

## Letter from the Issue Editor

Welcome to the Diversity Issue of the Online Journal for Workforce Education and Development. As the workplace and classroom become more diverse, workforce educators, trainers, and developers in various disciplines must be more intentional in their efforts to explore and address some of the challenges and capitalize on the benefits of diversity.

In the first article, Dr. Cecilia Maldonado examined Latino college completers and the differences in completion rates of specific Latino subgroups. Some of her findings show Hispanics do not complete postsecondary credentials in large numbers and the various Hispanic subgroups differ in the types of programs they pursue and complete.

Authors Lianbin Cui and Debra Ferdinand encourage workforce educators, in the second article, to “revisit their curricula for adequately addressing the needs of students from different cultures within their programs.” Inclusive curricula are beneficial not only to international students but American students and instructors.

The third article discusses the importance of developing individuals with learning disabilities to ensure that they are prepared for future careers. Authors Stephanie L. Lusk and Dr. Dominick Fazarro investigated the extent to which psychosocial factors corresponded with the career exploration, career decision-making, and problem solving for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students with and without disabilities.”

In the fourth article, Drs. Dexter Wakefield, Seburn Pense, and Allen Talbert sought to describe the degree to which the involved agricultural education programs prepared their students to work with diverse populations. One-half of the student teachers did not believe the university fully prepared them for the ever-changing racial climate in agricultural education.

Our final article focuses on the barriers female agricultural teachers face when pursuing a career in agricultural education. The findings suggest that there is a need to create professional development programs that support women as they seek to become successful agricultural education teachers.

We are now accepting manuscripts for our next issue dedicated to technology in workforce education and development, which will be edited by Dr. Beth Winfrey Freeburg. Please see the link to the Call for Papers for further details.

We hope that you will find our Journal articles informative and practical.

Dr. Cynthia Sims