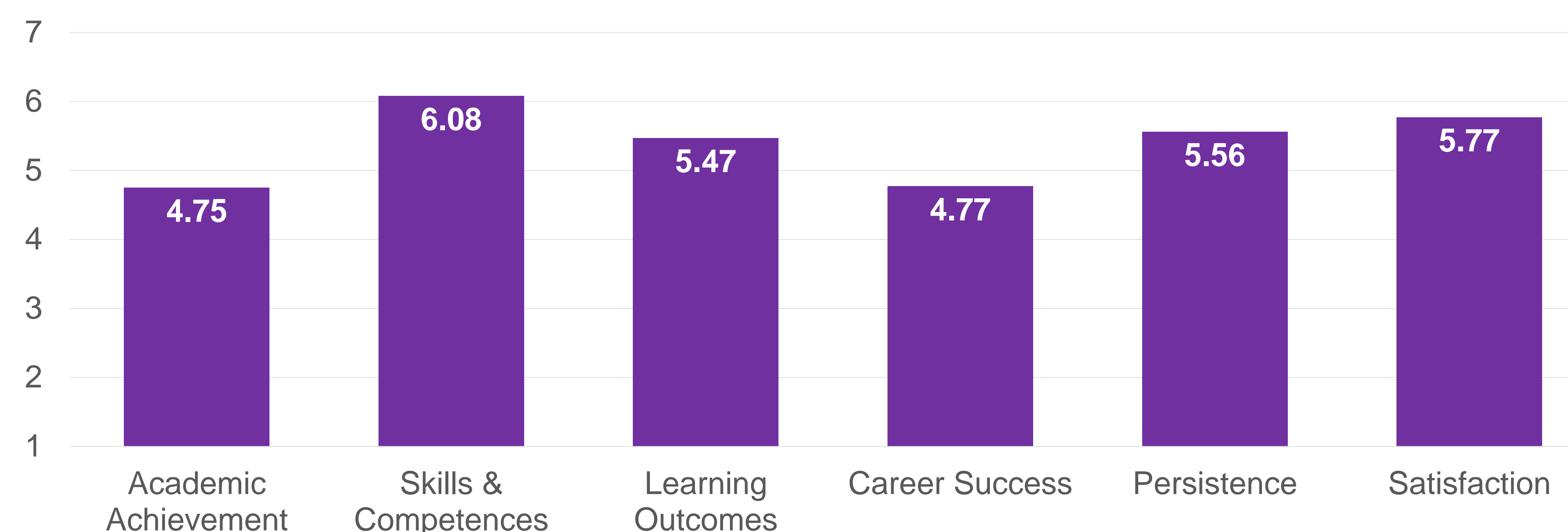


INTRODUCTION

- The term "academic success" is conceptualized in numerous ways, ranging from objective (i.e., grades) to subjective criteria (i.e., satisfaction).^(1, 2)
- A review by York et al. (2015) identified 6 indices for academic success in research: (a) academic achievement (i.e. GPA), (b) acquisition of skills and components, (c) attainment of learning outcomes, (d) satisfaction, (e) persistence, and (f) career success.⁽³⁾
- We were interested in obtaining postsecondary students' perspectives on these indicators and what indicators might be missing.

"How much do you think each item defines academic success?"



DISCUSSION

- Our results are consistent with previous research, suggesting there are numerous indices for academic success.^(4, 5, 6)
- Interestingly, while grades are overwhelmingly used in research for academic success, students endorsed GPA relatively low as an indicator of academic success.⁽³⁾
 - This suggests a mismatch between researchers and students.
- Also students identify a number of missing criteria, suggesting that there is no single definition of academic success and variation between individuals' perceptions.

METHOD

- We surveyed 196 undergraduate students from a mid-sized Canadian University.
 - Students were from an education program.
- Participants had a mean age of 25.08 years (18 to 55), and were mostly female (78%).
- Students were asked "How much do you think each item defines academic success?"
 - The indicators were endorsed on a scale from 1 (strongly disagree) to 7 (strongly agree).
- Furthermore, we asked students to list any criteria they felt was missing.

Please include any items missing above that define academic success?



ACTION / IMPACT

- Our results could impact how researchers approach measuring academic success in their research, and how academic success is conceptualized moving forward.
- Utilizing multiple measures of academics success could provide valuable information in the future and provide a more nuanced understanding of academic success.
- The next step for the project is to evaluate how teachers endorse the indicators, and see how they define academic success in comparison to research and students.

RESULTS

- Students endorsed acquisition of skills and competences the highest, and academic achievement the lowest (see graph).
- Students identified a number of additional criteria including: **real world application**, **improvement or growth**, **passion**, **goals** and **social skills**
 - Furthermore, 30% of those surveyed indicated there was nothing missing from the 6-indicators of academic success.

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