



Skills for Life

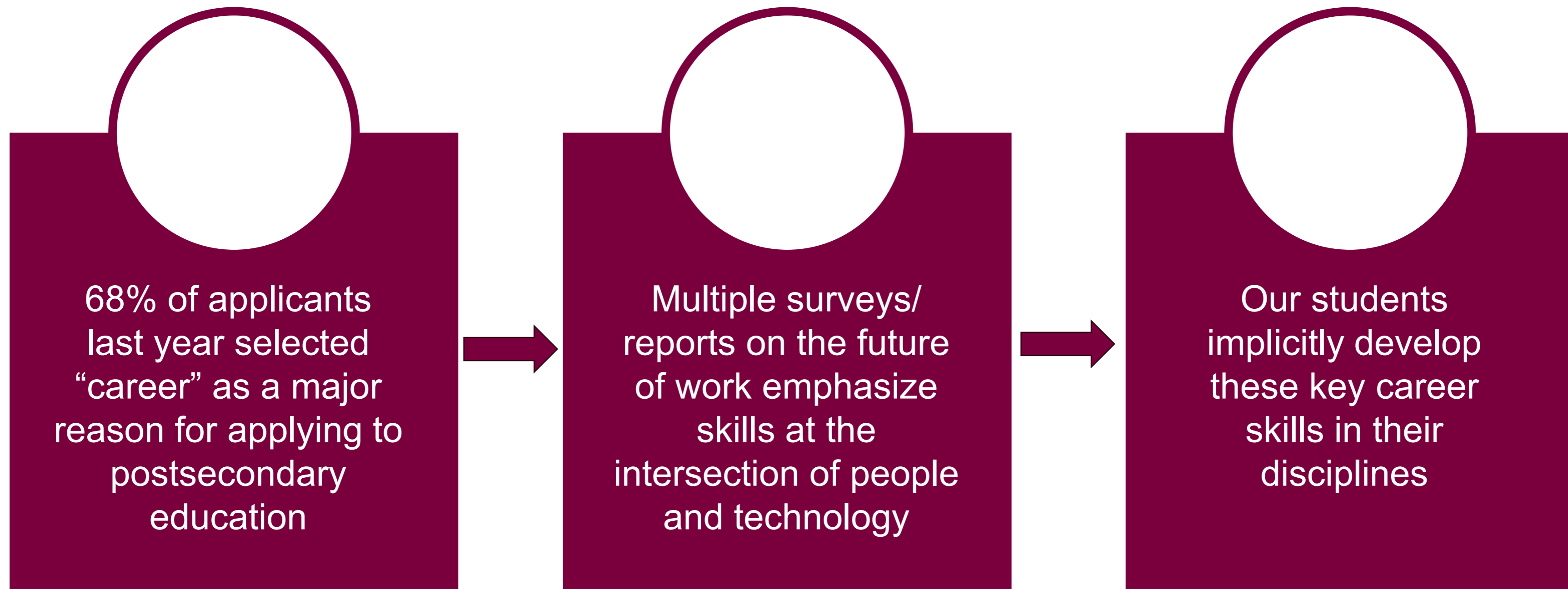
Introducing a Skills Curriculum in the Faculty of Humanities

