



## FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

WISCONSIN CENTER FOR EDUCATION RESEARCH | UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

### Message from the CCWT Director

Welcome colleagues to the Fall 2019 newsletter from the Center for Research on College-Workforce Transitions at UW-Madison. As the summer winds down and the Fall term ramps up, we're all busy working to welcome students back to our campuses, launch new research projects, and engage in the partnership work that is at the heart of college-workforce issues.

How to effectively engage employers, government, and educational institutions in productive partnerships is at the top of our agenda these days at CCWT, because we've got a bunch of new grants to announce that involve close coordination with outside organizations. As we expand our College Internship Study, launch a new study on student veterans, and expand our ethnographic research on students' experiences with college-work issues, we're always mindful of framing our research as applied work that should ultimately inform the needs and practices of college faculty and staff, employers, government, and most especially students themselves.

Our upcoming 2nd Annual Internship Symposium on October 23-24 at UW-Madison will showcase many of these efforts, not only from CCWT staff but also from scholars and practitioners in California, South Carolina, Maryland, Texas, and even the U.S. Virgin Islands! Please mark your calendars and join us at this exciting event.

Have a great fall term! – Matthew T. Hora

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Hora".

### News and Project Updates

It's been a busy summer with receiving grants and launching new research project for CCWT staff. First, we're happy to announce that Dr. Ross Benbow received a \$556,754 award from the National Science Foundation to launch a study of the impacts of social networks on the ability of student service members and veterans to persist in STEM careers. This is Ross' first grant as a Principal Investigator and we're thrilled about this award! More info: [https://nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\\_ID=1920482&HistoricalAwards=false](https://nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1920482&HistoricalAwards=false)



The Veteran Education to Workforce  
Affinity and Success Study

- Second, we're also excited to announce that Dr. Bailey Smolarek and Dr. Matthew Wolfgram received \$75,000 from the UW-Madison School of Education Grand Challenges competition. This project will expand the Center's current work on a Participatory Action Research project, and will examine the sociocultural, demographic, and institutional factors that influence the college experiences, educational successes, and post-college transitions of HMoob American students at UW-Madison. More info: <https://grandchallenges.education.wisc.edu/seed/>



- Third, the Center is especially grateful for a new award from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for \$1,832,870 to support an expansion of the College Internship Study, the Symposium on Internship Research, and an exciting new project on Institutional Ethnographies. This generous award will enable the Center to continue its core activities and expand into new directions that will allow us to reach new audiences and study new issues related to college-workforce transitions. More info: <https://wcerwisc.edu/news/detail/1.8-million-grant-expands-uwmadison-research-on-college-internships>
- Finally, we are excited to announce a new grant from the National Science Foundation for \$1,489,273 that will enable us to add 6 new institutions to our College Internship Study. In partnership with the United Negro College Fund's Career Pathway Initiative, this new grant will include partner institutions that are Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to examine student experiences and outcomes related to internships on their campuses. This grant also features an exciting partnership with Dr. Mindi Thompson in the Dept of Counseling Psychology at UW-Madison, and with co-PIs Dr. Zi Chen and Dr. Matthew Wolfgram. More info: [https://nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\\_ID=1920560&HistoricalAwards=false](https://nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1920560&HistoricalAwards=false)
- PEOPLE Scholars present research and co-write a CCWT blog on the problem of recognition of educational credentials for refugees. CCWT Summer Interns and PEOPLE Scholars, Melina Quiles and Joseph Yang did a great job presenting their research on higher education for refugees to the UW-Madison PEOPLE Program. Check out the blog they co-wrote with CCWT researcher Matthew Wolfgram on the struggles refugees face having their educational credentials recognized by US colleges: [https://blog.ccwt.wceruw.org/trashed-3-trashed/?fbclid=IwAR30\\_ENIC8LsbuREtx7V1hLUNDwNHsoD8tISZBAyZYd0KIk4jr3jVhS1Q8c](https://blog.ccwt.wceruw.org/trashed-3-trashed/?fbclid=IwAR30_ENIC8LsbuREtx7V1hLUNDwNHsoD8tISZBAyZYd0KIk4jr3jVhS1Q8c)
- Matthew Wolfgram and Zi Chen presented on the barriers to internship participation at the 2019 UW-Madison Career Services Conference: Facilitating Growth for Self, Students & Community: <https://advising.wisc.edu/facstaff/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019-UW-Madison-Career-Services-Conference-Program.pdf>



