National Research Center for Career and Technical Education

Programs of Study Seminar
March 9, 2010

ACTE NATIONAL POLICY SEMINAR

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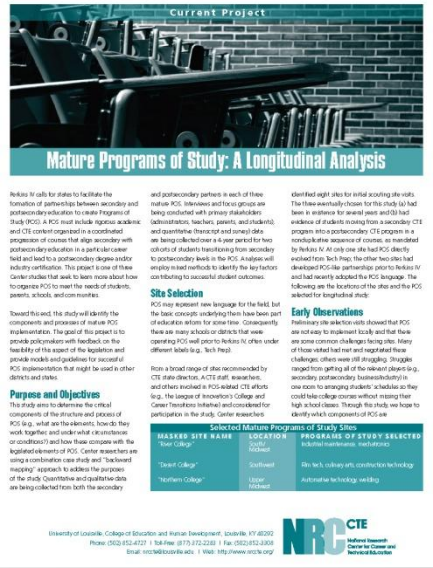
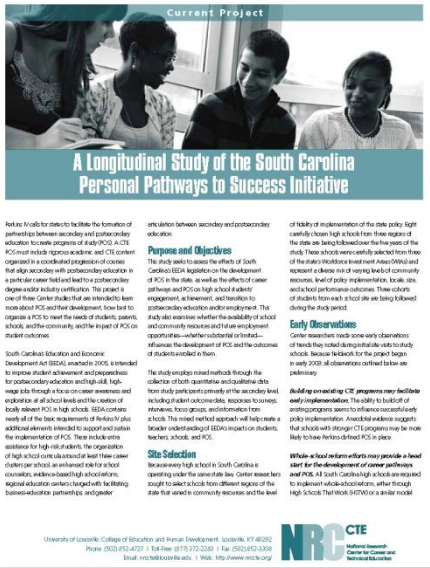
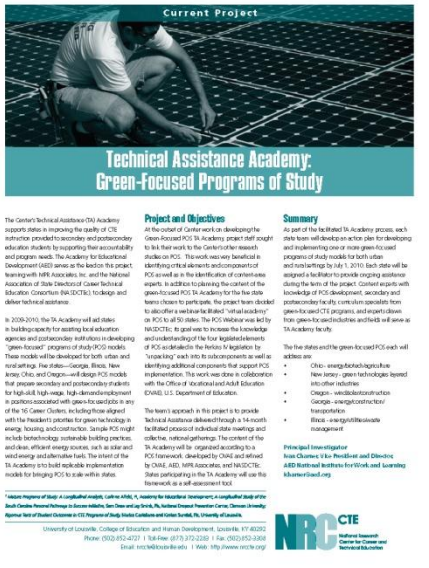
Introducing our four NRCCTE projects on Programs of Study







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Mature Programs of Study: A Longitudinal Analysis

Corinne Alfeld, Academy for Educational Development, Principal Investigator

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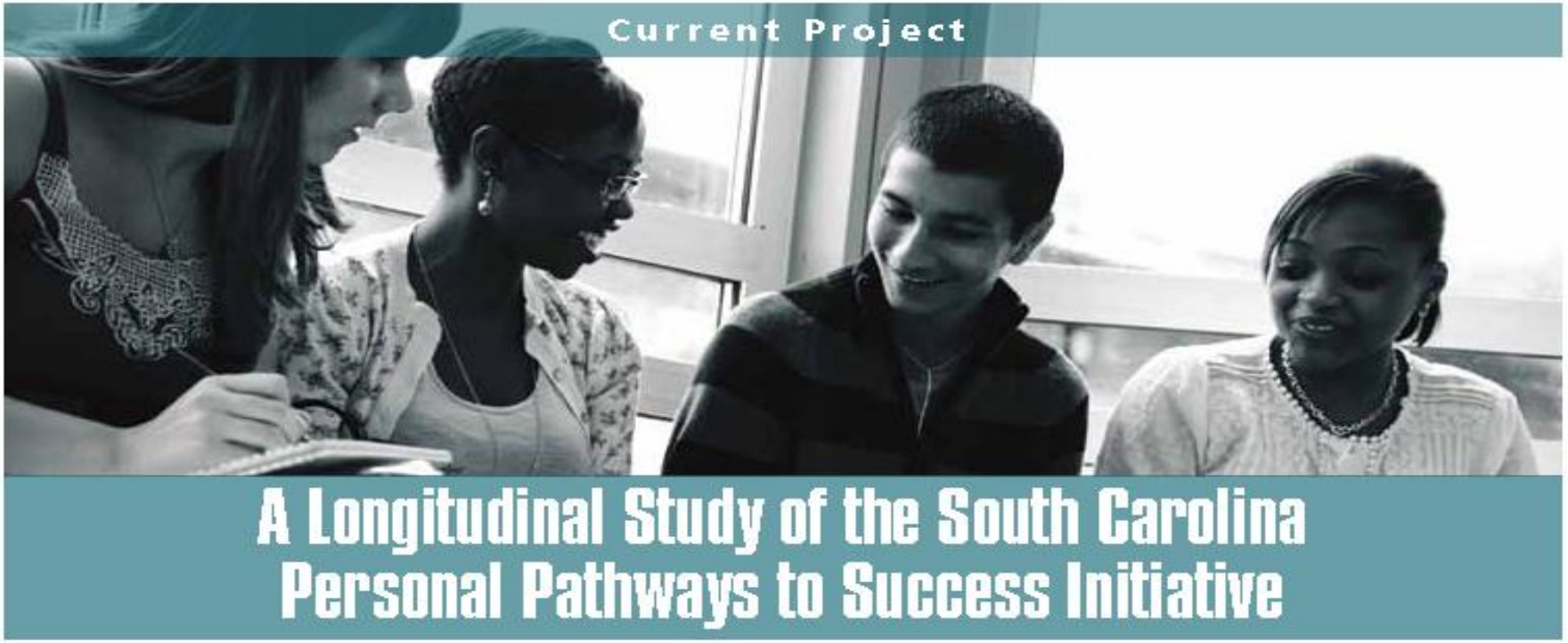

