

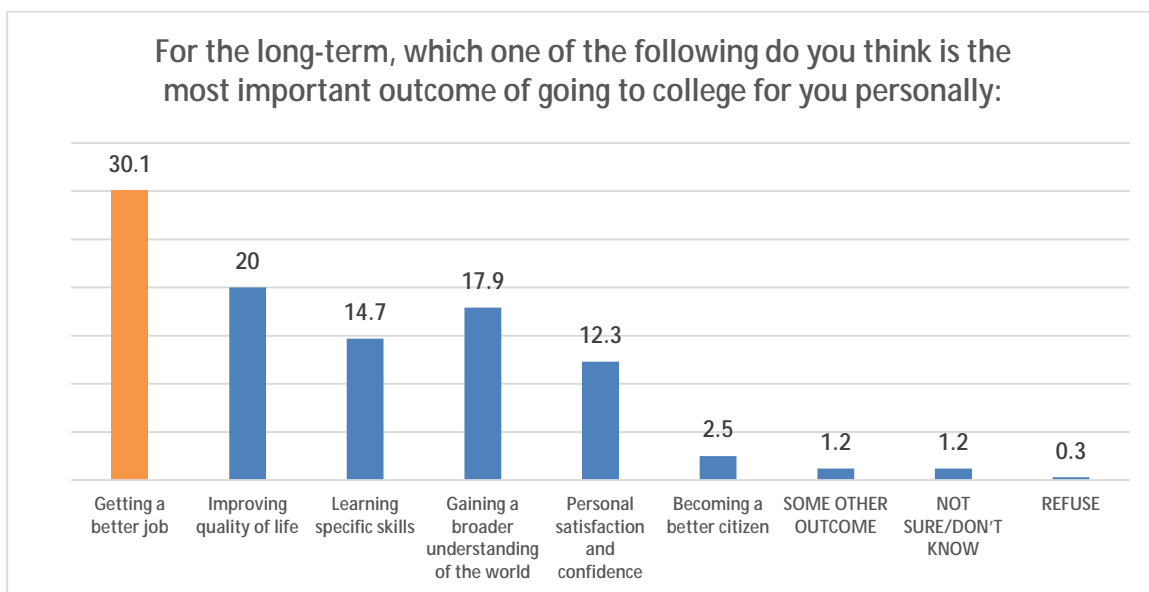
Stockton Poll: N.J. Recent College Graduates Think Colleges Need To Do More to Tie Academic and Practical Learning

For Immediate Release

Thursday, March 31, 2016

Contact: Maryjane Briant
News and Media Relations Director
Galloway Township, NJ 08205
Maryjane.Briant@stockton.edu
(609) 652-4593
www.stockton.edu/media

Galloway, NJ - Stockton University research reveals that recent college graduates believe the most important college outcome is to get a better job, with 30 percent naming that as their top priority. However, only about one in three (35 percent) says colleges are doing "extremely well" in preparing them for a job and career.



"Measuring College Outcomes," was authored by Darryl Greer, Ph.D., Stockton University's William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy's Senior Fellow, and based on a statewide poll of 770 adults who were either recent graduates of public and private colleges or had at least two years of college. The poll was conducted by the Stockton Polling Institute, which surveyed recent college graduates and students to uncover their opinions on their college experience and desired outcomes. The research was conducted as part of Greer's Higher Education and Strategic Information and Governance Project (HESIG).

-more-

-continued from page 1-

Seventy-eight percent of recent graduates identified “internships or practical experience in college” as the most important factor to ensure success in a current or future job and career. Eighty-four percent viewed internships as “very important” to overall success in developing a career and finding a job. Seventy-three percent of recent graduates felt that college is worth the cost. However, 31 percent felt that the most significant change their college could have made to add greater value to their higher education experience would be to provide “more hands-on” learning opportunities.

-continued from page 2-

The survey builds on recently released HESIG research on current college students conducted for the New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education, and from previous HESIG and Hughes Center research on college value and outcomes conducted by the Stockton Polling Institute.

The 2016 findings and prior reports can be downloaded at stockton.edu/hughescenter. They contain supplemental graphics and charts.

Methodology

The survey was conducted by the Stockton Polling Institute of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy (www.stockton.edu/hughescenter). Live interviewers on the Stockton campus called both landlines and cell phones from January 27 to February 8, 2016. The poll was conducted with 770 adults throughout New Jersey who are college graduates or whose education level includes at the minimum two years of college. The poll's margin of error is +/- 3.5 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence level. MOE is higher for subsets.

About Higher Education Strategic Information and Governance (HESIG)

HESIG serves as an agent for constructive higher education policy change, by recommending strategic policy action