

## **The First Draft of our Survey Question**

- checkbox with: (undergrad student, graduate/phd/after bachelor student, teacher/staff, tech industry professional)
- Age
- Country you work in
- If holding a university degree, country you got it
- Highest completed education degree (High School/BS/After-BS)
- If employed: size of the company + size of the company tech department (how many developers/techies)?

-> These fields should NOT be mandatory, everybody has the right not to tell us something.

### **\*\*\*\* Quantitative survey: Misaligned Expectations \*\*\*\***

- currently, what do you think a BACHELOR's student in computer science or software engineering achieves, when he/she graduates? (multiple choices)
  - \* he/she learns programming very well
  - \* he/she learns computational thinking
  - \* he/she learns project management
  - \* he/she learns real-world problem solving handling industry-type problems
  - \* he/she learns how to be a researcher
  - \* he/she gets very good soft skills (communication, teamwork, etc)
  - \* he/she gets credentials to get a good job
  - \* Other - please specify
- Is there any skill, that you think a BACHELOR's student would need to learn at university, and they don't? (same choices as above)
- Is there any skill, that you think is superfluous for BACHELOR's student to learn at university? (same choices as above)
- How do you think the BS GPA affects a fresh BS graduate's possibilities to get hired?
  - \* I think it's not relevant
  - \* I think that a high GPA is totally essential to getting a great first job
  - \* I think that a low GPA discourages employers/recruiters, but from a certain threshold onwards employers tend not to care about it
  - \* The higher the GPA, the easier to get a great first job, the effect is quite linear.
- How do you think the school choice (e.g. Top 10/Ivy League university vs random college) affects a fresh BS graduate's possibilities to get hired?
  - \* I think it's not relevant
  - \* I think that a top-tier school is a key to getting a great first job
  - \* I think a top-tier school gives a graduate a bit of a boost, but it's not essential
- How do you think the BS GPA affects a fresh BS graduate's professional proficiency?
  - \* I think it's not relevant, BS GPA and first job performance are quite disconnected

- \* I think that an high GPA is totally essential to performing fine at a first job
- \* I think that low GPA graduates perform badly, but from average to top GPAs you can't see much of a difference
- \* The higher the GPA, the better a graduate performs on his job.

- How do you think the school choice (e.g. Top 10/Ivy League university vs random college) affects a fresh BS graduate's professional proficiency?

- \* I think it's not relevant
- \* I think that a top-tier school makes a graduate fundamentally better at his/her job
- \* I think a top-tier school gives a graduate a bit of a boost, but it's not essential

- How long do you think a fresh BS graduate will need in order to land his first job, after graduation?

- \* I believe most of them already have an offer before graduation/after interning
- \* 1-3 months
- \* 3-6 months
- \* 6-12 months
- \* more than one year

- How long do you think a fresh BS graduate will need in order to become fully proficient at his first job, after being hired?

- \* 0-3 months
- \* 3-12 months
- \* 12-24 months
- \* more than two years

- If you choose anything else than '0-3 months', please tell us why do you think a fresh graduate will need that much time (what skills he's learning):  
(open question)

- What are the top 2-3 skills that are not taught at school, but which are essential when working in the industry?  
(open question)

<REPEAT SOME OF THE QUESTIONS FOR MASTER'S DEGREES, but suppose that such student hasn't got into industry before getting back to school>

- Consider two candidates for the same job. One holds a 4-year BS degree and no job experience. The other has no degree, but has four years job experience in a similar role. What do you think about the candidates' hireability\*?

- \* I think that the BS candidate will stand more chances
- \* I think the experienced candidate will stand more chances
- \* I think they're more or less equal from an hireability point of view

- Consider two fresh hires for the same position at the same company. One holds a 4-year BS degree and no job experience. The other has no degree, but

has four years job experience in a similar role. What do you think about the candidates' \*skills\* RIGHT AFTER BEING HIRED?

\* I think that the BS candidate will perform much better; better quality, and faster work.

\* I think that the experienced candidate will perform much better; better quality, and faster work.

\* They'll perform more or less the same.

- Consider two fresh hires for the same position at the same company. One holds a 4-year BS degree and no job experience. The other has no degree, but has four years job experience in a similar role. They work at the company, in the same role, for one year. What do you think about the candidates' skills and career at that time?

\* I think that the BS candidate will perform much better; better quality, and faster work. He'll probably have reached a better position in the company.

\* I think that the experienced candidate will perform much better; better quality, and faster work. He'll probably have reached a better position in the company.

\* They'll perform more or less the same.

- Consider two candidates for the same job. One holds a relevant MS degree and no job experience. The other has a BS and 2-years of relevant job experience. What do you think about the candidates' \*hireability\*?

\* I think that the MS candidate will stand more chances

\* I think the BS experienced candidate will stand more chances

\* I think they're more or less equal from an hireability point of view

- Consider two fresh hires for the same position at the same company. One holds a relevant MS degree and no job experience. The other has a BS degree, and a couple of years of experience in a similar role. What do you think about the candidates' \*skills\* RIGHT AFTER BEING HIRED?

\* I think that the MS candidate will perform much better; better quality, and faster work.

\* I think that the BS experienced candidate will perform much better; better quality, and faster work.

\* They'll perform more or less the same.

- Consider two fresh hires for the same role at the same company. One holds an MS degree and no job experience. The other has a BS degree, and two years job experience in a similar role. They work at the company, in the same role, for one year. What do you think about the candidates' skills and career at that time?

\* I think that the MS candidate will perform much better; better quality, and faster work. He'll probably have reached a better position in the company.

\* I think that the BS experienced candidate will perform much better; better quality, and faster work. He'll probably have reached a better position in the company.

\* They'll perform more or less the same.

#### \*\*\*\* Qualitative survey: Find the Solution \*\*\*\*

- What do you think would be the solutions to reduce the skill gap for new graduates (both BS and post-graduate levels) entering the work force?

- In your opinion, how can students gain similar working experience during their \*undergraduate\* studies, if any?

- In your opinion, how can students gain similar working experience during their \*graduate\* studies, if any?

- In your opinion, what would be the benefits of joining a graduate-level \*online\* program?

- In your opinion, how a \*graduate-level online\* program can reduce the skill gap in industry and university for new graduates?

- In general, which statement is, in your opinion, is more accurate (if we assume both below groups have no previous job experience):

\* The undergraduate students are already prepared to join the industry and they do not need a higher post-graduate degree.

\* The post-graduate students are more competitive than undergraduate-level students and they have a higher possibility to be hired in a relevant company.