

Patterns and Outcomes of Electronic Mentoring Among Engineering Graduate Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic



Guan Saw, PhD
Associate Professor
Claremont Graduate University



Chi-Ning (Nick) Chang, PhD
Assistant Research Professor
University of Kansas



National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

Acknowledgment -

Funded by the NSF RAPID program (DGE-2051263; DGE-2031069), using funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

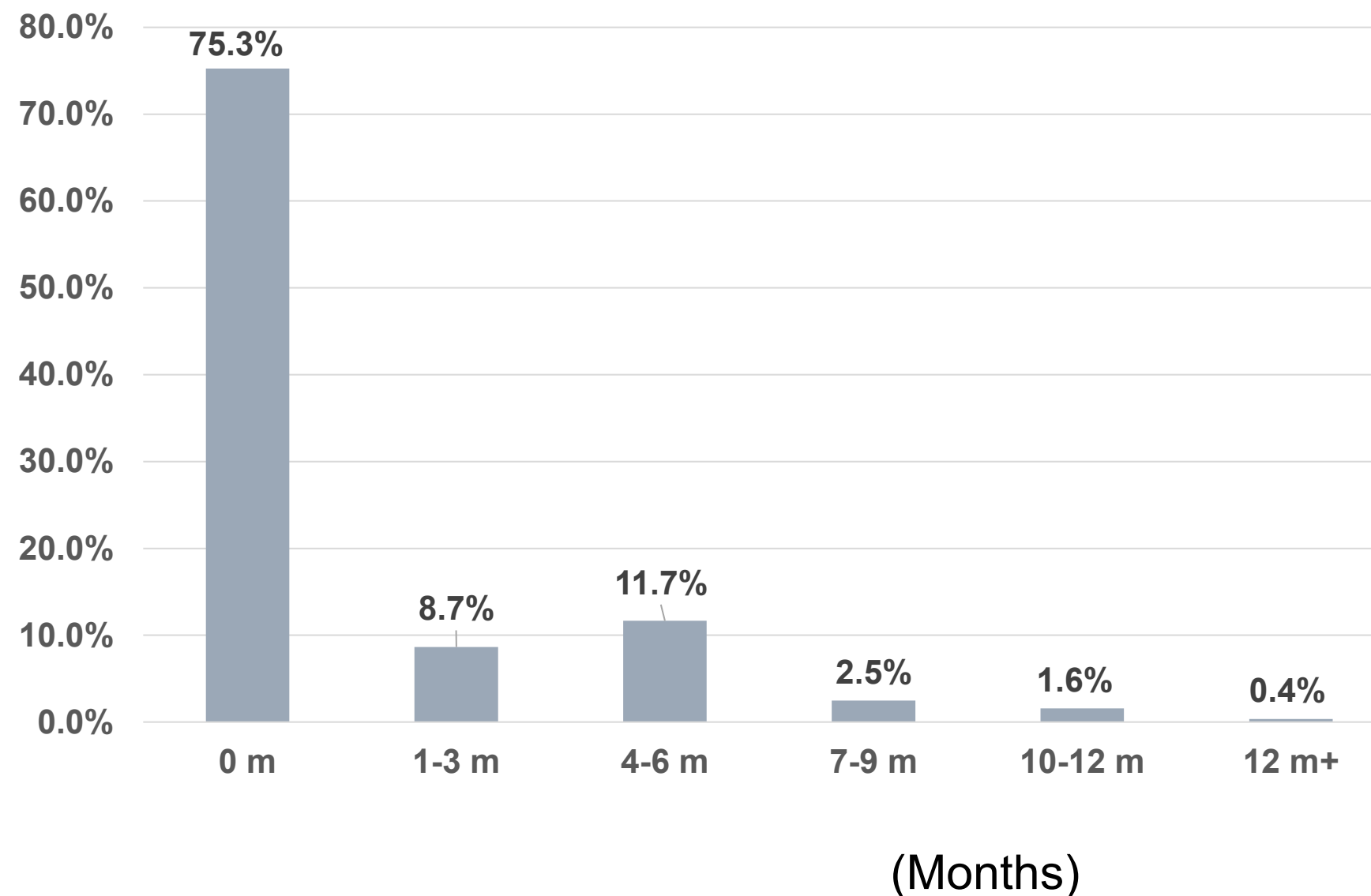
A National Survey of Engineering Graduate Students (*n*=566) during the COVID-19 Pandemic

