



Clear-Sighted Career Online Learning Series Presents:

Strategies for Engaging Millennials in the Workplace

Jessica McManus Warnell, Associate Teaching Professor,
Mendoza College of Business

Sharon Keane, Director of Professional & Academic Programs,
Alumni Association

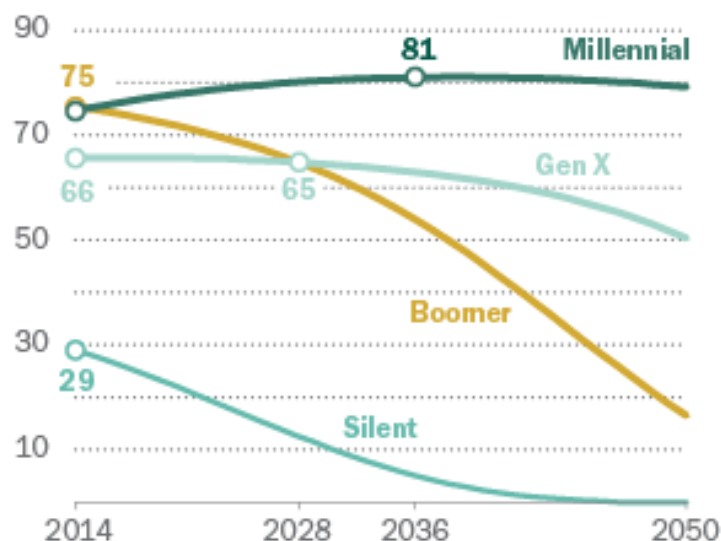
Topics

- I. Multiple Generations at Work
 - II. Understanding the Millennial Generation & Dispelling Stereotypes
 - III. Research Findings
 - IV. Strategies for Success in the Workplace
-

Generational Sketches

Projected Population by Generation

In millions



Note: Millennials refers to the population ages 18 to 34 as of 2015.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of U.S. Census Bureau population projections released December 2014

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

“Kids These Days” and Dispelling Stereotypes



Key for Young Talent

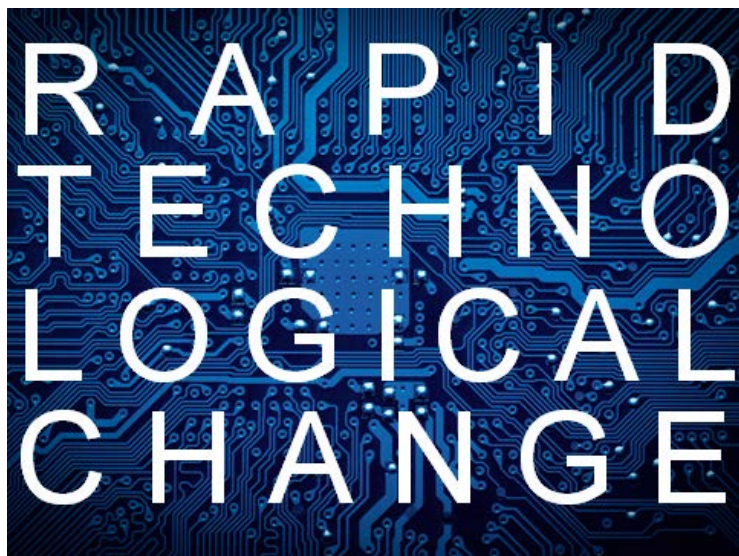


“JUST AS INTERESTED IN
HOW A BUSINESS
DEVELOPS ITS PEOPLE
AND ITS CONTRIBUTION
TO SOCIETY AS THEY ARE
IN ITS PRODUCTS AND
PROFITS.”



Who are the Millennials?

- “Digital natives” AND, importantly,
- The context of business has changed



Who are the Millennials?

- Technological & Social Media Fluency
 - Proclivity to Multitask
 - Teamwork Capacities
 - Preference for Mentorship & Training
 - Explicit Desire for Meaningful Work
 - Awareness of Social & Environmental Sustainability Issues
-

Research Findings

- GAPS BETWEEN MILLENNIALS' PRIORITIES IF THEY LED THEIR ORGANIZATIONS AND WHERE THEY BELIEVE THEIR SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAMS ARE CURRENTLY
 - EMPLOYEE WELL-BEING (+20)
 - EMPLOYEE GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT (+14)
 - CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIETY (+9)
 - PERSONAL INCOME/REWARD (-18)
 - SHORT-TERM FINANCIAL GOALS (-17)
- “SUPER-CONNECTED” > STRONG COLLECTIVE SOCIAL CONSCIENCE



