coursework, prepare and implement a management innovation at their home correctional agency. Students who successfully complete an NCC course of study should receive a certificate. Outstanding performance at the NCC, like outstanding performance in the FBI’s National Academy, should come to be seen as a significant career enhancer.

Finally, the NCC should be a base for career correctional leaders. Leadership competencies become more numerous and complex as a correctional official progresses from manager to senior leader to executive. The competencies build upon one another. Top correctional officials should not begin training in these competencies the day they are chosen to lead a department. Instead, corrections supervisors, managers, and executives must receive substantial training periodically throughout their career. The NCC should provide “career learning,” by inviting corrections managers, senior leaders, and executives to return to the college at key career stages to prepare for upcoming promotions. Accordingly, the NCC curricula should

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184. John Rakis observes that the best pedagogical approach to teaching experienced correctional officers is mixing short lectures with discussions and group exercises. Id.

track career progression.  

C. NCC’s Relationship with Other Correctional-Training Providers

A NCC would not and could not monopolize all corrections training. Even in its most robust form, it could not train all, or even a substantial number, of the nation’s correctional executives in all required knowledge, skills, and competencies. However, a well-staffed and well-supported NCC could begin the hard work of transforming the disparate mélange of training programs into a more coordinated network that generates, identifies, and advances good ideas, curricula, courses, teachers, and pedagogical methodologies; links correctional training to private-sector and public-sector developments in management, public administration, higher-education research, law, social science, criminal justice generally, and corrections specifically; and certifies or rates courses offered by other providers.

The NCC would provide state correctional agencies with curricular-development support, training resources, pedagogical ideas, recommendations, and perhaps accreditation. States could also send their top correctional trainers, top correctional leaders, and most promising correctional leaders-to-be to study at NCC and to bring back to their home institutions skills, ideas, and strategies. A NCC could collaborate with state correctional departments to jointly run training programs customized to the needs of particular correctional departments, units, or facilities.

The NCC could also advance the objectives of the professional correctional associations. For example, a NCC could help improve ACA’s, APPA’s, and AJA’s training initiatives by sharing and critiquing (and perhaps certifying) courses and training materials. An NCC could also serve as a forum in which the associations’ leaders could meet, with one another and with academics, researchers, and other experts, to amend old and create new curricula, policy, and lobbying and fundraising strategies.

A NCC could provide college and university criminal justice departments with research opportunities. For example, academics from the United States and foreign college and university criminal justice departments could come to the NCC for a year or two as fellows to teach, conduct research, and participate in conferences.

VI. CONCLUSION

In 2011, it should strike legislators, regulators, and the public as bewildering that the country with the world’s largest penal infrastructure has no full-fledged national-level training and research institution devoted to making American corrections as humane and effective as possible. In the twenty-first century, a country that spends nearly $70 billion per year on corrections should have at least a modestly-funded national corrections college.

Efficient, safe, and well-run prisons, jails, and community-corrections systems do not come cheaply. Obtaining political and financial support for American corrections’ human infrastructure has been and will continue to be a Herculean challenge. In his May 1981 commencement address at George Washington University, Chief Justice Warren E. Burger observed that “1981 is hardly the year in which to propose large public expenditures for new programs to change . . . penal institutions.” Today, with federal, state, and local governments facing their worst budget crises since the Great Depression, it is an even worse time to be advocating a new (even very modest) federal expenditure.

However, there will probably never be a propitious time for advocating that federal legislators spend taxpayer money to improve prisons, jails, and community-corrections. Investing in corrections has and may always have less political payoff than funding the military, police, and courts.


189. See U.S. DEP’T OF JUSTICE, EXPENDITURE TRENDS BY FUNCTION CHART, available at http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/glance/tables/exptyptab.cfm. This is a 600% increase since 1982. Id. Corrections has been the second-fastest growing category for state budgets for the last twenty years.

190. Burger Commencement Address, supra note 7.


192. Indeed, in 2010, the Senate Appropriations Committee recommended the appropriation of nearly $74 million to renovate the FBI Academy’s physical plant. MIKULSKI, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND JUSTICE AND SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, S. REP. NO. 111-29, at 64 (2011), available at
However, the shortsightedness of this political judgment should be obvious. As Chief Justice Burger admonished in a speech to the American Bar Association in 1969, three weeks after the Apollo 11 astronauts landed on the moon:

