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12-10-2020

Motivations to Choose English Teaching at Utah State University

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Recommended Citation

Piscione, Aaron, "Motivations to Choose English Teaching at Utah State University" (2020). *Fall Student Research Symposium 2020*. 69.

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Introduction

- **Purpose:** to understand motives of English teaching majors to pursue this career.
- **Significance:** to offer guidance to students and mentors.

Methods

- **Surveys:** current English teaching majors at USU
 - 45 % response rate
 - 19 questions
 - Examined various motivations
- **Interviews:** current and past English teachers and English Advisor

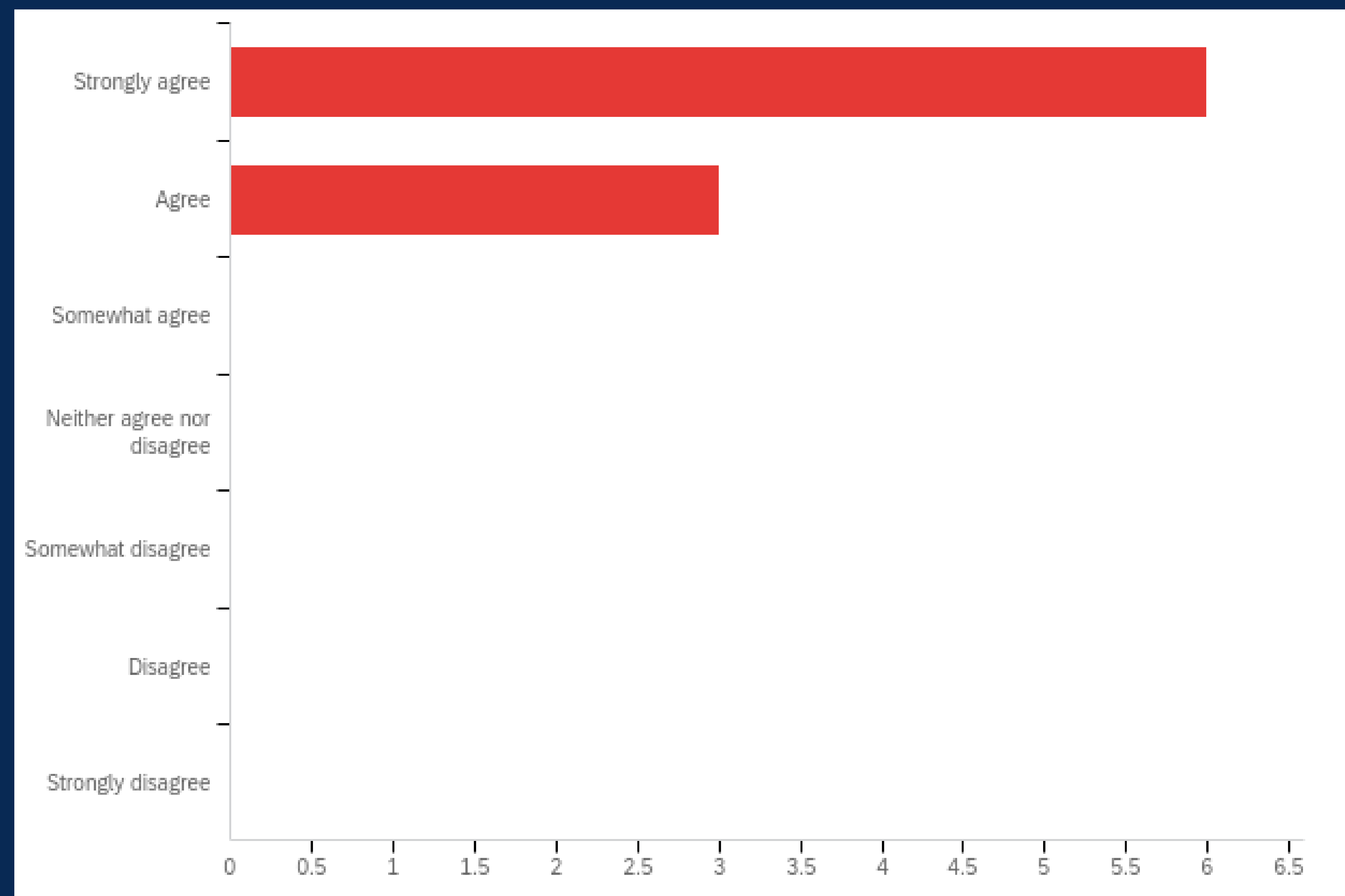
Results

- **Students:** love of English and teaching
- **Teachers:** opportunity to connect with students/had strong role models
- **Advisor:** strong English teacher as well as economic situation

Why Students Choose English Teaching

Figure One

- Q4: I had good teachers who influenced my education growing up



“The influence of a positive English teaching role model is the single most important factor for a student choosing this major”

-Advisor

Conclusions

Two prevailing motivators for preservice teachers and practicing teachers:

- 1: Influence of English teacher
- 2: Love of English

What do we mean by “love of English”?

- Broad definition
- Most common description in interviews was opportunity to connect with students

Figure Two

- Q14: My love of English was an important factor in my decision to become an English teacher

