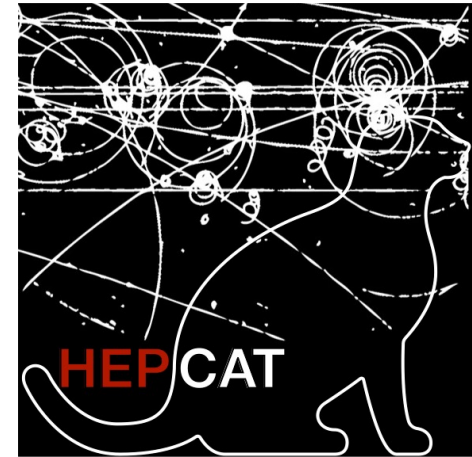


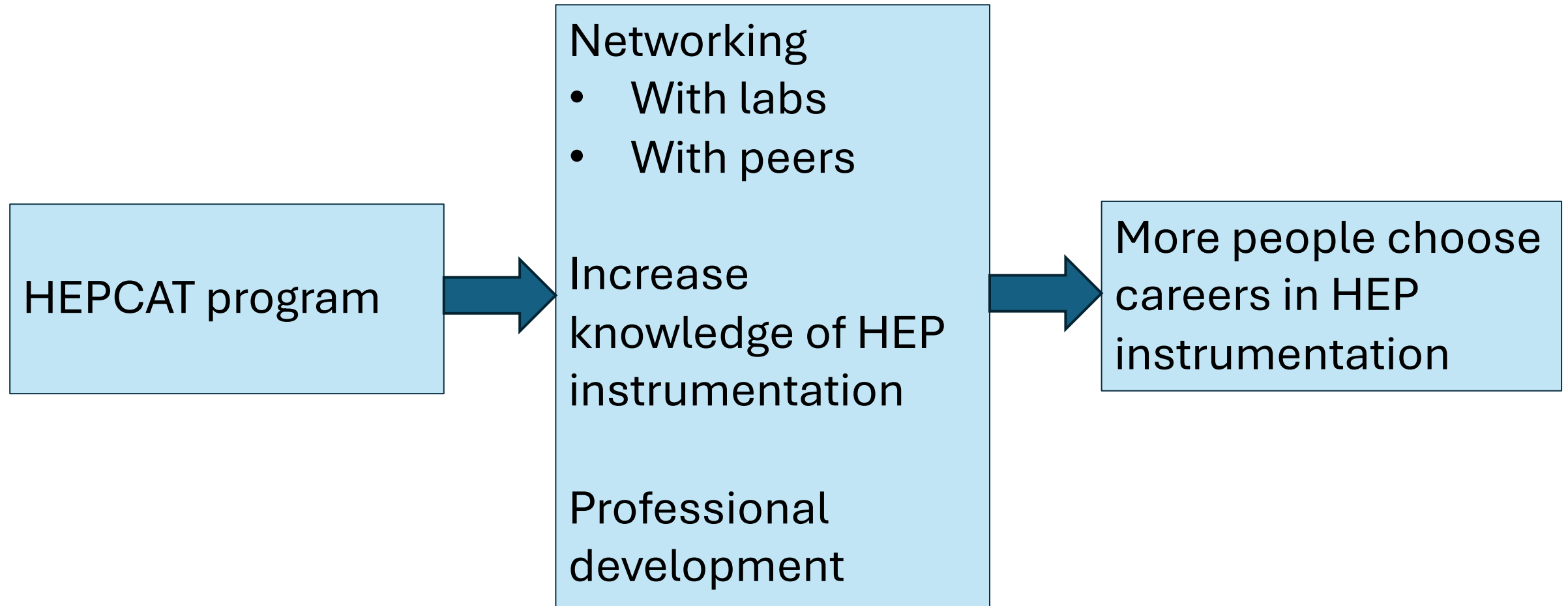
HEPCAT Assessment Survey

Carl Grace, Assessment Committee Chair, HEPCAT

11/05/2025



The HEPCAT model



Respondents to HEPCAT survey

23 Respondents

Site:

43% National Lab

57% University

Gender:

73% Male

14% Female

14% Non-binary or gender fluid

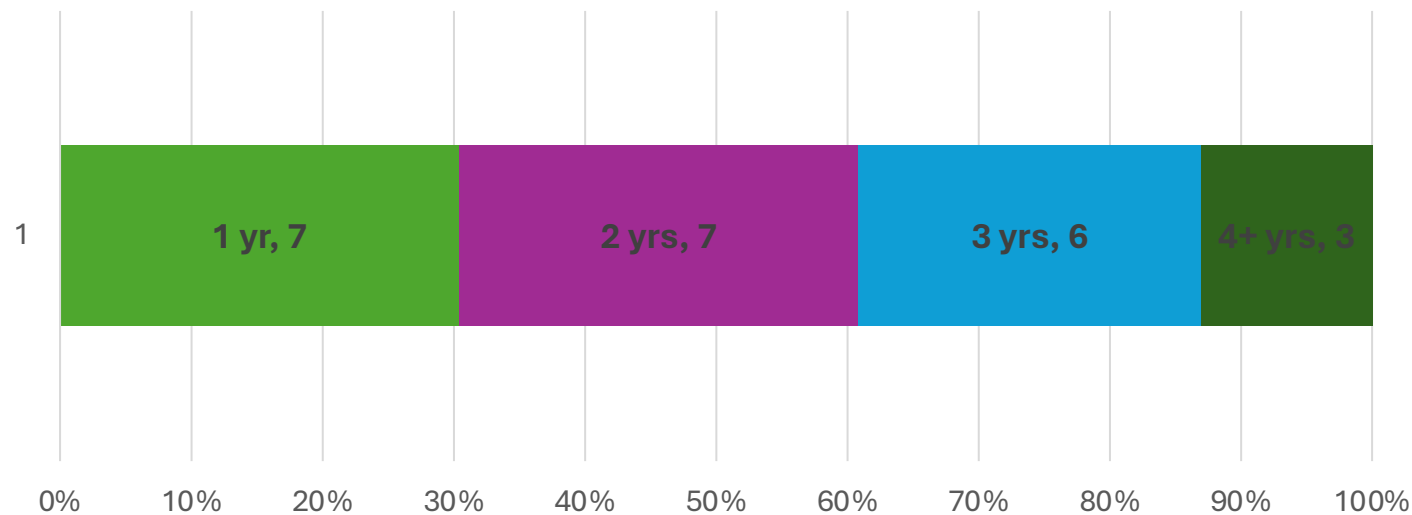
Race/ethnicity:

59% White

14% AAPI

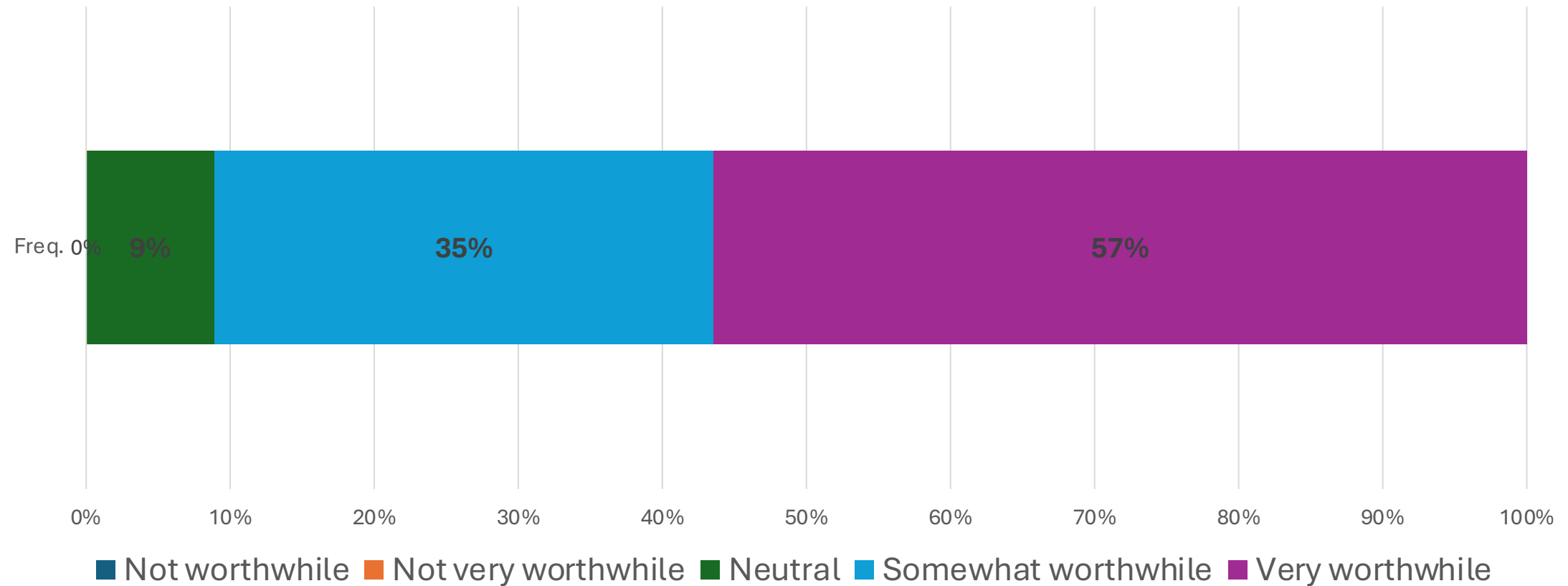
27% Other

Years in HEPCAT

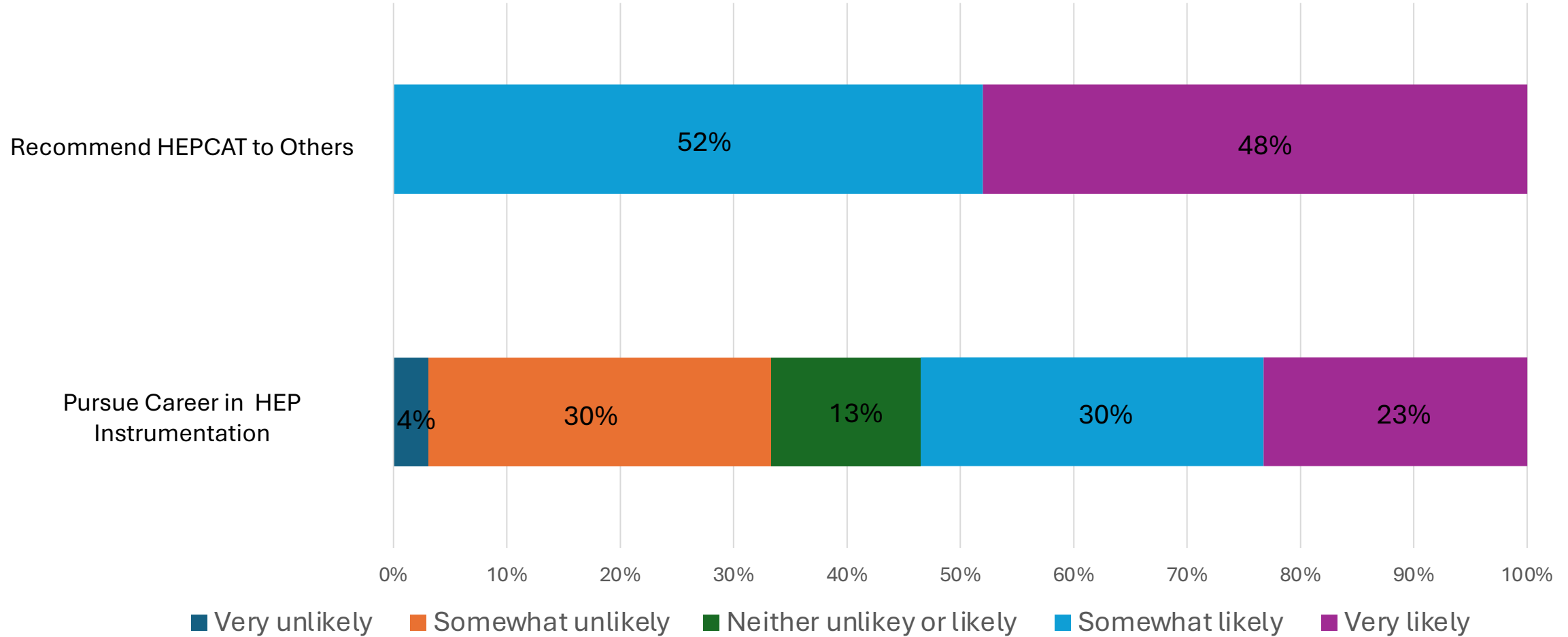


Ratings of research experience (n=23)

How did you feel about your research experience? (n=23)