A society which can spend billions to place three men into a flawless moon landing operation—and bring them back with new knowledge of the universe—ought to be able to . . . deal with its delinquents both before and after conviction . . . I challenge the social utility of any system of criminal justice which allocates, as we now do, a disproportionate amount of our resources to the techniques of trials, appeals and post conviction remedies while it gravely neglects the correctional processes which follow a verdict of guilt.193

Chief Justice Burger urged the United States to undertake this challenge “[e]ven in this day of necessary budget austerity.”194 Ironically, in the last two decades, the United States has undertaken a massive expansion of its carceral infrastructure. Given national corrections expenditures of close to $70 billion annually,195 the United States ought to be able to afford say $50 million per year (still amounting to 20% of the FBI Academy’s budget) for leadership training.196 Thirty years ago, Chief Justice Burger argued that “[i]mprovements [in our prison systems] . . . will cost less in the long run than the failure to make them.”197 This is still true today.

194. Burger Commencement Address, supra note 7.
# APPENDIX: TABLES

**Table 1: The National Institute of Corrections’ Managerial Profiles**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leadership Level</th>
<th>Positions within Each Leadership Level</th>
<th>Necessary Leadership Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>Classification Supervisor Adult or Juvenile Correctional Housing Unit Supervisor Juvenile Treatment Coordinator Correctional Industries Supervisor Probation, Parole, Community Corrections/Sentencing Supervisor Interstate Compact Administrator Accounting, Budget, Legal, Purchasing, and/or Contracts Supervisor HR Supervisor Public Information, or Training Supervisor Information/Technology Services Supervisor Capital Programs or Correctional Industries Administrator Health Services or Substance Abuse Program Supervisor Victim/Witness Program Supervisor Food Service or Facilities Supervisor</td>
<td>Ethics and Values Interpersonal Relationships Oral and Written Communication Motivating Others Developing Direct Reports Managing Conflict Team Building Collaboration Problem Solving and Decision Making Criminal Justice System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Corrections Unit or Program Manager Institution/Prison Department Head</td>
<td>Ethics and Values Interpersonal Relationships Motivating Others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Deputy Superintendent of Institution/Prison Department | Developing Direct Reports |
| Deputy Superintendent of Institution/Prison Department | Managing Conflict |
| Institution/Prison Major or Captain | Team Building |
| Boot Camp Director | Collaboration |
| Probation, Parole, Community Corrections, or Community Sentencing Department Head or Regional/District Manager | Problem Solving and Decision Making |
| Interstate Compact Administrator | Strategic Thinking |
| Deputy Jail Administrator | Managing Change |
| Jail Department Head | Program Planning and Performance Assessment |
| Juvenile Facility Department Head | Criminal Justice System |
| Accounting, Budget, Legal, Purchasing, and/or Contracts Manager | |
| HR Managers | |
| Information/Technology Services Manager | |
| Capital Programs or Correctional Industries Administrator | |
| Health Services or Substance Abuse Program Manager | |
| Victim/Witness Program Manager | |
| Food Service or Facilities Manager | |
| Developing Direct Reports | |
| Managing Conflict | |
| Team Building | |
| Collaboration | |
| Problem Solving and Decision Making | |
| Strategic Thinking | |
| Managing Change | |
| Program Planning and Performance Assessment | |
| Criminal Justice System | |

| Senior-Level Director of Probation, Parole, or Community Corrections | Self Awareness |
| Director of Probation, Parole, or Community Corrections | Ethics and Values |
| Deputy Director of Probation, Parole, or Community Corrections | Vision and Mission |
| Director of the Division of Institutions/Prisons | Strategic Thinking |
| Deputy Director of the Division of Institutions/Prisons | Managing the External Environment |
| Regional or District Director of Field Services | Power and Influence |
| Warden/Superintendent | Strategic Planning and Performance |
| Self Awareness | Measurement |
| Ethics and Values | Collaboration |
| Vision and Mission | Team Building |
| Executive | Director of a State Department of Corrections  
|           | Director of a City or County Department of Corrections  
|           | Federal Bureau of Prisons Regional Director  
|           | Sheriff  
|           | Director of a State Juvenile Department of Corrections  
|           | Director of a Local Juvenile Department of Corrections  
|           | Director of a State or Local Probation System  
|           | Director of the Paroling Authority Where it is Separate from the Department of Corrections  
|           | Deputy Directors of large systems  
|           | Self Awareness  
|           | Ethics and Values  
|           | Vision and Mission  
|           | Strategic Thinking  
|           | Managing the External Environment  
|           | Power and Influence  
|           | Collaboration  
|           | Team Building |
## Table 2: Large State Correctional Leadership Training Programs (Circa 2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Correctional Institutions Division, Leadership Development Program\(^\text{199}\) | 16 – 87 hours     | Supervisory Level (Tier 1): courses include Principles of Supervision (20 hours), Training for Staff Trainers (40 hours) and Sergeants, Food Service (87 hours)  
Mid-Level Management (Tier 2): courses include Leadership Forum (16 hours), Success Through Active Responsible Supervision (36 hours) and Lieutenant Command School (16 hours)  
Senior-Level Management (Tier 3): Correctional Administrator Preparedness Training (16 hours) |
| Arizona Department of Corrections, Staff Development and Training Bureau\(^\text{200}\) | several days – several weeks | Correctional Officers Training Academy: provides Tactical Services Unit training, Professional Development Program, Caseworker Academy, Sergeant’s Leadership Academy, K-9 Academy and other special programs  
Correctional Managers Academy: devoted to enhancing the leadership skills of new administrators  
Correctional Administrators Academy: developed to enhance the skills of newly promoted wardens  
Correctional Leadership Academy: course for security supervisors, focusing on communication, team building, employee discipline |
| Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute\(^\text{201}\) | several days – several weeks | Chief Executive Seminar: available to the heads of state and local correctional facilities and to the chief executives in |

