



Making Connections: A Multi-Learning Community Assessment

Presentation for NACTA 2019
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EXPERIENCE

Purdue Agriculture

www.purdue.edu/experience

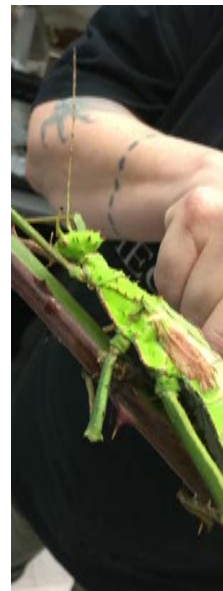
WHAT IS A LEARNING COMMUNITY

Learning Communities at Purdue:

- Similar-interest themes
- Multiple courses
- Residential component option
- Extra-curricular activities

Student experience/learning:

- Resources available
- Network
- Create lasting friendships
- Broad learning experience
- HAVE FUN!



SURVEY POPULATION

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN:

Discovering Agribusiness LC (DALC) - Fall & Spring

- Tours and speakers exposing the breadth & depth in the value chain of food & resources

Study Plants at Purdue (SPAP) - Fall only

- Tours and speakers related to Plants at Purdue

Agriculture Technology & Innovation (ATCH) - Fall only

- Tours and speakers related to Agriculture Technology



METHODS AND RESPONSES

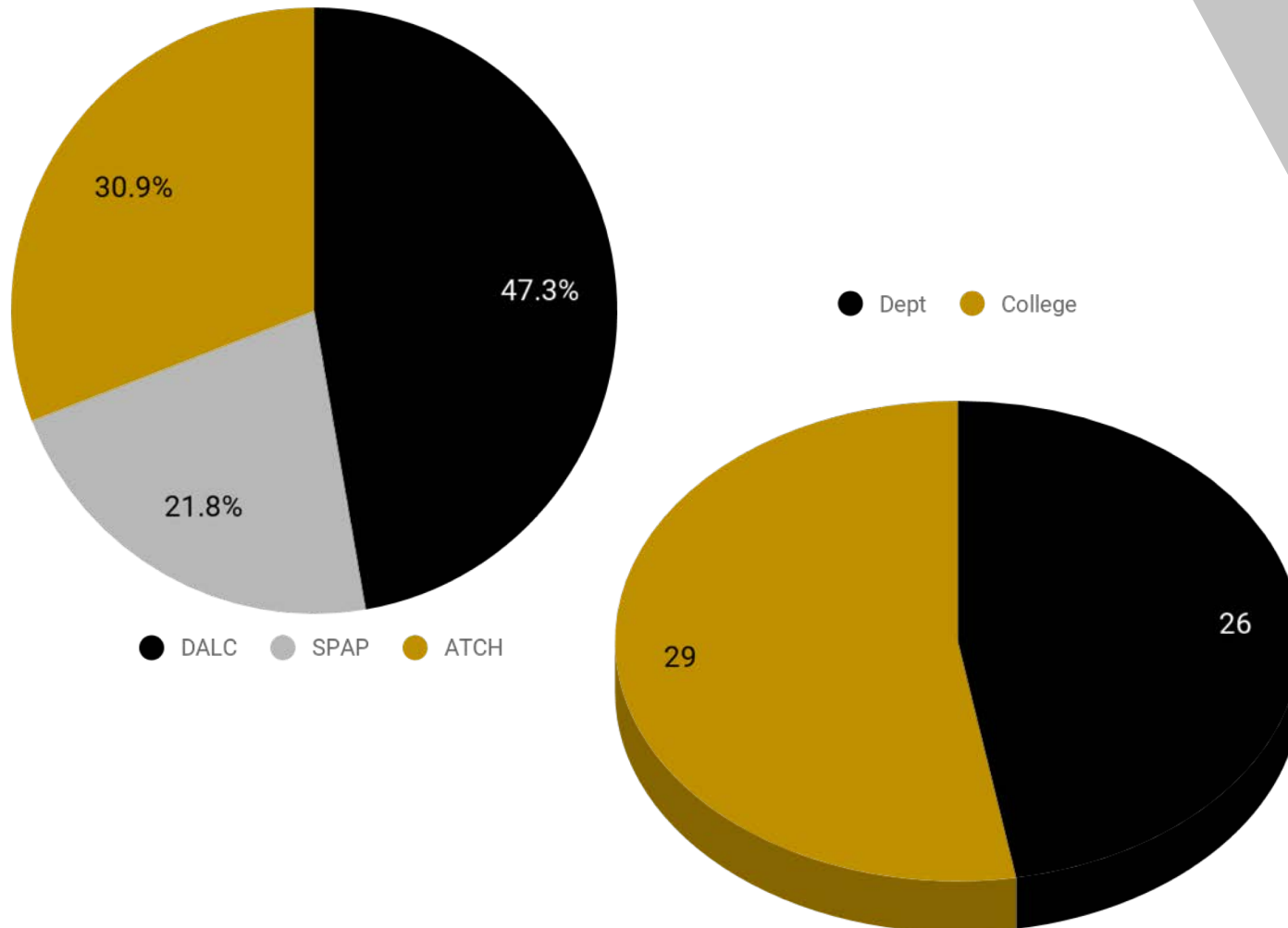
- Qualtrics survey sent out on BlackBoard Learn and/or e-mail
 - Students indicated if their answers could be used for a research study before completing questions
 - Why they joined
 - Experiences & perceptions of college value
 - Career readiness
 - Leadership competencies
- 74% Representation
 - 55 Usable surveys from 74 total students



*“Involved students lead to higher alumni well-being and employee engagement.”
(Gallup-Purdue Index report)*