- **Part of National Study of STEM Faculty and Students during the COVID-19 Pandemic** (3,269 students; 1,052 faculty)
- 12-15 min online surveys (Qualtrics)
- Survey invitations sent to deans/associate deans in 214 engineering colleges
- June 3-22, 2020 (retrospect of experience in Spring 2020)

Background Characteristics of Survey Sample

- 566 engineering grad students (44 institutions in 16 states)
 - Female (40.3 %)
 - Black/Hispanic/Native American (13.8%)
 - Household experienced a loss of income (33.2%)
 - Disability (6 types; 12.0%)
 - International (36.4%)
 - PhD (38.7%)

Delayed Graduation due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

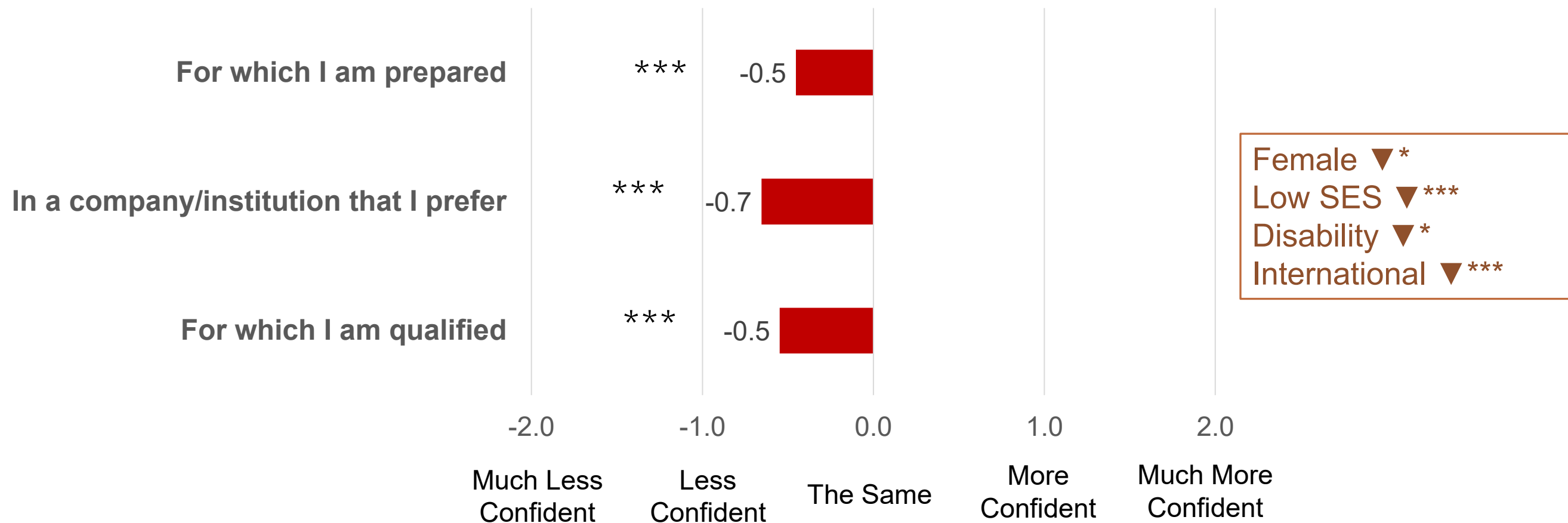


Low SES ▲ **
PhD ▲ ***



Job Search Self-Efficacy

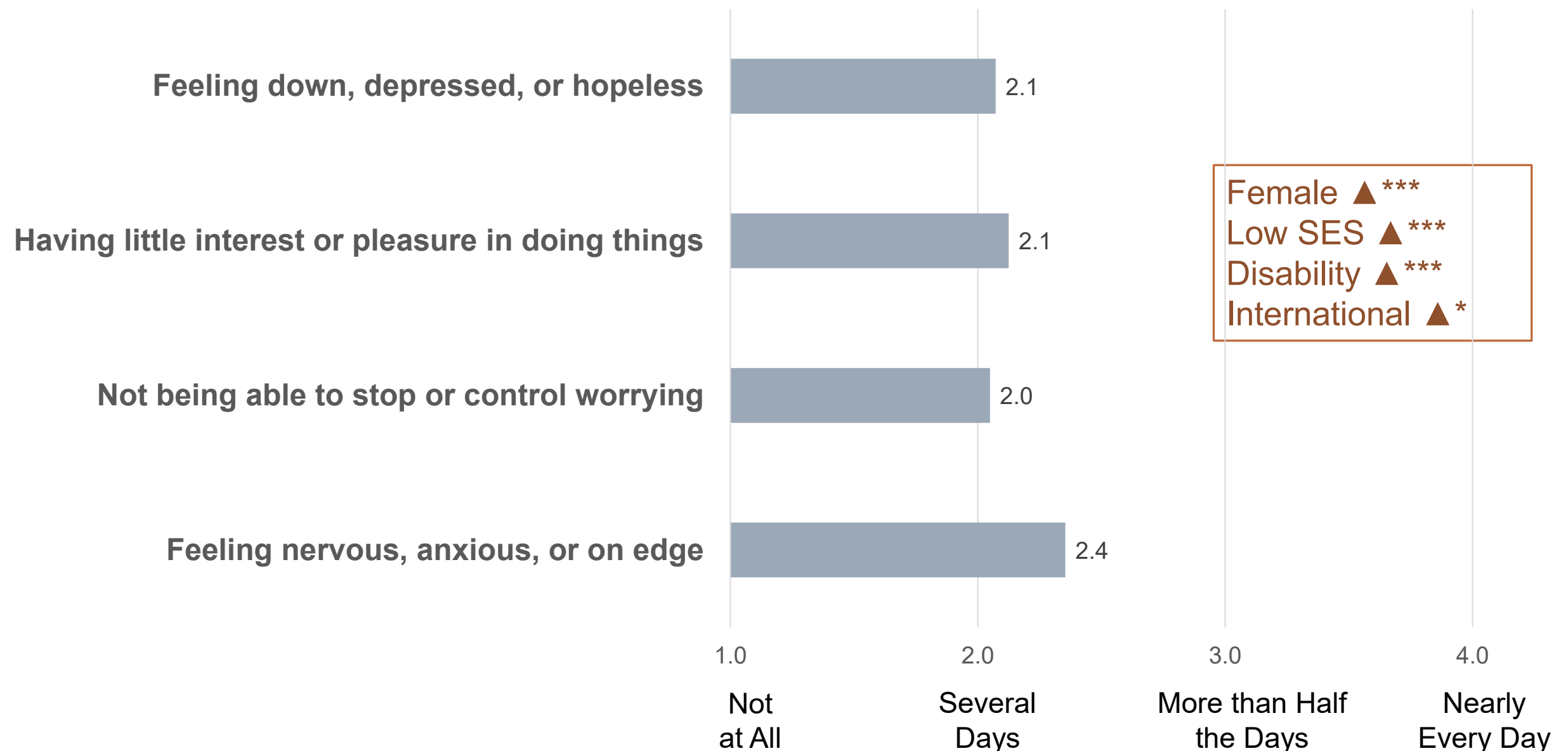
Since the COVID-19 outbreak occurred, how confident have you become in finding...



