

# ARE COLLEGE STUDENTS PREPARED?

## Connecting College Learning and America's Global Future

*Employers are globally connected and are placing more emphasis on hiring candidates with global knowledge and experience.*

# 70%

of employers surveyed say their company or organization is globally connected.\*



# 41%

have employees in locations outside the U.S.\*

A majority of employers agree that their company or organization is placing **MORE EMPHASIS** than they did five years ago on hiring candidates who bring **GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE** and **EXPERIENCE**.\*

*A majority of employers want all college students to gain global knowledge and intercultural skills.*

# 96%

“strongly or “somewhat agree” that, regardless of a student’s chosen field of study, all students should “have experiences in college that teach them how to solve problems with people whose views are different from their own.”\*\*

# 78%

of employers “strongly; or “somewhat agree” that, regardless of a student’s chosen field of study, all students should “gain intercultural skills and an understanding of societies and countries outside the U.S.”\*\*

# 73%

of employers believe that college graduates’ preparation would improve if they were required to complete a significant applied learning project.\*\*

### Employers give students especially weak grades on key global learning outcomes.

Of 17 outcomes graded, the largest majorities of employers rate recent graduates as “not prepared: on the following outcomes:

- (1) problem-solving in diverse groups
- (2) scientific literacy
- (3) knowledge of global development and trends
- (4) knowledge of cultures/societies outside the U.S.
- (5) foreign language proficiency\*



Association  
of American  
Colleges and  
Universities

\* Hart Research Associates (unpublished data, 2015).

\*\* Hart Research Associates *Falling short? College Learning and Career Success* (Washington, DC: AAC&U, 2015). [www.aacu.org/leap/public-opinion-research](http://www.aacu.org/leap/public-opinion-research).