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

LC Participants



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Departments represented

NRES

1.7%

CS

3.4%

FS

3.4%

BTNY

3.4%

AGRY

3.4%

ASEC

5.2%

HORT

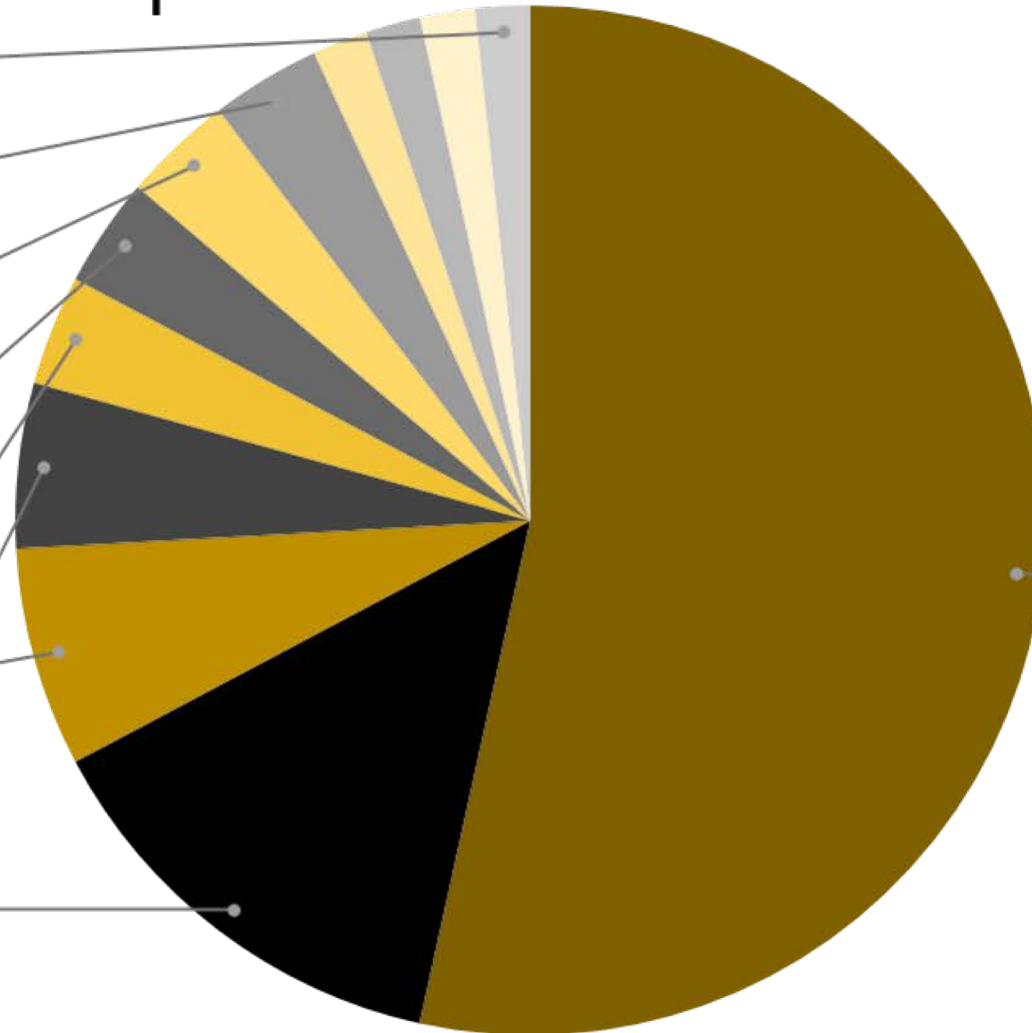
6.9%

ABE

13.8%

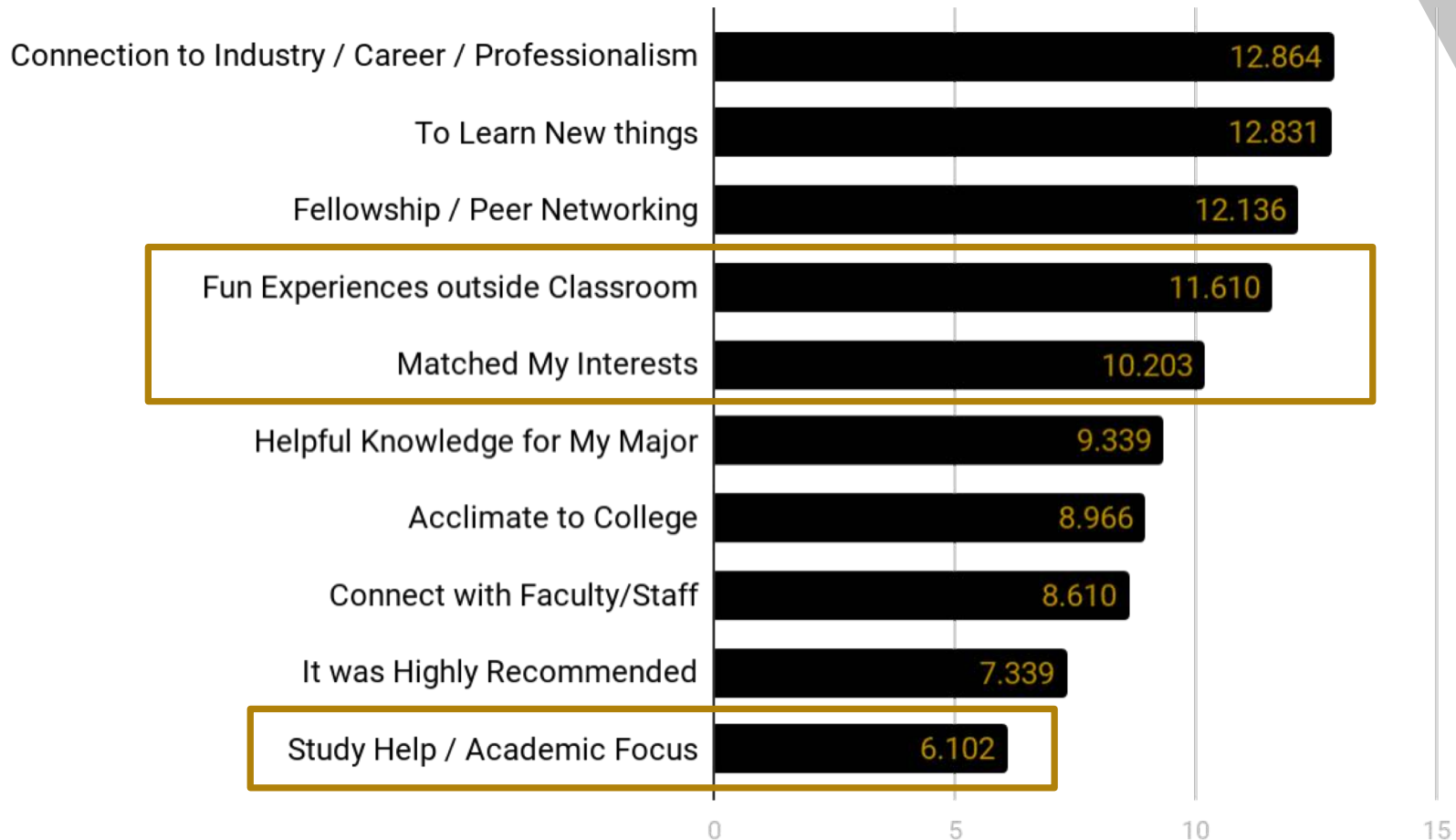
