

SARAH A. DEAL

Curriculum Vitae

June 5, 2025

CURRENT POSITION

2024 – Present Director of Research, Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research, North Carolina State University

EDUCATION

Ph.D. North Carolina State University, Educational Leadership, Policy, and Human Development, 2020

M.A. The Ohio State University, Higher Education and Student Affairs, 2009

B.A. University at Buffalo, the State University of New York, Communication, 2007

PUBLICATIONS

Nichols, H., & Deal, S. (2025). Applied Associate of Science Degrees: Pathways for Workforce and Transfer. Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research. Raleigh, NC

Yilmaz, E., Deal, S.A., Newhouse, K.N.S., Jaeger, A.J. (2024). PACE Climate Survey for Community Colleges: 2019-2024 Data Trends. Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research. Raleigh, NC.

Jones, C., Nichols, H., & Deal, S. (2024). Building Momentum Toward Degree Attainment through Contextualized English Courses. Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research. Raleigh, NC.

King, J., Nichols, H., & Deal, S. (2024). Responding to Community Needs through “Be Great in 8:” A Case Study for Communities of Practice. Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research. Raleigh, NC.

Colclough, M.N. & Deal, S.A. (2024). Data Informed Community College Teaching and Learning Hubs in North Carolina. In V. Baker, A.L. Terosky, L.G. Lunsford (Eds.), *A Toolkit for Mid-Career Academics: Cultivating Career Advancement*. Routledge.

Worsham, R., Whatley, M., Crain, A., Deal, S.A., & Skinner, B. (2024). Assessing the Role of Spatial Inequality in Transfer Student Success. *Community College Review*.

Lubera, A., Deal, S.A., & Price, D.V. (2023). Evidence of Scale for a Statewide Teaching and Learning Model. DVP-PRAXIS LTD. Indianapolis, IN.

Nachman, B.R., Maldonado, L.G, Hartman, C., & Deal, S.A. (2023) How Career Coaches Employed by Community Colleges Shape Students’ Postsecondary and Professional Pathways in North Carolina Public High Schools, *Community College Journal of Research and*

Practice, DOI: 10.1080/10668926.2023.2238646

Deal, S.A. & Price, D.V. (2023). Promising Evidence on Professional Learning in North Carolina: Early Findings from Teaching and Learning Hubs. DVP-PRAXIS LTD. Indianapolis, IN.

Deal, S.A. & Valentine, J.L. (2023). Addressing food insecurity on campus: An implementation guide for Arkansas community colleges. DVP-PRAXIS LTD. Indianapolis, IN.

Valentine, J.L. & Deal, S.A. (2023). Addressing food insecurity on campus: Connecting students with sustained basic needs supports to improve academic outcomes. DVP-PRAXIS LTD. Indianapolis, IN.

Deal, S.A., Valentine, J.L., Price, D.V. (2023). The Reach of the North Carolina Teaching and Learning Hubs: An Inaugural Year Report. DVP-PRAXIS LTD. Indianapolis, IN.

Deal, S.A. & Price, D.V. (2022). Creating seamless pathways for military service members: A Scaling Guide. DVP-PRAXIS LTD: Indianapolis, IN.

Deal, S.A., Clay, J., Curtis, D., Gritts, J., Johnson, K., Valentine, J.L., & Price, D.V. (2022). Serving Native Students with Holistic Student Supports: How Tribal Colleges and Universities Embed a Community Feeling into Academic Culture. DVP-PRAXIS LTD: Indianapolis, IN.

Deal, S. A. (2021). The Effect of the Career and Technical Education Pathway on Community College Attainment: An Instrumental Variables Approach. Research Brief for the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research, North Carolina State University.

Schnorenberg, P., Norcross, G.A.B., Maldonado, L.G., Harris, P., DeSantis, A.L., & Deal, S.A. (2021). *Supporting the College and Career Transition from High School to Beyond During Times of Uncertainty: Viewpoints from College and Career Access Programs*. Raleigh, NC: Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research.

