

## **J-WEL Connections 2020 Workforce Learning Sessions**

At [J-WEL Connections 2020](#), the Workforce Learning collaborative is taking a deeper dive into two key areas: career advice and human skills.

During the first week of April, we will host a series of conversations about career advice - how are workers/employers receiving/providing career advice, what is and is not working, and how we can give better career advice to the current and future workforce.

The following week, we leverage the fantastic discussions from [our recent on-campus workshop](#) to facilitate a series of conversations around [human skills](#): the social and higher-order thinking skills workers need to thrive in today's dynamic organizations and in the future of work. We will explore what these skills are, and what training and assessment looks like. By the end of the week, participants will have developed new perspectives on how to teach or measure these skills in their particular context, within and across the pK-12, higher education, and workforce learning ecosystems.

### **Career Advice: April 6, 8, 9**

#### **Session 1 - Presentation: Career Advice**

April 6, 9:30-10:45am ET

How is career advice given and who receives it? How can we give better, data-driven advice to workers? George Westerman dives into these questions through a series of surveys and interviews of employees and employers and presents findings.

#### **Session 2 - Panel: Career Advice for Workers**

April 8, 8:30-9:45am ET

Experts from across industry and edtech join us for a panel discussion to explore opportunities and challenges of providing career advice for workers so they are able to advance in their careers. Once confirmed, speakers will be listed on our website.

Panelists and participants will explore questions such as:

- What kinds of individual and systemic inputs should career advisors consider?
- How should we evaluate career advice?

- How can we validate career advice?
- Besides employers, what role should other ecosystem stakeholders play in providing career advice to workers?

### **Session 3 - Panel: Career Advice for the Future Workforce**

April 9, 9:30-10:45am ET

Experts from across pK-12 and higher education join us for a panel discussion to explore opportunities and challenges of providing career advice for students so they are work-ready for career success. Once confirmed, speakers will be listed on our website.

Panelists and participants will explore questions such as:

- What kind of future of work should we be preparing students for?
- What kinds of career advice should students receive?
- How should career advice evolve from the first day of school to graduation, and what are the best mechanisms for delivery?

## **Human Skills: April 14-17**

### **Session 4 - Discussion: What Are Human Skills and Why Are They Important?**

April 14, 9:30-10:45am ET

We open this session by screening the stage-setting and opening panel discussions from the Human Skills Workshop, which explored perspectives from academia, industry, and edtech on the role of human skills in the context of work.

We'll follow this screening with a conversation with all J-WEL Members to explore questions such as:

- What do these skills mean in your context?
- Which of these skills are well covered in your context?
- Which of these skills does your organization's learners/workers lack?
- How could we envision ways of better integrating awareness of these skills? What kinds of outcomes would you look for?

To close, we will issue a challenge to all participants: to select one or a handful of the 24 human skills and consider how they might be better trained or assessed in their particular context.



**J-WEL**

Abdul Latif Jameel World Education Lab

### **Session 5 - Discussion: How to Train Human Skills?**

April 15, 9:30-10:45am ET

To kick off this session, we will screen the panel discussion from the Human Skills Workshop that explored human skills training with educators from across pK-12, higher education, and workforce.

We'll follow this screening with a conversation with all participants to explore questions such as:

- How are you already training human skills? What works and where are gaps?
- When teaching human skills, what are the advantages of bundling multiple human skills together and/or in conjunction with technical skills training?
- What is the best way of teaching human skills - digitally or in person? 1:1 or in teams?
- How can human skills training be designed to empower learners to build additional technical and nontechnical skills?

### **Session 6 - Discussion: How to Assess Human Skills?**

April 16, 9:30-10:45am ET

Here, we will screen the final panel from the Human Skills Workshop, which focused on approaches to assessing difficult-to-measure human skills.

We'll follow this screening with a conversation with all participants to explore questions such as:

- How do you assess these skills for existing employees and learners?
- Which of these skills are most important to assess?
- How might human skills assessment provide a new kind of credential?
- What would a certification for human skills look like and would you believe/use it?

### **Session 7 - Discussion: Building Human Skills**

April 17, 9:30-10:45am ET

Participants report back on how their selected human skill(s) could be better trained or assessed in their particular context. As a group, we will brainstorm how we might be able to put some of these ideas into action.