# COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE PURCHELINAVERSI IV

#### CO-CURRICULAR INITIATIVES



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### CO-CURRICULAR INITIATIVES

#### Outline of Today's Presentation

- 1. Employability & Success Skills of Our Students & Graduates.
- 2. Gallup-Purdue Index Practices that ensure Student Success.
- 3. CATE: College of Agriculture Transformational Experiences

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# Comparative Analysis of Soft Skills: What is Important for New Graduates?

Perceptions of Employers, Alum, Faculty and Students

Michigan State University, College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, East Lansing, Michigan. 4 August 2011

A joint study with the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) and the University Industry Consortium (UIC).

Pat Crawford, Suzanne Lang, Wendy Fink, Robert Dalton & Laura Fielitz

What soft skills are employers looking for in new graduates – do those skills include communication, leadership, networking, international experience, and/or problem solving? What skills will help new graduates perform well on the job and foster career advancement?



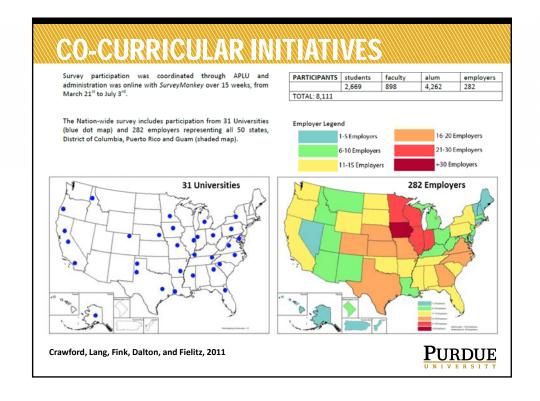
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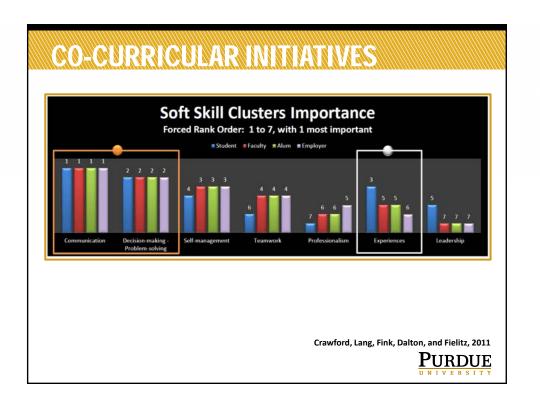


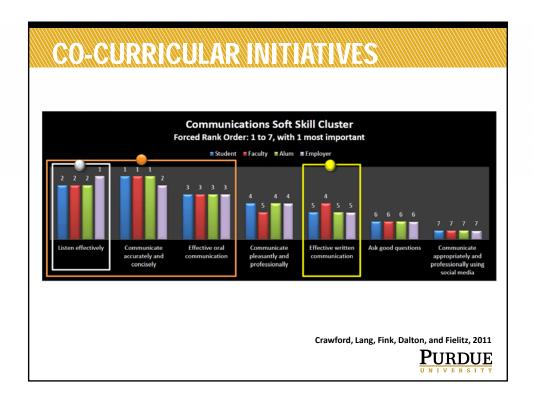
Employability Skills Word Cloud... Based on 80 existing publications

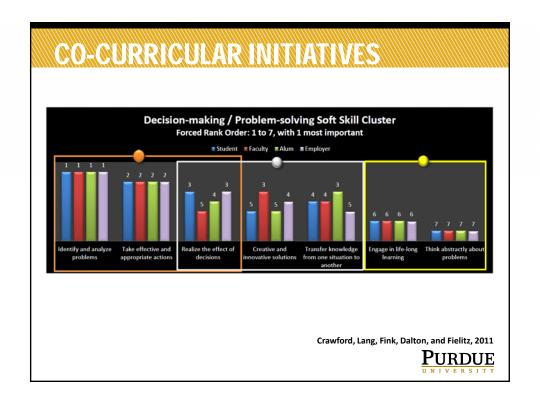
Crawford, Lang, Fink, Dalton, and Fielitz, 2011

