

**I. Source**

Well-Prepared in Their Own Eyes, Scott Jaschik, Jan 20, 2015, *Inside Higher Ed*

**II. Credibility of Source**

Article describing the results of a survey taken by The American Association of Colleges and Universities (AACU). There were 613 students and 400 employers surveyed. The large sample size lends lots of credence to the results. No details of methodology given so the reader cannot tell if the survey was really scientific, but the AACU is a credible organization.

**III. Summary of Content and Conclusions**

The survey finds that college students think they are being well-prepared with the skills and qualities needed for careers. Employers are dubious. Students consistently rank themselves as prepared in areas where employers do not agree. The area where students and employers are the closest to being aligned is in staying current with new technologies, where 37 percent of employers think students are well-prepared and 46 percent of students think that. But in a number of key areas (oral communication, written communication, critical thinking, being creative), students are more than twice as likely as employers to think that students are being well-prepared. And these are the kinds of qualities that many colleges say are hallmarks of a liberal education

**IV. Relevance to the Department of ECE**

This is yet another report of a long line of reports pointing to the gap in soft skills as being larger than the gap in technical skills and math. This a relatively short article dealing directly with the industry-academe gap.

**V. Recommendations for the Department or the IAB**

This is another report that should be read by faculty, board and students. There is a bar chart that enumerates gaps in learning outcomes specifically as well as a table that highlights the biggest gaps.

**VI. Contact Information**

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**The full article can be found at:**

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/01/20/study-finds-big-gaps-between-student-and-employer-perceptions>