



Analysis of the NT40 Leadership Dinner Series: Greg Jacobi & Brint Ryan

Introduction

The NT40 Leadership Dinners is a student-funded opportunity that provides student leaders and guests the chance to hear from successful leaders from the professional world. These speakers provide insight from their experiences, as well as, motivating tips to achieve success. The purpose of this new leadership series is to provide students with professional advice that will be applicable during their undergraduate experience and in their professional development. Because of the newness of the dinner series, the NT40 advisory board wanted to gauge the effectiveness of the speakers and assess what the students gained from the event. Within the dinner, there was a leadership lecture component; the lecture component was evaluated via qualitative analysis.

Methodology

Student attendees were given a full-page, 11 item survey to complete at any time during each NT40 Leadership Dinners in addition to a writing instrument. All completed surveys were gathered by NT40 members. All completed surveys were submitted to the Division of Student Affairs, Student Affairs Administration office for scanning; the results were exported into an Excel file. The survey captures attendee type, major, career field interest, and general beliefs regarding the event. A qualitative analysis was conducted based on student responses when asked “What are 2-3 key takeaways that you have learned from this speaker that have resonated with you?” The responses were coded by overarching themes and then a Pareto graph was created for each dinner to convey the main points that the students took away. These, along with three other open-ended questions, were asked to explain what the students learned at the each of the dinners. Additionally, four of the items in the survey were asked on a five-point Likert scale with (1= Absolutely Not – 5= Absolutely) to gauge the students’ perspective as to how effective the dinners were.

Results

Table 1: Attendees

Greg Jacobi			Brint Ryan		
Attendee Type	#	Valid %	Attendee Type	#	Valid %
NT40 Member	19	52.7%	NT40 Member	31	34.8%
Guest	15	41.6%	Guest	43	48.3%
Other	2	5.5%	Other	15	16.8%

