

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS

Barriers Why College Students Do Not Attend Conferences

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Research Objectives

- Identify barriers preventing students from attending conferences.
- Develop targeted interventions that make conferences more accessible and appealing for the students in the college.

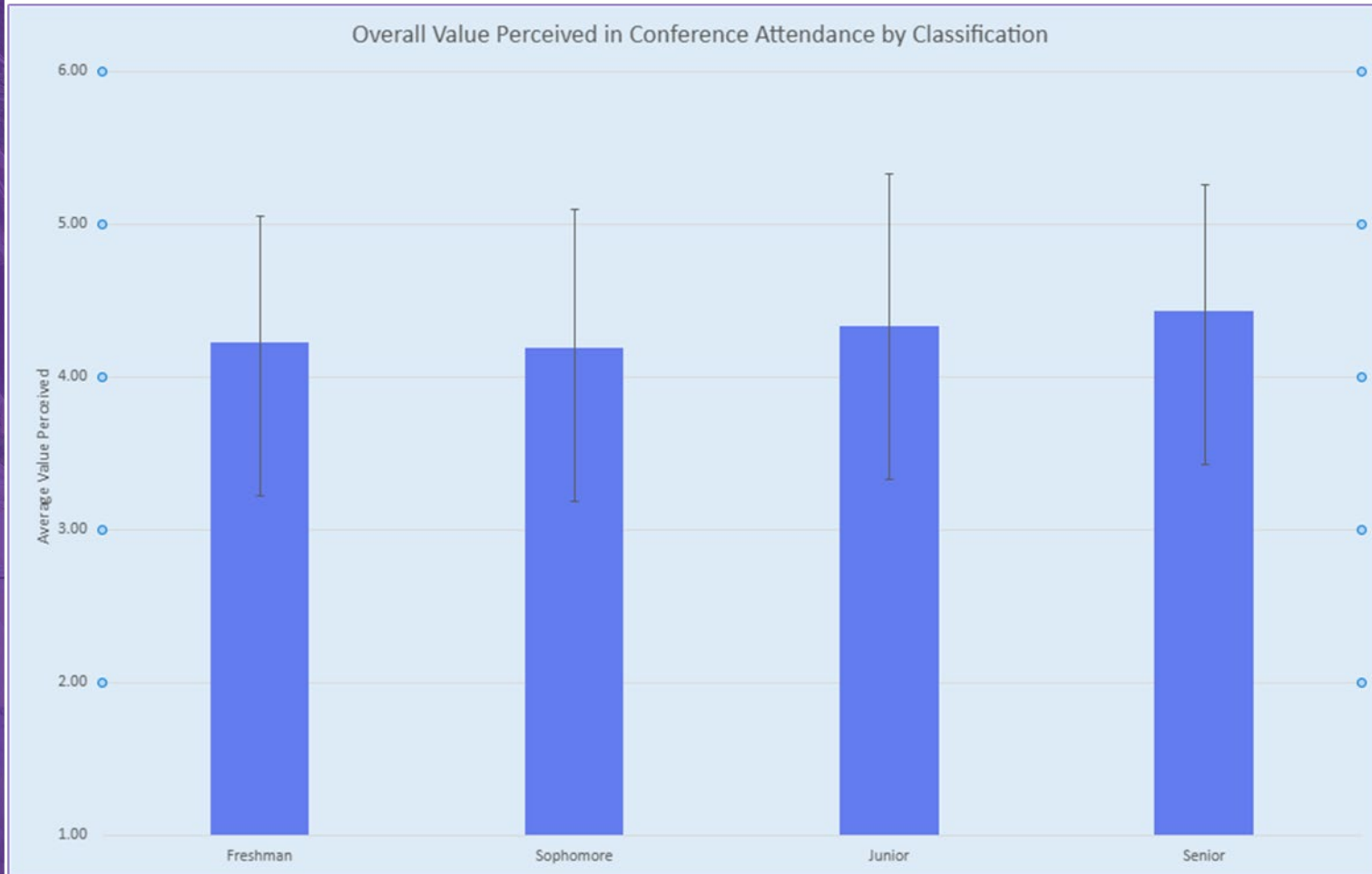


Descriptive Statistics

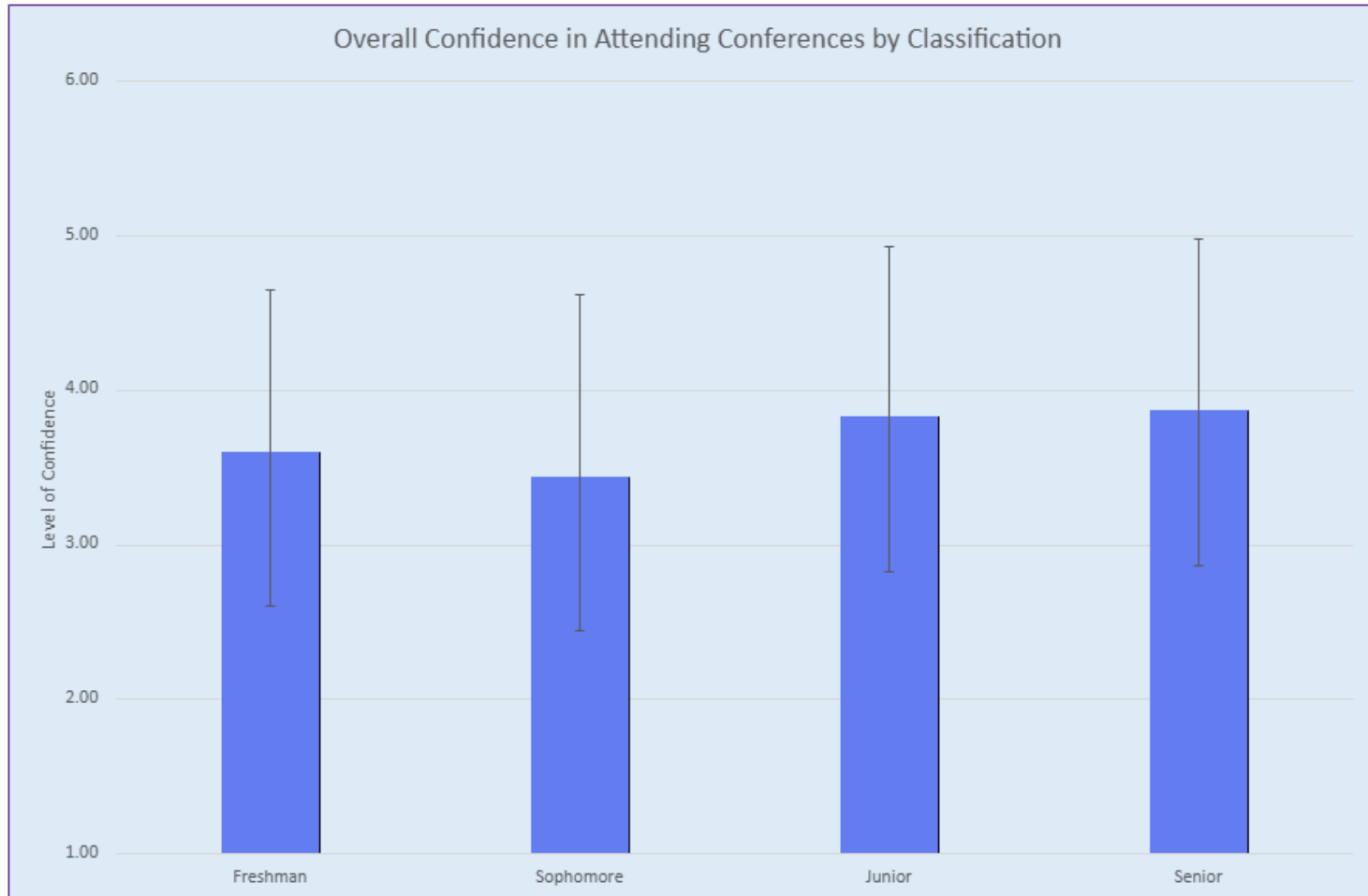
Classification		Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Aware of Opportunities	Freshman	3.48	1.346	46
	Sophomore	3.46	1.199	50
	Junior	3.62	1.166	60
	Senior	3.51	1.256	69
	Total	3.52	1.232	225
Currently a member	Freshman	1.15	.363	46
	Sophomore	1.20	.404	50
	Junior	1.22	.415	60
	Senior	1.35	.480	69
	Total	1.24	.428	225
Have attended	Freshman	1.89	1.433	46
	Sophomore	2.08	1.469	50
	Junior	2.17	1.452	60
	Senior	2.45	1.614	69
	Total	2.18	1.507	225
Have presented	Freshman	1.54	1.089	46
	Sophomore	1.44	.951	50
	Junior	1.60	1.153	60
	Senior	1.71	1.226	69
	Total	1.59	1.119	225



