



Belk Center
for Community College
Leadership and Research



2020 Postsecondary Career and Technical Education Research Fellow

Sponsored by the ECMC Foundation

Mikko Silliman

Doctoral Research Fellow, Harvard University

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Bio. Mikko Silliman is a PhD student in Education Policy & Program Evaluation at the Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. His research uses large-scale administrative data and (quasi/)experimental methods to shed light on issues at the intersection of education policy and labor economics. He is particularly interested in the role of career and technical education in providing people skills that keep up with technological change and the shifting skill requirements of jobs. Prior to starting his doctoral studies, he conducted research at the VATT Institute for Economic Research and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Mikko holds degrees from Tufts University (BA, Economics and Philosophy) and the University of Helsinki (MSSc Social and Public Policy) and was a visiting student at the University of Oxford (Philosophy, Politics, and Economics).

Project. Mikko will study the consequences of a rapid change in secondary CTE delivery in Rhode Island. To do this, he will link data on this policy-change with high-quality administrative data on educational and labor-market outcomes for the population of Rhode Island. Together, the data and setting stand to offer novel insights to the links between education and work – particularly on the layering of exposure to CTE in secondary education, consequent CTE enrollment behavior in post-secondary education, and labor-market outcomes.



Research Sponsor: David Deming, Ph.D.
Director, Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy
Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
Professor of Education and Economics, Harvard Graduate School of Education

The Program

Fellows will be part of a community that participates in two national research training institutes, research methods webinars, works with CTE research mentors, and conducts postsecondary CTE research.

“We have designed this CTE Fellows program to provide scholars with the unique opportunity to be part of a community and a formal curriculum to develop their research skills while working toward improving the field of CTE.”

— James Bartlett II, Ph.D.

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