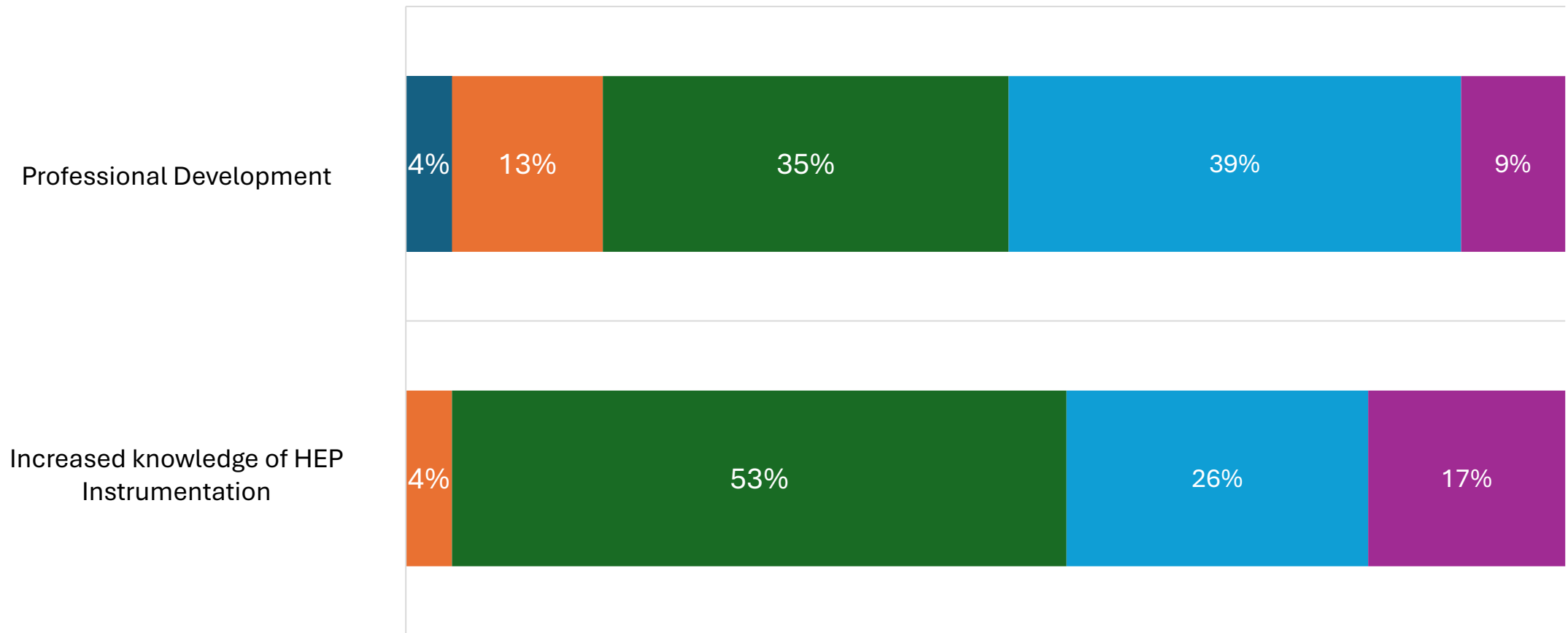


Likelihood as a result of HEPCAT to ... (n=23)

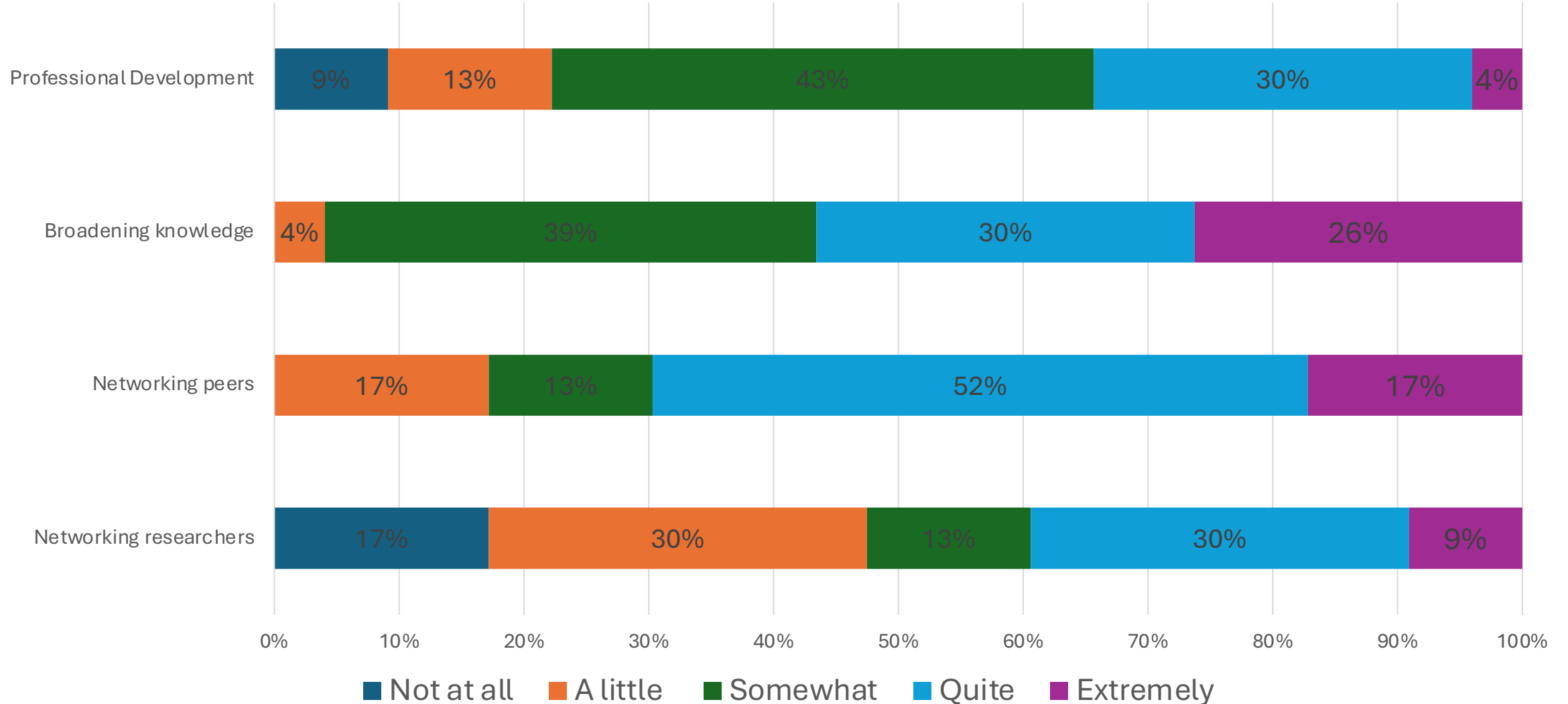


How beneficial was HEPCAT for ... (n=23)