Deal, S. A., Valentine, J. L., Price, D., Goldrick-Rab, S., & Looker, E. (2020). *Cross-sectoral benefits hubs: An innovative approach to supporting college students' basic needs*. The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice. Retrieved from https://hope4college.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/UWKC_BenefitsHubReport_FINAL_12.01.2020.pdf

Deal, S.A. (2020). Perspective | Career and College Promise: A Premier College Access Program with Room for Growth. EdNC. Retrieved from https://www.ednc.org/perspective-career-and-college-promise-a-premier-college-access-program-with-room-for-growth/?fbclid=IwAR3Xg0jBQ3xExOlP51_231xtsDR5hOKj3N-p7suf-9OwfM4SW8adEsxVUBM

Deal, S. A. (2020). College and Career Promise Leading to Transfer Outcomes: A Regression Discontinuity Analysis. Research Brief for the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research, North Carolina State University.

Deal, S. A. (2020). The Relationship Between Participation in Career and College Promise and Community College Attainment. Research Brief for the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research, North Carolina State University.

Schnorenberg, P., Norcross, G.A.B., Maldonado, L.G., Harris, P., DeSantis, A.L., & Deal S.A., (2020).

Supporting the College and Career Transition from High School to Beyond During Times of Uncertainty: Viewpoints from College and Career Access Programs. Raleigh, NC: Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research.

Deal, S. A. (2020). The Promise of Free College: Three Essays on Dual Enrollment in North Carolina. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC.

Deal, S. A., Valentine, J. L., & Price, D. V. (2020). Lessons About the Benefits Hub as a Model to Support Community College Students' Basic Needs. DVP-PRAXIS LTD. Indianapolis.

Deal, S. A. & Price, D. V. (2020). Guided Pathways Consulting Report. Provided to Laramie Community College. DVP-PRAXIS LTD. Indianapolis.

Deal, S. A. (2020, 2019). North Carolina Guided Pathways Scale of Adoption Assessment. Provided to the North Carolina Community College System Office.

Deal, S. A. (2018, 2017, 2016). First in the World Annual Report: Evaluating Proactive Student Success Coaching on Student Outcomes. Provided to the Department of Education.

AWARDS

Dissertation of the Year Award, Honorable Mention,
Council for the Study of Higher Education, 2021

Edgar J. and Ethel B. Boone Adult and Community College Leadership Award, North Carolina State University, 2016

GRANT AWARDS AND CONTRACTS

2025-2031	Laura and John Arnold Foundation (LJAF), <i>Boost: A North Carolina Impact and Replication Study</i> . (Grant co-author, Co-PI)
-----------	---

2025-2027	William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust, <i>Statewide Professional Learning for Student and Faculty Success</i> . (Grant author, Co-PI)
-----------	--

2024-2027	Department of Education Rural Postsecondary Education and Economic Development, <i>Foothills Forward</i> . (Project Lead)
-----------	---

2022-2032	John M. Belk Endowment, <i>Evaluation of the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research</i> . (Grant co-author, Project Lead)
-----------	--

2023-2027	Ascendium Education Group, <i>North Carolina Rural College Leaders Project</i> . (Grant co-author, Project co-lead)
-----------	---

2023-2027	Department of Education Title III, <i>Central Carolina Community College Navigate</i> . (Project Lead)
-----------	--