AGEC

53.4%



Why did they choose their learning community?

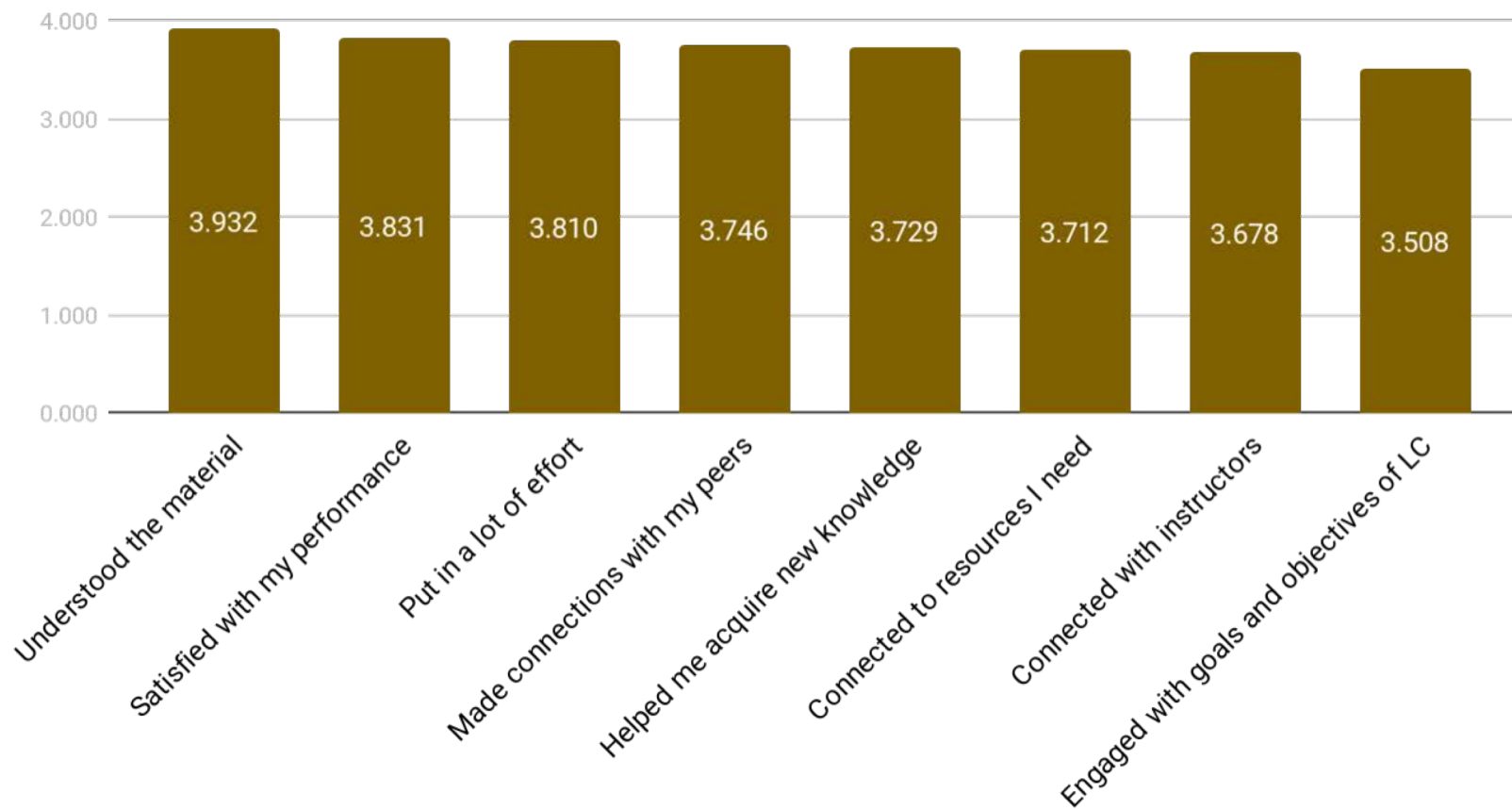
Rate the strength of all reasons why you chose this Learning Community.
100 points to allocate - maximum of 75 to one category



In Class Efforts and Outcomes

While enrolled in this learning community, I...

