Doctoral Career Pathways Conference

Walden University Career Services
Conference Schedule and Follow-Up Event

Conference: Thursday, September 19th

- Session 1: Explore Doctoral Career Paths
- Session 2: Gain Experience
- Session 3: Communicate Academic and Professional Skills to Employers
- Session 4: Advance Your Career Plan (7:00-8:00 pm Eastern)

Networking Event: Thursday, September 26th

- Doctoral Career Pathways Networking Event (7:00-8:00 pm Eastern)
Session 4: Advance Your Career Plan

Agenda:
- Explore your evolving career identity
- Develop a career advancement strategy
- Answer your questions

Pathways Spotlights:
1. Research and Data Analysis
2. Higher Education
Your Career Identity

Experience (E)

Story (S)

People (P)
Begin with the End in Mind

- What is your goal for your degree?
- In what areas do you shine?
- What do you enjoy most?
- What difference do you want to make?

Visualize your future career path—people, place, passions
What is your career mantra?

“I empower healthcare employees through servant leadership.”
“I analyze data to make informed, data-driven decisions.”
“I advocate for global mental health awareness.”
“I develop educational programs that lead to student success.”
"I publish online articles to help readers thrive in a technology-driven world."
"I apply quantitative research skills to help nonprofits make improvements."
Career Advancement Plan: Exploration

How will I stay informed?

• Use Career Services’ career exploration resources to prepare for your future!
• Get involved in professional development activities.
• Engage in meaningful conversations with professionals in your field of interest.
# Career Advancement Plan: Experience

## What new skills will I gain?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Public Speaking</th>
<th>Leadership</th>
<th>Technology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Contribute article to a newsletter.</td>
<td>• Help a nonprofit with a research project.</td>
<td>• Deliver a workshop in the community.</td>
<td>• Take on stretch assignments at work.</td>
<td>• Assist an organization or individual with a tech project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Start a blog.</td>
<td>• Apply academic research skills in the workplace.</td>
<td>• Submit a conference proposal.</td>
<td>• Lead a community project or initiative.</td>
<td>• Take a course to learn new skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Pursue freelance work.</td>
<td>• Submit academic research for publication.</td>
<td>• Host a webinar.</td>
<td>• Take on a leadership role in a nonprofit.</td>
<td>• Earn a certification.</td>
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<td>• Write an article on LinkedIn.</td>
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<td>• Self-publish a book.</td>
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### Career Advancement Plan: People

**Where will I build connections?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Associations</th>
<th>Social Media</th>
<th>Walden Community</th>
<th>Volunteering</th>
<th>Special Interest Groups</th>
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</table>
| • State and national conferences  
  • Professional development events  
  • Meetings  
• LinkedIn connections  
• Twitter  
• Online forums  
• Facebook groups  
• Academic residencies  
• Online discussions  
• Honor societies  
• Alumni Association  
• Global Days of Service  
• Community projects  
• Nonprofit boards  
• Skills-based collaborations  
• Meet Ups  
• Toastmasters  
• Clubs  |
Career Advancement Plan: Story

What new story will I tell?

**Professional**
- Reinforce brand through resumes, cover letters, and career portfolios.
- Build face-to-face and online communications skills.

**Social Change Agent**
- Build reputation in my community.
- Support Walden’s social change mission.

**Mentor**
- Pay it forward by sharing knowledge and skills in professional communities, organizations, and society.
SMART Goals

- **Specific**
- **Measurable**
- **Attainable**
- **Relevant**
- **Time-Specific**
What goals will you add to your career advancement plan?

### Career Advancement Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Action Steps/Sub-Goals</th>
<th>Resources Needed to Accomplish Goal</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Career Exploration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Network (Build Professional Connections)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gain Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Update documents: CV, Resume, LinkedIn Profile, Cover Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education/Training/Professional Development</td>
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Career Pathway Spotlight: Research and Data Analysis

Megan Bledsoe
PhD in Public Health-Community Education Student
Peer Mentor

Current Job Title: Research Coordinator
Organization: Children’s Mercy Hospital
Career Pathway Spotlight: 
Higher Education

Rachel De Los Reyes

Academic Program: PhD Higher Ed Leadership and Policy Student Peer Mentor

Current Job Title: Senior Academic Advisor to the Dean of Graduate Studies

Organization: University of California-Davis
Questions?
Final Thoughts About Today’s Conference

• A doctoral degree can take you in many career directions.
• Doctoral career pathways often intersect.
• Career exploration is an ongoing process...start preparing for your future today!
• Communication with faculty, mentors, and other professionals is key to your success.
• Look for opportunities to say “YES” and help others.
References


Thank you for attending!

Access Everything from Our Website:
http://careercenter.waldenu.edu

E-mail Us:
careerservices@mail.waldenu.edu