

Innovation Imperative

Enhancing the Talent Pipeline

In Northeastern University's third annual national survey on higher education issues, CEOs and other C-suite executives assessed the effectiveness of U.S. colleges and universities in preparing students for the global workforce.

1 Global competition



54%

of C-suite executives believe the U.S. higher education system lags behind both developed and emerging countries in preparing students for the workforce.

2 Rethinking needed

96%

of executives declare that innovation in higher education is crucial for our workforce to remain globally competitive.



3 The need for two "E's"

There is wide agreement that colleges and universities should expand opportunities for experiential learning and entrepreneurship programs.



97%

experiential learning

89%

entrepreneurship education

4 Fill the skills gap

73%

say there is a skills gap among today's U.S. workforce.



87%

contend that most college graduates lack the skills critical to success.

5 A split forecast

American business leaders are divided in their expectations of how well prepared college graduates will be for the workforce in the next 10 to 15 years.

27%

said more prepared

32%

said less prepared



39%

expect no change

Northeastern University