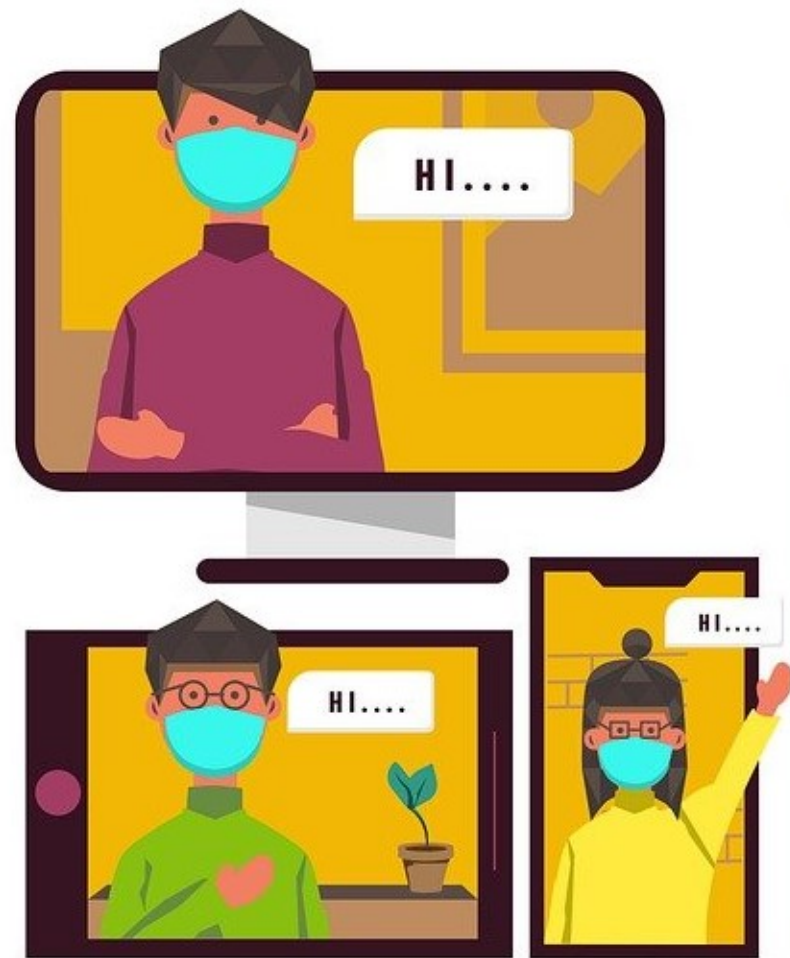
Mental Health Problems: Depression & Anxiety



Over the last 7 days, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?

