

Tuesday, June 5th

Pre-Conference Activities

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Developing Workforce Studies

- Increase familiarity with workforce study components such as assessing in-demand jobs, determining skill requirements, and identifying potential talent sources
- Balance resource constraints to accomplish your workforce study goals
- Share your experiences and learn from others as you design and implement workforce studies

Instructors: **Robert Sharak**, City of Norfolk Development Department
Mark White, Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University

8:30	Welcome, Introduction, and Course Overview
9:15	Framing Your Study: Understanding different types of workforce studies and advantages/disadvantages of each
10:15	Break
10:30	Collaborating with Partners on the Workforce Study
11:30	Prioritizing with a Budget
12:15	Lunch (on your own)
1:30	Developing the Research Agenda
2:15	Organizing the Presentation of Your Workforce Study Results
2:45	Break/Finalize Group Workforce Study (Brief Presentations)
3:45	"Around the Room" Presentations of Group Workforce Studies
4:30	Adjourn

Wednesday, June 6th

Conference Activities

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast Meeting: Cost of Living Index Update and Planning Session

This session provides COLI data collectors and users with an opportunity to learn more about efforts to enhance COLI data and share lessons from their experiences with the data product. C2ER staff will provide an overview of key changes anticipated and insights about new tools that are in development to support the cost of living data collection and dissemination process.

Moderator: **Jennie Allison**, Council for Community & Economic Research

8:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

State Economic Researchers' Roundtable
(Limited capacity. [Please register in advance.](#))

The C2ER state economic researchers' chapter – comprised of state economic development researchers – will explore the most current challenges facing practitioners who work for state agencies. This roundtable provides applied economic researchers working at the state level with an opportunity to interact with their colleagues in other states with breakout discussions targeted to issues related to research for state economic development initiatives.

Moderator: **Erol Yildirim**, Council for Community & Economic Research
Panelists: **Sarah Murley**, Applied Economics
Paul Scheuren, Impact DataSource

8:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Regional Economic Researchers' Roundtable
(Limited capacity. [Please register in advance.](#))

The C2ER regional researchers' chapter – comprised of analysts working for regional economic development organizations and chambers of commerce – examine challenges and opportunities focused on practitioners working for regional nonprofit organizations. This roundtable allows researchers working in small organizations to identify potential areas of collaboration and to share insights about data sources and tips for responding to business research requests.

Moderators: **Bob Ball**, Tulsa Regional Chamber
Eric Long, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce
Kate McEnroe, Kate McEnroe Consulting

Wednesday, June 6th

Conference Activities

8:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

LMI Researchers' Roundtable
(Limited capacity. [Please register in advance.](#))



This session will explore hot topics and emerging research in labor market analysis. This roundtable provides LMI research professionals an opportunity to interact with their colleagues from across the nation and share data sources and best practices.

Moderator: **Lesley Hirsch**, New York City Labor Market Information Service
Panelists: **Ronda Anderson**, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center

Andrew Berger-Gross, North Carolina Department of Commerce

Alexandra Hall, Division of Labor Standards and Statistics, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

Damon Runberg, Oregon Employment Department

11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch (on your own)

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Introduction and Welcome Address by Board Chairs and Mayor

How do communities remain resilient in the light of economic and natural disruption? What innovative research approaches and technical solutions can be applied to our work? What skills are on the rise and how will they tie into today's and tomorrow's hiring needs? As we explore workforce and economic development strategies, how do we ensure that they are equitable and support all members of our society? Our theme this year is how we can help our communities "RISE".

Moderators: **George Harben**, Prince William County Department of Economic Development

Adrienne Johnston, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

Speaker: **Keisha Bottoms**, Mayor of Atlanta (Invited)

Wednesday, June 6th

Conference Activities

1:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.

RISE Keynote

Moderator: **Jennifer Zeller**, Georgia Power
Speaker: **Ron Starner**, Executive Vice President, Conway, Inc.

2:00 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.

Economic Outlook Keynote

Moderator: **Jennifer Zeller**, Georgia Power
Speaker: **Roger Tutterow**, Kennesaw State University

2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Networking Break

Conference Breakout Sessions

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Resiliency: Responding to Economic Disruptions



This session will explore how researchers use LMI and other data measures to understand and respond to economic shocks.

Moderator: **Coretta Pettway**, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Panelists: **Tim Aylor**, Virginia Employment Commission
Nick Beleiciks, Oregon Employment Department
Leigh Hopkins, Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Innovation: Innovative Employer Engagement for Talent Pipeline Development

This panel will discuss innovative ways that workforce development boards and community colleges engage employers in building talent, upskilling the current labor force, and identifying skills and jobs in demand for career pathway development. Examples of engagement include partnering to create pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship opportunities, involvement of employers in developing LMI tools such as career pathways and ladders, and creating interactive dashboards showcasing regional workforce data.

Moderator: **Laura Coleman**, Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research
Panelists: **Alyssa Brown**, Charlotte Works
Brian Cooksey, Shaw Inc.
Alex Cooley, Northern Virginia Community College

Conference Breakout Sessions (Continued)

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Skills: Tools for Measuring Labor Market Outcomes



Given the large investments made by governments and students alike, it has never been more critical to understand the success of education and training programs in placing graduates into the labor market. This panel will demonstrate innovative tools from three states (Colorado, Michigan, and Minnesota) that provide stakeholders with crucial outcome metrics for education programs, from employment and wages to return on investment. Additionally, panel members will discuss the various ways in which these tools were developed and shed light on how these tools are within the reach of any state.

Moderator: **Lesley Hirsch**, New York City Labor Market Information Service
Panelists: **Scott Powell**, Michigan Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

Rachel Vilsack, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Sponsored Breakout

Machine Learning and Labor Market Intelligence – Presented by Geographic Solutions

As the Internet has become the default method for employers to advertise job positions, the analysis of this data can be instrumental in helping employers effectively find qualified talent. Extracting job information, and candidate information from resumes, and automating the analytics, can greatly improve the labor exchange process. In this session, see how machine learning adds a new dimension to talent acquisition process, for recruiting and labor marketing intelligence.

Presenters: **Paul Toomey**, President
Shannon Ramaeker, LMI Project Manager

Wednesday, June 6th

Conference Activities

4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Site Selection Panel

C2ER Board members will moderate a panel of site selectors about the role of data in their work. Join us to learn more about how site selection relates to the RISE theme.

Moderators: **Jennifer Zeller**, Georgia Power

Facilitator: **Ron Starner**, Conway, Inc

Panelist: **Jim Blair**, Navigator Consulting

Carol Henderson, Cushman & Wakefield

Kate McEnroe, Kate McEnroe Consulting

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

New Member Meet & Greet with the Board

New members and first-time conference attendees get a chance to meet and chat informally with the Board

6:30 p.m.

Reception