

# A Career Fair Tailored for Students in the Agricultural Sciences: Is It Working

Shyam Nair, L. A. Wolfskill, Danhong Chen,  
Foy D. Mills, and Kelsey Powers

Agricultural Sciences and Engineering Technology  
Sam Houston State University

2017 North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Conference  
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, June 28- July 1, 2017

# ASET/STEM Career Fair

- ✓ Career Fair tailored for ASET/STEM students
- ✓ Connects students with prospective employers in the specific area



# Objectives

- 1) Analyze the major sources that provided students with information about the ASET/STEM Career Fair
- 2) Examine the utilization of resources provided by the SHSU career services by the students attending the Career Fair
- 3) Assess the classification of students attending the Career Fair
- 4) Identify the key factors influencing the overall rating of the ASET/STEM career fair by the students

# Methods and Procedures

- ✓ Data collected from a survey instrument administered to the students who attended 2015 ASET/ STEM Career Fair (n=75)

## Student Evaluation

### The ASET/STEM Career Fair

#### 1. How did you hear about this event?

Please check all that apply.

- Professor
- SHSU Radio/TV
- Facebook
- Email
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- The Houstonian
- Posters and/or Flyers
- Career Services' Staff
- JOBS for KATS

#### 2. What SHSU Career Services have you used?

Please check all that apply.

- JOBS for KATS, www.jobsforkats.com
- Resume/Cover Letter Writing Assistance
- Career Counseling/Assessments
- On-Campus Interviews
- Career Services Workshops/Programs
- Resources on Career Services Website
- Mock (Practice) Interviews
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 3. What is your classification?

- Freshman
- Senior, *Spring '16*
- Graduate Student
- Alumni of another University: \_\_\_\_\_
- Sophomore
- Senior, *Winter '16*
- SHSU Alumni

#### 4. To what extent were you satisfied with the following?

(5- Strongly agree, 4- Agree, 3- Neutral, 2- Disagree, 1- Strongly disagree)

- There **was not** enough pre-event publicity. 5 4 **3** 2 1
- The date & hours fit my schedule. 5 4 **3** 2 1
- The event **did not** have useful information. 5 4 **3** 2 1
- The quantity of employers was excellent. 5 **4** 3 2 1
- It's likely I **will not** utilize what I have learned. 5 4 **3** 2 1

#### 5. How would you rate the event overall? 5 4 **3** 2 1

Please write any additional comments or suggestions on the back of this sheet.

Thank you for taking the time to help us make this the best event possible!

shsu.edu/careerservices

Career Services | JOBS  
at Sam Houston State University | for KATS

# Methods and Procedures

- ✓ Descriptive statistics were used to address objectives 1 through 3
- ✓ Multiple Linear Regression was used to identify the key factors influencing the overall rating of the Career Fair

## 4. To what extent were you satisfied with the following?

(5- Strongly agree, 4- Agree, 3- Neutral, 2- Disagree, 1- Strongly disagree)

