

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Symposium on College Internship Research**  
October 1-2, 2020, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Call for Proposals**

***Social Capital: Fostering Student Professional Networks and Opportunities***

The Center for Research on College-Workforce Transitions (CCWT) at UW-Madison is now accepting proposals for breakout sessions at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Symposium on College Internship Research to be held October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Madison, Wisconsin. The theme of this year's symposium is *Social Capital: Fostering Student Professional Networks and Opportunities*. Social capital refers to resources (e.g., information, reputation, social credentials) that are embedded in one's social networks, and research shows that these resources are strongly associated with the ability to get a job and upward social mobility. Consequently, for college students – but especially those who may lack the privilege of inherited social capital – developing social and professional networks while in college is critically important.

One of the arguments for promoting internships and other forms of work-based learning (WBL) in higher education is that they help students develop social capital, yet little research exists on whether or not this is actually the case. For this year's Symposium, CCWT is seeking proposals that address the general topic of internships and social capital. In particular, we encourage proposals that: (a) feature empirical evidence on the impact of internships on students' social capital, (b) focus on how employers and educators can best design internships to enhance students' social capital, and (c) address how to best serve students who may have limited social capital in their chosen profession (e.g., low-income and/or first-generation students).

**Symposium Audience & Goals:** One of the goals of the symposium is to engage a diverse audience - with respect to discipline, institution type, race/ethnicity and identity –in productive dialogue about how to improve internship programs for *all* college students. Past participants have represented career services professionals, internship program administrators, students, employers, faculty/instructors and higher education administrators in a variety of institutions (e.g., community colleges, 4-year universities, HBCUs and HSIs). Please consider these goals and audience when preparing your proposal.

**Session Format:** Proposals should be for 50-minute sessions that can take the form of an interactive workshop, a scholarly paper or a panel discussion. We strongly encourage proposals that actively facilitate audience engagement (e.g., Q&A, reflective writing, group discussion) with one another and the speaker(s). Please designate your proposal as one (or more) of the following: *Interactive Workshop*, *Scholarly Paper*, or *Panel Discussion*.

**Proposal Format:** Please submit a proposal that includes the following components: *Name(s) of Presenters*, *Title of Session*, *Description of Session*, and *Plan for Audience Engagement*. In the Description of Session part of your proposal, describe the content of the session and how it addresses this year's theme. We are open to proposals that do not directly address this year's theme, but will prioritize submissions that directly address the issue of student social capital.

Proposals should not exceed **1,000 words**. Please submit your submissions to Amy Rivera at [amy.rivera@wisc.edu](mailto:amy.rivera@wisc.edu) by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.