Table 2: Prato Graph

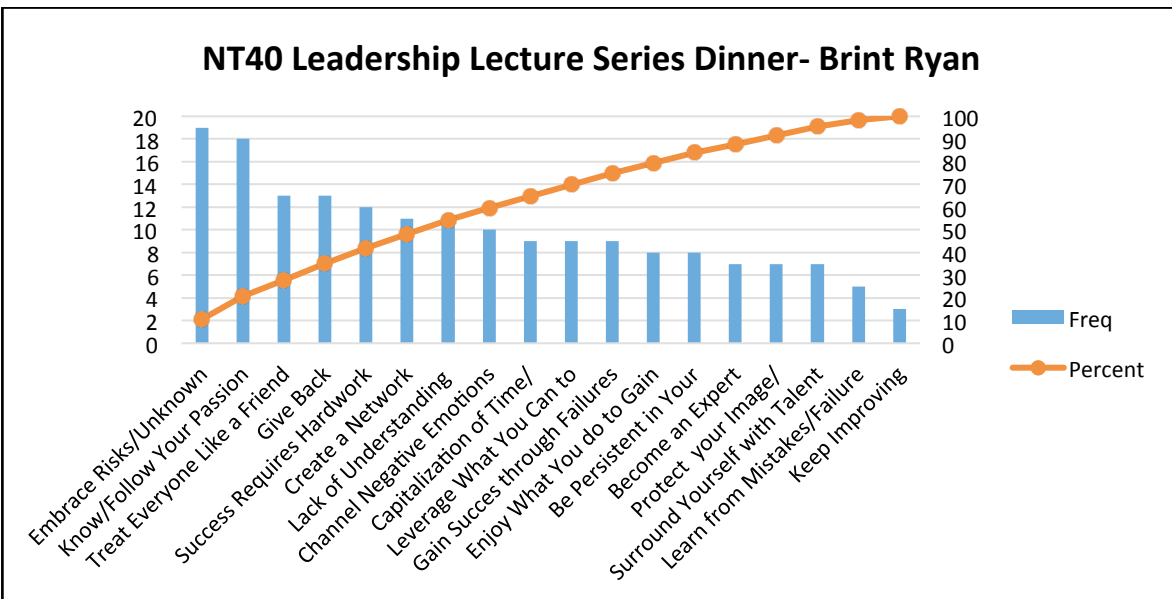
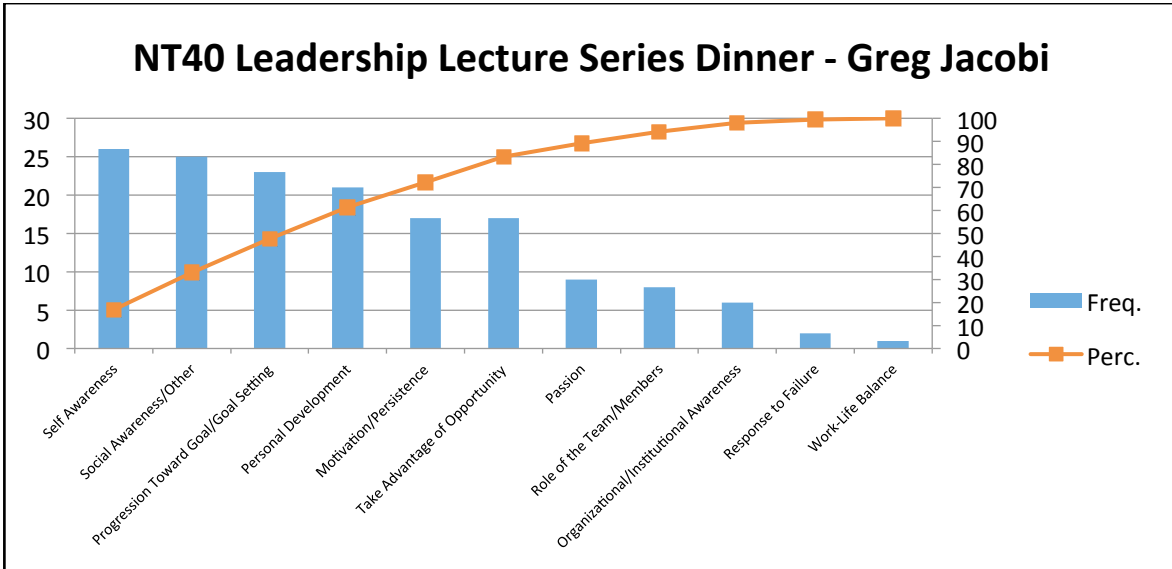


Table 3: Student Agreement with Responses
NT40 Leadership Lecture Series Dinner – Greg Jacobi

Statement	% ABSOLUTELY or SOMEWHAT
I found this leadership lecture of value to me	86.5
I would recommend this leadership lecture series to other students	86.5
I believe this speaker’s perspective has prompted me to view my career in a new way	83.8
I believe this speaker’s perspective has prompted me to view my own leadership style in a new way	83.8

NT40 Leadership Lecture Series Dinner – Brint Ryan

Statement	% ABSOLUTELY or SOMEWHAT
I found this leadership lecture of value to me	92.7
I would recommend this leadership lecture series to other students	92.7
I believe this speaker’s perspective has prompted me to view my career in a new way	92.7
I believe this speaker’s perspective has prompted me to view my own leadership style in a new way	85.5

Discussion

The Pareto graph was utilized to detect which themes were ranked 80% or above based on what students identified with the most. From the Greg Jacobi dinner, *Self-Awareness*, and *Social/Other Awareness*, and *Progression Towards a Goal/Goal Setting* were the top themes. The Brint Ryan Dinner had a greater response rate because there was a larger attendance rate. *Embrace Risks/Unknown* and *Know Your Passion* were the top themes coded from the second dinner. Between both of dinners, a large majority of attendees found the dinners to be valuable and, they are more likely to recommend the dinners to a friend. The dinners seem to have a positive impact on both NT40 members and guest alike.