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May 7, 2024



Our students are thinking about their futures...and so are we



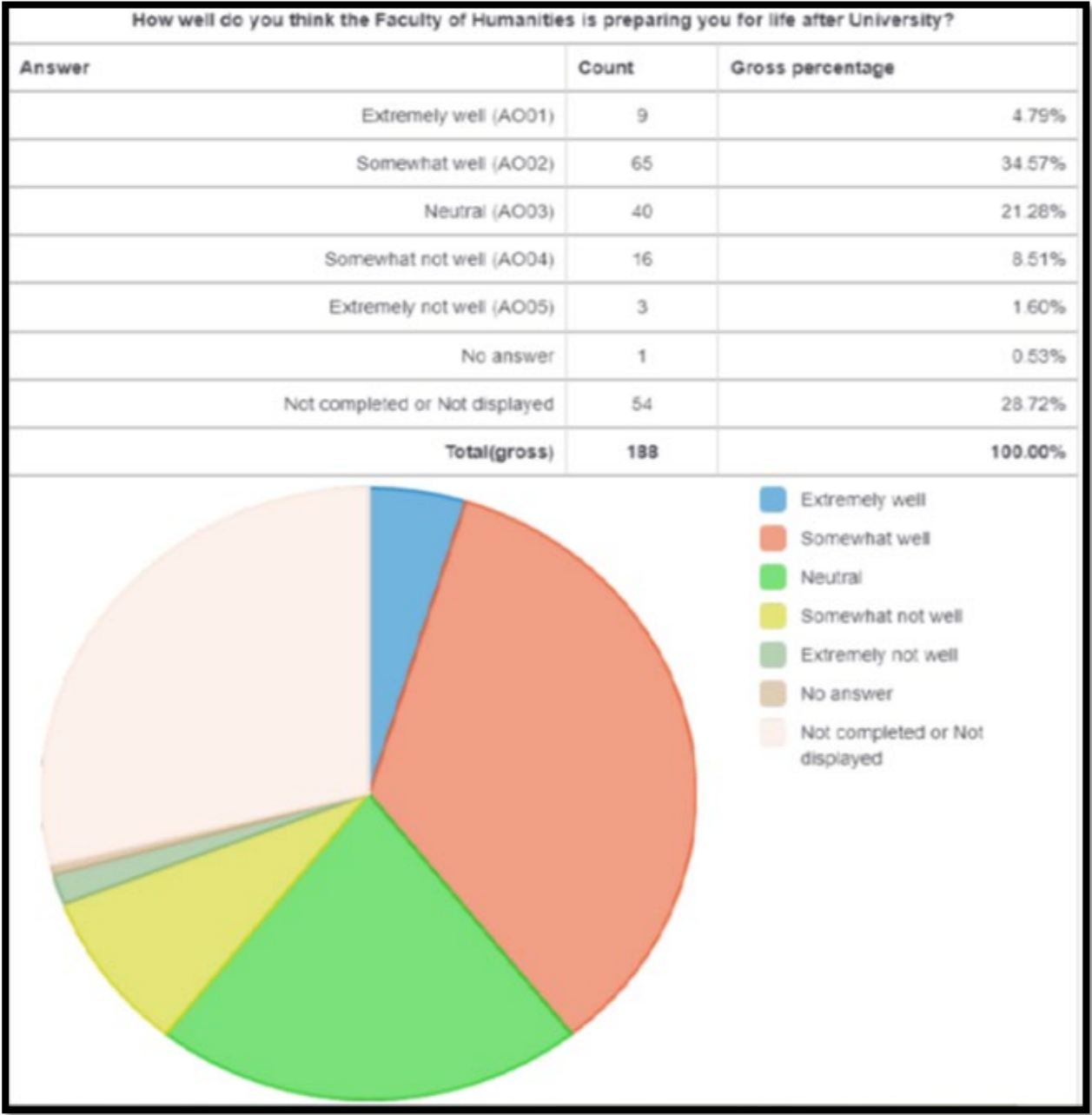
There are challenges



Our students implicitly learn key skills that employers say they need, including:

- critical thinking
 - digital literacy
 - creative problem solving
 - collaboration
- How do we make this skills learning explicit, practical, and relevant to experiences outside the classroom?
 - How do we ensure our students can communicate the value of their Humanities education to themselves and to employers?

And we have opportunities



- Student survey results show:
 - The majority of students (55%) are either neutral or think we're doing "somewhat well" at preparing them for life after university
- Feedback from the survey and focus group includes:
 - More experiential learning opportunities, as well as greater emphasis on connections between the skills learned in their courses and the workforce
 - Mandatory career preparation
 - Career prep and experiential learning should be integrated into degree programs and should be specific to Humanities
 - More emphasis on life skills, such as mental health and financial literacy

We're providing tools to help them succeed

Current career supports in the Faculty of Humanities

- Humanities Internship Program, offering paid, for-credit part- and full-time work-based placements
- Career-focused group sessions on key topics including creating effective resumes and identifying employability skills
- Print/electronic career resources
- One-on-one career support
- Networking events featuring Humanities alumni



And now, we're adding something more

Skills for Life Concurrent Certificate

- Mandatory, 18-unit certificate for all Humanities BA students launching in Fall 2024
- Designed to connect the dots between the classroom and the workplace by providing practical ways to demonstrate key skills
- Includes classes in diversity and intercultural understanding, problem solving, social innovation and change, ethical leadership and relationship skills
- Incorporates career development classes, as well as extra-curricular career-focused opportunities
- Networking events featuring Humanities alumni

Specifics

Level I (9 units)

- 3 units from Humanities 1V3 – Voice and Vision: Words to Change the World
- 3 units from Humanities 1DL3 – Digital Literacy for the Humanities
- 3 units from HUMAN1HL3 – Humanities for Life: The Value of a Humanities Degree

Level II-IV (9 units)

- 3 units from HUMAN 2CP3 – Humanities Career Planning and Development
- 3 units from 1-unit skills modules on a variety of foundational skills
- 3 units from any of the above skills modules and/or internship courses (if not previously taken) or 3 units from our suite of leadership and applied Humanities courses

Extra-Curricular Elements

- Career programming
- Alumni mentorship and networking
- Experience record/reflection portfolio
- Life skills workshops



For more information, contact Dr. Sean Corner
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