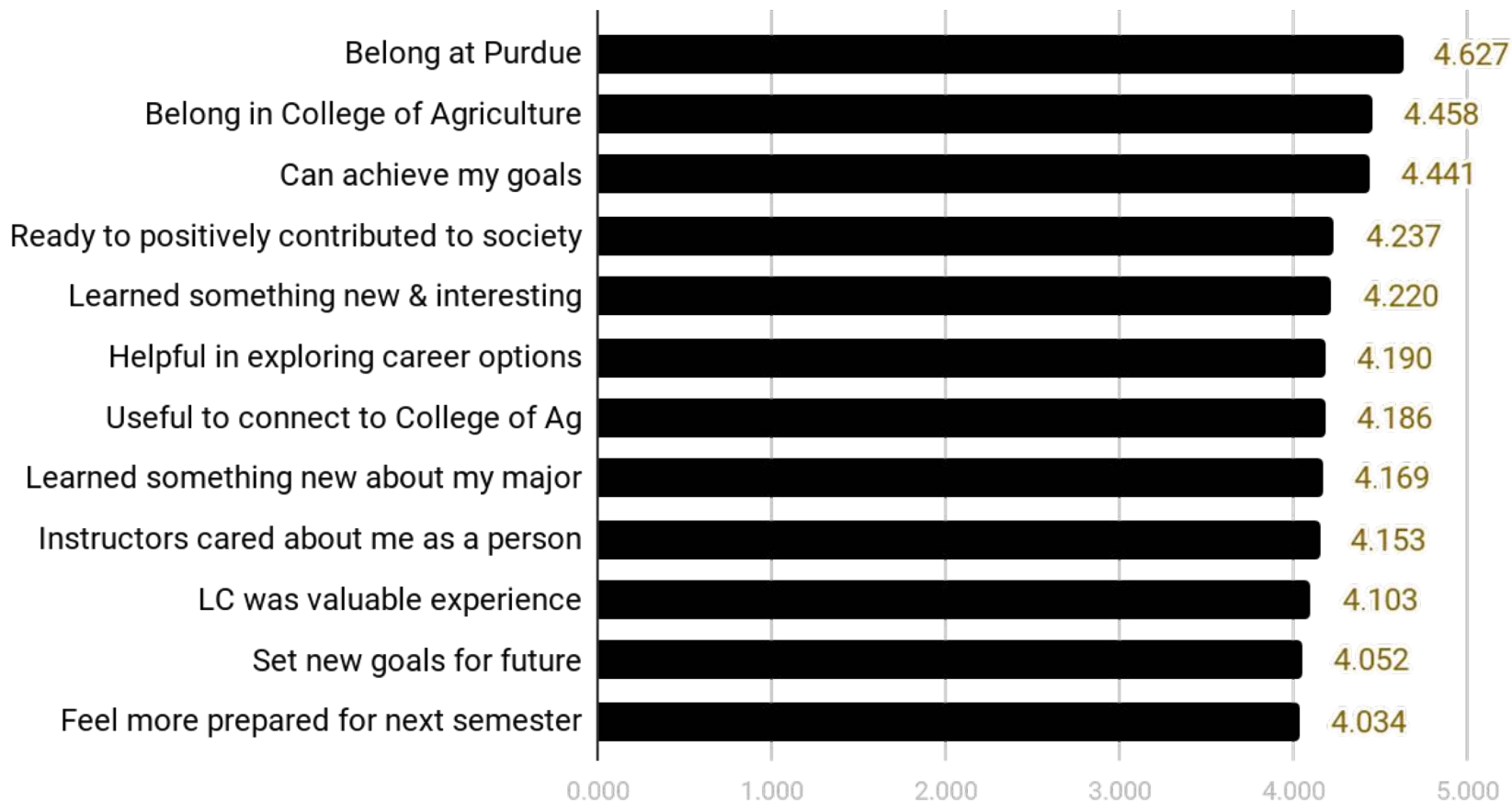
0 – 4 None/Not at All, A Little, Somewhat, A Lot, All the Time



Post-Learning Community Experience Benefits

After participating in this learning community...