Research Findings

Characteristics of Millennials at Work

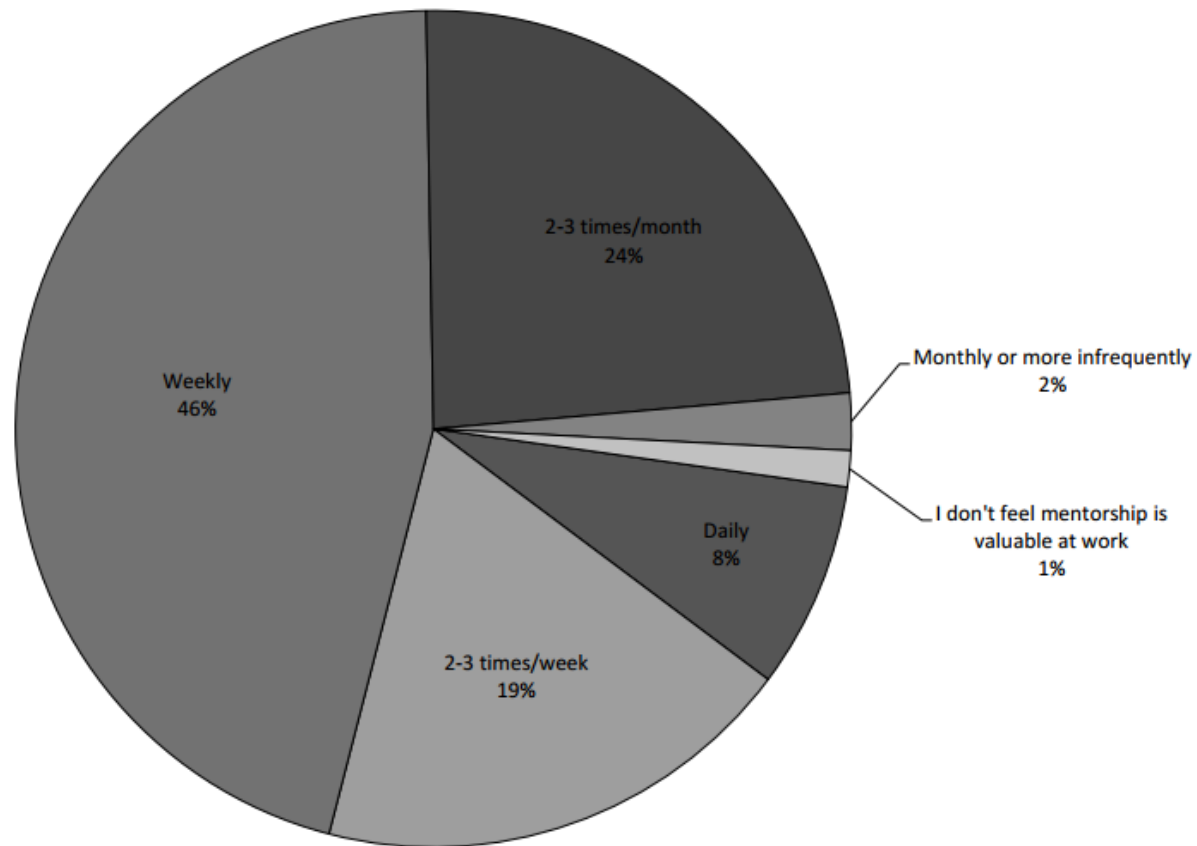
Please identify the degree to which you believe these characteristics are representative of the millennials with whom you have worked (n=65):

	Strongly agree/ Agree	Disagree/ Strongly Disagree
Facility with social media	100%	0%
Technological fluency	96.6% (3.4% neutral/ opinion) no	0%
Awareness of social, environmental, and sustainability issues	79.3% (12.1% neutral/ opinion) no	8.6%
Favor meaningful and fulfilling work	77.6% (12.1% neutral/ opinion) no	10.3%
Proclivity to multitask	56.9% (27.6% neutral/ opinion) no	15.5%
Teamwork capacities	53.4% (29.3% neutral/ opinion) no	17.2%
Preference for training and mentorship (personal attention)	55.1% (27.6% neutral/ opinion) no	17.2%

Does our
ND
research
align with
what
managers
are seeing
at work?

