## GALLUP®

# Aligning Higher Education Values and Outcomes

**Blake Lohnes, Consultant** 

**Education and Workforce Development** 

### "We Are What We Measure"

#### What We Measure

- Grades
- Test Scores
- Selectivity
- Graduation Rates
- Time to First Job
- Starting Salary
- Career Field

#### Mission "Who We Are"

"Life-long learning"

"Ethical citizens and leaders"

"Civic engagement"

"Value diversity"

"Skilled workforce"

### Broken Link Between Higher Education and Work

98%

of Chief Academic
Officers rate
their institution as
very/somewhat
effective at preparing
students for the
world of work.

13%

of Americans strongly agree that college graduates in this country are well-prepared for success in the workplace.

11%

of business leaders strongly agree that graduating students have the skills and competencies their businesses need.

Sources: Lumina Foundation / Gallup Poll 2013 The 2013 Inside Higher Ed Survey of College & University Chief Academic Officers report

### What Does a "Great Life" Look Like?

#### **PURPOSE**

How you occupy your time; liking what you do each day

#### **FINANCIAL**

Managing your economic life to reduce stress and increase security

#### SOCIAL

Relationships and love in your life

#### COMMUNITY

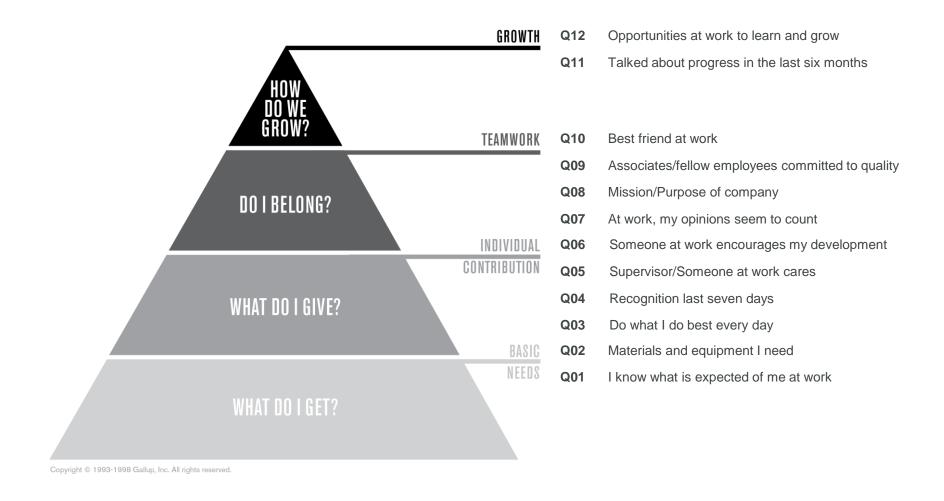
Engagement and involvement in the area where you live

#### **PHYSICAL**

Good health and enough energy to get things done daily



### What Does a "Great Job" Look Like?



If graduates strongly agree that they were "emotionally supported" during college, the odds that they are engaged in their work and thriving in their overall well-being double.

### **Emotional Support**

64%

"At least one professor who made me excited about learning"

27%

"Professors cared about me as a person"

22%

"A mentor who encouraged my goals and dreams"

140 Of All Graduates Experienced All Three

Graduates who had "experiential and deep learning" have a higher likelihood of being engaged in their work (59% vs. 38%), and more are thriving (14% vs. 10%).

### **Experiential and Deep Learning**

32%

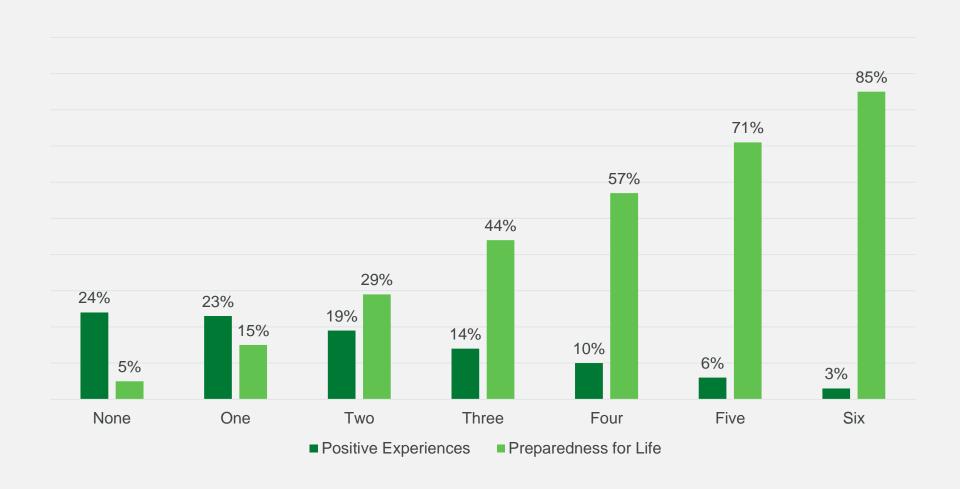
"Long-term project taking a semester or more to complete" 30%

"Internship or job where applied learning" 20%

"Extremely involved in extracurricular activities and organizations"

6% Of All Graduates Experienced All Three

### Positive Experiences and Preparedness





GRADUATES WHO "STRONGLY AGREE"
COLLEGE WAS WORTH THE COST

38%

SOURCE: GALLUP-PURDUE INDEX, 2015

#### The odds of strongly agreeing education was worth the cost are:

- Higher if ... My professors at [University Name] cared about me as a person.
- Higher if ... I had an internship or job that allowed me to apply what I was learning in the classroom.
- Higher if ... I had a mentor who encouraged me to pursue my goals and dreams.
- Higher if ... I held a leadership position in a club or organization such as student government, a fraternity or sorority or an athletic team.
- Higher if ... I had at least one professor at [University Name] who made me excited about learning.
- 1.3x Higher if ... I was a member of a national fraternity or sorority.
- 1.6x Higher if ... I worked on a project that took a semester or more to complete.
- 1.2x Higher if ... I had a paid job or internship.
- Higher if ... I was extremely active in extracurricular activities and organizations while attending [University Name].

Each odds ratio represents the unique variation in the dependent variable (education was worth the cost) associated with each college experience while controlling for the other experiences and for the control variables (employment status, amount of student loan debt and five-factor personality model characteristics)."

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#### **ETSU**

#### Mission

East Tennessee State University prepares students to become **productive**, enlightened citizens who actively serve their communities and the world. Education is the university's highest priority, and the institution is committed to increasing the level of educational attainment in the state and region. The university conducts a wide array of educational and research programs and clinical services and is the only Academic Health Sciences Center in the Tennessee Board of Regents System. Through research, creative activity and public service ETSU advances the cultural, intellectual and economic development of the region and the world.

#### Vision

To become the best regional university in the nation.

### **Implications**

### Gallup-Purdue Index

New index against which colleges and universities can compare themselves.

#### **Curriculum Considerations**

Infuse all subject areas with significant experiential learning and employer engagement.

### Employer and University of Choice

Foster opportunistic and supportive relationships between faculty and staff and students

### **Program Offerings and Student Advising**

 Emphasize programs that lead to employment in fields that are in high demand by employers and result in financially rewarding careers. Blake A. Lohnes
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