



Career Conference: Putting Theory and Research into Practice

April 13, 2018 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Middlesex County College

https://career_conference.eventbrite.com

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.: Check-in, refreshments, and networking

9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.: Welcome and Keynote Dr. Carl Van Horn

“Ready for Employment: The Skills Students Need to Succeed in New Jersey’s Changing Job Market”



Dr. Carl Van Horn is a widely recognized expert on workforce, human resources, and employment policy issues, with extensive experience in public- and private-sector policymaking. He is the founding director of the Heldrich Center for Workforce Development, one of the nation’s leading academic centers on workforce policy and practice. Van Horn is a Distinguished Professor of public policy at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy and a member of the university’s graduate faculties of planning and public policy, management and labor relations, education, and political science. He is fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and a visiting non-resident scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

Participants have the option of participating in a full day workshop (option 1) or participating in traditional breakout sessions (option 2)

OPTION #1: Full Day Workshop (Career Practitioner Training) in West Hall, Parkview Room

10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Engaging Students in Career Exploration

Target Audience: Professionals who assist students with engaging in career exploration and decision-making, especially first-year seminar/student success instructors, academic advisors, high school guidance counselors, faculty, and professionals working in One Stop Centers would benefit from this training.

At the conclusion of this training, participants will be able to:

1. Articulate the role of the career practitioner.
2. Explain the process and steps of career exploration, planning, and decision-making.
3. Identify and use guiding questions to engage students in self-assessment.
4. Identify credible career resources and direct students to these resources.
5. Assist students in developing skills needed for success in 21st century careers.

Presenters:

Bob Bullard, Director Office of Career Advancement - Rowan University

Bob Grimmie, Executive Director - NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Christine Harrington, Executive Director - NJ Center for Student Success

Ellie Horgan, Interim Director of Advising & Counseling Services, Associate Professor Counseling - Brookdale Community College

Sarah McElroy, Director of Career & Leadership Development - Brookdale Community College

Tom Moore, Coordinator of Career & Professional Readiness Center for Student Success - Passaic County Community College

Kathryn Pandolpho, Director, Counseling and Student Development Services - Ocean County College

Alice Picardo, Counselor, Associate Professor - Middlesex County College

Donna Rogalski, Assistant Director - NJ Center for Student Success

Aparna Saini, Director, Career Development - Hudson County Community College

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Lunch in West Hall, Parkview Room

3:00 p.m. Registrants return to Parkview Room, West Hall for CEUs and PDs if needed

OPTION #2: Traditional Breakout Sessions in Crabiel Hall

10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.: Breakout Sessions

Advancing New Jersey Student Success through Maximizing Career Readiness Strategies (Brunswick Room #102/104, Crabiel Hall): In today's world, our youth need to attain a high-quality credential beyond high school. An industry-valued credential, registered apprenticeship program, military pathway and/or post-secondary degree are all viable options to ensure New Jersey students embark on a promising career journey. The New Jersey Department of Education promotes the importance of career awareness through the New Jersey Career Assistance Navigator website and expanding work experience programs for all students. This workshop will illustrate how high-quality work-based learning programs support career readiness by providing opportunities for students to explore their career interests, develop goals and apply their skills.

Presenters: David Gehrke, Education Program Development Specialist and Christine Tomkus, Planning Associate - NJ Department of Education

Giving Students a Voice at the Table: An Entertaining Lesson on the Art of Conversation (Amboy Room #103A/B, Crabiel Hall): How do community college students learn to express their ideas and make recommendations to managers and leaders in a collaborative setting? They learn the "art of the conversation" by participating in an interactive and fun workshop designed as a mock "dinner party." The purpose of this workshop will be to demonstrate how Career Center staff, academic advisors, and faculty can use this proven exercise to show students how they can interact with people at different levels of an organization, and contribute to the conversation about a variety of topics. Students will build their confidence, demonstrate their intellectual curiosity, and practice their networking and oral communication skills in the safe environment.

Presenters: Miriam Frolow, PhD, Director of Academic Affairs Jersey City Campus and Lillie Hibbler-Britt, PhD, Lead Program Chair School of Business - University of Phoenix

Career Exploration Strategies Used in an Introductory Health Science Career Course Based Upon the Guided Pathways Framework (Raritan Bay Room #101, Crabiel Hall): This presentation will detail career exploration strategies utilized in a 2-credit hybrid course required for Health Science majors prior to entering their chosen program of study. Faculty from nursing, respiratory care, and library will describe how the course was collaboratively developed considering the Guided Pathways framework, with the goal of promoting a greater understanding of career options in healthcare, and how one's personal goals and values are best aligned with these choices. Strategies used to engage students of all ages, career planning methods, and other dynamic assignments involving time management, information literacy, and generational studies will be shared.