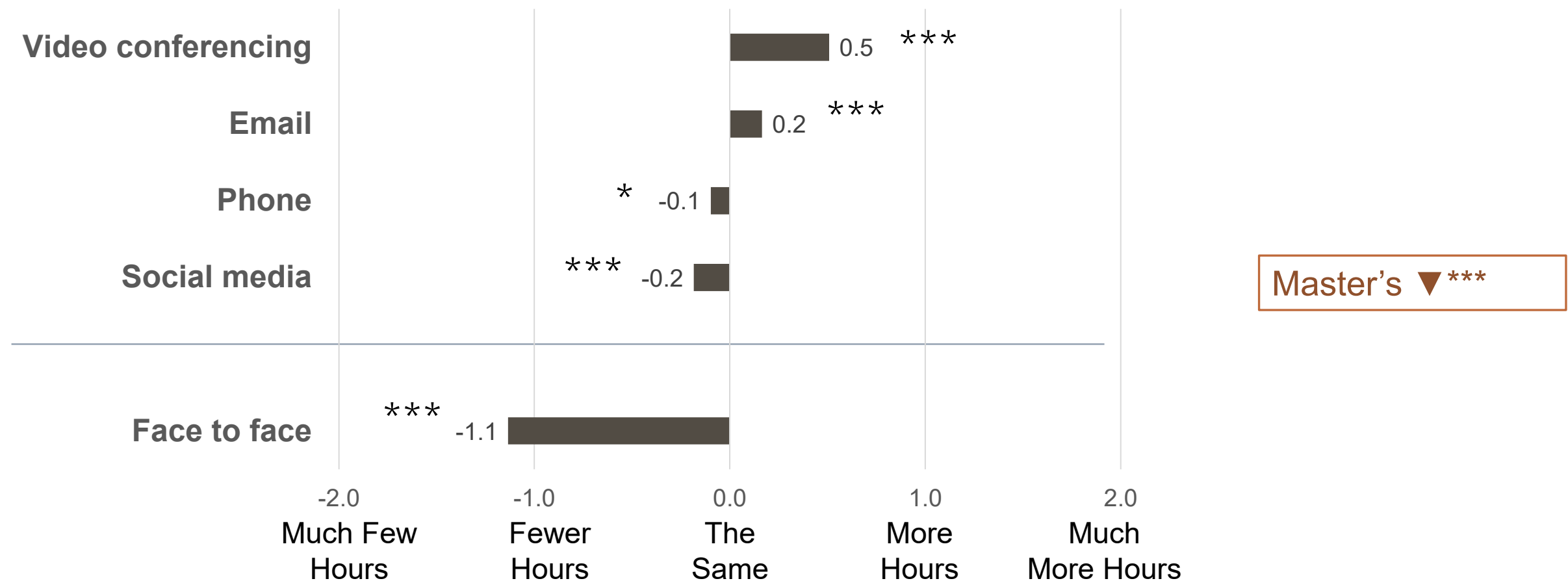


Can e-Mentoring Address these Challenges?

