

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Workshop on
Approaches to the Development of Character

July 26 and 27, 2016
National Academy of Sciences Building, Lecture Room
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC, 20418
Agenda

Tuesday, July 26

8:30 – 9:00 Introductory Remarks and Setting the Stage

- Welcome and introductions from the National Academies—Alix Beatty
- Welcome, Introductions, and Goals for the Workshop—Deborah Vandell, planning committee chair
- Welcome from workshop sponsor S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation— Susan Harvey, Education Director
- Setting the stage—Stephanie Jones
- Ways to use the workshop—Jennifer Brown Urban

Session 1: What is Character? Moving Beyond Definitional Differences

Moderators: Richard Lerner, Stephanie Jones

9:00 – 9:45 Paper 1: What is Character? Overview of the Research
Larry Nucci, University of California, Berkeley [\[PRESENTATION\]](#)

9:45 – 10:30 Reflections and Open Discussion

- Perspectives from research on personality—Robert McGrath, Fairleigh Dickinson [\[PRESENTATION\]](#)
- Influences on the development of character—Kristina Schmid Callina, Tufts University [\[PRESENTATION\]](#)
- Importance of culture and context—Carola Suárez-Orozco, University of California, Los Angeles [\[PRESENTATION\]](#)

10:30 – 10:45 Break

Session II: What Works in Developing Character?

Moderators: Lucy Friedman, Catherine Bradshaw,

10:45 – 11:30 Paper 2: Effective Features and Practices that Support Character Development

Marvin Berkowitz, University of Missouri, St. Louis [[PRESENTATION](#)]

11:30 – 12:10 Reflections and Open Discussion

- Reed Larson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign [[PRESENTATION](#)]
- Camille Farrington, University of Chicago [[PRESENTATION](#)]
- Karen Pittman, Forum for Youth Investment

12:10 – 12:15 Introduction of First Break-Out Activity

Jennifer Brown Urban

12:15 - 1:15 Lunch

1:15 – 2:15 Break-out Group Activity

Self-assessment of program objectives and activities, review of research findings.

[Break on the way back to full session]

Session III: Investing in Implementation and Evaluation

Moderators: Catherine Bradshaw, Ellen Gannett

2:15 – 3:15 Paper 3: What you HAVE to know about program implementation
Joseph Durlak, Loyola, Chicago [[PRESENTATION](#)]

Reflections and Open Discussion

- Mike Surbaugh, Boy Scouts of America
- Donald Floyd, National 4-H Council (retired)

3:15 – 4:15 Paper 4: Advancing Evaluation of Character Building Programs

William Trochim, Cornell University, and Jennifer Urban
[\[PRESENTATION\]](#)

Reflections and Open Discussion

- Mike Surbaugh, Boy Scouts of America
- Donald Floyd, National 4-H Council (retired)

4:15 - 4:30

Reflections on the Day

Moderator: Deborah Vandell

Committee comments and open discussion

4:35

Reception for Workshop Participants

Wednesday, July 27

8:45 – 9:00 Goals for the Day

Deborah Vandell

Session III (continued): Investing in Implementation and Evaluation (continued)

Moderators: Jennifer Brown Urban, Ellen Gannett

9:00 – 9:45 Paper 5: Considerations in Developing a High-Quality Staff
Deborah Moroney, American Institute for Research [[PRESENTATION](#)]

10:15 – 10:55 Reflections and Open Discussion

- Developing supportive relationships—Noelle Hurd, University of Virginia
[\[PRESENTATION\]](#)
- Critical role of culture and context—Rob Jagers, University of Michigan
[\[PRESENTATION\]](#)
- Experience with a highly mobile population—Mary Keller, Military Child Education Coalition [\[PRESENTATION\]](#)

10:55 – 11:00 Introduction of Second Break-Out Activity
Jennifer Brown Urban

11:00 – 11:15 Break

11:15 – 12:00 Break-out Group Activity

Ideas for strengthening implementation of practices, strategies, evaluation

12:15-1:00 Lunch

Session IV: Measuring Character

Moderator: Stephanie Jones, Richard Lerner

1:00 – 1:45 Paper 6—Methodological Issues
Noel Card, University of Connecticut [[PRESENTATION](#)]

1:45 – 2:30 Reflections and Open Discussion

- Clark McKown, Rush University Medical Center
- Nancy Deutsch, University of Virginia [[PRESENTATION](#)]

2:30 – 2:45 Break

2:45 – 4:00 Panel Discussion of Themes from the Workshop and Self-Study Discussions

Moderators: Lucy Friedman, Richard Lerner

Representatives from the groups report on their discussions and findings and offer their conclusions from the workshop with respect to:

- What is Character?
- What Works in Developing Character?
- Investing in Implementation and Evaluation

Open Discussion

4:00 – 4:30 Closing Thoughts

Moderator: Deborah Vandell
Committee Members, open discussion

4:30 Adjourn