Cathy Hammond, National Dropout Prevention Center,
Clemson University
Sam Drew and Jay Smink, co-Principal Investigators

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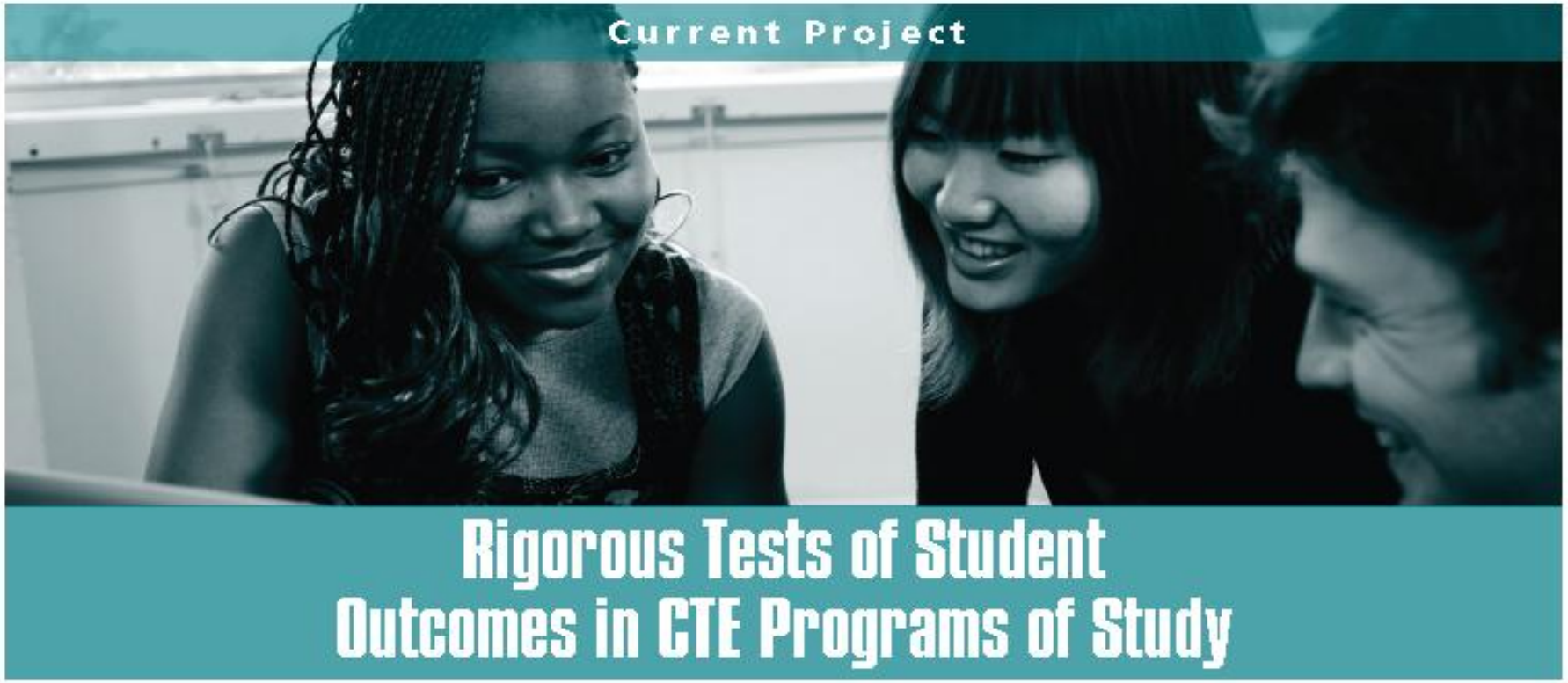