There **was not** enough pre-event publicity. 5 4 3 2 1

The date & hours fit my schedule. 5 4 3 2 1

The event **did not** have useful information. 5 4 3 2 1

The quantity of employers was excellent. 5 4 3 2 1

It's likely I **will not** utilize what I have learned. 5 4 3 2 1

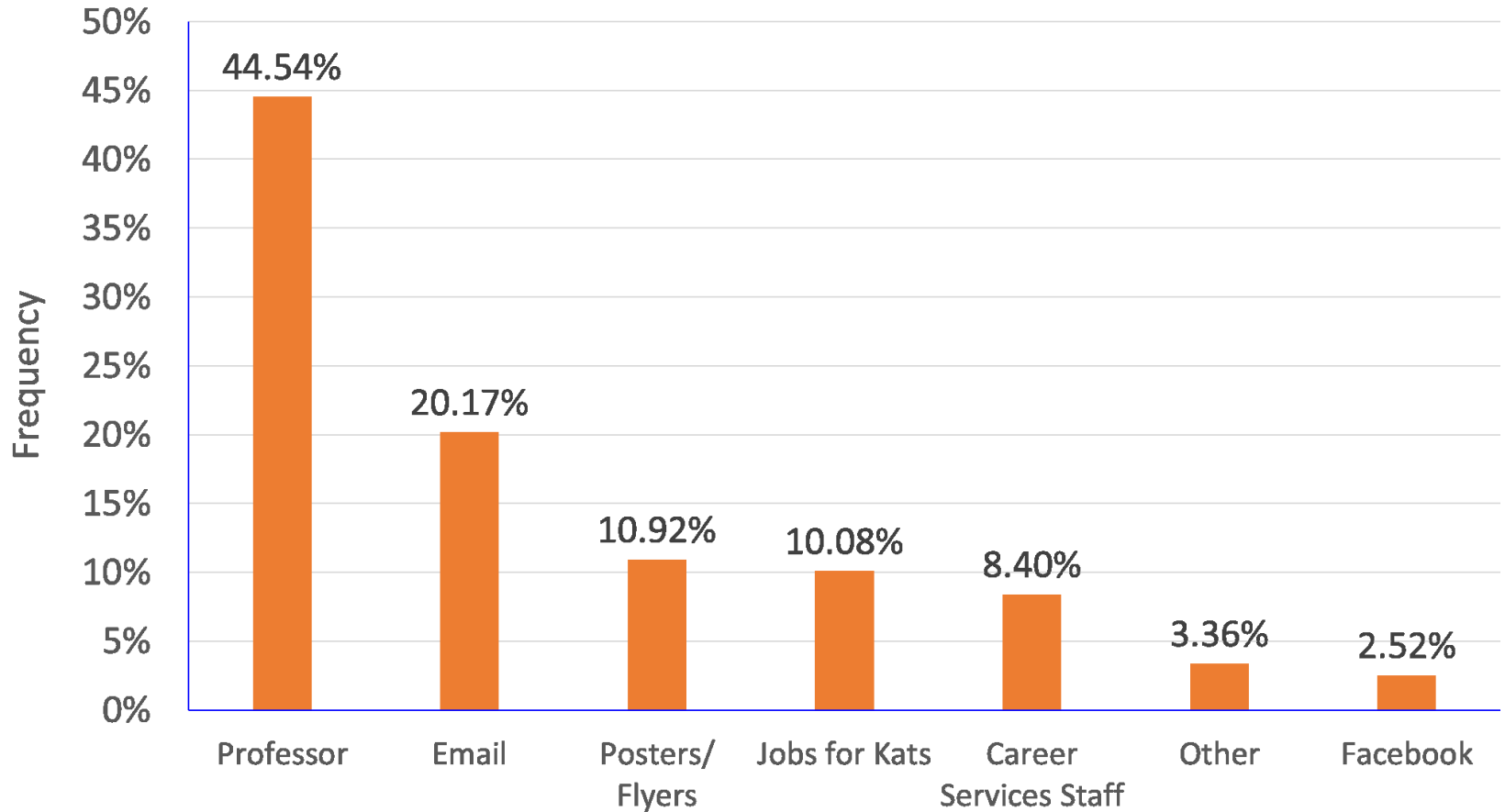
X variables

5. How would you rate the event overall? 5 4 3 2 1

Y variable

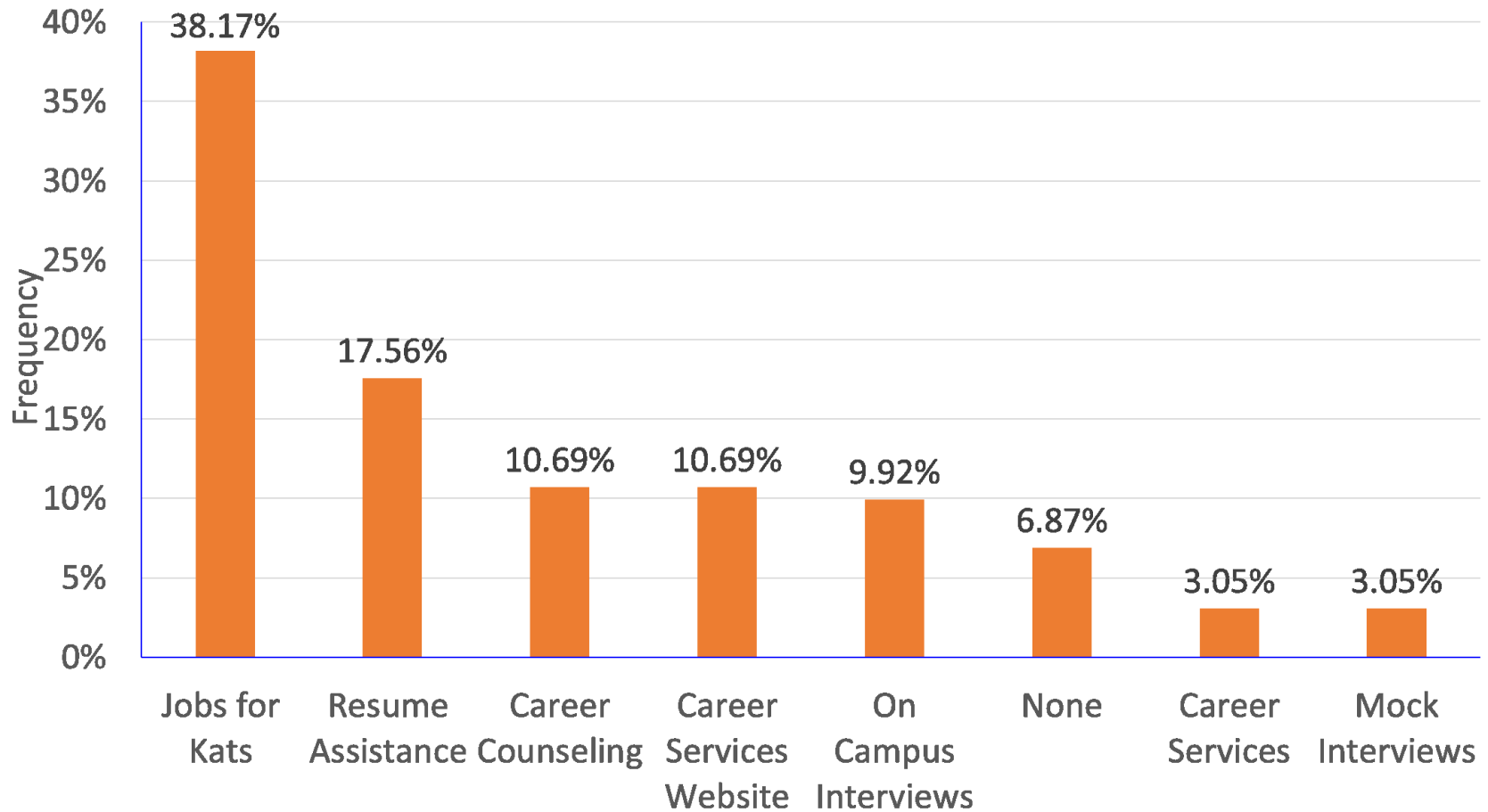
# Results

## 1 Sources of Information about the event



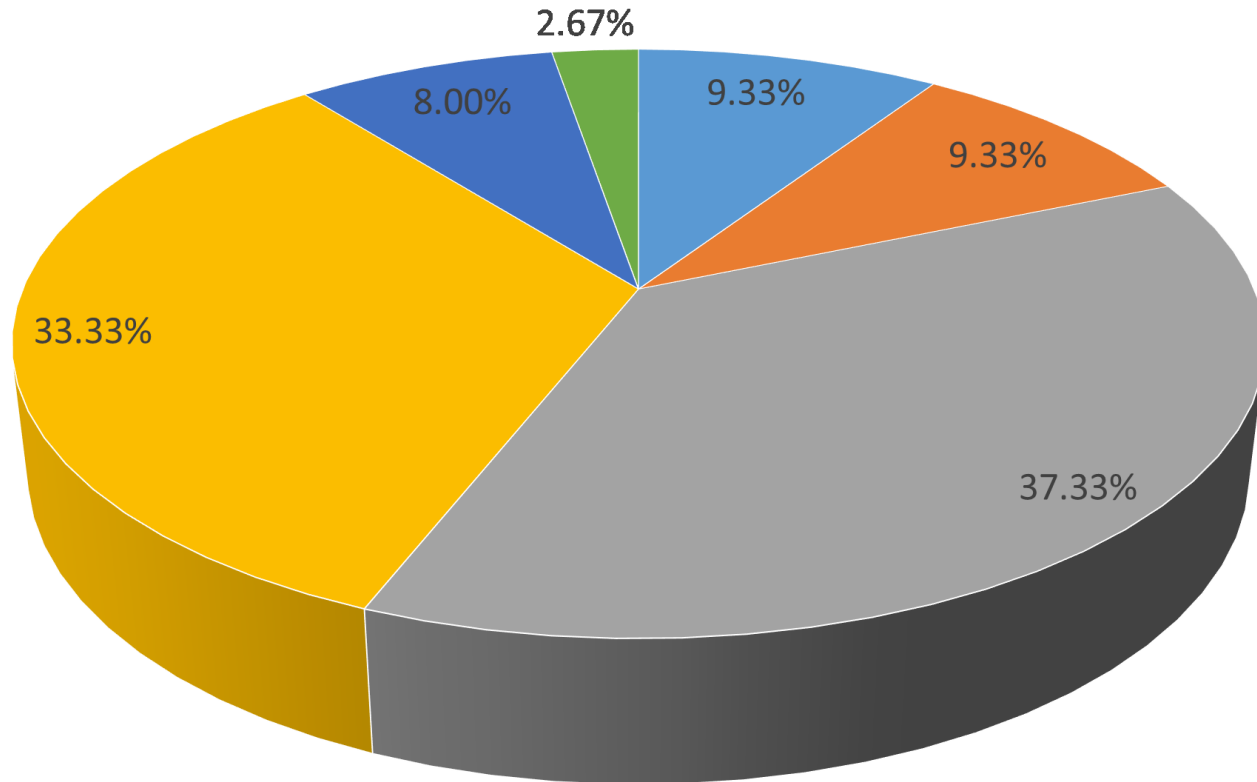
# Results

## 2. Utilization of Career Services Resources



# Results

## 3. Classification of the participants



■ Freshman ■ Sophomore ■ Junior ■ Senior ■ Graduate Student ■ SHSU Alumni



# Results

## 4. Factors affecting the overall rating of the career fair

Variables	Coefficients	P-value
Intercept	1.7459	0.0004
Not enough publicity	-0.0118	0.8411
<b>Fits my schedule</b>	<b>0.1521</b>	<b>0.0271</b>
Did not have useful information	-0.1061	0.1153
<b>Excellent quantity of employers</b>	<b>0.4864</b>	<b>&lt;0.0001</b>
Will not utilize the learning	0.0633	0.3463

# Implications

Career Services should partner directly with faculty, the students' primary information source

Bringing more employers to campus and seeking mutually agreeable times for students and employers to interact will help increase overall student satisfaction with future career fairs

# Thank you



For more information....

[nair@shsu.edu](mailto:nair@shsu.edu); [foymills@shsu.edu](mailto:foymills@shsu.edu) ; [wolfskill@shsu.edu](mailto:wolfskill@shsu.edu) ; [dx062@shsu.edu](mailto:dx062@shsu.edu)