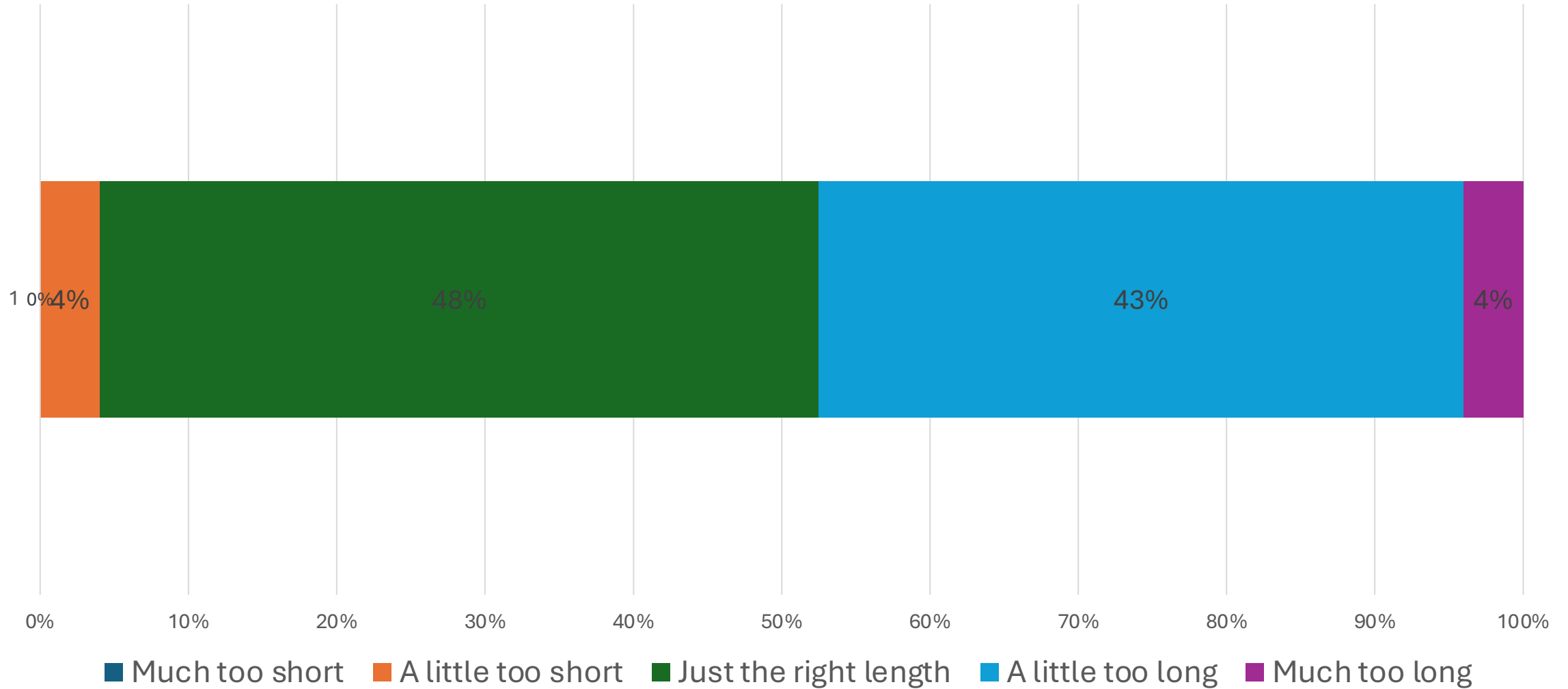
■ Not at all ■ A little ■ Somewhat ■ A good amount ■ Very much



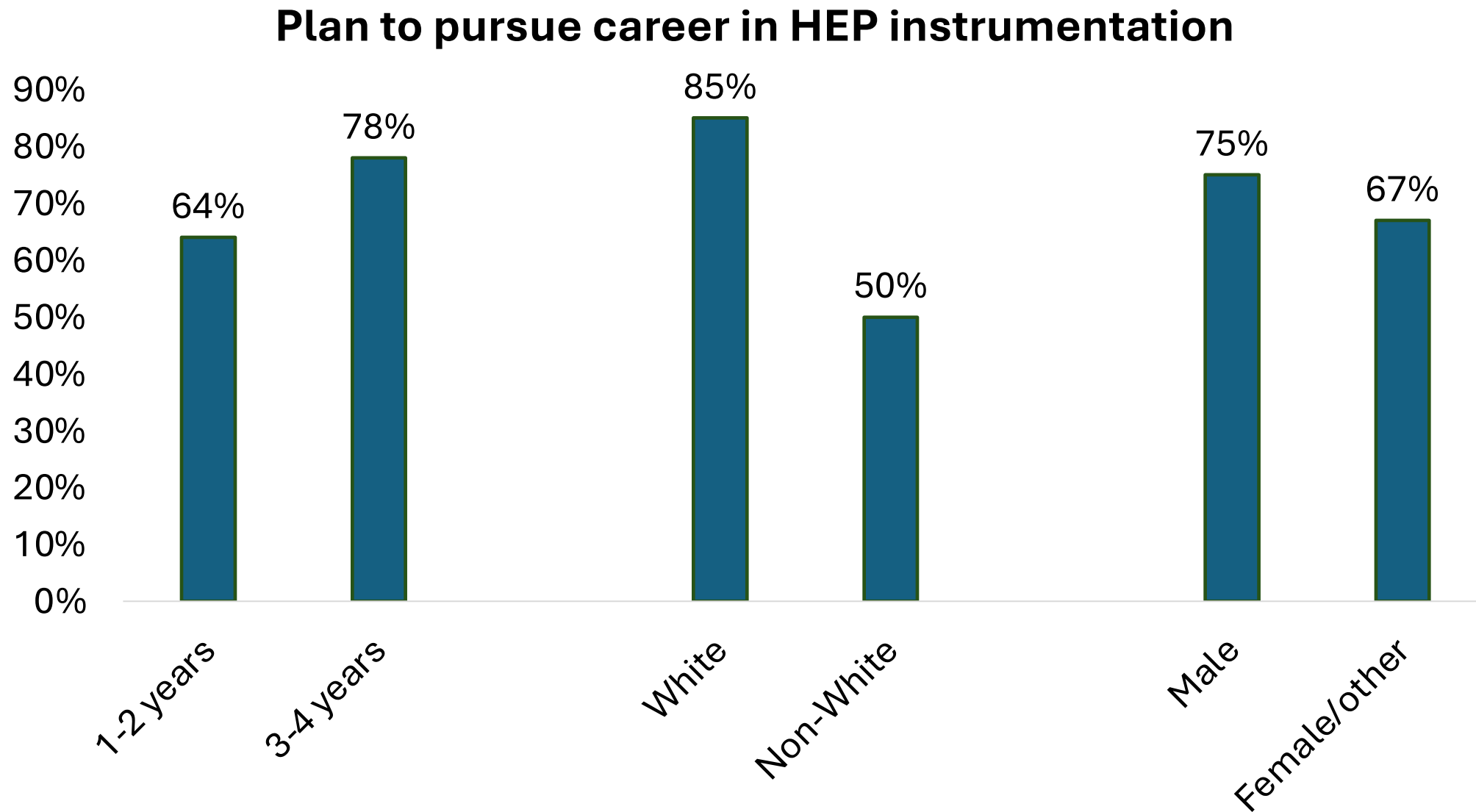
How useful is summer program for ... (n=23)



