### University of Massachusetts Amherst

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A Leadership Academy for Women of Color in Tech

Institute of Diversity Sciences



Long-term Impacts of a Cohort Model Providing Leadership Development to to Underrepresented Students in Technology & Engineering

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Harvard University

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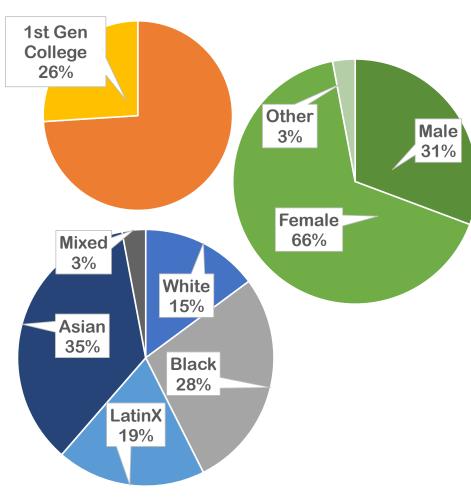
Rati Thanawala

Harvard University and Founder of Leadership Academy for Women of Color in Tech

## **Summer 2020 Cohort**



Bennington College Clark University Harvard University MIT Merrimack College Mount Holyoke College Northeastern University Simmons University Smith College
Tufts University
UMASS Amherst
UMASS Dartmouth
UMASS Lowell
Wheaton College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester State University



# Leadership Academy

Summer 2020: 10 weeks, 3 afternoons/week

Tactical Knowledge + Inspiration

#### Monday

# Conversations and Exercises led by Distinguished Leader in Practice

Sample Sessions

"Excelling on Your First Workplace Assignment"

"Highly Valued Skills in the Workplace"

#### Wednesday

#### **Speaker Series**

Sample Topics

"Preparing to Thrive (vs. Survive)"

"Developing Your Professional Identity"

# Problem-Solving Skills

#### Friday

#### **Negotiation Class**

Sample Sessions

"Power in Negotiation"
"Creating Win-Wins"

#### **Small-Group Workshop**

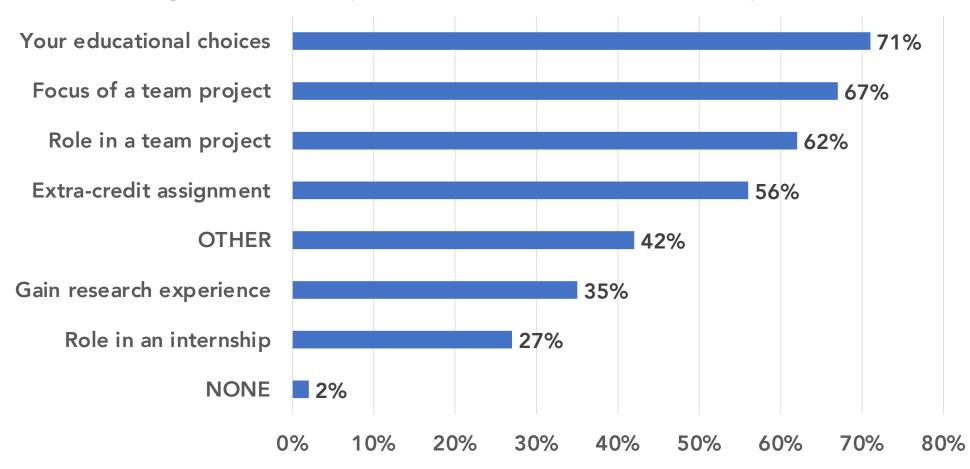
Sample Sessions

"Reducing Ambiguity about What's Negotiable and How to Negotiate"

