МЛАДИНСКИ ОБРАЗОВЕН ФОРУМ YOUTH EDUCATIONAL FORUM

European Policy Institute. Skopje

Introduction to student practice

1 University ("SS Cyril and Methodius" University, Skopje)

3 Faculties Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering, Faculty of Economics, "Iustinianus Primus" Faculty of Law

142 Students from the final year of their bachelor studies in the respective faculties

Students

38%
31,7%
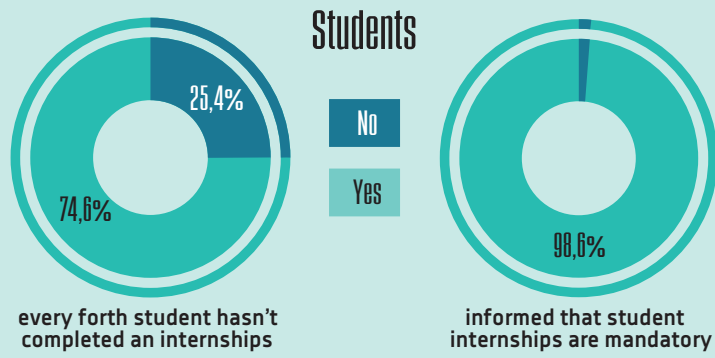30,3%

- FINKI
- Faculty of Economics
- Faculty of Law
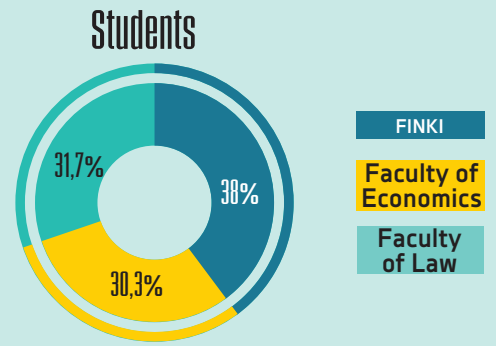
9 Private Companies Tutunska Banka; Law firm Trpenovski; Notary Zorica Pulejkova ; Inside Development; SIGMA-SB; MK HOST SKOPJE; IVOTE ; Group Point; Lynx Studio
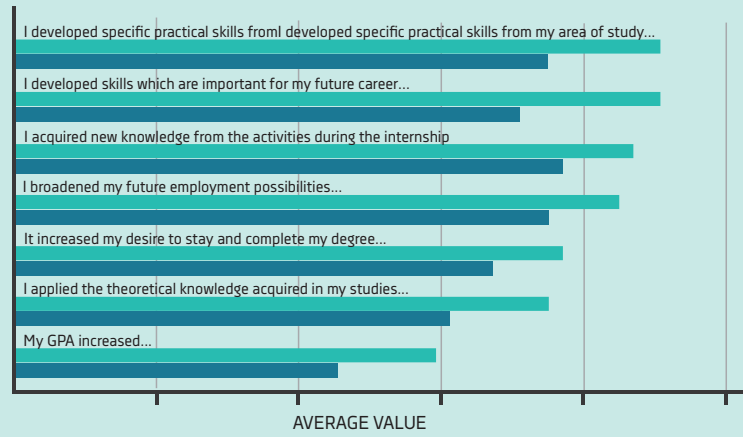
In 2010, student internships became mandatory for all students who have completed their first year of studies. Student internships are regulated by the Rules on the manner of organizing practical training for students, a legal document by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia.

We believe that these statistics are due to the prevailing dissatisfaction among students.
Student internships do not meet the expectations of students and students can't recognize the link between theoretical knowledge acquired at the university and its application in the "real world".
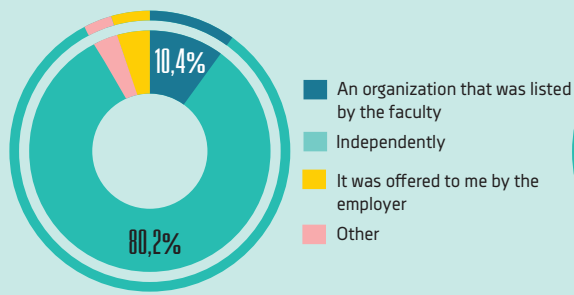
Students

No
Yes

25,4%
74,6%

every forth student hasn't completed an internships

98,6%

informed that student internships are mandatory

Despite the fact, that almost every student is aware of its mandatory nature

- I developed specific practical skills froml developed specific practical skills from my area of study...
- I developed skills which are important for my future career...
- I acquired new knowledge from the activities during the internship
- I broadened my future employment possibilities...
- It increased my desire to stay and complete my degree...
- I applied the theoretical knowledge acquired in my studies...
- My GPA increased...

