

What We Need Skills for: The PIAAC Research Conference 2015
Key Bridge Marriott
Arlington, VA
December 10-11, 2015

DRAFT- WORKING AGENDA

Thursday, December 10

8:00 - 5:30

8:00 - 8:30 **Registration, Breakfast, and Networking**

8:30 - 8:45 **Welcome and Introductory Remarks**
David Myers, President and CEO, American Institutes for Research

8:45 - 9:00 **Opening Keynote**
Peggy Carr, Acting Commissioner, National Center for Education
Statistics, U.S. Department of Education

9:00 - 10:45 **Work, Education, and Skills: PIAAC-Based Research from the Center**
for the Study of Higher Education, Pennsylvania State University

Moderator: Gerri Fiala, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Employment and
Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor

Papers:

*The Educational and Cognitive Transformation of the American Labor
Market and Economy*

David Baker, Professor of Education and Sociology, Pennsylvania State
University

Karly Ford, Assistant Professor in Education Policy Studies, Pennsylvania
State University

*Education and Work in the 21st Century: Credential Inflation or
Transformation?*

Frank Fernandez, Graduate Research Assistant, Higher Education
Program, Pennsylvania State University

Mark Umbricht, Graduate Research Assistant, Higher Education
Program, Pennsylvania State University

*Social Background and Skill Levels Among College Graduates: Social
Mobility or Social Reproduction?*

Karly Ford, Assistant Professor in Education Policy Studies, Pennsylvania
State University

Mark Umbricht, Graduate Research Assistant, Higher Education
Program, Pennsylvania State University

Discussants: Maureen Conway, Vice President and Executive Director of
the Economic Opportunities Program, Aspen Institute

10:45 - 11:15 Small Group Discussion

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11:25- 12:15

The Skills of Immigrants

Moderator: Brenda Dann-Messier, Faculty, Johnson and Wales University, Educational Leadership Doctoral Program, and former Assistant Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education

Paper:

Skills and Competencies of Second-Generation Youth in the United States, Canada, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom

Jeanne Batalova, Senior Policy Analyst, Migration Policy Institute

Michael Fix, President, Migration Policy Institute

Discussant: Terrence G. Wiley, President and CEO, Center for Applied Linguistics

12:15 - 12:40

Small Group Discussion

12:45 - 2:00

Lunch and Keynote

Johan Uvin, Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education

2:00 - 3:15

Skill Gain and Loss

Moderator: Dana Kelly, Branch Chief, International Assessment Branch, Assessments Division, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education

Papers:

Reconstructing the Evolution of the American Supply of Cognitive Skills: A Synthetic Cohort Analysis

T. Scott Murray, President, DataAngel Policy Research Inc.

Marilyn Binkley, Consultant, DataAngel Policy Research Inc.

Richard Shillington, Principal, Tristat Resources

Earnings and Employment Benefits of Adult Higher Education in Comparative Perspective: Evidence Based on the OECD Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC)

Richard Desjardins, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles

Discussant: Louis Soares, Vice President, Center for Policy Research and Strategy, American Council on Education

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3:15 - 3:45 Small Group Discussion

4:00 - 4:50 **A Closer Look at Numeracy**

Moderator: Catherine Brown, Vice President, Education Policy, Center for American Progress

Paper:

Examining Gender Differences in the Mathematical Literacy of 15-Year-Olds and the Numeracy Skills of the Age Cohorts as Adults

Alka Arora, Senior Researcher, American Institutes for Research

Emily Pawlowski, Research Associate, American Institutes for Research

Discussant: Claus von Zastrow, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Research, Change the Equation

4:50 - 5:10 Small Group Discussion

5:10 - 5:30 Closing and Preview of Friday Agenda

Friday, December 11

8:00 - 3:00

8:00 - 8:30 **Breakfast and Networking**

8:30 - 9:00 **Reflections on Day 1**

Mary Alice McCarthy, Senior Policy Analyst, Higher Education Policy Program, New America

Laura Salganik, Consultant and former Director of Quality, American Institutes for Research

9:00 - 9:30 **Health**

Paper:

Literacy and Fertility Across OECD Nations

Jane Seymour, MPH, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, Boston University

Rosemary Frasso, PhD MSc CPH, Director of Education, Masters of Public Health Program, University of Pennsylvania

Ian M. Bennett, MD PhD, Professor, Department of Family Medicine, University of Washington

9:30-9:45 Q & A

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A Closer Look at Adult Reading Skills

Moderator: Liza McFadden, President and CEO, Barbara Bush Foundation

Paper:

Understanding the Basic Reading Skills of U.S. Adults: Reading Components in the PIAAC Literacy Survey

John Sabatini, Managing Principal Research Scientist, Educational Testing Services

Discussant: Amy Trawick, PhD, Director, Center for Adult Learning Leadership and Advancement (CALLA)

10:50 - 11:45

A Closer Look at Digital Problem-Solving

Moderator: Gabe Martinez Cabrera, Project Manager, Adult Education Initiatives, Digital Promise

Paper:

Exploring response patterns in problem-solving items using process data: Insights from log files of Problem Solving in Technology-Rich Environments (PS-TRE) in PIAAC

Qiwei (Britt) He, Associate Research Scientist, Center for Global Assessment, Educational Testing Services

Matthias von Davier, Senior Research Director, Center for Global Assessment, Educational Testing Services

Discussant: Yigal Rosen, Senior Research Scientist, Vice Provost for Advances in Learning (VPAL) Research Team, Harvard University

11:45 - 12:20

Small Group Discussion of Numeracy, Reading Components and Digital Problem Solving

12:20 - 1:15

Lunch

1:15 - 2:25

Using PIAAC to Improve Adult Learning

Papers:

Using the PIAAC Framework for Literacy to Guide Instruction: A Guide for Teachers, Lead Instructors, and Professional Development

Amy Trawick, PhD, Director, Center for Adult Learning Leadership and Advancement (CALLA)

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Using the PIAAC Framework for Numeracy to Guide Instruction: A Guide for Teachers, Lead Instructors, and Professional Development
Donna Curry, Senior Professional Development Specialist, SABES (System for Adult Basic Education Support), Center for Math and Adult Numeracy, Technical Education Research Centers (TERC)

Review Panel: **Cynthia Bell**, Numeracy Specialist, Literacy Assistance Center; **Aliza Belzer**, Associate Professor, Rutgers University; **David Rosen**, EdD, President, Newsome Associates

2:25 - 2:45

Future Directions for PIAAC

Daniel McGrath, Branch Chief, Reporting and Dissemination Branch, Assessments Division, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education

2:45 - 3:00

Evaluation and Closing