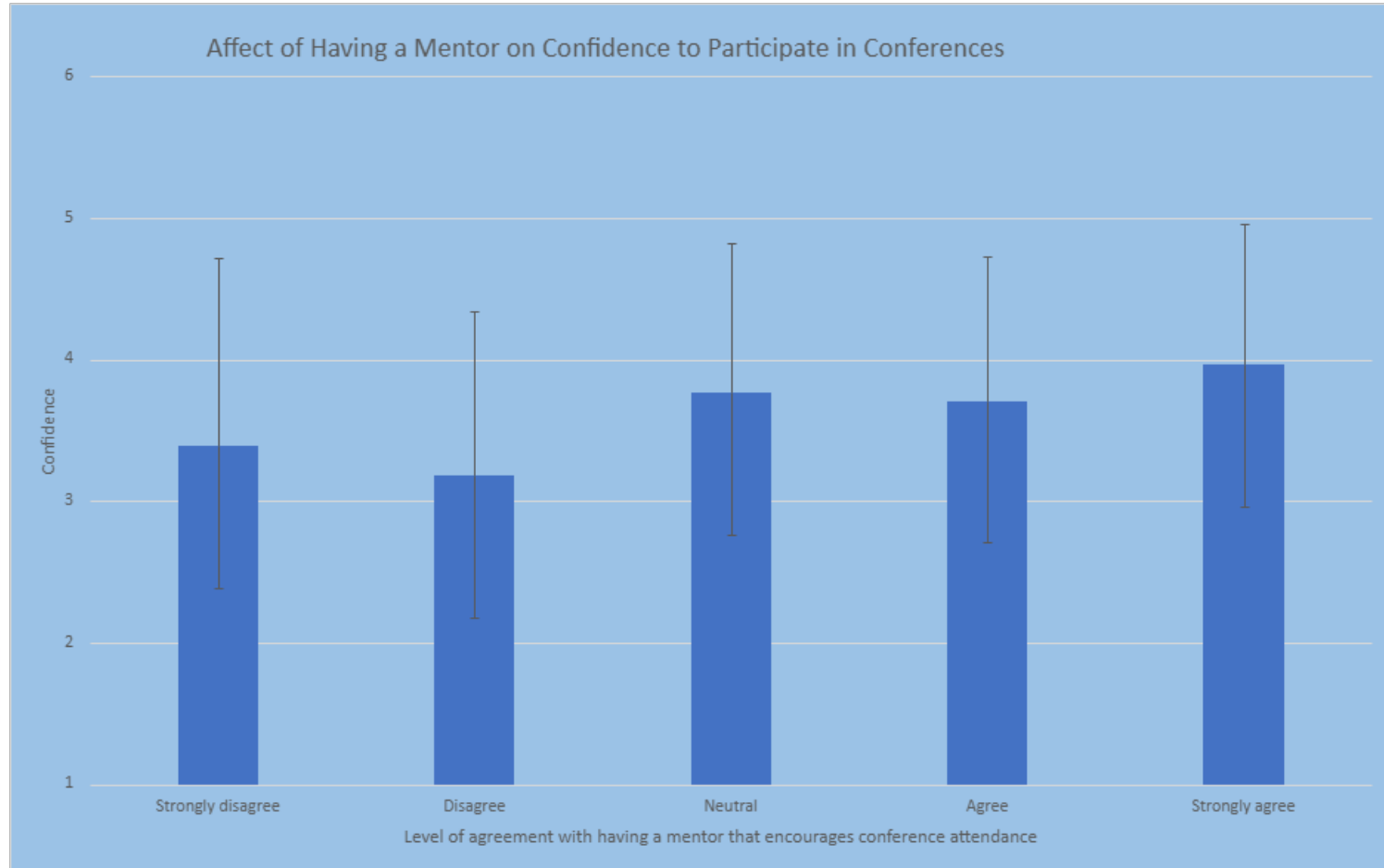
Perceived Value in Conference Attendance by Classification



Overall Confidence Attending Conferences by Classification



Mentors and Conference Participation



Takeaways

- There does not appear to be a significant effect of classification on awareness of conference opportunities. There is a significant effect of classification on confidence regarding conference participation procedures, especially completing forms related to attendance and presentations. Seniors felt most confident.
- There was a significant effect of classification on perceived value of attending conferences, especially the value in social opportunities and networking. Seniors expressed a higher value.
- There was a significant effect of having a mentor on confidence regarding conference participation procedures, related to all variables except communication skills. Those that stated they agree or strongly agree that they have a faculty mentor were more likely to express greater confidence in these variables. Classification was also significantly related to capability of booking a hotel and feasibility related to location.



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