



A RESEARCH PROPOSAL INVESTIGATING CAREER READINESS: COMPARISON OF COLLEGE STUDENTS' SELF-PERCEPTIONS IN FOUR SOFT SKILL DESIRED BY EMPLOYERS

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Abstract:

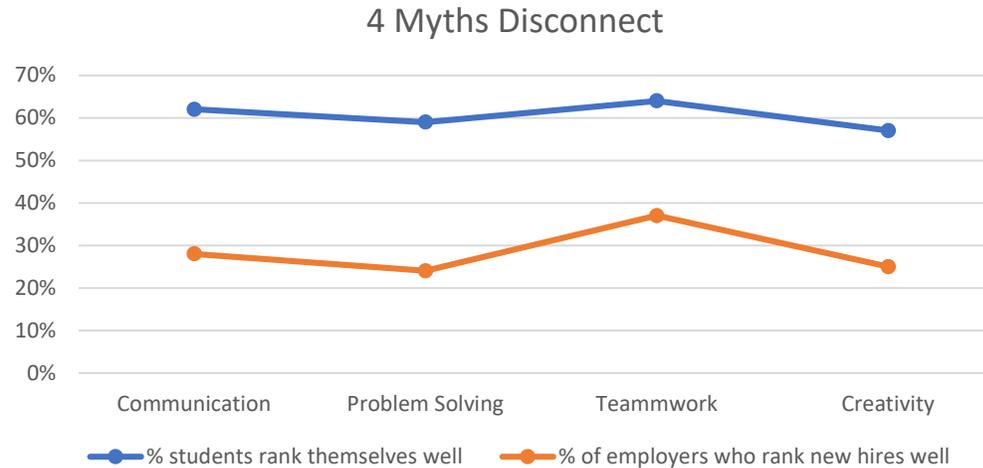
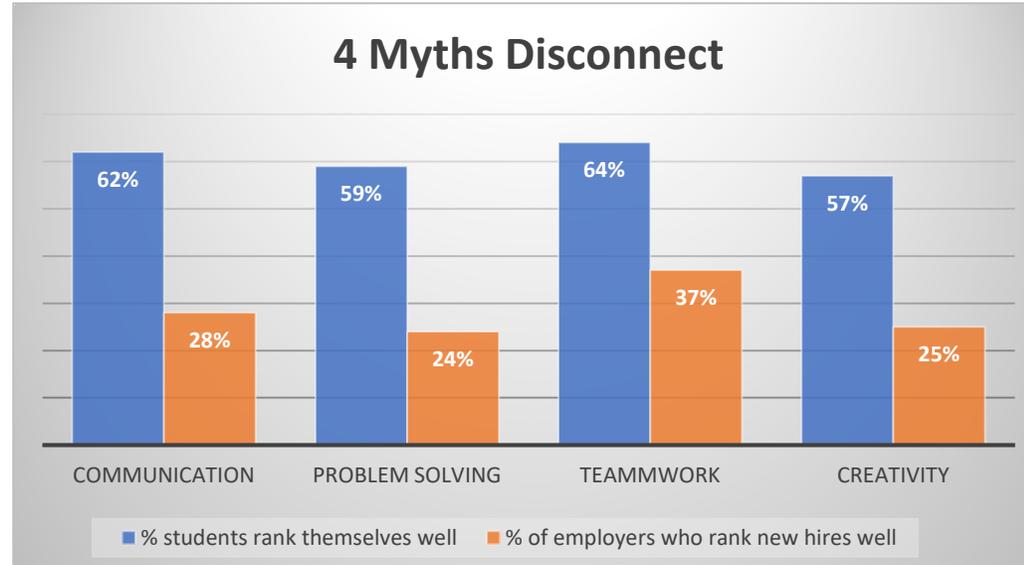
Research shows currently there is a disparity of skills that employers look for in new college graduates and the skills that college students possess. Employers indicate there are specific soft skills that make new hires more valuable. For the purpose of this study, a skills gap is identified in four attributes sought by organizations. These specific skills are creativity, communication, teamwork and problem solving. The study investigates students' self perception of preparedness for the workplace specific to these soft skills.

Hypothesis

We hypothesize that student athletes will rate themselves higher in these skills due to their experiences in athletics.

Data Collection Method:

The developed data collection instrument will be distributed to all student athletes at Lynn University and a sample of non-student athletes at the same university. The questionnaire collects independent variables through four demographic questions. The survey collects dependent variables through opinion-based questions..



Reference: Cengage. (2018). *The Career Readiness Disconnect: Are Students Prepared for the Workforce? 4 Myths Debunked*. Boston, MA.

Study Will Benefit

This study will inform universities on how to prepare students for career readiness. On a more specific level, it will also benefit by identifying the skills gap that they should address.

Furthermore, the study will provide valuable data to general students and student athletes on how to improve their skills for career success.

Future Work

The findings and the results will be compared to a nationwide report on the career readiness disconnect between college graduates and employers. The hypothesis will be analyzed to determine a conclusion.