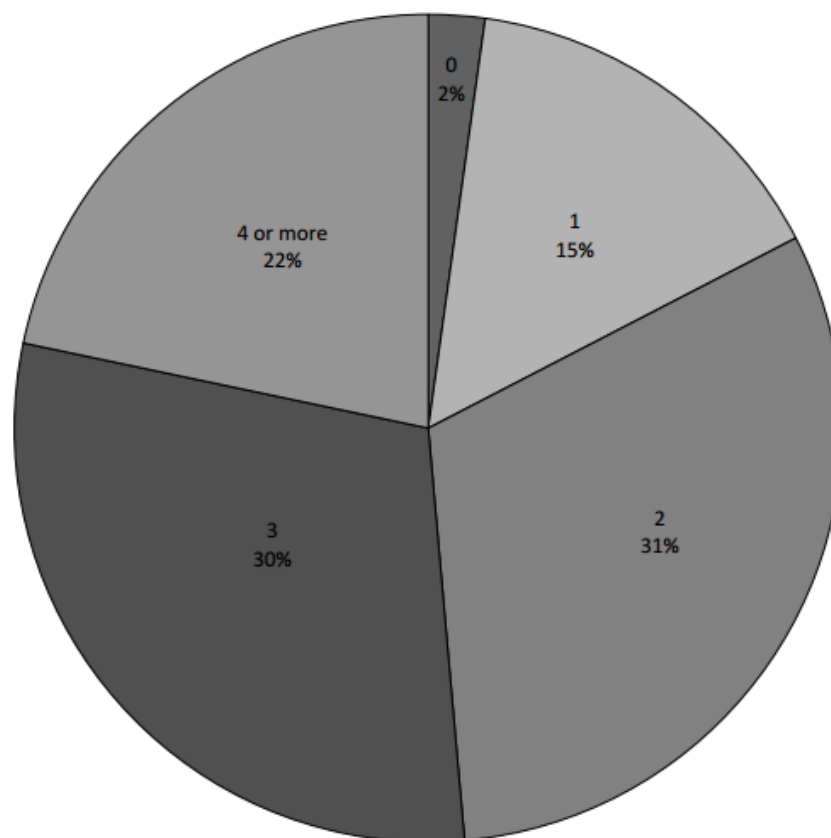
Research Findings

If you feel mentorship is valuable at work, how much interaction would you consider ideal? (n=138)



Research Findings

**How many different social media platforms do you engage with daily?
(n=138)**



Research Findings



Business Ethics across Generations

Issue 48 | June 2015

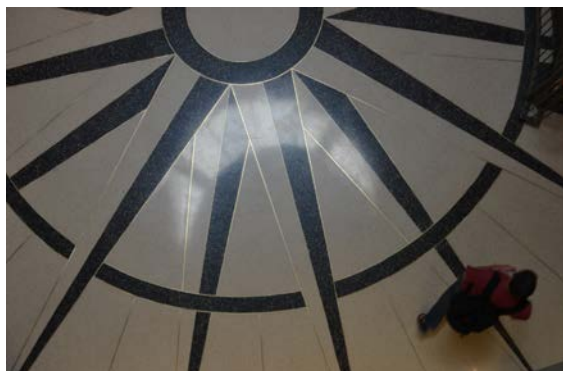
Business Ethics Briefing **ibe**

Page 3

Table 1 *Differences in workplace characteristics across the generations*¹⁴

Workplace characteristics	Traditionalists	Baby Boomers	Generation X	Millennials
Work Ethic and Values	Respect authority Sacrifice Duty before fun Adhere to rules	Workaholics Work efficiently Crusading causes Personal fulfillment	Question authority Self-reliance Want structure and direction Skeptical Tolerant	What's next Multi-tasking Tenacity Entrepreneurial Goal oriented
Interactive style	Individual	Team player Loves to have meetings	Entrepreneur	Participative
Communications	Formal Memo	In person By phone	Direct Immediate	Email Voice mail
Feedback and rewards	No news is good news Satisfaction in a job well done	Money Title recognition	Sorry to interrupt, but how am I doing? Freedom is the best reward	Whenever I want it, at the push of a button Meaningful work
Messages that motivate	'Your experience is respected'	'You are valued, you are needed'	'Do it your way, forget the rules'	'You will work with other bright, creative people'

Strategies for Success



- Many approaches can work for small-, medium-sized and large organizations
- Business, public sector, or NFP contexts
- Scale of the engagement may change, but the *key components are the same*
- We see tremendous innovation in our large companies, and in our small organizations!

