

## Objectives

- Describe the innovative interprofessional field experience
- Discuss how the camp program enhances the OT/PT students' skills towards interprofessional practice and discipline specific clinical reasoning
- Examine how this opportunity has influenced OT/PT students' educational and professional development



## Therapy Intern Program

- Students from Tennessee State University, Thomas Jefferson University, Alabama State University participated.
- Their responsibilities include:
  - Working with campers, counselors, Upper Staff, Programming Staff, and Professional Staff during all day and evening activities to promote participation;
  - Living in the cabins to assist with camper/counselor relationships, build cabin unity, assist during morning/evening ADLs and functional mobility tasks;
  - OT Interns collaborated with campers/counselors to enhance socialization and active participation in mealtimes, daily activities like cheerleading, arts and crafts, athletics, cooking, etc.
  - PT Interns collaborated with campers/counselors to enhance mobility needs in order to engage in activity;
- During camp, daily debriefing sessions were held with their faculty mentors;
- At the end of camp, interns explained their role to each camper's parents/caregivers, including any adaptations and adapted equipment utilized.

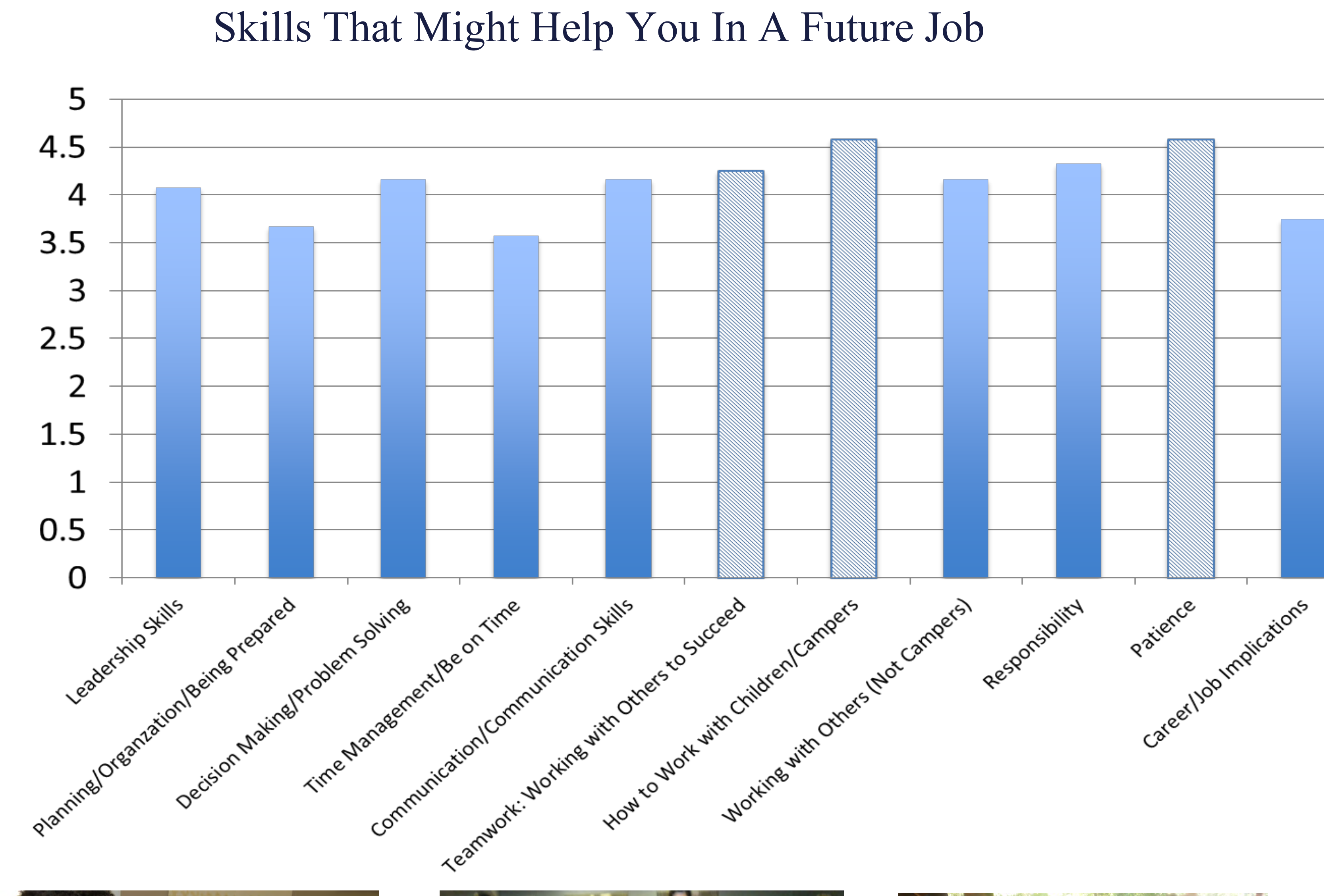
## Demographics of the OT/PT Interns

- 80% response rate
- 5/7 = Physical Therapy Interns
- 7/8 = Occupational Therapy Interns
- Gender: 2 males; 10 females
- Age at Camp: 21-26 years
- How many Summers Since They have been at Camp Dream Street:
  - Last Summer (2)
  - 1-2 Summers Ago (4)
  - 3 Summers Ago (2)
  - 4 or more Summers Ago (6)

## Camp Dream Street - Utica, Mississippi

- A unique program for children with physical disabilities
- Located 30 miles outside of Jackson, MS
- A weeklong overnight camp for children ages 7-14
- Campers are paired with high school counselors for all daily, evening, and overnight activities such as:
  - Cheerleading, sports, swimming, art, canoeing, drama
  - Family style meals in the dining hall
  - Interactive evening programs
  - Bonding with friends during cabin time
- Volunteer health and medical professionals, including occupational and physical therapists, enhance programming by educating, consulting, and adapting activities to meet individual camper needs.

## Survey Results



## Qualitative Data

- Importance of Communication Skills (4.17/5)
  - "I learned the most from talking, getting to know, and being around the campers and realizing how many different ways they are able to communicate their needs and wants and having to adjust my own listening and communication skills accordingly."
- Decision Making (3.83/5)
  - "Deciding how to set the child up to succeed and perform at their most highest level during an activity with least amount of assistance."
- Teamwork (4.08/5)
  - "I was involved in a team through my cabin where I had the opportunity to educate younger staff members, reassure them when they were doubting their abilities to provide care to the campers, and work together as a group to make the campers' experiences as meaningful as we could."
- Planning and Organizing (3.67/5)
  - "I used my "planning and organizing" skills in this setting when creating treatment interventions for the campers. This taught me about treatment interventions for children and the importance of modifying an intervention based on the needs and goals of the child you are treating."