Kirsten Sundell, NRCCTE, Co-Principal Investigator
Marisa Castellano, NRCCTE, Co-Principal Investigator

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Ivan Charner, Academy for Educational Development,
Project Director

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Perkins IV – Programs of Study

- State approved programs, which may be adopted by local education agencies and postsecondary institutions to be offered as an option to students when planning for and completing future coursework, for career and technical content areas.

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Perkins IV – Programs of Study

- Incorporate secondary education and postsecondary education elements and include:
- coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant career and technical content;
- in a coordinated, non-duplicative progression of courses that align secondary education with postsecondary education
- . . . to adequately prepare students to succeed in postsecondary education;

Perkins IV – Programs of Study

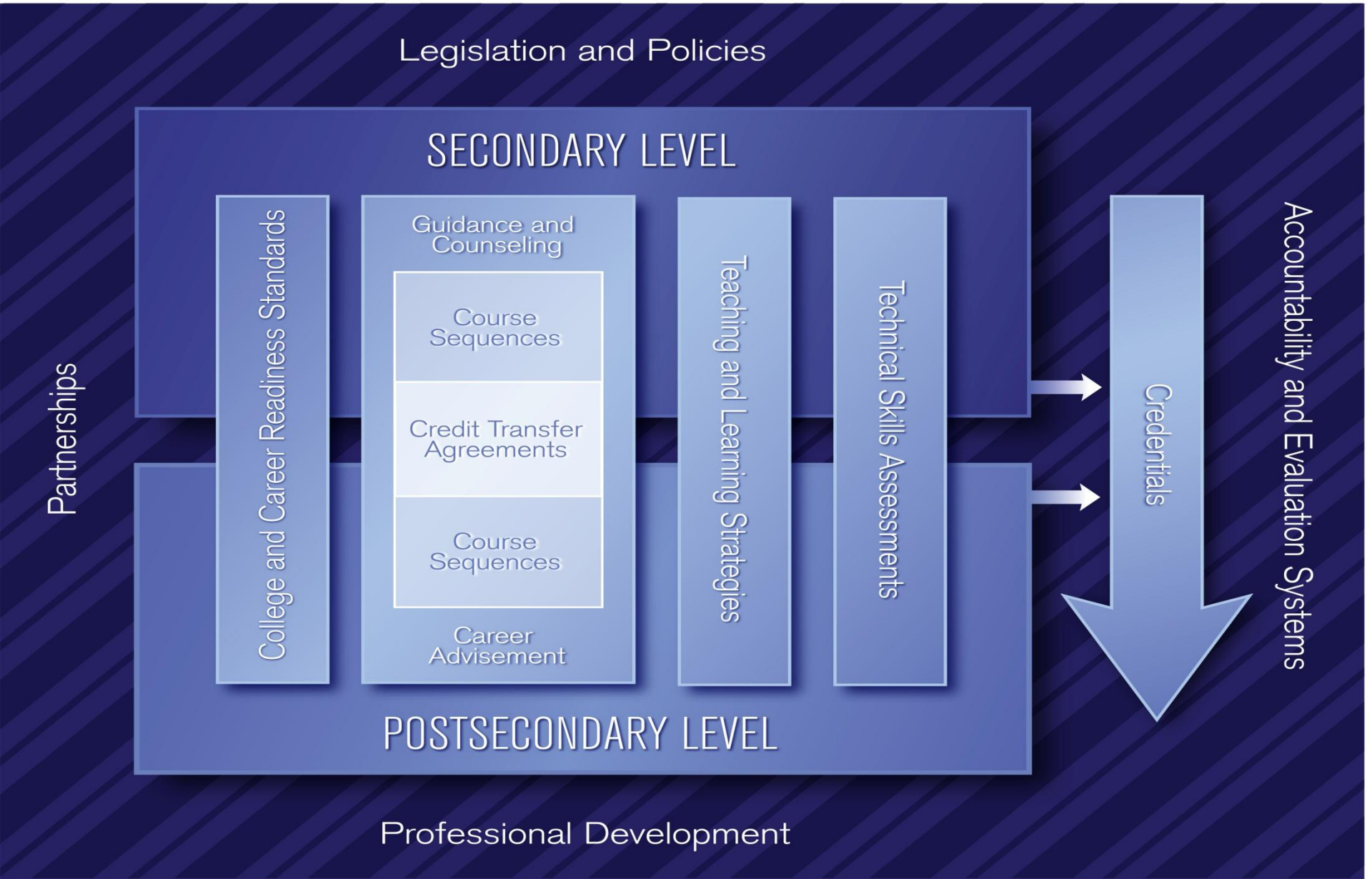
- May include the opportunity for secondary education students to participate in dual or concurrent enrollment programs or other ways to acquire postsecondary education credits;
- Lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate at the postsecondary level, or an associate or baccalaureate degree.

