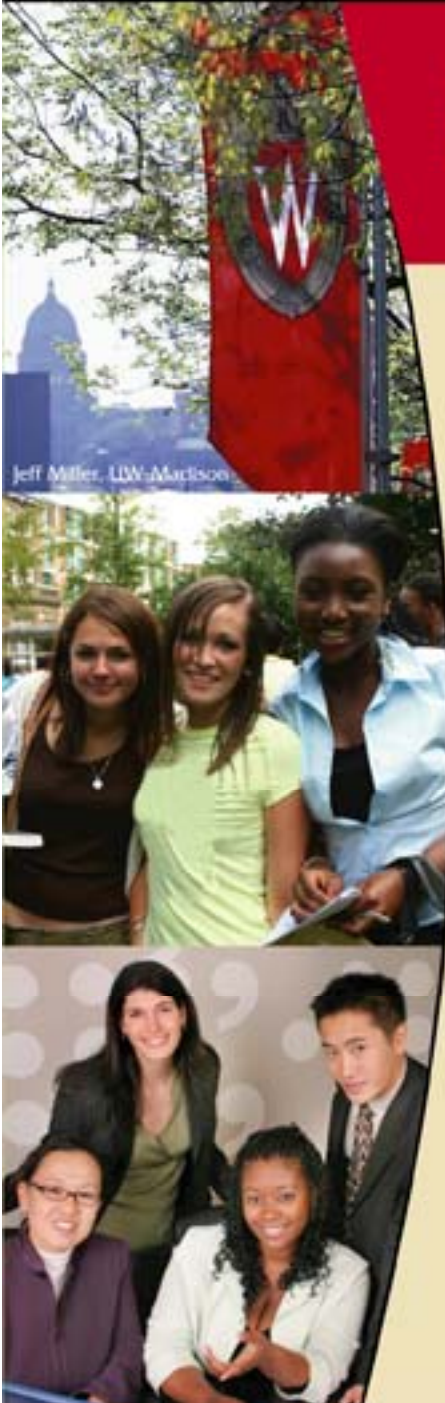


THE CENTER ON
EDUCATION AND WORK

*Iowa Education
Policy Discussion:
STEM-CTE Briefing*

Allen Phelps



CEW



THE CENTER ON
EDUCATION AND WORK
University of Wisconsin-Madison

21st Century Workforce and Skills

Research Observations:

- Defining and assessing 21st century skills is challenging
- States' 16 career cluster initiative is an emerging framework for K-12 , HPSE, and economic development

<http://www.careerclusters.org/index.php>

Policy Considerations and Strategies:

- Align academic and CTE standards across K-16 reforms with regional Iowa workforce development priorities
- Monitor IL--using the ACT and Work Keys state assessments
- With the limited resources available experiment with assessments of complex 21st century skills



THE CENTER ON
EDUCATION AND WORK
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Advancing Postsecondary Opportunities for High School Students

Research Observations:

- Dual credit in high school increases associate degree completion for all students (Bailey, FVTC)
- PLTW (Engineering and Biomedical Science) shows promise at the school level for raising academic achievement (Phelps, Nathan, et. Al)
- Teaching math in the CTE context raises math scores (Stone)

Policy Considerations and Strategies:

- Focus professional development initiatives on embedded or enhanced academics in CTE
- Expand high school graduation requirements to include dual credit completion and attainment





THE CENTER ON
EDUCATION AND WORK
University of Wisconsin-Madison