

## ACI's March 26 Work and Life Skills Boot Camp Doubleheader: Technology and Career Success + Growing Your Own Business

Feb. 25, 2021



Registration is open for ACI's spring virtual Work and Life Skills Boot Camp, Friday, March 26, 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. via Zoom webinar. Where previous ACI Boot Camps have focused on a single theme, the spring session will feature two themes: "Liberal Arts + Technology = Career Success" in the morning session; "Grow Your Own Business, Grow Your Own Job" in the afternoon session. The day will

conclude with a financial literacy session that presents the basics of saving, investing and building a retirement nest egg. Click here to register. Registrations will be accepted through March 24. For questions, contact Leslie Millenson, ACI director, special projects, at [lmillenson@acifund.org](mailto:lmillenson@acifund.org).

"The spring boot camp targets specific student needs," said ACI Executive Director, Mick Weltman. "These days people assume all the good jobs are in technology, and students worry that liberal arts education won't prepare them for those jobs. But the demand for the skills liberal arts education develops remains high, and we want students to know how promising the future really is."

Some students say that their career goal is to start their own business, Weltman says, "so we want to introduce them to some basics about becoming entrepreneurs." The financial literacy session helps first-generation students who come from families with little experience in retirement savings and investment instruments, he added.



Presenters for the March 26 boot camp will speak to students via Zoom webinar.

The March 26 boot camp presentations include:

- ***Jobs at the Intersection of Technical and Human Skills: Rob Sentz, chief innovation officer, Emsi***, profiles the job market for liberal arts graduates in 2021, pointing out that, while STEM skills are critical to the job market of the future, much of current literature underscores the growing need for human skills such as those that students acquire through liberal arts education.
- ***The Future is Now: Explore New Career Tracks: Recruiter Lynn Hazan, president, Lynn Hazan & Associates, Inc.*** reinforces that liberal

arts graduates are in high demand by many employers, offering jobs that require both the soft skills characteristic of liberal arts education and facility with technology.

- ***Technology on a Need-to-Know Basis: Monique Wingard, owner, SAVVY Consulting & Communications, LLC***, looks at the key software packages young professionals should know when they launch their careers and how they're used on the job.
- ***From College to Career, Technology Ready or Not:*** A panel of young professionals report their experiences learning the technology that supports their job functions. Participants will include Hannah Gibson, operations specialist at Morningstar (a psychology graduate from Denison University) and Alexandra Martos, now a graduate student but until recently materials manager at Schmolz + Bickenbach USA & Canada (marketing/psychology graduate, North Central College). *(Panel information.)*
- ***Planning and Funding Your Small Business: Tarsa Washington MSW, M.Ed., community business ally-financial coach, Allies for Community Business*** explores the prerequisites for a business plan and funding plan that can make a new small business a reality.
- ***Small Business Case Study: Iesha Trotter, founder and owner, BrownSugar's Balloon Designs & Academy*** tells the story of her small business and how it has become both a successful enterprise and an important contributor in her community.
- ***Financial Literacy – Investments/Retirement Instruments: Guadalupe Gomez, consultant, DiMeo Schneider & Associates, LLC and Altan Wuliji, senior consultant, DiMeo Schneider & Associates, LLC***, explains the basics about retirement plans and investment instruments to give young professionals can get a head start on funding their future.

Most boot camp sessions will be recorded and will be made available to ACI member institutions.

Launched in 2019 with a First Opportunity Fund grant from Council of Independent Colleges, ACI's Work and Life Skills Boot Camps are targeted to low-income, first-generation and students of color who may not have the networks and role models to advance their career objectives. The curriculum is designed for seniors entering the workforce this summer, however, ACI boot camps are open to all students, regardless of when they'll graduate, Weltman says.

Students, college and university faculty and staff, and ACI trustees can register here as individuals, and they may attend the boot camp's full day of seminars or choose to attend specific sessions. At campuses offering in-person learning, career services teams

are encouraged to organize group viewings of the March 26 boot camp. ACI is offering grants of up to \$100 (depending on the size of the group) to help defray the cost of lunch or snacks. For information about group viewings and related grants, contact Leslie Millenson at [lmillenson@acifund.org](mailto:lmillenson@acifund.org).