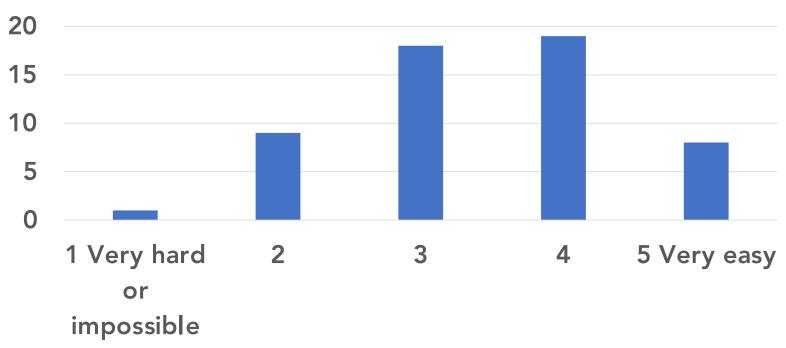


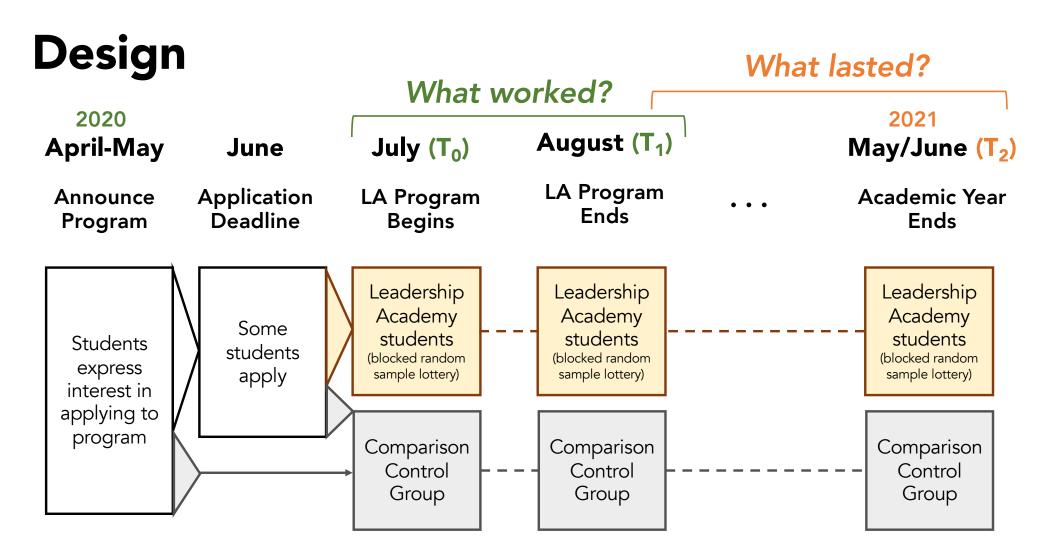
Rati Thanawala

#### Negotiation Examples Relevant to Your Life and Aspirations

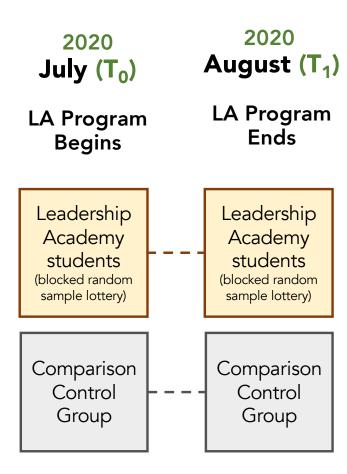


# How hard was it for you to think of a personally relevant negotiation example?





# What Worked?



#### **Direct Effects**

#### Tactical Knowledge

- "Actively learn from mentors, sponsors, and coaches"
- "Deliver stand-out results"

#### Negotiation Confidence ("integrative self-efficacy")

- "I am confident in my ability to negotiate..."
- "When I negotiate, I look for agreements that are as good as possible for both parties."