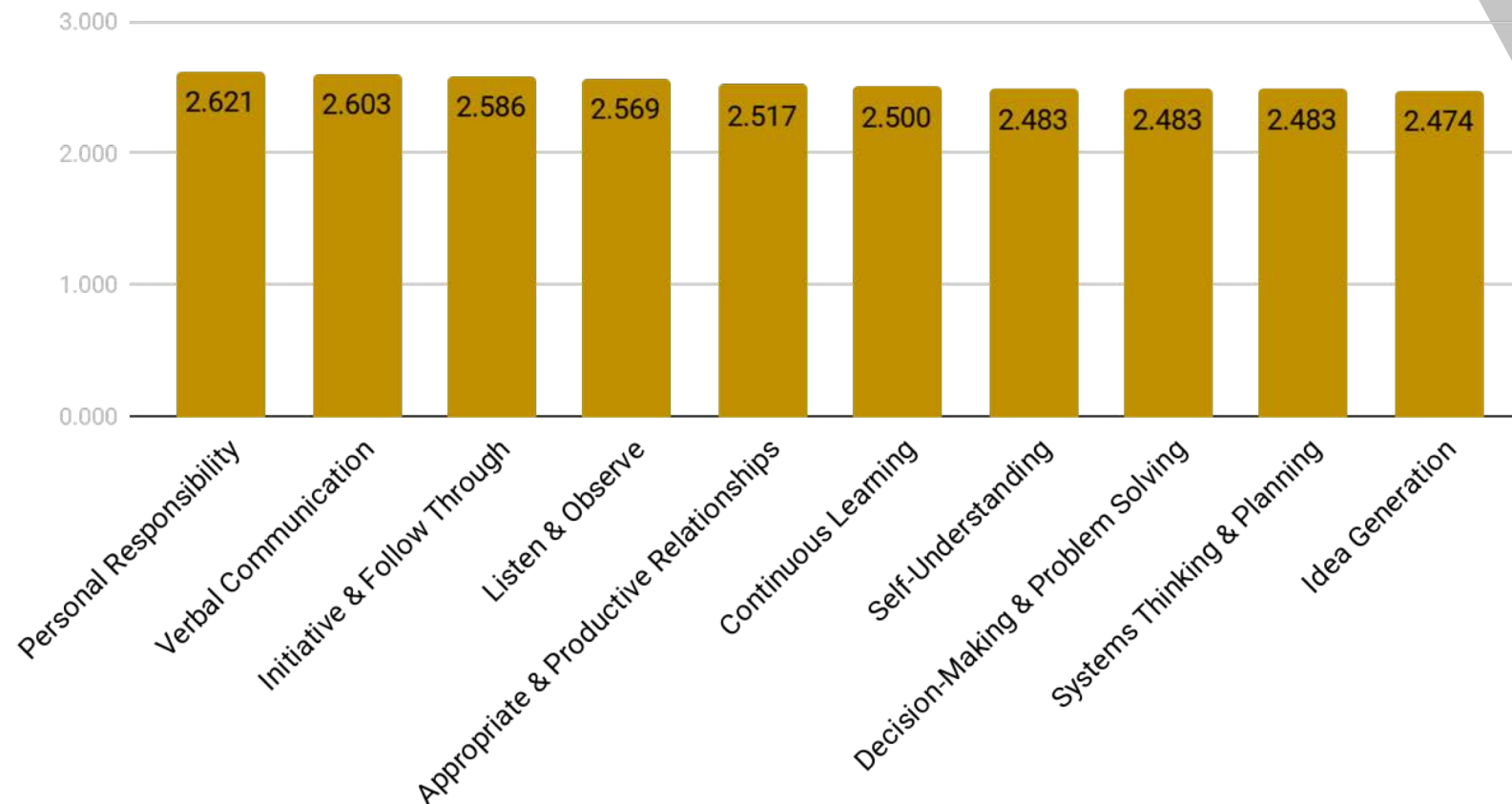
1-5: Strongly Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, Neither A/D, Somewhat Agree, Strongly Agree



Competencies Learned

My Learning Community Experience contributed to gaining knowledge or honing my skills in the following competencies....

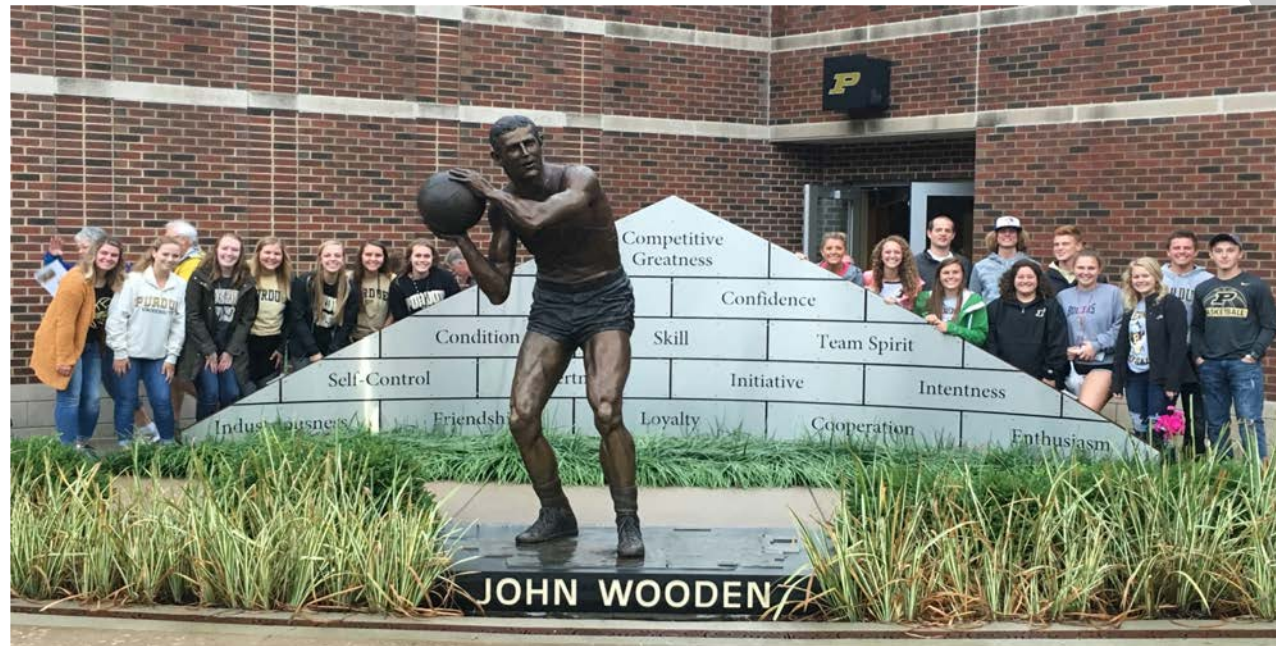
1-3: None/Not at All, A Little, A Lot



IMPLICATIONS

Action Steps:

- Recruiting
 - Building clear messaging
- Advising
 - Making connections
 - Advocate for programs and students
- Course & Curriculum design
 - Teamwork
 - Real-world
 - Rigor
 - Industry
 - Active
- ...



