BIG QUESTIONS

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"What does the rise of entrepreneurship and career development on campuses say about the future of liberal arts?"

with

Kate Ryan Reiling '00, entrepreneur in residence, and Mindy Deardurff, dean of the Career Development Center San Francisco

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We hope you enjoy this video and encourage you to dig deeper and consider the following questions as a jump start for a great conversation with friends or fellow alumni!

Let us know about your gatherings and thoughts by posting to social media using #heymac or emailing the Alumni Engagement office at alumnioffice@macalester.edu.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Both Mindy and Kate spoke how their work seeks to empower and give tools to students in their journeys, no matter how traditional or untraditional those goals may be. What were the tools you took from your Macalester education that you use in your work and lives today?
- 2) Kate spoke about students in her classes sharing a "feeling of curiosity and urgency to want to solve problems" across disciplines. How does this compare to your own definition of entrepreneurship? In what ways does this complement or challenge the idea of a liberal arts education?
- 3) President Rosenberg spoke about the concept of privilege as related to career development and entrepreneurship. What are your thoughts on having these programs as part of the student development process? How do you think your own experience would have been different if these programs were part of the curriculum and how might you as a Macalester community member support these programs?
- 4) In a constantly evolving world, Mindy talked about the challenges of preparing students for careers in fields that might not exist at this time. What career path did you take after Macalester? Was it linear or more circuitous? Are there lessons or advice you would give current students as they prepare for life after Macalester?

Meet Our Speakers



Kate Ryan Reiling '00 was named Macalester's inaugural entrepreneur in residence in 2015 and is responsible for the strategic direction of entrepreneurial programs within the Macalester community. In this role, Kate leverages her 20 years of experience scaling early stage ventures and strategic leadership positions in both the public and private sectors. She creates and supports processes that build innovative solutions to solve problems that matter. Kate received her master's of business administration from The Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth University where she was recipient of the Arnold F. Adams, Jr. Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship.



Mindy Deardurff serves as the dean of the Career Development Center (CDC), overseeing the strategy and vision for the CDC and co-leading the Olin-Rice "Hub," a partnership between student and academic affairs. Prior to joining Macalester, Mindy served as the director of the Undergraduate Business Career Center at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management. She has worked in higher education for 15 years in both career development and recruitment and admissions and has taught courses in career skills and business communications. She holds a master's degree in human resources and industrial relations from the University of Minnesota. In 2013, Mindy was named as one of Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's 40 Under 40.

Additional Resources

Looking to dig deeper? Check out the following resources suggested by Kate Ryan Reiling '00 and Mindy Deardurff!

Books

A Practical Education: Why Liberal Arts Majors Make Great Employees by Randall Stross Aspiring Adults Adrift: Tentative Transitions of College Graduates by Richard Arum and Josipa Roska Four-Dimensional Education: The Competencies Learners Need to Succeed by Charles Fadel, Bernie Trilling, and Maya Bialik

In Defense of a Liberal Education by Fareed Zakaria

You Can Do Anything: The Surprising Power of a "Useless" Liberal Arts Education by George Anders

Articles

Field, Kelly. "How Colleges Help Students Find Purpose in Their Work" The Chronicle of Higher Education. Sept. 2, 2018

Hannon, Kerry. "More Colleges are Playing the Long Game" New York Times. Nov 2, 2018 Williams, Joan, Multhaup, Marina, and Mihaylo, Sky. "Why Companies Should add Class to Their Diversity Discussions" Harvard Business Review. Sept. 5, 2018

Online Resources

Baines, AnneMarie and DeBarger, Angela Haydel. "What is Rigorous Project-Based Learning?". Lucasresearch.org/pbl