Evolving Components of POS

- Legislation and Policies
- Partnerships among Education, Business, and Other Community Stakeholders
- Sustainable Leadership and Shared Planning
- Rigorous Academic and Technical Standards Aligned with Curriculum and Assessments
- Aligned Secondary and Postsecondary Education Elements
- Credit Transfer Agreements
- Accountability and Evaluation Criteria
- Guidance, Counseling and Advisement
- Professional development
- Innovative Teaching and Learning Strategies

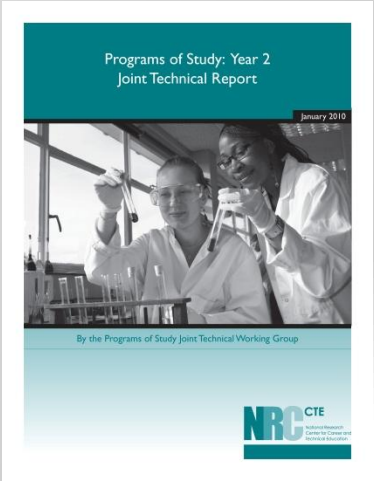
PROGRAM OF STUDY DESIGN FRAMEWORK

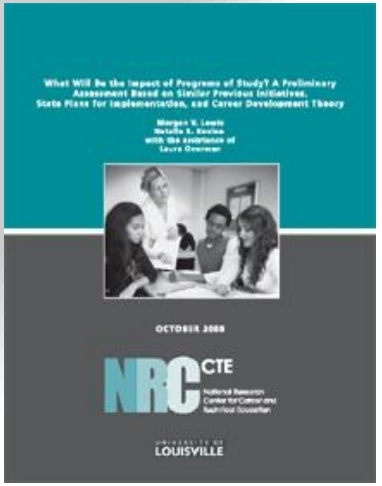
"A program of study is a comprehensive, structured approach for delivering academic and career and technical education to prepare students for postsecondary education and career success." - Operational definition



NRCCTE Reports:

- Programs of Study Joint Technical Working Group. (2010, January). *Programs of study: Year 2 joint technical report.*
- Lewis, M. V., & Kosine, N. R. (with Overman, L.). (2008, October). *What will be the impact of programs of study? A preliminary assessment based on similar previous initiatives, state plans for implementation, and career development theory.*





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Questions

- **How did the state or district decide which POS to develop?**

- **From a more conceptual perspective, are POS seen in the context of occupational/workforce development or as an alternative college preparation pathway?**

Questions

- **What do you see as the driving force behind the design?**
- **How have districts or states defined the "end game?" For example, the legislation mentions industry-recognized credentials or certificates and traditional college degrees. How targeted or general is the POS goal?**
- **What role does business and industry play in this process?**

Questions

- **What does a POS look like to the high school partner?**
- **What does a POS look like to the postsecondary partner?**

Questions

Evaluation

- **First, how are POS students being identified and what kind of measures are being used to assess the impact of POS (e.g., grades, credit acquisition)?**
- **Second, how would you assess the level of support for POS, both within the schools and colleges as well as in the community, among parents, and in the business community?**

Questions

- **If we are expecting teachers to behave in different ways (e.g., deliver their curricula consistent with a POS approach), we might assume that we need to provide professional development. What kinds of professional development are your schools, districts, and colleges providing?**

Thank you for joining us.

For additional information on the Center's research and technical assistance activities related to Programs of Study, including related research reports, podcasts, videos, and webinars, please visit our website:

www.nrccte.org

A video of this seminar and an archived version of the webinar will be placed on the website. To receive a notice of their availability, please subscribe to our mailing list by emailing **nrccte@louisville.edu**.

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