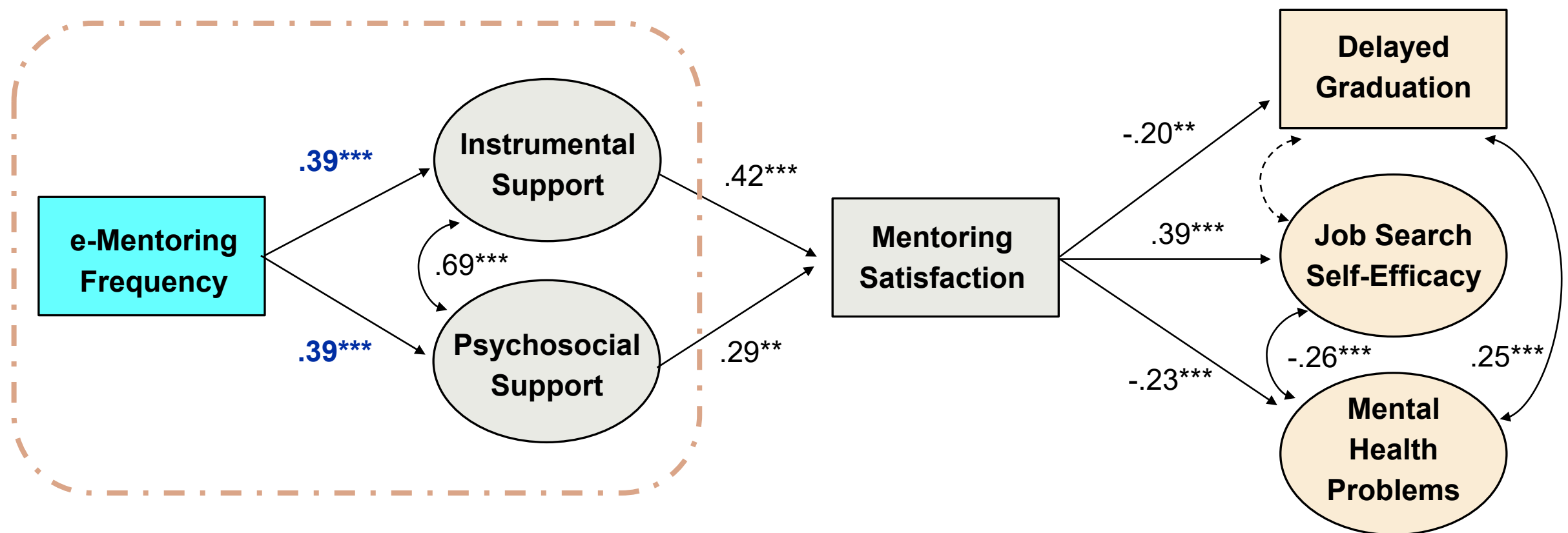


e-Mentoring Frequency during the Pandemic

among 566 Engineering Graduate Students

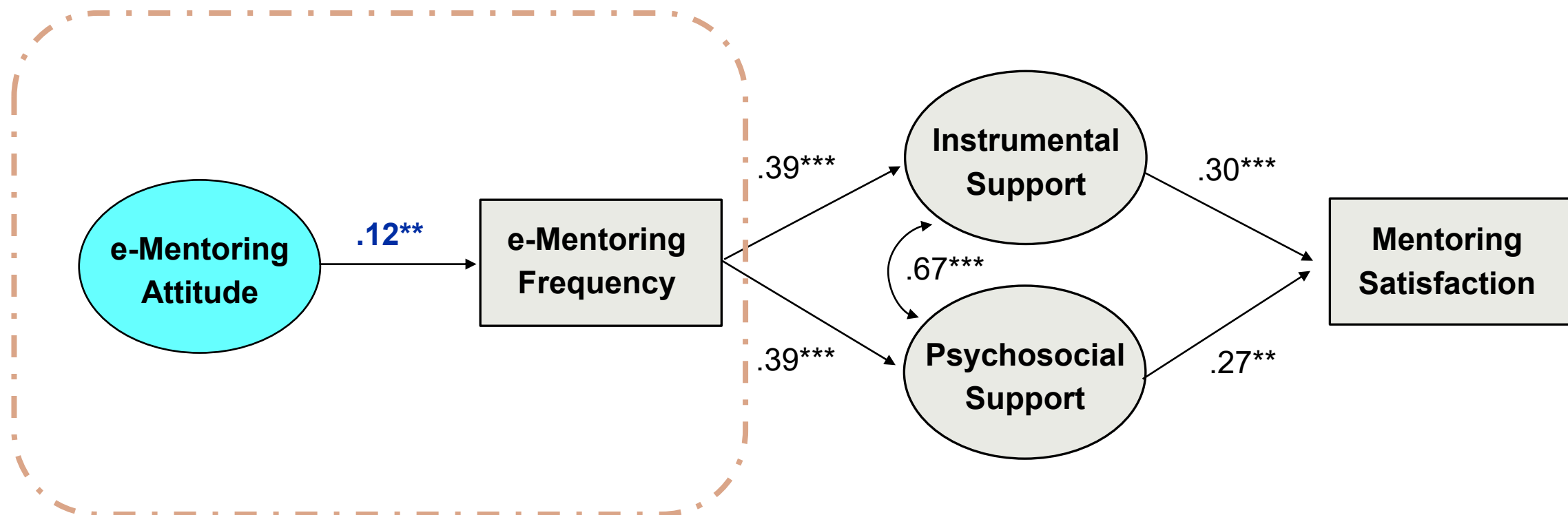


How **e-Mentoring** Supports Student Outcomes during the Pandemic?



