Doctoral Career Pathways Conference
Walden University Career Services
Conference Logistics

**Audio Mode: Select either ...**
- Use Telephone
  - or
- Use your computer Mic & Speakers

**Questions:**
- Please use the Question function to type in and send your question.
- The Raise Your Hand function will not be active during the sessions.
- Questions will be answered toward the end of each session.
Conference Schedule and Follow-Up Event

Conference: Thursday, September 19th

• Session 1: Explore Doctoral Career Paths, (4:00-4:45 pm Eastern)
  Break

• Session 2: Gain Experience (5:00-5:45 pm Eastern)
  Break

• Session 3: Communicate Academic and Professional Skills to Employers (6:00-6:45 pm Eastern)
  Break

• Session 4: Advance Your Career Plan (7:00-7:45 pm Eastern)

Networking Event: Thursday, September 26th

• Doctoral Career Pathways Networking Event (7:00-8:00 pm Eastern)
Session 1: Explore Doctoral Career Paths

Agenda:

• Introduce six common career pathways for doctoral students
• Discover six career tools to research career pathways
• Answer your questions
Introduction to Six Doctoral Career Pathways

- Organizational Leadership and Development
- Policy and Advocacy
- Consulting
- Communications, Writing, and Editing
- Research and Data Analysis
- Higher Education
Poll

What career pathway interests you most?
Doctoral Knowledge and Skills

Doctoral Career Paths

- Critical Thinking
- Technology
- Problem Solving
- Project Management
- Expertise in Your Field
- Research
- Writing
Organizational Leadership and Development

Do you see yourself...

- Determining organizational goals and strategies.
- Motivating others and cultivating relationships.
- Guiding an organization through change.
- Building organizational culture.
- Enhancing performance.
- Solving problems.
- Being the decision-maker.
Potential employers include:

Government agencies, corporations, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations.

Select search terms include:

Executive director, director, associate director, manager, coordinator, supervisor or leadership jobs in your area of interest.
Policy and Advocacy

Do you see yourself...

• Examining the impact of current policies.
• Conducting reviews of current research and literature.
• Developing new policies.
• Collaborating on writing detailed, clear, and concise policies.
• Advocating for change.
• Speaking publicly to inform and persuade.
Policy and Advocacy

Potential employers include:
National, state, and local government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, corporations, and policy research institutes (think tanks).

Select search terms include:
Policy analyst, policy administrator, research analyst, regulatory and compliance analyst, government affairs officer, agency director, director of equity and inclusion. Search by specific fields such as education policy analyst.

Advocate, community, organizer, community engagement, activist. Search by specific fields such as healthcare advocate.
Consulting

Do you see yourself...

Guiding organizations on:
• Developing strategies and solving problems.
• Managing change.
• Researching and analyzing data.
• Customizing education and training programs.
• Implementing new technologies.
Consulting

**Potential employers include:**

Consulting companies or self-employment on projects for government agencies, corporations, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions.

**Select search terms include:**

Consultant or freelance jobs. Search by specific fields such as consulting jobs in education, healthcare, human services, human resources, management, public health or technology.
Communications, Writing, and Editing

Do you see yourself...

• Writing content for a variety of audiences.
• Giving presentations.
• Using social media channels to share content.
• Designing communication strategies.
• Editing content created by others.
Communications, Writing, and Editing

Potential employers include:

Government agencies, corporations, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and self-employment.

Select search terms include:

Writer, content writer, technical writer, digital media content writer, freelance writer, grant writer, editor, public relations manager, public affairs manager, editor, social media specialist, speechwriter, copywriter, publications officer, information officer, communications director, communications specialist.
Research and Data Analysis

Do you see yourself...

- Reviewing current research.
- Designing, planning, and implementing research projects.
- Using statistical software to organize and analyze data.
- Interpreting and summarizing findings.
- Making evidence-based recommendations.
- Writing articles for publication.
Research and Data Analysis

Potential employers include:
National, state, and local government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), nonprofit organizations, corporations, research institutes (think tanks), and universities.

Select search terms include:
Research associate, research analyst, research specialist, research scientist, senior research associate.
Data analyst, data scientist, analysis specialist, quality analyst, quality assurance specialist, business intelligence analyst.
Higher Education

Do you see yourself...

• Contributing to student success through an administrative or leadership role.
• Developing and evaluating educational programs.
• Teaching students in an online, blended, or face-to-face environment.
Higher Education

Potential employers include:

Public and private non-profit and for-profit colleges, universities, technical schools, accrediting organizations; government agencies that focus on higher education policies; and organizations that offer non-credit, professional skills-based training and certificate programs.

Select search terms include:

“Higher education administration and leadership jobs” or by specific fields such as jobs in higher education admissions or student affairs.

For faculty positions search faculty jobs, adjunct faculty jobs, contributing faculty jobs, academic jobs, or higher education teaching jobs.
Career Pathways Strategies

• Reflect on your strengths, interests, values, and goals.
• Become a subject matter expert; work with faculty on choosing a capstone topic related to your career interests if possible.
• Broaden your quantitative and qualitative research and data analysis skills.
• Become proficient in technology related to your field such as data analytics software.
• Enhance your writing skills.
Career Pathways Strategies

- Develop your public speaking and presentation skills.
- Gain leadership experience by pursuing paid or volunteer leadership roles and activities in your current place of employment, community organizations, and professional associations.
- Explore opportunities to publish your research.
- Strengthen your time management and project management skills.
- Expand your professional network.
You Tell Us!

What career exploration tools have you used to research careers in the past?
Questions?
At the recent National Faculty Meeting we asked faculty, “What advice would you give students and alumni exploring doctoral career paths?”

Advice From Walden Faculty

- Internships and networking! Do informational interviews. Be your own advocate.
- Informational interviews and volunteering
- Network, present conference papers, network, and network some more!
- Start thinking ahead when you start your doc journey. Set short- and long-term goals you intend to reach each year towards your overall goals.
- Use Career Services
We are taking a short break and will resume the conference on the hour.

Coming Up... Session 2: Gain Experience!