Building and Replicating Learning Communities at Purdue:

- Pitfalls
 - Motivation
 - Engagement
- Benefits
 - Students prosper
 - Relationships
- Limitations
 - Support & Time
 - Competition

Continuing the Research

- Scale
- Sophistication



Questions & Discussion



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CITATIONS

Purdue LC website

https://www.purdue.edu/learningcommunities/students/why_join.html

Purdue Leadership Competencies

https://www.purdue.edu/vpsl/leadership/myExperience/Competencies_List.html

National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE)

<http://www.naceweb.org/career-readiness/competencies/career-readiness-defined/>

Gallup-Purdue Index (GPI) survey on Well-Being

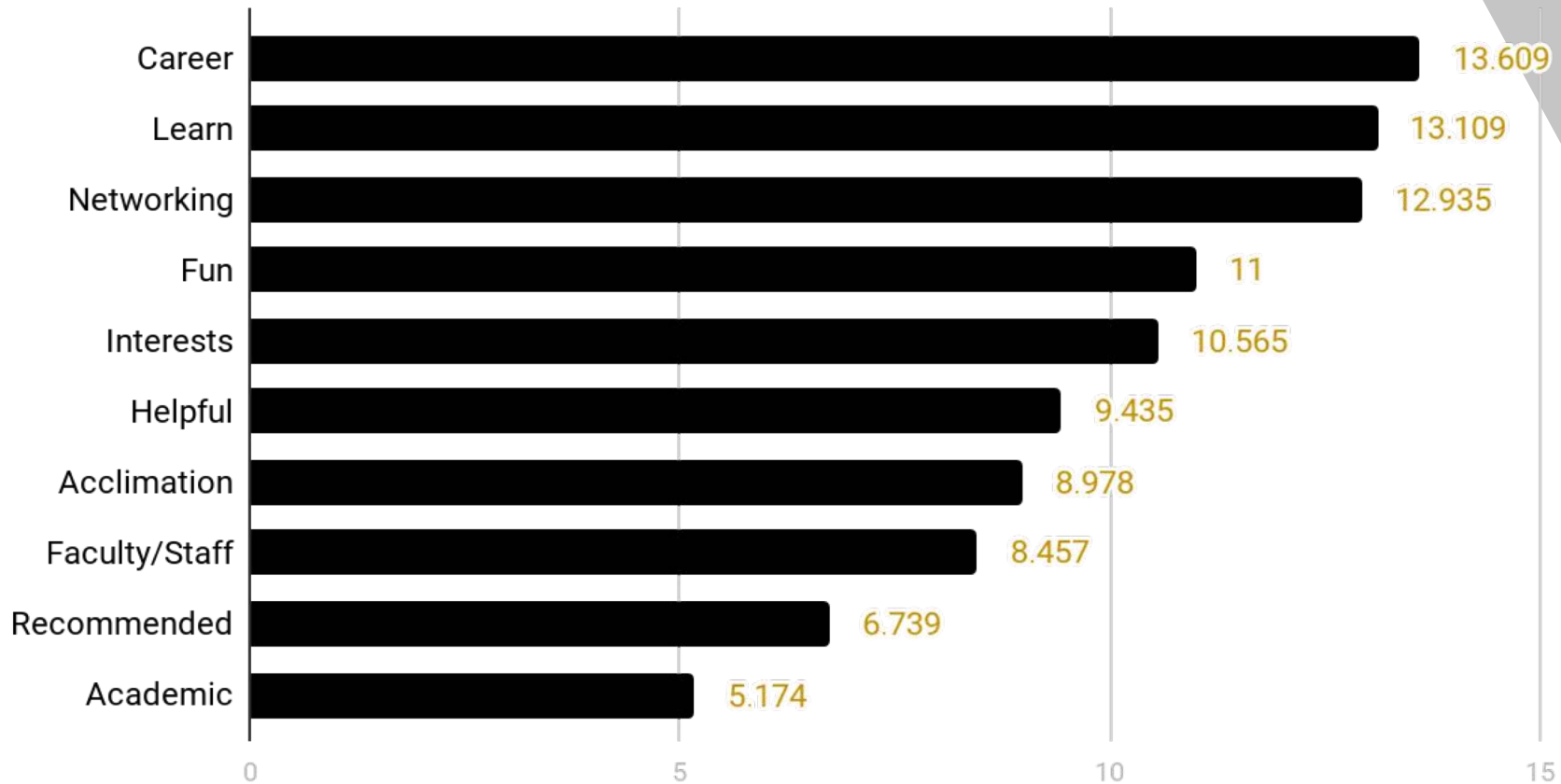
<https://www.gallup.com/services/185924/gallup-purdue-index-2015-report.aspx>



