

# 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.

### 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. Sarah Carver Williams, the Director of the STEPP Program, a student support program at East Carolina University designed to provide college access and ongoing support for students with learning disabilities. She also serves as Principal Investigator for the College STAR initiative, a grant-funded project focused on helping participating campuses create educational environments that are welcoming for students who have different approaches to learning. Prior to her work with STEPP and College STAR, Sarah was a part of the ECU College of Education faculty and a middle school special education teacher in North Carolina. Sarah received her Bachelor of Science and Master's degree in Special Education from East Carolina University and her PhD in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

*Segment One* [00:00-11:19] - In this segment, Sarah discusses the College STAR program.

*Segment Two* [11:20-21:26] - In this segment, Sarah shares her suggestions for launching a large research project.

*Segment Three* [21:27-31:05] - In this segment, Sarah shares the next steps for the College STAR program and how other institutions can get involved.

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

<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/episode/55/>

### Learning Outcomes

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

- Describe the College STAR program
- Discuss some of the challenges associated with beginning a significant research endeavor
- Provide an example of how the principles of universal design for learning might be incorporated into a research project
- Review resources for faculty or researchers to become engaged in the College STAR project

### Guiding Questions for Listening

- What is College STAR?
- In addition to providing funding, how have the funders for College STAR supported the project?
- According to Dr. Williams, what has been one of the most exciting parts of the College STAR program?
- How have principals of universal design for learning been a part of the College STAR project?
- What were some of the challenges Dr. Williams experienced at the beginning of her research endeavor?
- Why was it important for Dr. Williams to have quantitative and qualitative research experts engaged in her research endeavor?
- According to Dr. Williams, how has the development and maintenance of a support structure been beneficial to the faculty learning communities involved with the College STAR project?
- How has the College STAR program led to the development of additional classroom resources?
- How can faculty or researchers outside of College STAR become involved in the project?

## Possible Activities

- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e55/>) 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/e55/>) 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. Sarah Carver Williams if they could?

## Suggested Citation (APA, 6th edition)

Linder, K. (Producer/host). (2017, April 17). *Dr. Sarah Carver Williams on Starting a Significant Research Endeavor* [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e55/>

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## Notes

## About the Research in Action Podcast

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“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

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