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201. *Florida Crim. Justice Exec. Inst.*, FL. Dep’t of Law Enforcement,
2012]  PROPOSED NATIONAL CORRECTIONS COLLEGE  95

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Leadership Seminar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Available to the upper management leadership of Florida Criminal Justice organizations; meets for three sessions; topics include environmental scanning, the influences of culture on policy, presentation skills, ethics, values of organizations, the vision of leaders, and the leadership of change.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Leadership Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>A continuing education forum for Florida’s criminal justice professionals; nine weeklong sessions, spaced six weeks apart; participants study leadership skills, team-building, strategic thinking, strategic planning and innovative problem solving.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Future Studies Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>Program for criminal justice middle-managers (supervisors of supervisors); participants study futures forecasting, managing generations, organizational culture, ethics, and leadership of change; class meets for four weeklong sessions over six months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued Executive Development</td>
<td></td>
<td>Program for criminal justice executives and managers; offers workshops and seminars on contemporary issues in leadership; classes range in length from one to five days.</td>
</tr>
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http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/content/getdoc/508f8695-2877-4b83-bf11-01222c0248ee/FCJEI-Home.aspx (last visited Nov. 28, 2011).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Duration/ Location</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Excellence Program²⁰³</td>
<td>Two weeks in residence, six follow-up online sessions and four days of concluding in-residence sessions</td>
<td>30–36 per cycle (two cycles per year)</td>
<td>Course for upper-level corrections executives. Based on four leadership theories: (1) the development model (<em>i.e.</em> executives should understand the corrections field and be physically fit, ethically grounded, and intellectually challenged); (2) the assessment and feedback model (<em>i.e.</em> executives should understand themselves via systematic feedback from bosses, peers, colleagues, faculty, and direct reports); (3) the correctional CEO model (<em>i.e.</em> leaders must have a clear vision, think strategically, be action-oriented, and be ethical); and (4) the executive leadership development model (<em>i.e.</em> leaders must create an action-oriented plan to help ensure future success)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correctional Leadership Development Program²⁰⁴</td>
<td>Nine and a half days in residence, with follow-up online classes and independent study</td>
<td>25–32 per cycle (two cycles per year)</td>
<td>Course for senior correctional leaders, such as wardens, superintendents, jail administrators, and senior probation and parole supervisors. It addresses leadership practices such as</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management Development for the Future&lt;sup&gt;205&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Seventy-two hours conducted in sixteen segments over approximately one year in participants’ host facilities, with follow-up online classes</td>
<td>72 hours (over six months)</td>
<td>Course for mid-level correctional managers. Students “prepare a dynamic individual leadership plan and undertake action-based learning projects focused on relevant issues in their agencies with the intention of applying the skills and strategies learned in the program to build organizational capacity and manage organizational change.” The courses combine three 24-hour classroom sessions (held at participants’ host sites), e-learning courses, online virtual instructor-led sessions, participation in online community forums and discussions, and independent work</td>
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<th>Table 4: Professional Associations for Corrections</th>
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<td>Association</td>
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<td>American Probation and Parole Association (APPA)207</td>
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<td>American Jail Association (AJA)208</td>
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<td>Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA)209</td>
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<td>International Association of Correctional Training Personnel (IACTP)210</td>
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International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA)\textsuperscript{211} & Annual Conferences Training Manuals