AVERAGE VALUE

Faculties insufficiently inform their students about the potential opportunities for student internships.

How did you choose the place to complete your inthership?

10,4%
80,2%

- An organization that was listed by the faculty
- Independently
- It was offered to me by the employer
- Other

The type of institution in which the internships was completed

23,6%
76,4%

- Public instituion
- Private company

The majority of students completed their internship in a private company
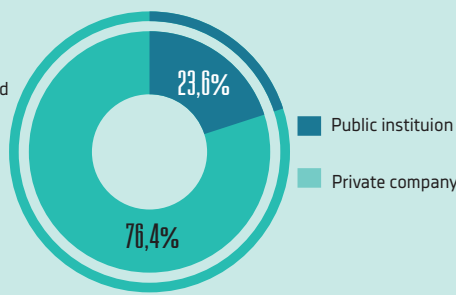
This is primarily due to the fact that private companies are more available and offer greater opportunity for future employment for students.

Students believe they should be financially compensated for their work.

Because currently this is not the case

28,3%
71,7%

- Don't receive any form of financial compensation
- Recieved some form of financial compensation
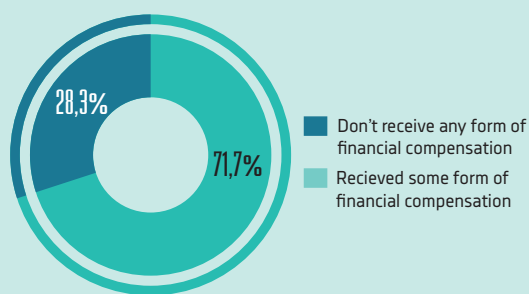
This is not the case for students of the Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering where 53.85% of students reported that they received financial compensation for the tasks they performed during practice.

Two out of the nine companies that were interviewed saw no reason why interns should receive financial compensation.

Despite these problems students believe that student practice should maintain its mandatory status

Should student internships be mandatory?

11,3%
88,7%

- No
- Yes
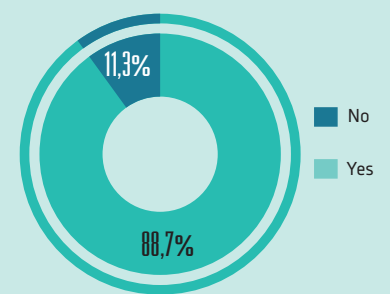
None of the faculties covered in this study have established specific criteria based on which a company is assessed as suitable for the completion of student practice.

Only the Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering keeps a complete record of students who completed their internship. Such systems are completely absent in the "Iustinianus Primus" Faculty of Law.

The majority of students didn't have a mentor from their higher education institution available to them.

Recieved a mentor from their respective faculty

26,4%
73,6%

- Yes
- No
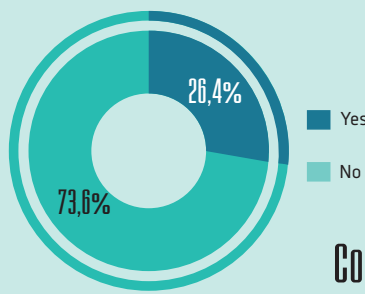
Recieved a mentor from the institution in which they completed their internship

14,6%
85,4%

- No
- Yes
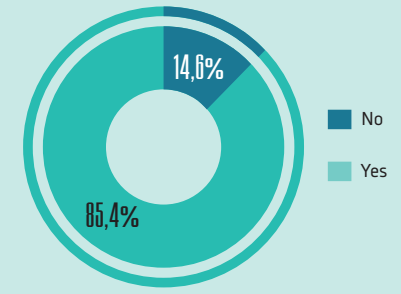
Companies

All of the companies that were interviewed claimed they have a mentor available for their interns. This is also confirmed by the students

CIPE