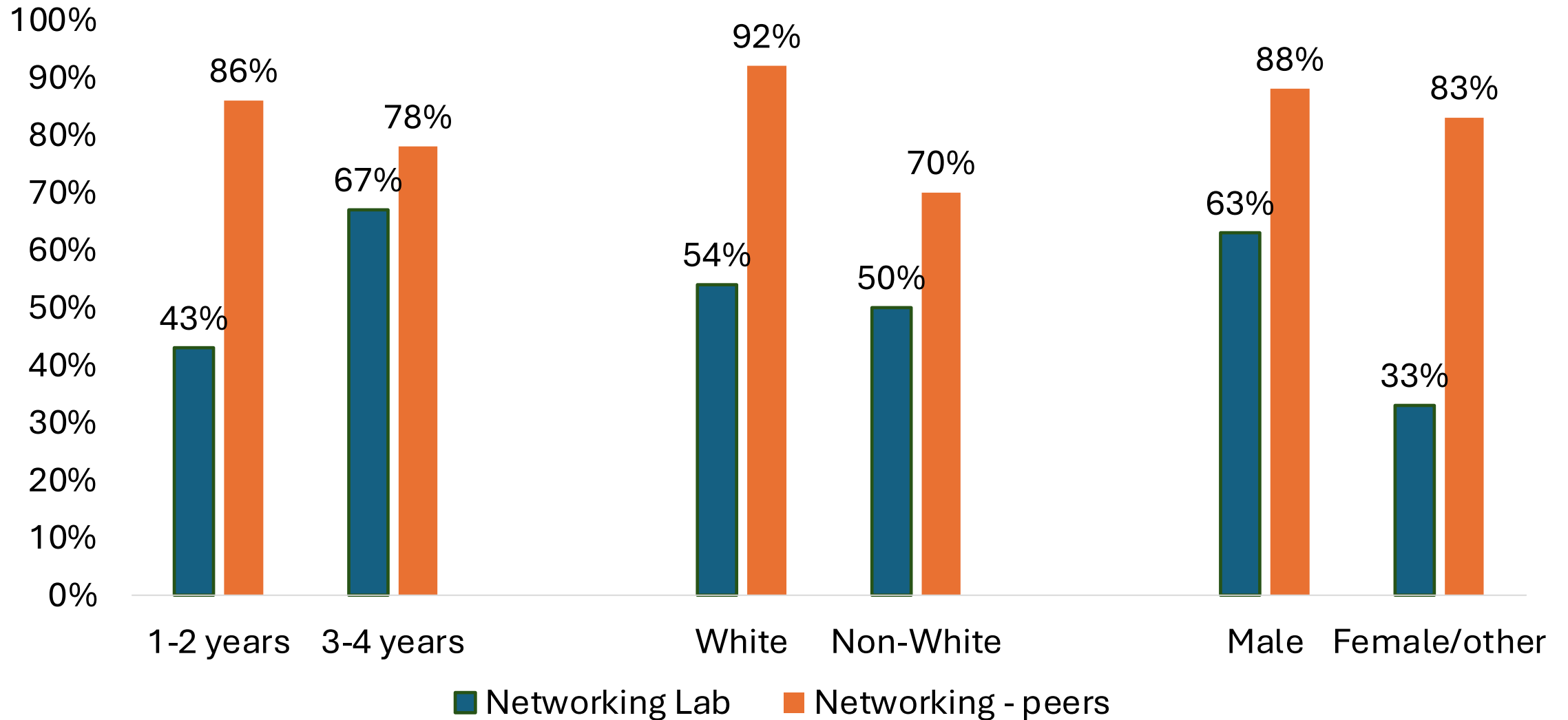
Length of summer program (n=23)