2021 – 2024	Lumina Foundation, <i>Racial Equity for Adult Credentials in Higher Education</i> . (former Project Lead)
2021 – 2022	Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research, <i>North Carolina Communities for Teaching and Learning</i> . (Grant co-author, Project Lead)
2021	Community College Research Center, <i>Guided Pathways Summer Institute for Rural Community Colleges</i> . (Grant co-author, Project Lead)
2020 – 2022	Lumina Foundation and Ascendium Education Group, <i>Military Credentialing Advancement Initiative</i> . (Grant co-author, Project Lead)
2020 – 2022	ECMC Foundation, <i>Basic Needs for Community College Completion in Arkansas</i> . (Grant co-author, Project Lead)
2019 – 2022	Achieving the Dream, <i>Evaluation of Holistic Student Supports at Tribal Colleges and Universities</i> . (Project Lead)
2020	American Association of Community Colleges, <i>Guided Pathways Consulting for Laramie Community College</i> (Project Lead)
2019 – 2020	Arnold Ventures, <i>Feasibility Study of United Way of King County's Benefits Hub Model, Phase I of a two-phase study in partnership with the Hope Center for Community, College, and Justice</i> . (Project Lead)
2018 – 2020	Jobs for the Future, <i>Guided Pathways Coaching for North Carolina</i> . (Grant co-author, former Project Lead)
2018 – 2020	Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, <i>Reinforced Instruction for Student Excellence (RISE) Co-requisite Remediation</i> . (Grant co-author, former Project Lead)
2015 – 2020	United States Department of Education First in the World Grant, <i>Impact of Student Success Coaching on Student Outcomes-10 North Carolina Community College Randomized Controlled Trial</i> . (Project Director)
2014 – 2015	United States Department of Education Title III Grant, <i>Proactive Student Success Coaching</i> . (Project Director)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Affiliate

Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research, North Carolina State University

June 2020-June 2024

Managing Director

DVP-PRAXIS LTD

January 2024 – June 2024

Senior Researcher

DVP-PRAXIS LTD

April 2019 – December 2023

Project Director, Carolina Works: A First in the Word Grant

Central Carolina Community College

October 2015 – March 2020

Associate Director for Special Projects

North Carolina Student Success Center, North Carolina Community College System Office

July 2018 – March 2020

Director of College Success and Student Transitions, ACA Department Chair

Central Carolina Community College

June 2014 – October 2015

Coordinator for First Year Experience

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

April 2013 - June 2014

Community Director

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

June 2009 - March 2013

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2025	Oregon State House of Representatives
2025	North Carolina Joint Administrators Conference
2025	Council for the Study of Community Colleges
2025	Achieving the Dream Annual Conference
2024	North Carolina Community College System Conference
2024	Hunt Institute Policy Fellows
2024	North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges
2024	Council for the Study of Community Colleges
2024	Achieving the Dream Annual Conference
2024	American Association of Colleges and Universities
2023	North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges
2023	Council for the Study of Community Colleges
2023	Achieving the Dream Annual Conference
2023	Council of College and Military Educators
2022	Competency Based Education Exchange
2022	North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges
2022	North Carolina Community College System Conference
2021	Dual Enrollment Conference
2019	Jobs for the Future Postsecondary State Network Meeting

2019	Performance Partnership Summit, North Carolina Community College System
2018	Achieving the Dream Annual Conference
2017	American Association of Community Colleges

PEER REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Deal, S.A. & Jaeger, A.J. (2025). Innovative Approaches for Connecting Community College Research and Practice. Council for the Study of Community Colleges, Detroit, MI.

Nichols, H.N. & Deal, S.A. (2025). Leading Innovation at Rural Community Colleges. Council for the Study of Community Colleges, Detroit, MI.

Deal, S.A., Clay, J., Gritts, J., Johnson, K. (2021). Participatory Mixed-Methods Approaches as Critical Components of Equity-focused Research Designs. Paper prepared for the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Virtual.

Deal, S.A. & Jaeger, A.J. (2021). Understanding the Effects of North Carolina's Free Dual Enrollment Program: An Instrumental Variables Approach. Paper prepared for the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Virtual.

Worsham, R., Whatley, M., Crain, A., Deal, S.A., & Skinner, B. (2020). Assessing the Role of Spatial Inequality in Transfer Student Success. Paper prepared for the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Virtual.

Deal, S. A., DeSantis, A., Johnson, K., & Jaeger, A. J. (2019). How Co-requisite Remediation is Spurring Student Momentum in North Carolina through RISE. Paper prepared for the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Portland, OR.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)
 Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)
 American Educational Research Association (AERA), Division J
 Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)

REVIEWER

Community College Review 2023 -- Present
 Research in Higher Education, 2020 – Present
 Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis 2023 – Present