



# **PRACTICING FOR POST-GRADUATE SUCCESS**

**12th Annual Teaching and Learning Institute  
Blackwell Hall, The Rotunda Building  
May 14, 2025**

**LONGWOOD**  
U N I V E R S I T Y

## Institute Schedule

<b>8:30-9:00</b>	<b>Full breakfast and registration</b> <i>Blackwell Foyer</i>
<b>9:00- 10:00</b>	<b>Institute Welcome</b> <i>Blackwell Ballroom</i>  <b>Practicing Post-Graduate Success Overview Session</b> Sarai Blincoe, Director of Program Effectiveness and Professor of Psychology; Meg Evangelista, Human Resources Rotation Program Manager with Dell Technologies
<b>10:00-10:15</b>	<b>Break</b> - <i>Snacks are available in the Blackwell Foyer</i>
<b>10:15-11:30</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions 1: Setting Goals and Creating Plans</b> <i>From Planning to Placement: Supporting Student Internships</i> <i>Prince Edward Room</i>  <i>Guiding Growth: Individualized Support for New-to-College Students</i> <i>Virginia Room</i>  <i>Meaningful Engagement: It's All About ME</i> <i>115 Rotunda</i>
<b>11:30-11:45</b>	<b>Break</b> - <i>Snacks are available in the Blackwell Foyer</i>
<b>11:45-12:30</b>	<b>Supporting Metacognition and Planning with Socratic Questioning</b> <i>Blackwell Ballroom</i> Jenny Retallick, Trauma Specialist, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
<b>12:30-1:15</b>	<b>Lunch &amp; Learn: Co-Curricular Conversations on Student Success</b> <i>Explore how campus programs prepare students for life beyond graduation</i> <i>Blackwell Ballroom</i>
<b>1:15-2:30</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions 2: Revising Plans and Articulating Experiences:</b> <b><i>"Make Us Care Earlier": Helping Students Connect Campus to Career</i></b> <i>Prince Edward Room</i>  <i>Mentoring with Intention: Structuring Support for the Campus to Career Transition</i> - <i>115 Rotunda</i>  <i>Revising the Plan: Guiding Students Through Post-Graduation Planning and Skill Articulation</i> – <i>Virginia Room</i>
<b>2:30-2:45</b>	<b>Break</b> - <i>Snacks are available in the Blackwell Foyer</i>
<b>2:45-4:00</b>	<b>Keynote Address &amp; Discussion: Beyond the Bubble: Connecting Campus Life to Career Readiness</b> - <i>Blackwell Ballroom</i>

## SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

### All-Participant Session

#### Practicing Post-Graduate Success Overview Session

Sarai Blincoe, Director of Program Effectiveness and Professor of Psychology;  
Meg Evangelista, Human Resources Rotation Program Manager with Dell Technologies

In this session, attendees will develop their understanding of the Institute theme and related topics, including Life Design, the NACE pre-professional competencies, and the changing world of work. By considering how these topics align with their campus roles and responsibilities, participants will be able to make the most of the day's activities.

### Concurrent Sessions 1: Setting Goals and Creating Plans

#### From Planning to Placement: Supporting Student Internships

Facilitators: Danika Bellamy Sankar, Associate Director of Work-Based Experiences, and Liz Narehood, Senior Director of Career and Professional Engagement

Explore the critical role faculty and staff play in helping students plan, prepare, and apply for successful internships. Learn how to support students in identifying quality opportunities, build meaningful partnerships with employers, and connect with available campus and community resources. The session will also highlight statewide initiatives led by the State Council of Higher Education aimed at expanding internship access across Virginia.

#### Guiding Growth: Individualized Support for New-to-College Students

Facilitator: Sarai Blincoe, Director of Program Effectiveness and Professor of Psychology

Panelists: Maria Hamilton, Student Success Coordinator for Cook-Cole College of Arts & Sciences; Madeline Schutt, Director of Accessibility Resources; and Rebecca Sturgill, Director of Student Success for the Cormier Honors College

Join experts from the Cormier Honors College, Student Success Services, and Accessibility Resources for a panel on personalized student support. Panelists will describe the needs they are seeing in our new-to-college students and share effective strategies for working one-on-one to help students set meaningful goals and create actionable plans that support their holistic growth. Expect a dynamic conversation and opportunities to practice.

