

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from the [Center for Applied Research in Postsecondary Education \(CARPE\)](#). We hope you were able to relax and reset this holiday break and are looking forward to 2023! We are excited to continue our work supporting postsecondary education and sharing new publications, events, and other resources this new year.

**Publication: [College Completion Network Study Findings](#)**

The [College Completion Network](#), funded by the Institute of Education Sciences and led by AIR, recently published a [briefing book](#) with high-level summaries of the approaches and findings of the network's studies. These studies sought to refine and evaluate interventions for increasing the number of students who earn degrees at open- and broad-access institutions with the goal of providing college leaders and policymakers with reliable evidence on promising strategies.

**Publication: [Scaling Competencies as the Currency of Learning and Equitable Opportunity](#)**

AIR supported the Competency-Based Education Network in developing an action agenda for accelerating the responsible adoption of competency-based education programs in postsecondary education, with a focus on equity. AIR's [Kelle Parsons](#) and Jessica Mason co-led a workgroup that articulated the research agenda priorities, highlighting key research topics and areas crucial to advancing the competency-based education (CBE) field. This effort builds on AIR's [longstanding work in postsecondary CBE](#).

**Publication Contribution: [Confucius Institutes at U.S. Institutions of Higher Education](#)**

An AIR team led by Korantema Kaleem contributed to a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report on Confucius Institutes (CIs), Chinese government-funded language and culture centers at U.S. institutions of higher education. The AIR report, *Information-Gathering Sessions With U.S. Colleges and Universities That Are Current or Former Hosts of Confucius Institutes*, was included as an appendix and presents findings and recommendations for waiver criteria to allow the continued presence of CIs on U.S. university campuses that also receive U.S. Department of Defense funding.

**Book Chapter: [Beyond Title IX—Pursuing Full Participation Through Plan, Do, Study, Act \(PDSA\)](#)**

As many work to make STEM career pipelines more inclusive, the proportion of students and faculty in STEM who experience gender-based discrimination remains high. This recent book chapter from AIR's Jennifer Poole is intended to help leaders and stakeholders evolve approaches to addressing gender-based discrimination in ways that also support full participation for campus community members.

**Infographic: [Addressing Barriers to Women's Entry and Retention in High-Wage, High-Demand Occupations](#)**

This new AIR infographic, coauthored by AIR experts [Neha Nanda](#) and Carolyn Corea, presents promising strategies for addressing barriers to both entry and retention for women in pursuing high-wage, high-demand occupations that often are male-dominated. It suggests strategies that policymakers and practitioners can use to address inequities in access to higher education and improve mobility among underserved women.

**Study and Archived Webinar Materials: [An Examination of the Costs of Texas Community Colleges](#)**

REL Southwest, operated by AIR, recently released a [study](#) to help the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board better understand the extent to which Texas community colleges have adequate funding for reaching desired levels of student success. REL Southwest also hosted a [webinar](#) presenting the study findings and concluded with an expert's panel discussion.

**Stay in touch and spread the word to others:**

- Forward this newsletter to your partners and colleagues.
- Check out and share our website and its resources for research and practice: [carpe.air.org](http://carpe.air.org).
- Follow us using [#AIRCARPE](#) and [@AIRInforms](#).

Sincerely,  
Alexandria



**Alexandria Walton Radford, PhD**  
Director  
Center for Applied Research in Postsecondary Education (CARPE)  
American Institutes for Research

Copyright © 2023 American Institutes for Research®. All rights reserved



Established in 1946, the American Institutes for Research® (AIR®) is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization that conducts behavioral and social science research and delivers technical assistance both domestically and internationally in the areas of education, health, and the workforce. AIR's work is driven by its mission to generate and use rigorous evidence that contributes to a better, more equitable world. With headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, AIR has offices across the U.S. and abroad. For more information, visit [AIR.ORG](http://AIR.ORG).