

An Evaluation of Support Systems and Student Satisfaction in Sonography Education

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Introduction

Diagnostic Medical Sonography programs require both technical skill development and strong support systems. Volunteers may help play a key role in enhancing student learning outcomes, clinical confidence, and overall experience.

Purpose & Hypothesis

To assess student satisfaction and examine the impact of volunteer support on student learning, clinical confidence, and overall experience in EFSC's Diagnostic Medical Sonography training program.

- (1) Volunteer support would positively influence students' development of their technical skills.
- (2) Most students feel satisfied with their overall experience in EFSC's Diagnostic Medical Sonography program.

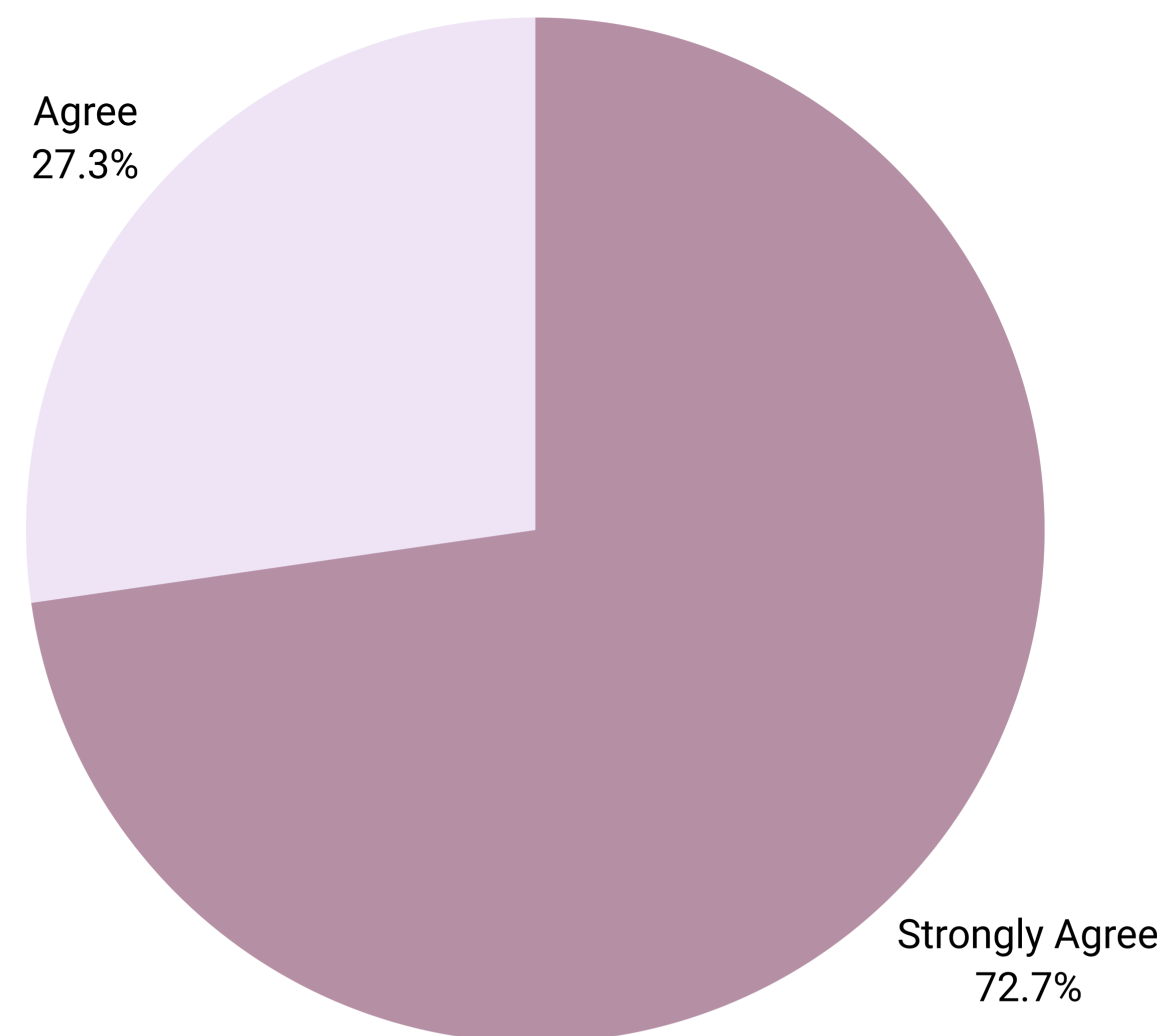
Methods

An anonymous survey was distributed to current students in EFSC's Diagnostic Medical Sonography program. The survey included Likert-type scale questions (1 = Strongly Disagree to 5 = Strongly Agree) and open-ended responses to assess perceptions of volunteer support, clinical confidence, and overall program experience.