#### Meaningful Engagement: It's All About ME

Facilitators: Cheryl Steele, Associate Vice President for Student Engagement and Initiatives, and Susan Sullivan, Assistant Dean and Director of the University Center and Student Activities

Students often take pride in their very lengthy email signatures, and they sometimes lose the balance between academics and co-curricular activities, or do not engage at all. In response, Longwood's Student Engagement staff launched a campus-wide effort focused on *ME*—Meaningful Engagement. The initiative encourages students to reflect on their involvement by asking: Is it purposeful? Does it speak to my passions? Am I choosing quality over quantity? Does it support my long-term goals? This session will share implementation strategies, student feedback, and invite participants to consider how the *ME* approach could be integrated into their areas to promote more intentional student engagement across campus.

## **All-Participant Session**

### **Supporting Metacognition and Planning with Socratic Questioning**

Jenny Retallick, Trauma Specialist, Counseling and Psychological Services

Too often, it can be tempting to respond to students with problem-solving or directives. Though often well-intended, these methods do not support insight development. This session will focus on asking good questions and using Socratic Questioning to help support students in developing holistic insight into their selves and their communities.

## **Concurrent Sessions 2: Revising Plans and Articulating Experiences**

### **“Make Us Care Earlier”: Helping Students Connect Campus to Career.**

Facilitators: Patti Carey, Executive Director, McGaughy Internship & Professional Development Center, and Liz Narehood, Senior Director, Career and Professional Engagement

In this interactive workshop, faculty and staff will explore best practices in employer engagement and how professional networking can support student success. We'll examine ways these connections help students make informed career decisions and build a competitive edge. The session will include practical strategies for helping students articulate their skills and experiences to external audiences with confidence. Participants will also learn about key career-related resources and events they can share with students.

### **Mentoring with Intention: Structuring Support for the Campus to Career Transition**

Facilitator: Sarai Blincoe, Director of Program Effectiveness and Professor of Psychology

Panelists: Quincy Goodine, Associate Director of Multicultural Affairs and Leadership Development; Carl Harvey, Associate Professor of School Librarianship and Assistant Director for Graduate Faculty Development for the Center for Faculty Enrichment; Amanda Starr, Assistant Professor of Biology

In this session, you will hear from panelists who are encouraging students as they attempt to refine goals and plans in a range of contexts, from organizational leadership to research to graduate school pathways. What do upper-level students and graduate students need from advising and mentoring relationships? How can we structure opportunities for students to practice communicating their pre-professional skills? The panel will be followed by a discussion and time to plan for implementing lessons learned in your institutional role.

### **Revising the Plan: Guiding Students Through Post-Graduation Planning and Skill Articulation**

Facilitator: Pam Tracy, Director, CAFE/Professor of Communication Studies

Panelists: Adam Franssen, Professor of Biology; Laura Jimenez, Associate Professor, Exercise Science and Program Coordinator; Naomi Johnson, Professor of Communication Studies/Asst. Director, CAFE

This panel brings together instructors who teach courses focused on post-graduation planning and skill articulation. Panelists will share practical strategies, common challenges, and lessons learned from guiding students through the process of refining their goals and communicating their strengths. The session will follow a conversational format, with ample time for audience Q&A.

## **All-Institute Session**

### **Keynote Address & Discussion**

#### **Beyond the Bubble: Connecting Campus Life to Career Readiness**

This keynote offers an employer's perspective on how faculty and staff play a vital role in preparing students for life after graduation. It highlights how everyday academic, co-curricular, and athletic experiences contribute to the career competencies that employers value most. Grounded in the NACE Career Readiness Competencies, attendees will learn practical strategies for integrating career development into advising, teaching, and mentorship. Drawing from her non-traditional career path, Meg illustrates the power of reflection, storytelling, and translating college experiences into workplace impact.

Meg Evangelista is the global manager for Dell's HR Rotation Development Program. She is a motivated, strategic, and driven professional with a strong background in early career recruitment, program management, and professional development. Today, her role is responsible for building and nurturing the early-in-career ecosystem of talent, from internship recruiting through full-time programming and graduation. Evangelista is passionate about coaching professionals as they join the Dell team and navigate HR. She focuses on building meaningful relationships, professional development competencies, and strategic growth within the HR organization. Meg serves as a Director-Employer on the 2024-25 National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Board of Directors. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and Women's Studies from Assumption University and a Master of Education degree in higher education administration from Suffolk University.