Improving Student Soft Skills through Internships

Soft Skills such as communication, teamwork, leadership, and problem solving skills are important in today's workplace. These soft skills can all be learned through an internship and utilized beyond that experience. My research shows 57% of people rated soft skills as being more important than technical skills. When the goal in internships becomes not only helping students focus on their intended field of study and learn about those careers, but also learning the soft skills requested by employers, the internships benefit students in a multitude of ways. The question becomes how do we as professors make sure that students are learning the soft skills as well as the technical skills needed to succeed? This paper focuses on assignments and measuring tools used in internship classes to instill and assess the soft skills in an internship.

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