

Below is the letter-to-the-editor of the Wall Street Journal (WSJ) in which NJASCU CEO Michael Klein challenges the assumptions made in a June 5 WSJ op-ed.

Timothy Lemmer
Letters Editor
The Wall Street Journal
1211 Sixth Avenue
New York, NY 10036
Wsj.ltrs@wsj.com

Dear Mr. Lemmer:

Richard Vedder and Justin Strehle ([“The Diminishing Returns of a College Degree,”](#) June 5) ask: “[How] does knowing a lot about, say, anthropology, make one a more productive worker?” The answer is skills like communication, organization, teamwork, critical thinking, social skills, creativity, and adaptability. These so-called “soft skills” are prized by employers ([“The Soft Skills Employers Are Looking For,”](#) August 30, 2016) and increasingly recognized and rewarded in liberal arts and humanities majors ([“Hunting for Soft Skills, Companies Scoop Up English Majors,”](#) October 25, 2016).

Thank you for considering my comments.

Michael W. Klein, JD, PhD
Executive Director/CEO
New Jersey Association of State Colleges & Universities