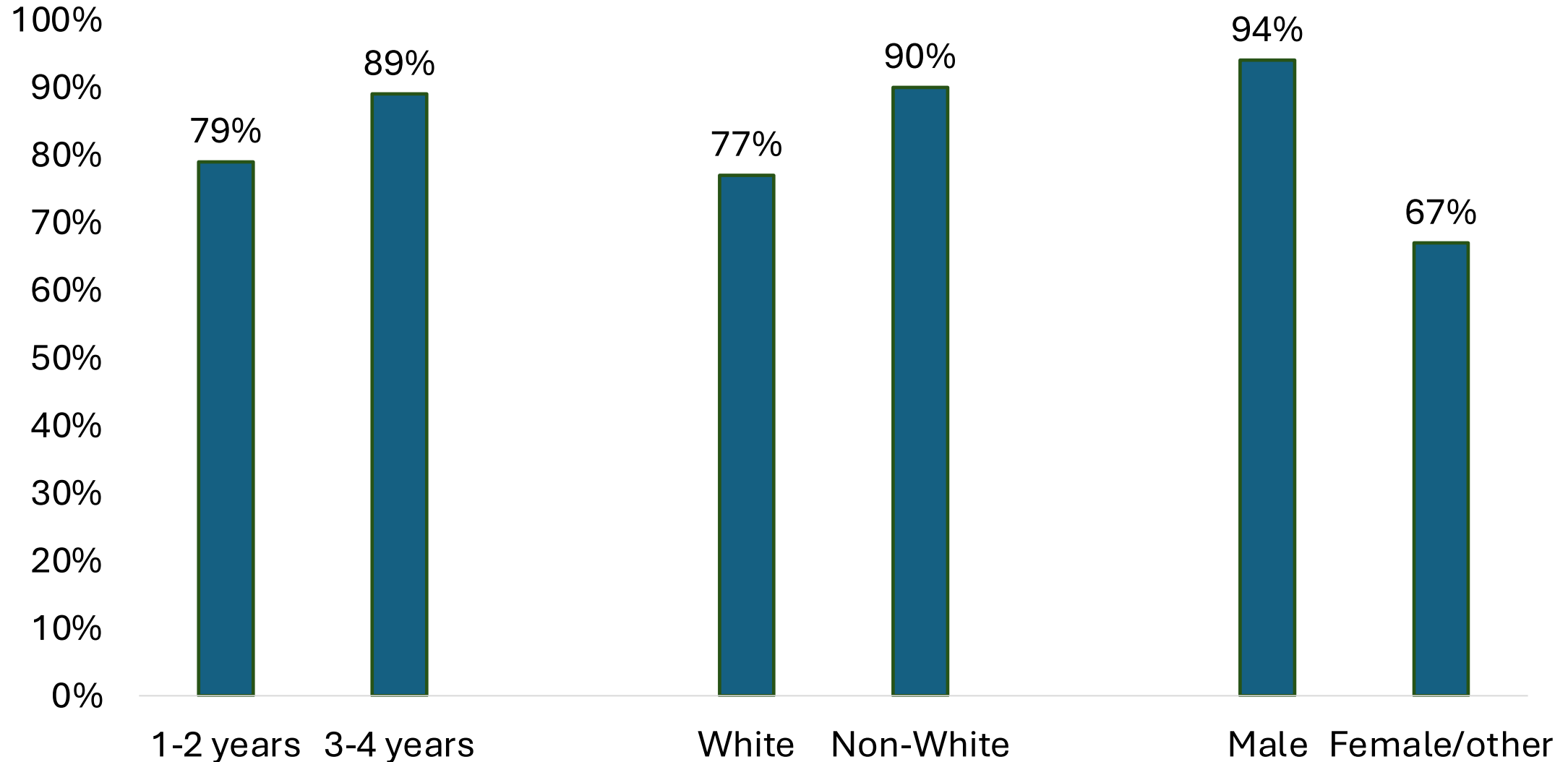
What is associated with HEP career intention?



