CePCO Conference and CARLA Seminar

On the nature, antecedents, and consequences of emotional anticipation in career development

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Abstract: Educational and career transitions are considered to be stressful and emotional experiences. While some research has addressed the role of emotions in career development, research is scarce regarding their role in the anticipation of future career events. This presentation will outline our current research program about the emotional anticipation of major educational and career transitions throughout the lifespan. Three studies addressing the nature, antecedents and consequences of emotional anticipation will be presented for several educational and career transitions: the transition from high school to higher education, the transition from higher education to work, and entry into the job market. As it will be argued during the presentation, several key issues related to the study of emotions in career development are addressed. These issues highlight the importance to consider emotion in career development, especially before important career events, to adopt specific conceptual and methodological approaches that take on the complexities of emotional functioning, as well as the important implications of adopting lifespan perspectives in the study of emotion in career development. The implications for practice and research will also be discussed.

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