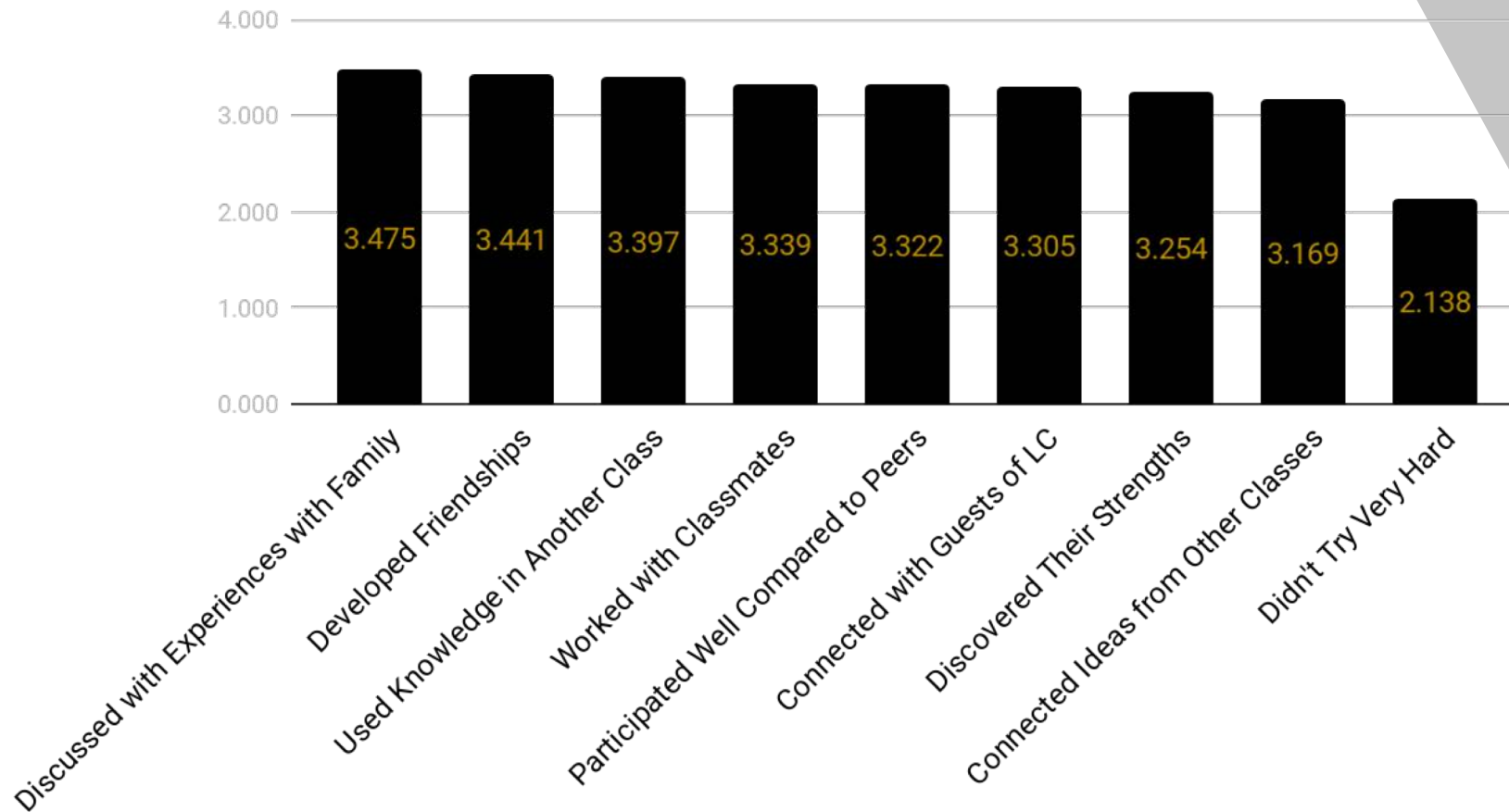
**THANK
YOU!**

DATA AND RESULTS - uniformity removed

Why did they choose their Learning Community?