#### Propensity to Negotiate

- "I am someone who recognizes opportunities to negotiate"

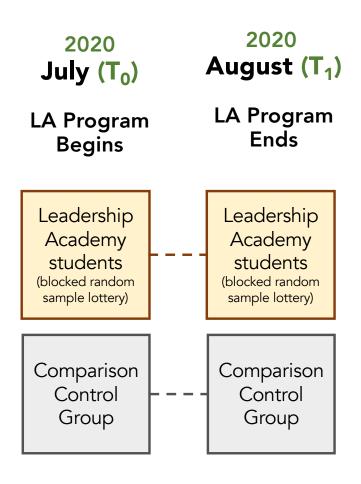
#### Propensity to Stretch

- "I try to stretch myself by speaking up..."

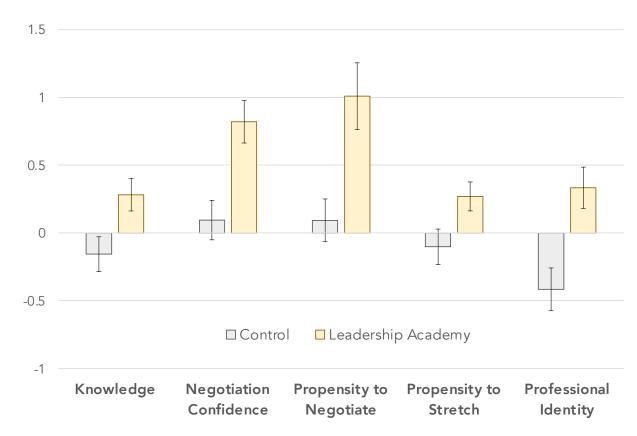
#### **Professional Identity**

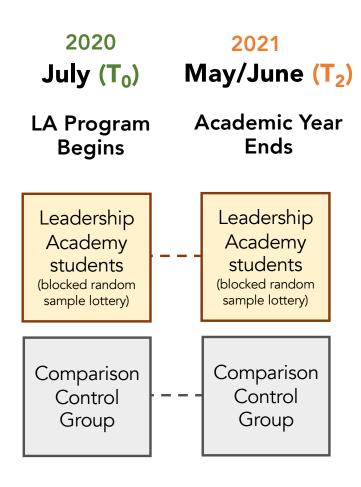
- "I can see myself as a successful professional in a career relevant to my major."

# What Worked?

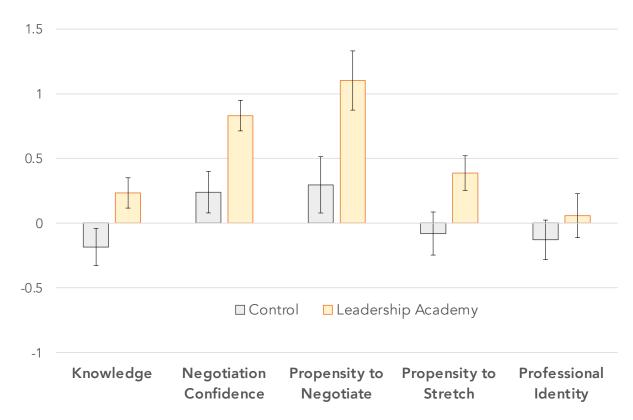


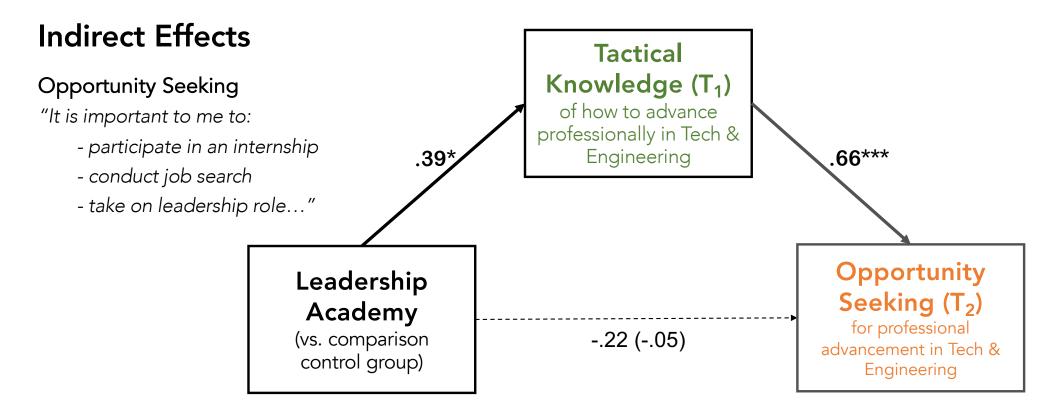
#### Comparing end of August to beginning of July



