

SideBar: Optimism in Action Welcomes Kathleen deLaski, CEO of the Education Design Lab

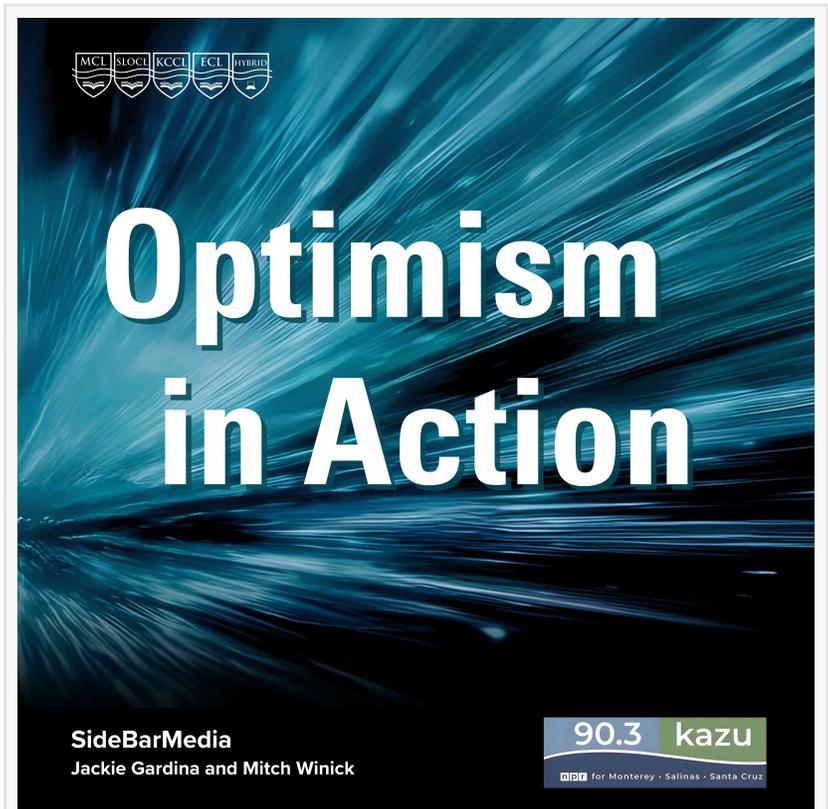
Reimagining Higher Education towards the future of Work

MONTEREY, CA, UNITED STATES,
December 15, 2025 /

[EINPresswire.com/](https://www.einpresswire.com/) -- [SideBar: Optimism in Action](#) podcast, sponsored by [KAZU/NPR 90.3](#) and [Monterey College of Law](#), welcomes Kathleen deLaski, considered to be at the forefront of designing higher education for the 21st century. She founded Education Design Lab to help colleges begin the journey to reimagine higher education toward the future of work and she manages the deLaski Family Foundation, a 25-year grant maker in education reform. In her book, *Who Needs College Anymore: Imagining a Future Where Degrees Won't Matter*, Kathleen describes a multiple educational pathways through the learners lifecycle to help them find success.

The Education Design Lab has helped more than 1,200 colleges, organizations, and economic regions design shorter, more affordable pathways for learners to achieve their economic goals.

Stepping down after a decade as CEO of the Lab, Kathleen currently serves as board chair. She spends time as a senior advisor to the Project on Workforce at Harvard University and teaches human-centered design and higher ed reform as an adjunct professor in the Honors College at



SideBar: Optimism in Action with KAZU



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George Mason University, where she also served as an appointee to the Board of Visitors. Kathleen has long played a dual role as a philanthropist, managing the deLaski Family Foundation, which has been a 25-year grant maker in education reform, well-being, sustainable agriculture, and the arts.

In a previous career, Kathleen spent 20 years as a TV and then a digital journalist, including time as ABC News White House correspondent, followed by a political appointment as the first female Pentagon spokesperson. She has been named to Washingtonian Magazine's list of top policy influencers each year from 2022-2025.

Special Announcement: KAZU 90.3 radio and SideBarMedia are excited to announce a new collaboration that adds the SideBar: Optimism in Action podcast to KAZU's digital programming

on the station's website (www.kazu.org/sidebar). KAZU is the NPR affiliate station for Monterey, Salinas, and Santa Cruz. The SideBar: Optimism in Action podcast - sponsored by Monterey College of Law, a long-standing nonprofit sponsor of KAZU 90.3 radio - has become the first non-newscast, locally produced podcast featured on the KAZU website and mobile application.

“

We discover new educational solutions, design them right, and validate that they work before scaling them broadly.”

*Kathleen deLaski, CEO
Education Design Lab*



MCL 50th Logo



CEO Kathleen deLaski

and global communities,” explained Winick. “Our focus this season is on the amazing individuals

who are pursuing positive change during challenging times," said Gardina.



New episodes of SideBar: Optimism in Action are published on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at

www.kazu.org/sidebar. To learn more about law dean cohosts Jackie Gardina and Mitch Winick, read our blog, and to preview and listen to more than 70 previous episodes, go to SideBarMedia at www.sidebarmedia.org.

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