The Millennials Speak

Managers can:

- Acknowledge millennials face myriad, often conflicting, messages about the role of work in their lives
 - Recognize these young people themselves are aware of stereotypes! These perceptions can lead to feelings of alienation
 - Be encouraged that millennials recognize the need for and respond to training and development, perhaps more than previous generations
 - Supervisors can leverage available tools toward developing capacities around ethical decision making (i.e. the Giving Voice to Values curriculum)
 - Millennials express strong desire for creating social and environmental value through business, and leaders can leverage this interest toward triple-bottom-line success
-

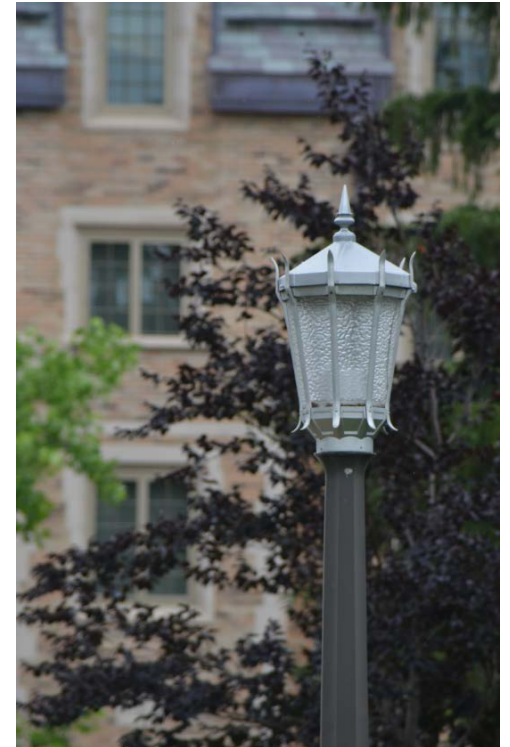
The Millennials Speak

Millennials can:

- Acknowledge they have new responsibilities in this paradigm of connection and access
- Manage their presence and performance, deliberately and consistently

ALL OF US can:

- Acknowledge we are shaped by our experiences
- Come together to the table for more engaged, effective workplaces!



Strategies for Success

PwC Annual Global CEO Survey Recommendations (PwC, 2014, excerpts)

A flexible work culture based on unique talent and engagement
Access to the best tools for collaboration and operation
Transparent performance and reward decisions
Building workplace culture maintained by unit (team) managers
Connecting and staying connected with all employees



*Why were younger employees globally resigning from high-paying jobs before completing two years of employment?
Previously held by the same employees for 40+ years (PwC, 2014)*

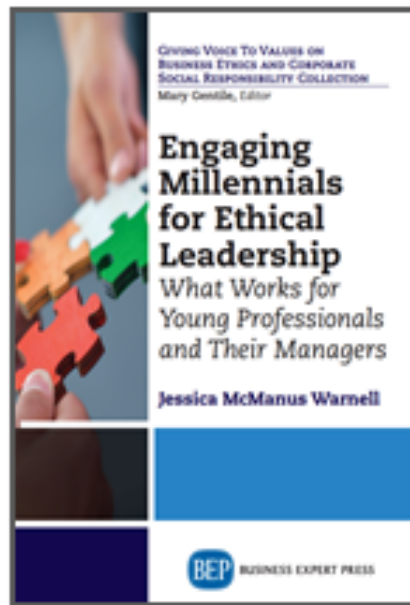
- “Google-like” companies treat their employees as important as their customers
- Innovative and flexible culture and management system (replace rules with guidelines, commands with peer-oriented negotiation among associates across pay levels)
 - A strategy that values employees and customers equally and demonstrates this by selecting the best and treating them as contributors (opportunities and rewards, trust)
 - Encouraging and training at all levels (mentoring and coaching)
 - Balancing emphasis on innovation and operational excellence (foster subcultures that are valued)
 - Extending strategic networks (cooperative alliances - i.e. universities/researchers, new tech)
 - Designing collaborative communities of professional peers learning from each other
 - Emphasize having fun while serving the greater good

“Nothing is more important than the quality of hiring.” -- Eric Schmidt, Chairman, Google

Strategies for Success

-
- Define purpose broadly and explicitly
 - Loyalty is personal rather than to organizations, so personal connections are critical – create connections between members – coaching and collaboration
 - Keep people “in the loop”- communicate explicitly and often!
 - Social media and other technology as examples – make it meaningful and use multiple “voices” (including fostering communication initiated by young members) – think CLEAR and OFTEN, CONTENT and CONNECTION
 - Allow for impact – engage in a way that allows participants to meaningfully contribute – intrinsic vs. extrinsic motivation
 - Metrics matter – what have we done? What is our impact? How do we define success as an organization?
 - Engage around aspirational role models – promote and engage with those who have successfully integrated values and professional life
 - Incorporate mentorship (leader-led, peer-to-peer, reverse)

NEWLY PUBLISHED BOOK



EXPLORATORY SURVEY

- 65 EXECS (BTW 1 & 200,000+ FTEs: REVENUE FROM \$40K TO \$35B)
- 138 UNDERGRAD BUSINESS STUDENTS
- EXPERIENCES AND PERCEPTIONS

<http://EngagingEthicalMillennials.nd.edu>



Clear-Sighted Career Online Learning Series

Thank You!

Professional Programs Team
career@alumni.nd.edu