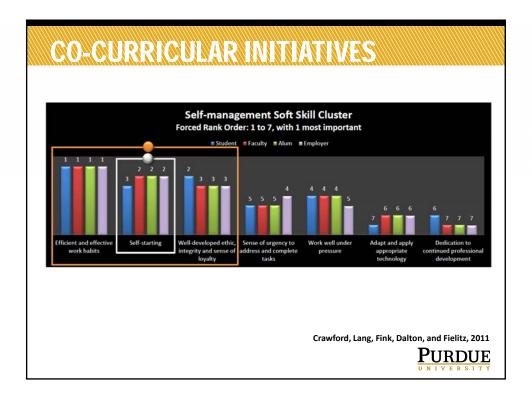


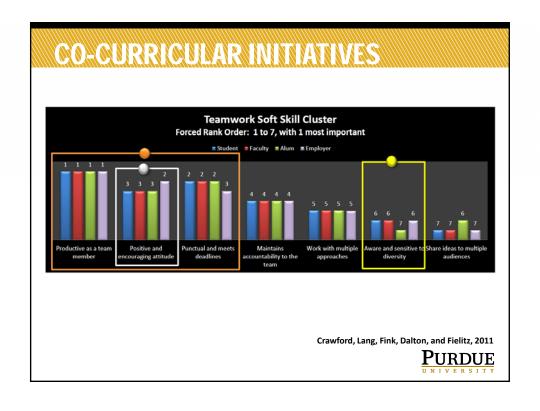


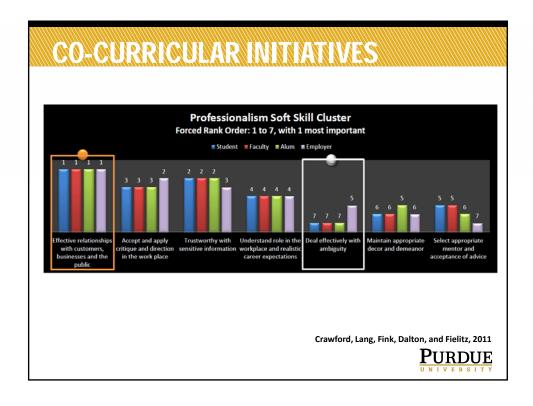


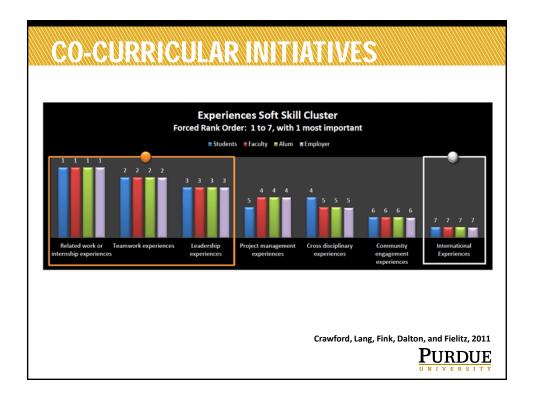


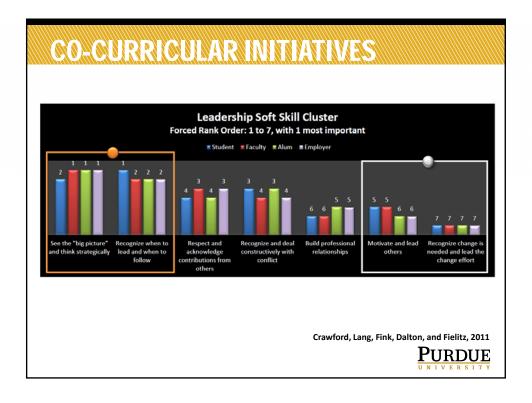


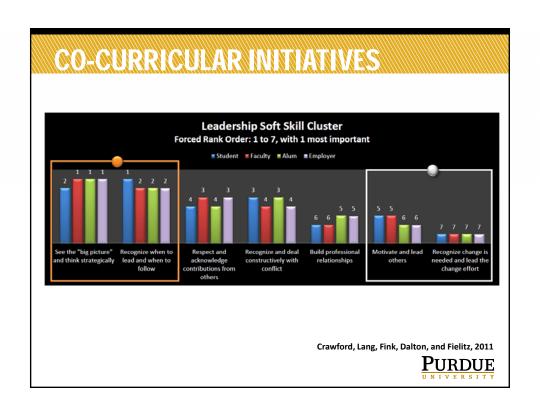


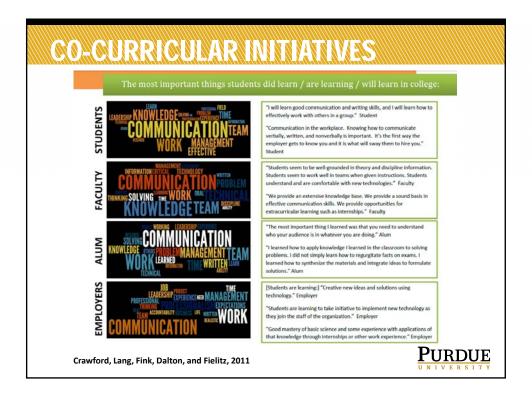


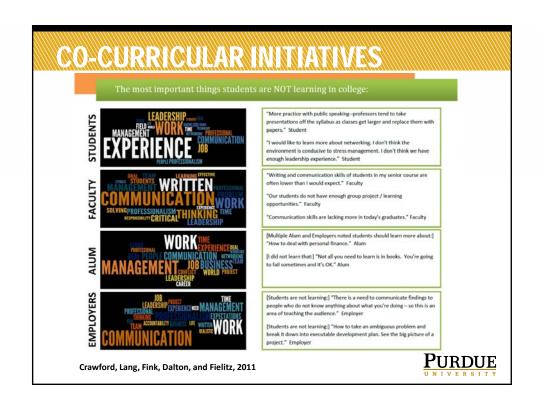












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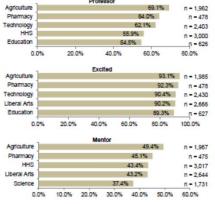
1. My professors at Purdue cared about me as a person

The percentage of agree or strongly agree responses to this question ranges from a low of 38.9% (Management) to the highest of 69.1% (Agriculture). The five colleges with the highest agree/strongly agree response rate in order are Agriculture, Pharmacy, Technology, Health and Human Sciences and Education.

2. I had at least one professor at Purdue who made me excited about learning. The percentage of agree or strongly agree responses to this question ranges from the lowest rate of 80.8% again in Management to a high of 93.1% again in Agriculture. Agriculture and Pharmacy (92.3%) have the highest rates.

3. While attending Purdue, I had a mentor who encouraged me to pursue my

The lowest response rates for agree or strongly agree to having an encouraging mentor comes from Management alumni (28.7%). Agriculture alumni again have the highest response rate of 49.4% agree or strongly agree they had a mentor encouraging them to pursue their goals. In fact, Agriculture and Pharmacy again lead all colleges in this question as well as the first two questions. Overall, this question generated the lowest agreement response rate from all of the six Purdue experience questions.



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4. While attending Purdue I had an internship or job that

allowed me to apply what I was learning in the classroom The percentage of agree or strongly agree responses to this question ranges from a low of 44.8% (Liberal Arts) to the highest of 76.9% (Pharmacy). Engineering alumni responses are second highest with 65% indicating they agree or strongly agree that an internship allowed them to apply their classroom learning.