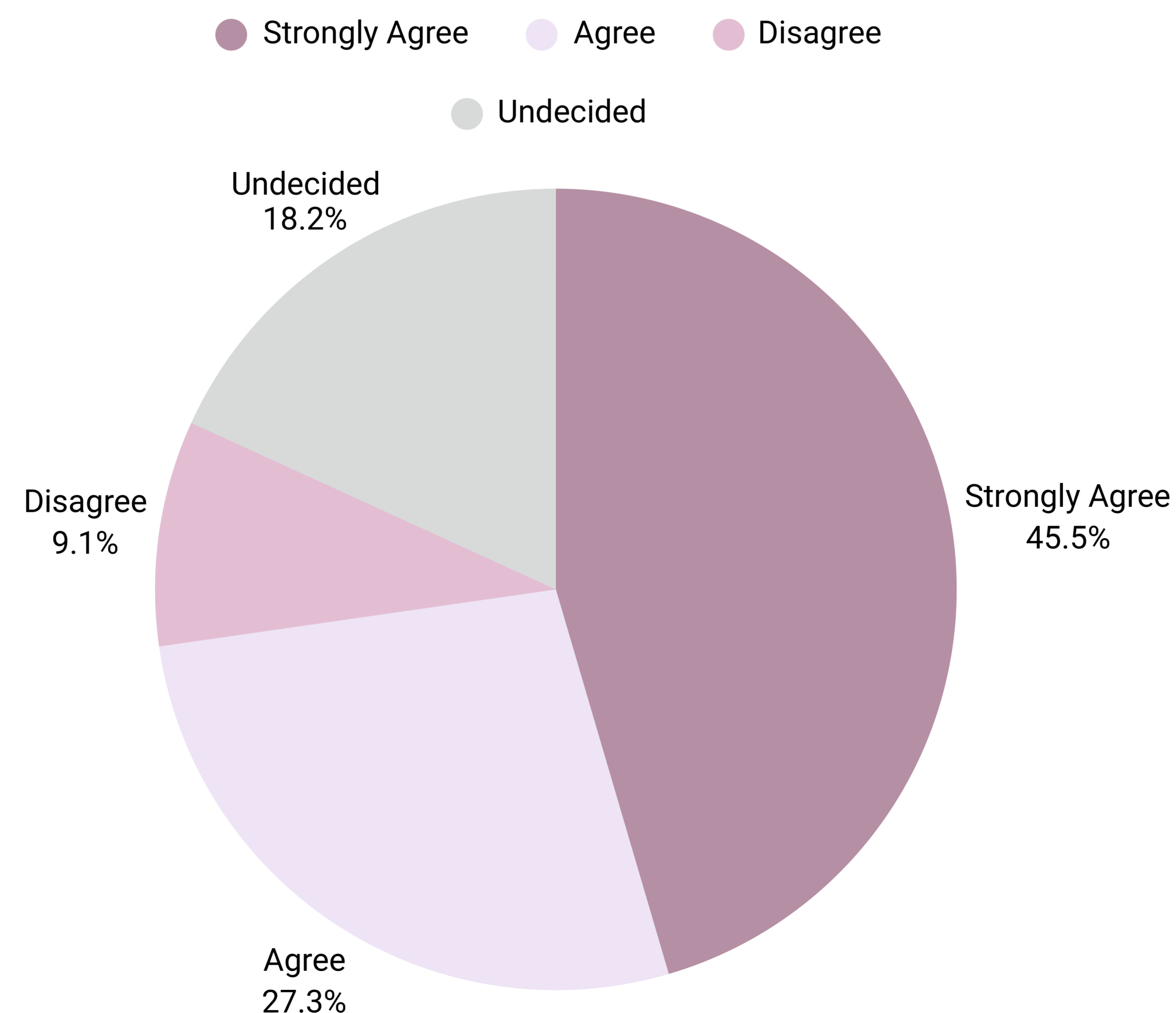
The survey yielded 11 responses (n=11) from a population of approximately 30 students. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, and qualitative responses were reviewed to identify common themes.

Results

Working alongside volunteers, interns, or observers has positively influenced my professional development.



I am satisfied with my overall experience in the EFSC Diagnostic Sonography Program.



Discussion

Volunteer support may *enhance* student confidence and provide additional opportunities for skill reinforcement, especially during lab practice. From the 11 students surveyed, over 70% "Strongly Agreed" with this hypothesis; however, overall student satisfaction has potential for improvement. Among the respondents (n=11), approximately one-third selected "Undecided" or "Disagree," while the remaining two-thirds chose "Agree" or "Strongly Agree," highlighting areas for development.

Conclusion & Reflection

Volunteers *positively* contribute to student success and learning outcomes in sonography education. Incorporating more stringent volunteer support may improve overall student satisfaction and strengthen the program's structure. This research experience emphasized EFSC's commitment to excellence in healthcare education and the importance of community engagement. Overall, the findings underscore the program's strengths while providing valuable insight into opportunities for improving student support and healthcare education.

Acknowledgements

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