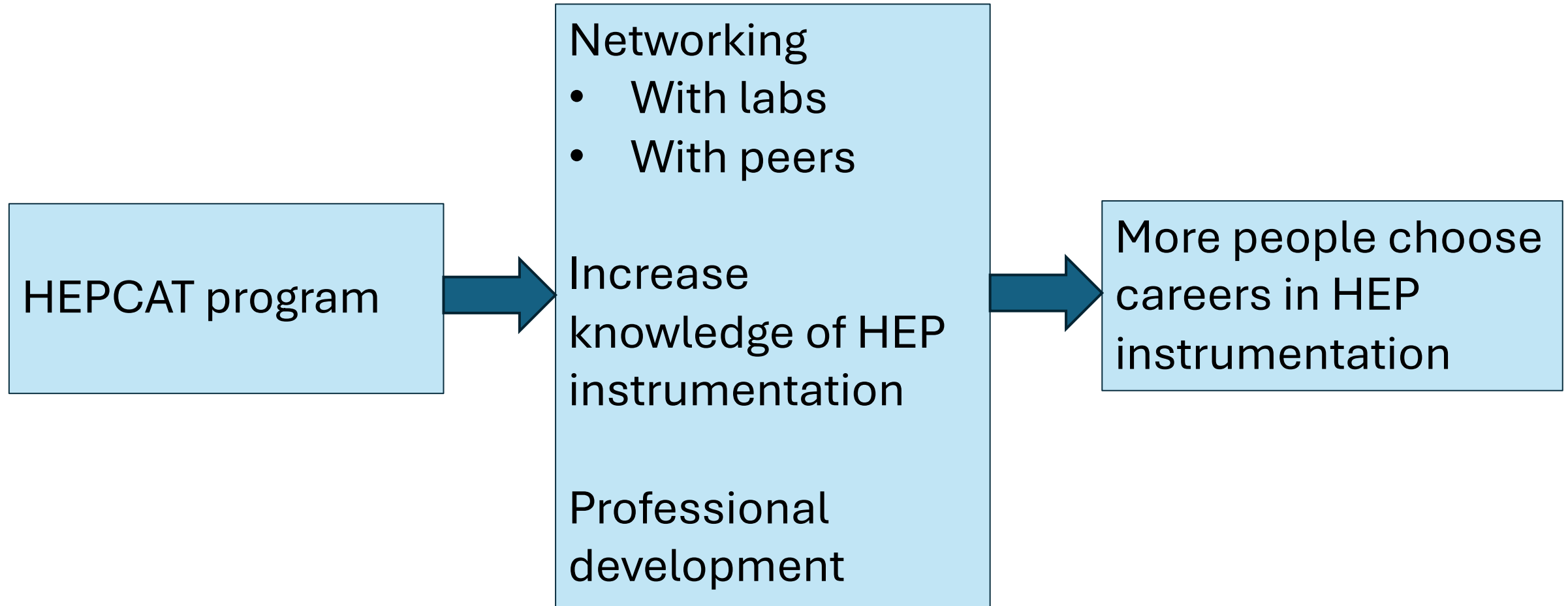
What is associated with Lab and peer networking?



What is associated with prof. dev. satisfaction?



The HEPCAT model



Qualitative Survey Answers

Q1: What is the most positive experience you had as a HEPCAT fellow?

1. Summer School (n=14)

“The lectures during the summer school are often excellent!”

“I found both participating in and TAing for the summer schools to be immensely interesting and beneficial”

2. Networking Opportunities (n=6) – highly correlated with Summer School

“I think the summer school where we actually get to interact with the students and mentors is the best experience”

“Interaction with peers at the Summer Schools”

3. Professional Development (n=5)

“I have been able to travel to National Labs and work on things I would probably not have access to otherwise”

“Having a chance to present my research to people outside of my main field”

Qualitative Survey Answers

Q2: How might we make HEPCAT more useful for students?

1. Improve Summer School / Training (n=9)

“Make the organization of the summer school less chaotic”

“Make modules to complete during the school year?”

2. Better Communication / Directed Networking Opportunities (n=6)

“Increase interaction between graduate students and professors”

“More lunches / meetups like at the CPAD meeting”

3. Make National Lab interaction mandatory (n=5)

“An emphasis on the National Lab promise of HEPCAT ... would have been quite useful for navigating possible career paths”

“Make National Lab collaboration mandatory”

“More lab visits”

Qualitative Survey Answers

Q3: What other feedback do you have about the HEPCAT program?

1. Improve communication / organization (n=7)

“Communication problems with email list”

“Seminars didn’t provide a great engagement”

“Improve the summer school organization”

“Have an external person(not a professor) work to come up with a good schedule ”

Qualitative Survey Answers

Q4: How might we improve the Summer School?

1. More intensive building / hands on (n=10)

“Table-top experiments formulaic...”

“Experiments needed to be a bit more intensive”

“Missed opportunity: not spending as much time with mentors and have them involved in some things”

“Make them shorter. Some labs (like FPGA or Geant) either need more more time or should be cut”

2. Better Organized (n=6)

Take Aways

- **Overall, HEPCAT is doing quite well. Engagement is high.**
 - 92% of respondents thought that HEPCAT was very or somewhat useful
 - 100% of respondents are very or somewhat likely to recommend HEPCAT
 - 69% very or somewhat likely to pursue a career in HEP instrumentation
- **There are a few areas where there is room for improvement**
 - Need to work on engaging all HEPCAT fellows
 - Communication with the fellows could be improved
 - Add some directed networking experiences
 - Consider making a National Lab experience of some kind to be mandatory
- **The Summer School is very popular**
 - Just about the right length
 - Could be improved by better organization and more intensive labs (so maybe fewer of them, but the ones we retain are longer and more intensive)