Presenters: Dr. Bonnie J. Ross, Associate Professor Nursing; Carol Schedel, Professor Respiratory Care and Amy Clark, Associate Professor Library - Brookdale Community College

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Lunch in West Hall, Parkview Room

1:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.: Free Career Exploration Tools Breakout Sessions

NJCAN (Brunswick Room #102/104, Crabiel Hall): NJCAN is a free web-based career navigator system that provides comprehensive information for students developing college and career plans. It includes tools that encourage self-assessment, exploration, research, goal setting, and decision making. It is designed to support lifelong career exploration and career planning through easy-to-use personal assessments, occupational descriptions, educational and financial aid information, and job search tools. NJCAN also includes an online portfolio so students may save their assessments and occupational research. NJCAN helps students make informed decisions about their future career choices.

Presenter: Joanne Hamza, Statewide Trainer and Project Coordinator John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce and Development - Rutgers University

Career Connections (Amboy Room #103A/B, Crabiel Hall): New Jersey Career Connections consists of a service model, a network of partners, and a website. The three steps of this model - **Plan**, **Prepare**, and **Succeed** - simplify job search and career planning efforts, facilitating a paradigm shift in how all New Jerseyans engage career guidance, employment search assistance, and labor market information. A network of partners, currently consisting of over 250 government, nonprofit, and education partners, including One-Stop Career Centers, Workforce Development Boards, community- and faith-based organizations, community colleges, and public libraries, offers New Jersey Career Connections services and resources throughout the state. The New Jersey Career Connections website (careerconnections.nj.gov) delivers the service model across the network and directly to users, providing interactive tools, resources, and advice, is optimized for mobile use, and designed to enable a fluid user experience.

Presenter: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development

OOH and O-Net (Raritan Bay Room #101, Crabiel Hall): The US Department of Labor offers two excellent, free resources for exploring careers and job information. The Occupational Outlook Handbook provides descriptions, pay scales and future labor projections for hundreds of jobs, while O-Net provides career exploration tools and access to job postings among other features. This session will explore these two important resources and will also offer suggestions for other free career resources.

Presenter: Elisabeth Oliu, Assistant Professor and Reference/Instruction Librarian - Middlesex County College

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Breakout Sessions

The 4Cs: How Young People Can Build Today's Most Valuable Employability Skills (Brunswick Room #102/104, Crabiel Hall): The 4Cs: Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, and Creativity, are the top skills today's employers demand but often find lacking in their entry level employees. This presentation will outline what these skills look like, how young people can recognize and build them, and provide information on Junior Achievement's statewide career readiness initiative that connects NJ high schools, Community College students, and NJ businesses and industries that prepares young people for workplace success.

Presenters: Christy Tighe, Director, College and Career Readiness - Junior Achievement of New Jersey and Mark Biedron, Immediate Past President - NJ State Board of Education

Exploring Alternative Career Pathways: Advanced Manufacturing (Amboy Room #103A/B, Crabiel Hall): Development of “comprehensive pathways networks”, involving three-way partnerships among the K-12 sector, higher education and employers, including activities such as work-based learning and registered internships/apprenticeships, could lead to industry valued credentials concurrently and/or sequentially with college degrees, should provide students with multiple approaches to productive careers. This presentation will describe the Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs at vocational-technical and traditional high schools that are already underway and are being developed. Programs of this sort in Advanced Manufacturing will be used to demonstrate how this can be done.

Presenters: Raymond Vaccari, M-RIM Program Manager; Dr. Gale Spak, Associate Vice President, Continuing Professional Education; Samuel Lieber, Assistant Professor of Engineering Technology and Dr. Howard Kimmel, Professor Emeritus of Chemical Engineering - N.J. Institute of Technology

Intrusive Advising and Success Coaching for County College Students Who Have Chosen a STEM Career (Raritan Bay Room #101, Crabiel Hall): Many students are encouraged to pursue STEM jobs because of the demand, the excitement and the pay, however, as we all know these fields of study require discipline and good study skills. The rigors of STEM fields are challenging enough for your traditional college students let alone for under-prepared county college students. As part of a Department of Education STEM grant at Passaic County Community College, which employs the use of STEM Success Coaching, a number of tools and strategies were used, observations made and lessons learned. The authors of this presentation would like to share their findings, and solicit suggestions.

Presenters: Kathleen Vancheri, STEM Success Coach and Russell Gambino, STEM Success Coach - Passaic County Community College

3:00 p.m. Registrants return to Parkview Room, West Hall for CEUs and PDs if needed

**Developed in collaboration with the NJ Center for Student Success,
NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and the NJ Department of Education**

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