5. While attending Purdue I worked on a project that took a semester or more

The highest percentage of agree/strongly agree responses come from Engineering alumni (67.3%) answering that they worked on a long term project. The second highest come from Technology (57.3%), followed by

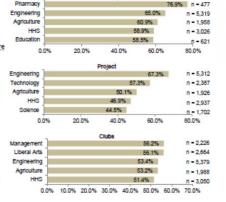
Agriculture (50.1%), Health & Human Sciences (46.9%) and Science (44.5%).
Unlike the prior questions where the College of Pharmacy rated in the top five, for this question the College of Pharmacy had the lowest response rate (24.9%) to agree or strongly agree that they worked on a long term project.

6. I was extremely active in extracurricular activities and organizations at

The range of agree or strongly agree responses range from the lowest of

46.2% in Science to the high of 56.2% in Management. There is not a big variation in response rate for agree/strongly agree responses among all the colleges. The rates across all colleges hover closely around the overall of 52.1% of respondents who agree/strongly agree that

extracurricular activities were part of their Purdue experience.



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ndents who agree/strongly agree that

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#### **College of Agriculture Transformational Experiences**

College of Agriculture Transformational Experiences, or CATE for short, are those experiences primarily outside the classroom designed to improve graduation and retention rates, improve student engagement and satisfaction, and prepare students for life after college. These experiences help students to not only realize their potential and foster personal development, but help them determine their place in a global environment. Transformational experiences are also commonly known as co-curricular activities or high-impact practices.













