Welcome to Walden University's Career Services Center! Dina Bergren, Associate Director of Career Services and I, Nicolle Skalski, Career Services Advisor, are part of a Career Services team working out of our academic offices in Minneapolis, MN.

Our mission is to educate, coach and advise you to proactively manage your career. Whatever your personal career goals, we offer individual and group career advising, webinars and web-based resources to support you in achieving your objectives.

We have a 3-part formula for you to consider as you pursue your Walden degree. Like you might use GPS to move your car forward, we'd like you to use EPS to move your career forward! EPS is based on a well-known book by Herminia Ibarra called Working Identity. Career transition happens when you gain new EXPERIENCE, meet new PEOPLE, and tell a new STORY.

Next we will walk you through strategies for building your experience, meeting new people and telling your new story. We have an example of how a Walden alumnus used these strategies to go from being unemployed to landing a great job.

First, Dina Bergren will share ideas for building your experience.

Whether you are pursuing your degree to gain a promotion in your current field or transition to a new field, how do you gain experience to build your qualifications and accomplish your goals?

If your goal is to advance in your current field, consider taking the initiative to solve problems, improve processes, and take on leadership roles for your current employer, professional association, or your local community.
If your goal is to transition to a new career field, volunteering is a great way to gain experience, new contacts and references, and tell a new story.

The Walden Career Services Center website offers Masters and Doctoral Counseling students a comprehensive Resources Tab with links to career options, volunteer opportunities, and job sites to help you prepare for opportunities as a professional counselor. You will also find over 80 archived webinars on career-related topics to reach your goals. Interested in careers in consulting, higher ed teaching or administration? Check out the Doctoral Webinar Series page on the Career Services site.

**(Nicolle Skalski speaking)**

**(P) People**

Connecting with people during your Walden experience is a great way to build your professional network. We encourage you to connect with the Walden community both offline and online.

Our Walden University Career Services Center LinkedIn Group is a great way to connect with students and alumni, join career-related conversations and view job postings. Consider joining a professional association, such as the American Counseling Association, to build your network and reputation. Increase your visibility through volunteering, contributing an article to a newsletter or blog, or presenting at a professional conference.

**(Dina Bergren speaking)**

**(S)tory:**

What can you do to promote your career story?

* Update your LinkedIn profile to include new experiences, presentations, publications and new connections, to broadcast your evolving story to your network.

* Use our OptimalResume tool to update your resume or curriculum vita to include in an electronic portfolio and personal website.

* Keep an ongoing journal of your accomplishments and contributions to bring your story to life.

**(Nicolle Skalski speaking)**
How did one Walden alumnus put the EPS model into action? Tyra completed a doctoral degree at Walden, but lacked experience in her field. We advised her to gain experience through volunteering. She landed a volunteer role as a community health promoter with her local County Board of Health.

In her volunteer role, Tyra built her reputation and network through working on a high profile initiative created by First Lady Michelle Obama and volunteering at a women's health conference where she met the District Director for her County Board of Health. Making these key contacts was instrumental to her later career success.

As Tyra finished six months of volunteering, she had a new story to tell. She received a "Volunteer of the Month" award, she worked on high profile projects, volunteered at a conference, and connected with local leaders in her field. The happy ending is that Tyra was offered a position as a community obesity prevention coordinator.

(Dina Bergren speaking)

We hope you enjoyed our Career Services Center welcome and hearing Tyra's story.

We encourage you to start your journey with Career Services by visiting our website and attending one of our Overview webinars. We look forward to supporting you in meeting your career goals and wish you great success as scholar practitioners.

Interested in defining YOUR career path in Professional Counseling?
Connect with us on social media;
Subscribe to our Youtube Channel;
Read Walden student success stories on our blog, and...and also remember, you can access all of our resources on our website at careercenter.waldenu.edu

End transcript.

[This text is provided in a rough-draft format in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings.]