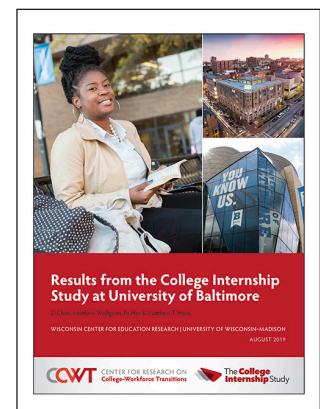
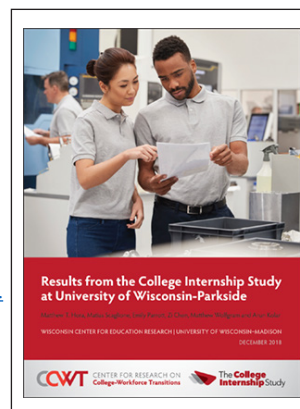
## The College Internship Study

## New Research and Publications from the CCWT Team

### Academic journal articles

Hora, M. T. (2019). Hiring as cultural gatekeeping into occupational communities: implications for higher education and student employability. *Higher Education*, 1-18.

Wolfgram, M. & Vang, I. (2019). The Time politics of higher education for refugees in the United States. *Anthropology News*. Retrieved from <http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2019/06/03/the-time-politics-of-higher-education-for-refugees-in-the-united-states/>



## New Research on College-Workforce Topics

For this newsletter we feature some new research from the field of work-integrated learning, which has a long history in many different countries but especially in the United Kingdom and Australia. You'll see that a major scholar working in this area is Dr. Denise Jackson from Edith Cowan University in Australia, and we're hoping to host Dr. Jackson for a lecture at UW-Madison sometime in 2020!

Drysdale, M. T., McBeath, M. L., Johansson, K., Dressler, S., & Zaitseva, E. (2016). Psychological attributes and work-integrated learning: An international study. *Higher education, skills and work-based learning*, 6(1), 20-34.

Jackson, D., & Collings, D. (2018). The influence of work-integrated learning and paid work during studies on graduate employment and underemployment. *Higher Education*, 76(3), 403-425.

Jackson, D., & Wilton, N. (2016). Developing career management competencies among undergraduates and the role of work-integrated learning. *Teaching in Higher Education*, 21(3), 266-286.

Jackson, D. (2015). Employability skill development in work-integrated learning: Barriers and best practice. *Studies in Higher Education*, 40(2), 350-367.

Tran, L. T., & Soejatminah, S. (2016). 'Get foot in the door': International students' perceptions of work integrated learning. *British Journal of Educational Studies*, 64(3), 337-355.

## Events

### Fall 2019 Seminar Series featuring:



#### **Adrian Huerta**

#### **How Undergraduate Student Parents Make Decisions About Course-Taking, Majors, Jobs, and Careers**

Tuesday, November 5, 2019 • 10:00am

The Wisconsin Idea room (Education Building #159)

[http://ccwt.wceruw.org/documents/ccwt\\_flyer\\_Huerta.pdf](http://ccwt.wceruw.org/documents/ccwt_flyer_Huerta.pdf)



#### **Jenny Chan**

#### **Internships and Vocational Skills Training in China**

Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 • 9:30am

The Wisconsin Idea room (Education Building #159)

Flyer coming soon

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Internship Symposium Reminder!

SAVE THE DATE: The 2nd Annual Symposium on College Internship Research will be on October 23-24 in Madison, Wisconsin! The theme of this year's symposium is "Internships & 21st century skills: Exploring issues of language, equity and quality."

We invite researchers, career services and student affairs professionals, employers, advocates, college students, and legislators to attend this year's symposium. Come ready to learn and partner with your colleagues and:

- Learn about the latest research on internships and their relationship to 21st century competencies from scholars in labor economics, sociology, higher education, vocational psychology, and other fields;
- Hear about problems of practice and strategies to overcome them from practitioners in the field;
- Develop new strategies and ideas about program design, implementation and evaluation for your own institution and student body;
- Help shape and improve state and federal policies regarding internships and 21st century competencies; and,
- Contribute your own ideas and experiences to a growing national movement to create equitable and meaningful internships and experiential learning opportunities for all students regardless of race, class, gender, major, or institutional affiliation.

The program will feature three tracks that run throughout the panels, breakouts, and workshops: Strategies for college-employer partnerships, Designing effective learning spaces for 21st skills, and Inequalities in the intern economy: Geography, major, and race/ethnicity.

**Register, and more information here:** <http://ccwt.wceruw.org/symposium.html>



**Wisconsin Center for  
Education Research**  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The mission of The Center for Research on College-Workforce Transitions (CCWT) is to conduct and support research, critical policy analysis, and public dialogue on student experiences with the transition from college to the workforce in order to inform policies, programs, and practices that promote academic and career success for all learners.

---

### **Center for Research on College to Workforce Transitions (CCWT)**

1025 West Johnson Street, Madison, WI 53706

For more information contact Project Manager Amy Rivera at [amy.rivera@wisc.edu](mailto:amy.rivera@wisc.edu)

[ccwt.wceruw.org](http://ccwt.wceruw.org)