DYNAMIC SECURITY

LATVIA

FINAL CONFERENCE

“FOUR FORMS OF OFFENDER REHABILITATION: TOWARDS AN INTERDISCIPLINARY MODEL”

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DYNAMIC SECURITY – UNDERSTANDING, ELEMENTS AND CONTEXT.

• How can we get an understanding and adapt elements of dynamic security in different regimes and contexts?

• What is the key to achieve elements of dynamic security?
Ian Dunbar: Prison governor whose humane values earned him wide respect

• “Dynamic security, he argued, was found “when relationship and individualism come together in planned and purposeful activity, whether in a high or low security setting, the result is a relaxed and better ordered prison”. 
DYNAMIC

• Dynamic means that something is in motion or changing (opposite: static), and having a moving force or effect; (If individual) energetic, powerful and effective.

• People are dynamic by nature.

• A situation can be dynamic and may change at any time.

• If people affect a situation, it is dynamic.
DYNAMIC SECURITY - DEFINITIONS

• DS is a concept and a working method by which staff prioritise the creation and maintenance of everyday communication and interaction with prisoners based on high professional ethics, and that there is sufficient purposeful and meaningful activity to occupy prisoners, bounded by effective security. It aims at better understanding prisoners and assessing the risks they may pose as well as ensuring safety, security and good order, contributing to rehabilitation and preparation for release.

• DS is an alert group of staff who interact with, and who know their prisoners; staff developing positive staff-prisoner relationships; staff who have an awareness of what is going on in the prison; fair treatment and a sense of “well-being” among prisoners; and staff who make sure that prisoners are kept busy doing constructive and purposeful activities that contribute to their future reintegration into society.

• The maintenance of control in prison should be based on the use of dynamic security, that is the development by staff of positive relationships with prisoners based on firmness and fairness, in combination with an understanding of their personal situation and any risk posed by individual prisoners.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS IN DYNAMIC SECURITY

• Establishing professional and positive relationships, communication and interaction between the staff and prisoners

• Meaningful activities

• Establishing trust and effective communication and therefore “knowing what is going on”.

• Intelligence and risk assessment
OTHER ELEMENTS CONTRIBUTING TO DYNAMIC SECURITY

• Staff competence and interpersonal skills
• Classification of prisons
• Categorization of prisoners
• Progression during imprisonment
• Leadership and understanding on all levels
• Accountability and trust
FIRMNESS AND FAIRNESS

• Dynamic security must also be backed by a serious disciplinary code for dealing with bad behaviour. Sanctions must be a part of the system.

• It is equally important to provide feedback on good behavior.

• Reward systems and the ability to progression is important
UNIT MANAGEMENT AND DIRECT SUPERVISION

• Under unit management, a prison is broken down into defined units, each of which may contain a number of prisoner accommodation sections and static posts. Multi-disciplinary teams consisting of prison officers, penitentiary officers, psychologists, religious care workers and nurses deliver services in each defined unit. Individual team members have responsibility for both security and prisoner development outcomes and are expected to develop constructive relationships with prisoners.
CONTEXT

Staff

Prisoners

Staff

Prisoners
NORWEGIAN CONTEXT – OUR DEVELOPMENT

Understanding of the Norwegian development during 30 years.

• Humanity, respect and autonomy
• Developing the role of prison officers – contact officer
• The officers got more responsibility and decision-making authority
• The education of prison officers evolved
• Higher staffing
• Unit management
• Accountability and trust in the system
• Better risk assessment
“THE THIN RED LINE” - FINDING THE BALANCE

• The challenge is finding the right balance between a successful resocialisation and security.

• To find the balance in the various regimes and contexts, one must be able to understand and define the political, cultural, sociological and organizational factors that will affect the system.

• This factors will play an important role if the work that happens in the meeting between prisoners and staff – client and probation officer, will be successfully.
THE OUTCOME

• The benefit in short term is a safer and ordered prison, in long term a safer society throughout gaining less crimes.

• Making a better neighbor

• The work in the correctional service will be more interesting and rewarding

• Individual development

• Better society
Thank you for your attention!