

# “Research in Action” Podcast Instructor Guide

Use the following episode description, learning objectives, guiding questions and activity suggestions to more easily include “Research in Action” podcast episodes as a supplemental resource for your course.

# Dr. Mary Ellen Dello Stritto and Dane Skinner on Forecasting and Data Dashboards [00:00-29:05]

Research in Action - Episode 180

---

## Podcast and Episode Information

“Research in Action” is a weekly podcast about topics and issues related to research in higher education featuring experts across a range of disciplines.

On this episode, the guest is Dane Skinner, Research Analysts at Oregon State University Ecampus. Prior to this position, Dane worked as a Data Scientist for the Oregon State Lottery. He completed his Masters in Math and Masters in Statistics at Oregon State University in 2016. When he's not working through data problems, he enjoys spending time with family, running through the trails of the MacDonald Forest, and building furniture.

*Segment One* [00:00-15:31] - In this segment, Dane discusses data analysis for the Oregon Lottery and OSU Ecampus.

*Segment Two* [15:32-29:05] - In this segment, Dane discusses the advantages and disadvantages of data dashboards.

*Bonus Clip #1* [00:00-4:15] - Dane's background and professional pathway.

Show notes and a transcript for this episode can be found at:

<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e180/>

## Learning Outcomes

By listening to this episode, students will be able to:

- Describe the process of forecasting with data
- Discuss how time-series analysis is used in data forecasting.
- Describe how data dashboards are used

## Guiding Questions for Listening

- How does Dane Skinner describe forecasting?
- What kinds of questions was Dane Skinner answering using Oregon Lottery data?
- How does Dane Skinner describe time-series analysis?
- How is Oregon Lottery data used to make decisions?
- What are some key metrics in higher education data that Dane Skinner is analyzing?
- How does Dane Skinner describe data dashboards?
- What are some advantages and disadvantages of data dashboards for decision making as described by Dane Skinner?
- According to Dane Skinner, what is the benefit of using a digital storyboard?
- What factors led to Dane Skinner's return to complete his master's degrees? (See also, bonus clip)?

## Possible Activities

- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e180/>) and look at an additional resource that is linked in connection with this episode. Students can write a short review of that resource to share with their peers.
- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e180/>) and post an additional resource connected to the content of the episode in the comments section.
- Have students share questions that are raised for them based on the content of this episode. What would they ask Dane Skinner if they could?

## Suggested Citation (APA, 6th edition)

Linder, K. (Producer/host). (2019, November 18). *Dr. Mary Ellen Dello Stritto and Dane Skinner on Forecasting and Data Dashboards* [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e180/>

---

## Notes

## About the Research in Action Podcast

---

“Research in Action” (RIA) is a podcast about topics and issues related to research in higher education featuring experts across a range of disciplines. Episodes are posted weekly and include guest interviews and occasional solo episodes. Guests are from a range of higher education institutions and share their expertise on qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods as well as their personal experiences as researchers, research and writing practices, organizational and productivity strategies, and much more. Some weeks, bonus content will also be posted.

“Research in Action” is hosted by [Dr. Katie Linder](#), research director for Oregon State University Ecampus.

Visit the podcast website to view [show notes and transcripts for each episode](#), explore our [episode guide](#), learn more about how to [contact us](#), or [suggest a future guest or topic](#).

You may subscribe to the [“Research in Action” RSS feed](#) or access the podcast via [iTunes](#), [Soundcloud](#) or [Stitcher](#).

“Research in Action” is also listed on [MERLOT](#).

The “Research in Action” podcast is a resource funded by Oregon State University Ecampus, the university’s top-ranked online education provider.

## Contact

Katie Linder, Ph.D.  
Director of Research  
Oregon State Ecampus  
541-737-4629  
[kathryn.linder@oregonstate.edu](mailto:kathryn.linder@oregonstate.edu)

## Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License.