

## AGENDA SPRING CONFERENCE

starts

## <u>Wednesday, May 18th</u>

7:00 - 8:00 PM

**Registration Open** Outside Ballroom

## <u>Thursday, May 19th</u>

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7:00 - 9:30 AM	Breakfast Buffet Open Skycrest Restaurant
8:30 - 9:30 AM	Registration Open Outside Ballroom
9:30 - 9:40 AM	<b>President's Welcome</b> Robert Ellis, Current President - Arkansas Association of Colleges & Employers
9:40 - 10:40 AM	<b>Opening Keynote: Workforce Development</b> Joe Rollins, Workforce Development Director - NWA Council
10:40 - 11:00 AM	Break
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Connecting Core Competencies, Digital Credentials, and Employer Assessments to Validate Student Career Readiness Ron Orick, University Recruiting Consultant - Ron Orick Consulting, LLC
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch Roundtables Ballroom
1:00 - 2:00 PM	To Internships (Infinity) and Beyond! Kylia Stewart, Employer Relations Coordinator - Arkansas Tech University
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Interview Event Innovations Margot Purdy, Career Events & Co-op Coordinator - University of Arkansas
3:15 - 4:30 PM	Group Activity - optional Tanager Room or Outdoors
5:00 - 6:30 PM	Dinner & Awards Ceremony Ballroom
7:00 PM	80's Night Party #BacktoAACE Tanager Room

#### Friday, May 20th

7:00 - 9:30 AM	Breakfast Buffet Open Skycrest Restaurant	
9:30 - 10:30 AM	Business Meeting Ballroom	
10:30 - 11:30 AM	Closing Keynote: 2022 DEI Employer Trends Jackie Lawrence, Director	
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Wrap Up	

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JOE ROLLINS

Workforce Development Director, Northwest Arkansas Council

## **Workforce Development**

Joe Rollins is the workforce development director of the Northwest Arkansas Council where he serves as a liaison between students, educators and business leaders to develop and strengthen the region's education programs so that students get needed training for area jobs and employers have a skilled workforce.

Rollins graduated with a business education degree in 2004, earning a master's in educational administration in 2006 and a doctorate in 2018, all from the University of Arkansas. He holds an educational specialist degree from Harding University.

Rollins comes from a long line of educators and started out teaching business in Springdale schools in 2004, then became Springdale High School's assistant principal in 2010. In 2015, he became founding principal of Don Tyson School of Innovation. In 2018, Rollins joined the Northwest Arkansas Council with a motivation to help graduates earn jobs using skills they're taught in school. To bridge the gap between students and employers, Rollins focuses on pipeline development strategies, facilitating apprenticeships, internships and career training programs, and invites employers to join the design process.

Active on his family's farm, Rollins is a Rodeo of the Ozarks board member.

## To Internships (Infinity) & Beyond!

Kylia Stewart is an Employer Relations Coordinator at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, AR. She has served in her current role for over three years. Her other accomplishments include:

•11 years serving with the Russellville Area Chamber as a Red Coat Ambassador with Lifetime Member status & Three Time Recipient of the Red Coat of the Year Award

•Served twice on the Russellville Area Chamber Board of Directors

•Multiple years as the Russellville Area •Chamber of Commerce Program and Events Committee Chair

•Two Time Leadership Russellville •Graduate with a One Time Recipient of the Outstanding Leadership Award

Associates in Criminal Justice

•Bachelor of Professional Studies in Organizational Leadership in progress

•Over 20 years experience in Administration

•Over 11 years experience in Sales

KYLIA STEWART

Employer Relations Coordinator, Arkansas Tech University

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## **Connecting Core Competencies, Digital Credentials**

<u>Credentials, & Employer</u> <u>Assessments to Validate</u> <u>Student Career</u> <u>Readiness</u>



**<u>RON ORICK</u>** University Recruiting Consultant, Ron Orick Consulting, LLC Ron is currently self-employed as an Educational Consultant for his business, Ron Orick Consulting LLC, where he assists organizations with identifying top talent from regional universities. He also serves as a Career and Workforce Developer on a part-time basis for the Boy & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis, where is works with the St. Louis Internship Program (SLIP).

Prior to moving to St. Louis, Ron served as the Executive Director of the Career Services Office and the Doug and Kathy Babb Center for Student Professional Development at the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith from March 1999 until his retirement in July 2021.

As the Executive Director of the Career Service Office, Ron assisted students in professional development, career preparation and pursuit of employment opportunities through partnerships developed with partner organizations. Before his employment at UAFS, he was employed at ABF Freight System, Inc. (ArcBest Corporation), from 1980-1999, where he held positions in human resources, training and development, field management, and sales.

Ron's educational background includes a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration from Lyon College (formerly Arkansas College) in Batesville, Arkansas and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Ron has been a member of AACE for over 20 years, where he served in several roles including President. Other organizational involvement includes NACE, Western Arkansas Human Resource Association, Boys & Girls Clubs, Fort Smith Regional Chamber of Commerce, Mercy Hospital Board of Advisors, and the Arkansas Game & Fish Scholarship Committee

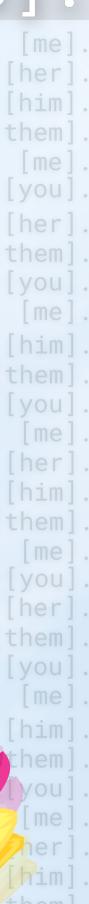
#### We want to hear from you!



After each session, please complete a brief survey.

Scan the QR code or visit:

https://tinyurl.com/ 2p8cyp54



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## MARGOT PURDY

Career Events & Co-Op Coordinator, University of Arkansas College of Engineering

## **Interview Event Innovations**

As the Career Events and Co-Op Coordinator for the University of Arkansas College of Engineering, Margot advises and assist students with the cooperative education course and manages the daily operations of the Co-op Program. She helps design, execute, and lead workshops and career events that incorporate the NACE career competencies and develop student career readiness skills. Creating and preparing event communications and marketing materials; including digital, email, and social media marketing to increase student engagement. Presentations to registered student organizations, classes, and orientations to promote awareness and benefits of the cooperative education course, career events, and career services.

Margot is grounded in experience coordinating 15+ events/year. She is passionate about assisting undergraduate and graduate students with career exploration opportunities, resume reviews, cover letter reviews, mock interviews, and searching for internships/co-ops.

## 2022 DEI Employer Trends

Jackie is an alumna of the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas where she received both her BA and MA in English. She began with J.B. Hunt in 2012 and has spent the entirety of her career in various different Human Resources functions including Driver Personnel, Talent Acquisition, Business HR, Job Architecture, Talent Optimization, and now Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Jackie currently serves as the Director of Inclusion Strategy and is passionate about creating a workplace where all people feel welcomed, valued, respected, safe, and heard. In her spare time, you can catch up with her at one of the hunger-fighting-nonprofits at which she serves, quietly fishing in her kayak, or loudly supporting women's athletics, particularly her beloved Hogs.

## JACKIE LAWRENCE

Director, Inclusion Strategy, J.B. Hunt



Thank you,



**Robert Ellis** President



**Allison Nicholas Employer Relations** 



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**Tiffany Johnson** Past-President



**Dylan Tedder** Treasurer



**Dr. Angela Williams** Secretary



Robyn Williams her Historian/Content Manager



**Brittany Straw** Student Relations & Recruitment Director

RD



Madelyn Jones 4-Year College/University Rep

DIRECT



Riley Cook 2-Year College Director

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