

Dear Potential Partner:

George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government and the College of Education and Human Development cordially invite you to the **Strengthening the Pipeline from School to Work: Highlighting Best Practices in Private Sector and School Partnerships Symposium on March 8, 2018**. The symposium will be held at George Mason University, Founders Hall, Auditorium and Multipurpose Room, 3351 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22201 from 9:30 am – 2:30 pm. Our keynote speaker **Former United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan** will highlight the event.

More than ever before, the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy requires students who are prepared to enter the workforce with key skills and abilities, as well as content knowledge. Recognizing the need for better work readiness, the Virginia Board of Education is redesigning school graduation requirements to put greater emphasis on those skills and on career exploration. *Starting with the graduating class of 2022, every Virginia high school student must be offered opportunities for internships, externships or other work-based learning experiences, and middle school students will be required to have a career investigation course or its equivalent.* Successfully implementing these changes will require the Commonwealth's schools to effectively collaborate with the business community.

Virginia's educators must prepare now to meet this future mandate, and can do so by learning from existing, successful private sector partnerships. This symposium will introduce participants to leading private sector partnerships from across the nation that effectively create meaningful opportunities for students to explore careers and gain valuable work-based learning experiences. It will also introduce private sector leaders to innovative new methods for partnering with schools to develop their future workforce. This symposium will bring together more than 250 of the area's top education and business leaders for the scholarly exchange of education policy research, best practices, and networking. It will foster relationships, problem-solving, and partnerships that impact the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Making the symposium a success depends on the generous support of private donations. Supporters and sponsors play an integral role in ensuring an enriching and inspiring experience for the hundreds of attendees! **Your generosity not only**

**enhances the participant experience but also will contribute to important research in the field of workforce education through documentation of the Symposium's lessons.**

We are pleased to offer the following sponsorship opportunities:

**Platinum: \$10,000 Title Sponsor**

- Invitation to private breakfast with symposium program participants preceding symposium (8 guests)
- Mailing list of conference attendees
- Organization's materials displayed at breakfast, luncheon, and reception
- Full-page advertisement in the symposium program (inside front cover)
- Organization's logo printed in symposium program
- Your organization's link on the symposium event webpage
- Reserved table at luncheon
- Exhibitor table
- Formal recognition at key events
- Invitation to the Dean's Society Reception
- Inclusion in the Schar School of Policy and Government Honor Roll of Donors

**Gold: \$5,000 Luncheon Sponsor**

- Invitation to private breakfast with symposium program participants preceding symposium (2 guests)
- Mailing list of conference attendees
- Organization's materials displayed at luncheon
- Full-page advertisement in the symposium program (inside back cover)
- Organization's logo printed in symposium program
- Your organization's link on the symposium event webpage
- 6 reserved seats at luncheon
- Exhibitor table
- Formal recognition at key events
- Invitation to the Dean's Society Reception
- Inclusion in the Schar School of Policy and Government Honor Roll of Donors

**Silver: \$2,500 Symposium Sponsor**

- Full-page advertisement in the symposium program
- Organization's logo printed in symposium program
- Your organization's link on the symposium event webpage
- 4 reserved seats at luncheon
- Exhibitor table
- Formal recognition at key events
- Invitation to the Dean's Society Reception
- Inclusion in the Schar School of Policy and Government Honor Roll of Donors

**Bronze: \$1,000 Program Sponsor**

- Full-page, advertisement in the symposium program (back cover)
- Organization's logo printed in symposium program
- Your organization's link on the symposium event webpage
- 2 reserved seats at luncheon
- Exhibitor table
- Formal recognition at key events
- Inclusion in the Schar School of Policy and Government Honor Roll of Donors

We value your support and hope that you will consider making a gift to George Mason University. If writing a check, please make it payable to "George Mason University Foundation" with "Schar Workforce Education Symposium" in the memo line. All checks should be mailed to:

Mr. Zavin R. Smith  
Office of Development & Alumni Relations  
George Mason University, Schar School of Policy and Government  
3351 Fairfax Drive, MS 3B1  
Arlington, VA 22201

Please contact me at [aholton2@gmu.edu](mailto:aholton2@gmu.edu) or Zavin R. Smith, Director of Development at [zsmith@gmu.edu](mailto:zsmith@gmu.edu) should you have any questions or need an invoice for processing.

On behalf of Schar School of Policy and Government and College of Education and Human Development, thank you for your anticipated donation and your continued support. **We hope that you will be able to attend and experience firsthand "Strengthening the Pipeline from School to Work".**

Sincerely,

Anne Holton  
Visiting Professor, Public Policy and Education  
Senior Fellow, Center for Education Policy and Evaluation