Other In Class Efforts and Outcomes

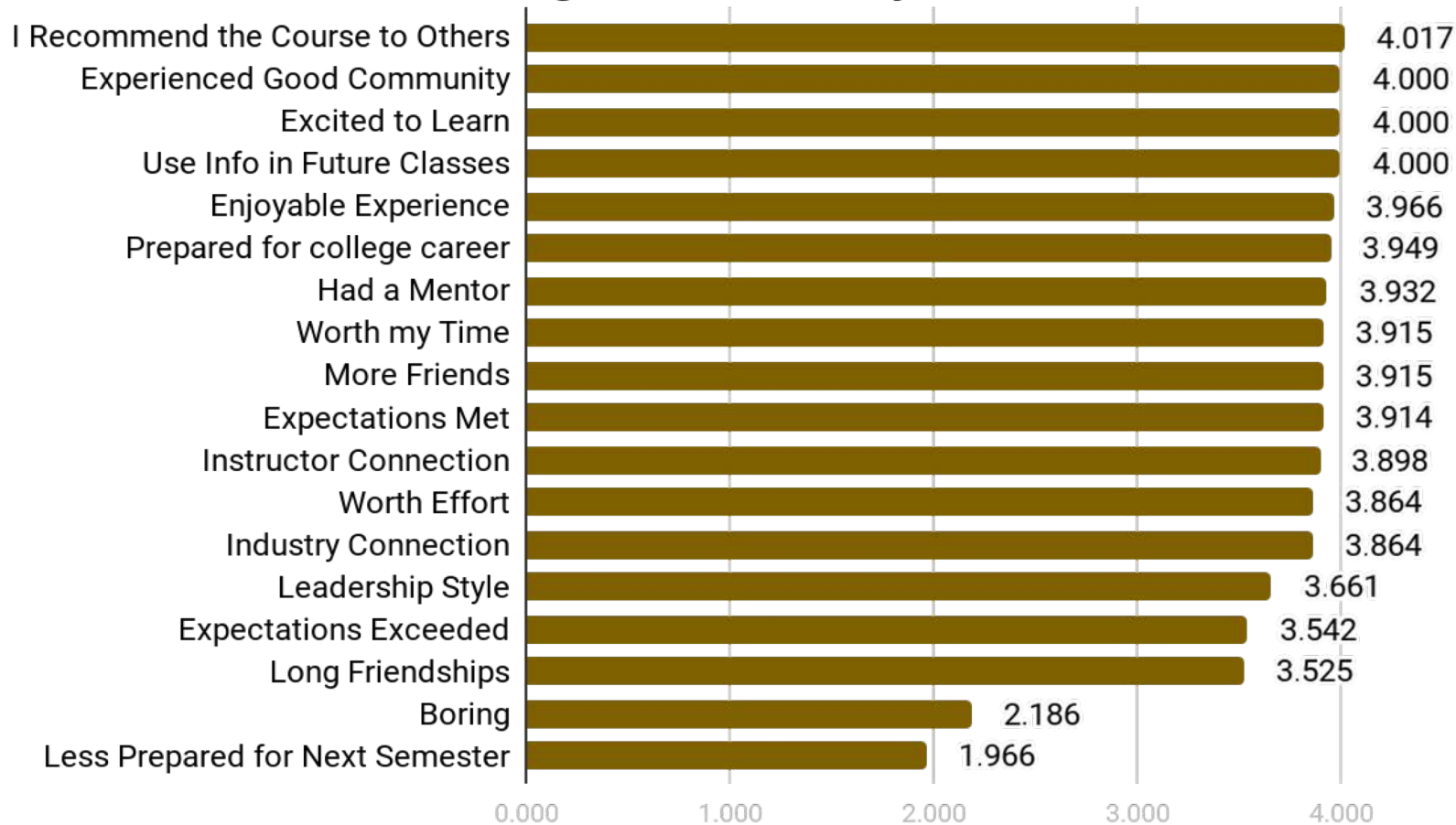


While enrolled in this learning community, I...

1-5

None/Not at All A Little Somewhat A Lot All the Time

Other Post Learning Community Course Benefits

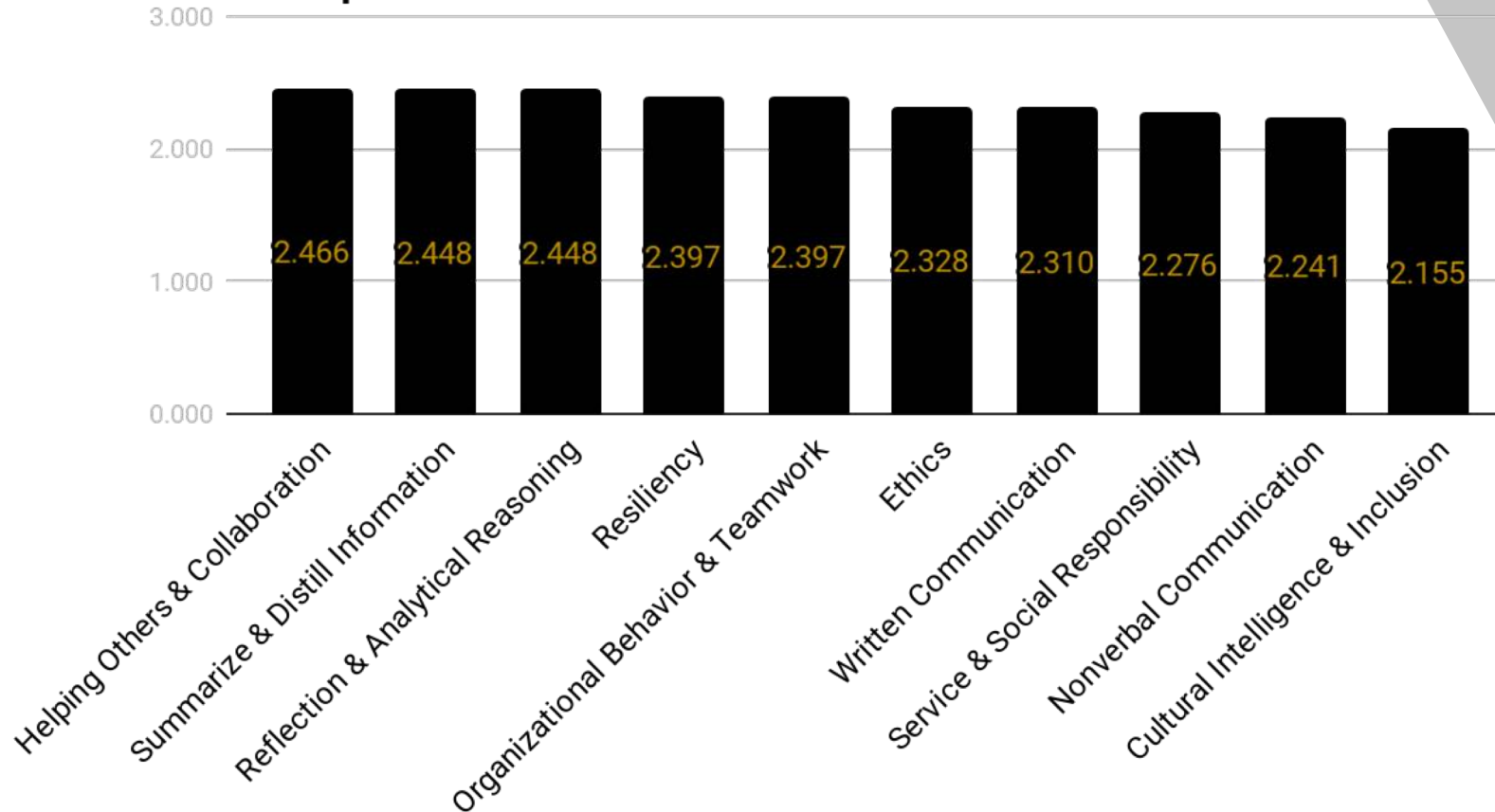


After participating in this learning community...

1-5
Strongly Disagree Somewhat Disagree Neither A/D Somewhat Agree Strongly Agree

DATA AND RESULTS

Other Competencies Learned



My Learning Community Experience contributed to gaining knowledge or honing my skills in the following competencies.

1-3

None/Not at All A Little A Lot