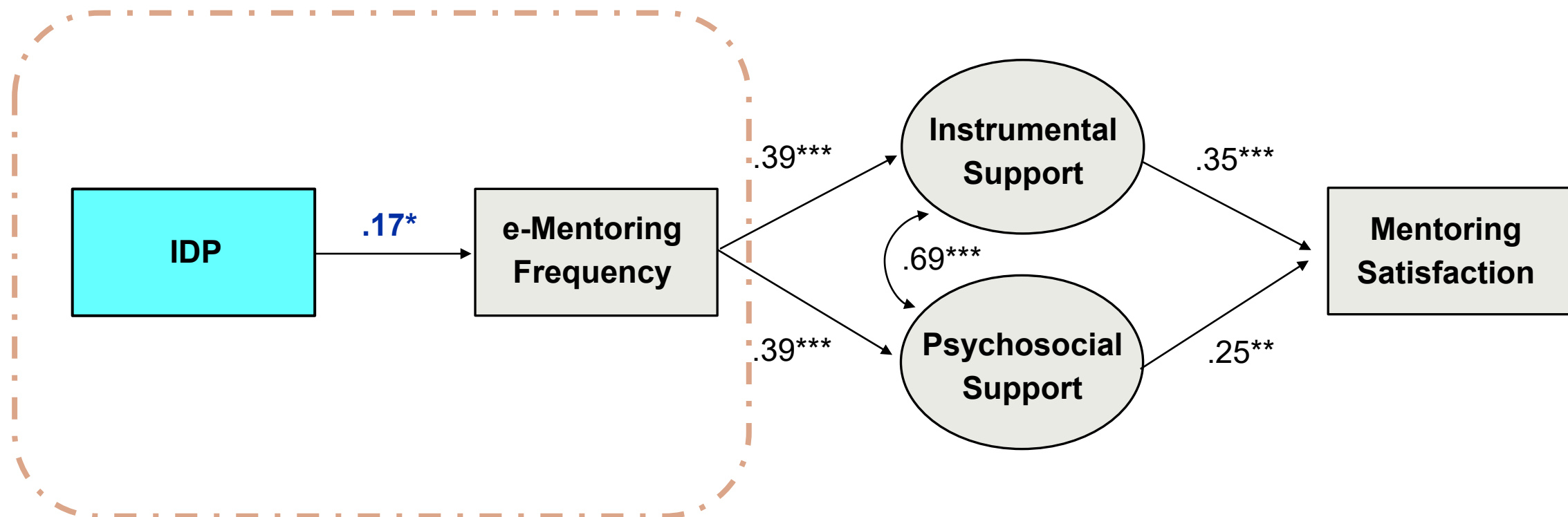
Note. Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) was employed. Good model fit (RMSEA=.03; CFI=.95; SRMR=.07). Demographics were controlled. Values are standardized path coefficients. Dashed paths are not statistically significant. * $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$.

How does **e-Mentoring Attitude** relate to Mentoring Process and Satisfaction during the Pandemic?



Note. Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) was employed. Good model fit (RMSEA=.05; CFI=.93; SRMR=.05). Demographics were controlled. Values are standardized path coefficients. Dashed paths are not statistically significant. * $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$.

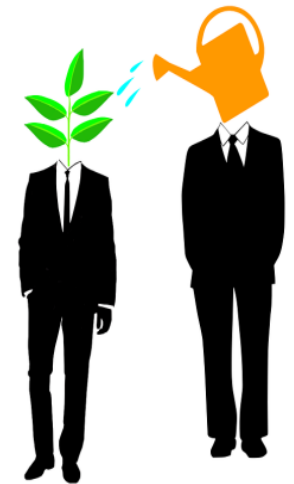
How the **Individual Development Plan (IDP)** Enhances the Mentoring Process during the Pandemic?



Note. Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) was employed. Good model fit (RMSEA=.03; CFI=.97; SRMR=.07). Demographics were controlled. Values are standardized path coefficients. Dashed paths are not statistically significant. $^*p<.05$, $^{**}p<.01$, $^{***}p<.001$.

Mentoring while social distancing is challenging...

- Students and faculty generally think **face-to-face** is **MORE** effective than **e-communication**
- 25%-50% believe could be **equally effective** in certain mentoring support



Brief Report: <https://nreeducation.wordpress.com/2020/10/05/electronic-mentoring-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-a-national-survey-of-stem-faculty-and-students/>

Thank You!

We look forward to working together
in supporting our students and faculty



National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

Acknowledgment -

Funded by the NSF RAPID program (DGE-2051263; DGE-2031069), using funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act



Guan Saw, PhD
Associate Professor
Claremont Graduate University



Chi-Ning (Nick) Chang, PhD
Assistant Research Professor
University of Kansas