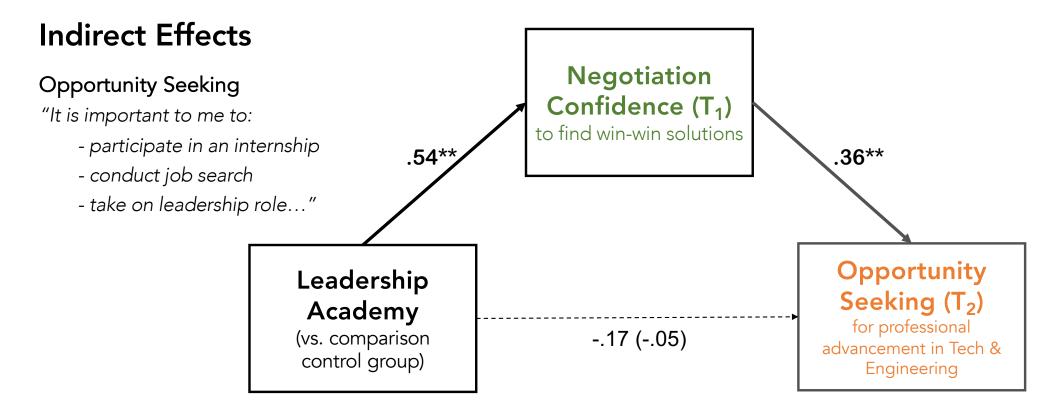


#### Comparing Academic Year End 2021 to July 2020

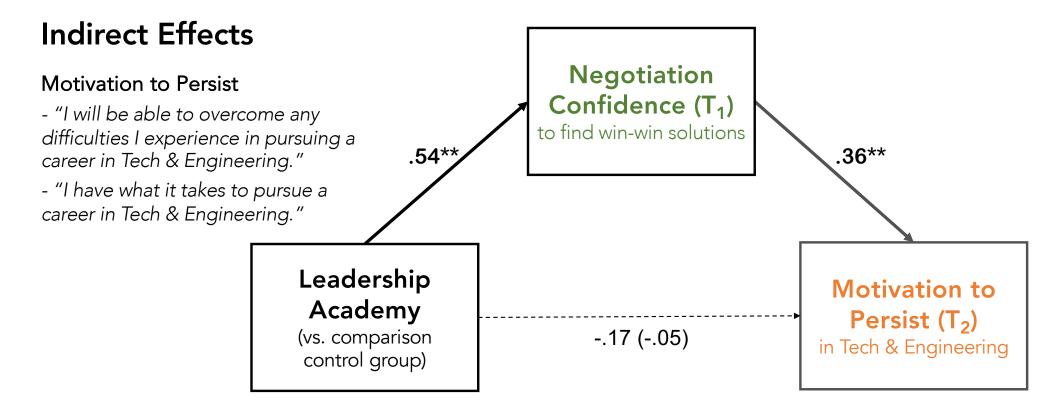




Hayes' PROCESS Model 4 with 5,000 bootstrapping samples Indirect effect: 95% CI [.05, .46]



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Hayes' PROCESS Model 4 with 5,000 bootstrapping samples Indirect effect: 95% CI [.05, .46]

# **Looking Forward**

- Encouraging preliminary results indicate leadership development may help to advance under-represented students in Tech & Engineering
  - Increased tactical knowledge of professional norms may enhance the potential for opportunity seeking
  - Increased negotiation confidence may enhance opportunity seeking and confidence in one's ability to overcome barriers to advancement
- Research continues along with development of transferable teaching materials (e.g., cases, online resources, etc.)