

# 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. Jamison Fargo on Working with a National Research Center [32:57]

## Research in Action - Episode 37

### 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 of the podcast, the guest is Dr. Jamison Fargo, an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Utah State University where he is affiliated with the graduate emphasis in Sociobehavioral Epidemiology. He is also a Research Scientist with the National Center on Homelessness among Veterans, Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Dr. Fargo's primary research interests focus on preventing and ending homelessness, particularly among Veterans, as well as preventing injury and victimization. Dr. Fargo also has extensive methodological expertise in the application of modern psychometric, latent variable, and mixed-effects modeling techniques to research problems in the sociobehavioral, epidemiological, and educational sciences. Dr. Fargo earned Master's degrees in Clinical Psychology (2003) and Quantitative Epidemiology (2008) as well as a Doctoral degree in Experimental Psychology (2004) from the University of Cincinnati. In 2005 he founded the Office of Methodological and Data Sciences at Utah State University, which he directed until 2009. He previously worked at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a Senior Research Investigator in the Center for Health Equity Research, a Biostatistician in the Center for Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics, and an Associate Fellow in the Center for Public Health Initiatives.

*Segment One* [00:00-12:29] - In this segment, Jamison shares about his experiences working with a national research center.

*Segment Two* [12:30-21:49] - In this segment, Jamison defines biostatistics and shares about training in this field and the disciplines where it is most likely to be used.

*Segment Three* [21:50-32:57] - In this segment, Jamison discusses what led him to "retool" at mid-career and how he went about it.

*Bonus Clip* [00:00-5:44]: Dr. Jamison Fargo's Experience as a Methodologist

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

<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e3/7/>

### Learning Outcomes

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

- Describe the National Center for Homelessness Among Veterans and its purpose
- Discuss the potential benefits in working with a national center
- Define biostatistics
- Provide an example of a career field, outside of academia, in which a biostatistician might work
- Explain retooling as it relates to professional skills
- Describe the role of a methodologist

### Guiding Questions for Listening

- What is the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans and what does Dr. Fargo explain is the VA's top priority with this center?
- How did Dr. Fargo become involved in the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans?
- What does Dr. Fargo mention may be helpful to young researchers with regard to working with a national center?
- What are biostatistics?
- What are some of the differences between the two types of biostatisticians that Dr. Fargo describes?
- What are some examples of the various career fields in which a biostatistician might work?
- How does Dr. Fargo describe the process of retooling within his career?
- What do you think might be some potential benefits or challenges in retooling professional skills?
- How does Dr. Fargo describe the role of a methodologist? (See also, Bonus Clip)
- What is an example of how a methodologist might provide assistance within an academic institution?

## Possible Activities

- Have students find and explore a website for a national research center like the one that Jamison describes in this episode. What kinds of work does the Center do? What kinds of research roles are present in the Center?
- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e37/>) 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/e37/>) 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 Dr. Jamison Fargo if they could?

## Suggested Citation (APA, 6th edition)

Linder, K. (Producer/host). (2016, December 12). *Dr. Jamison Fargo on Working with a National Research Center*. [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e37/>

---

## 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 – ranked top ten in the nation for online education two years running by U.S. News & World Report. OSU Ecampus has more than 45 degree programs and more than 1,000 classes online.

## 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.