

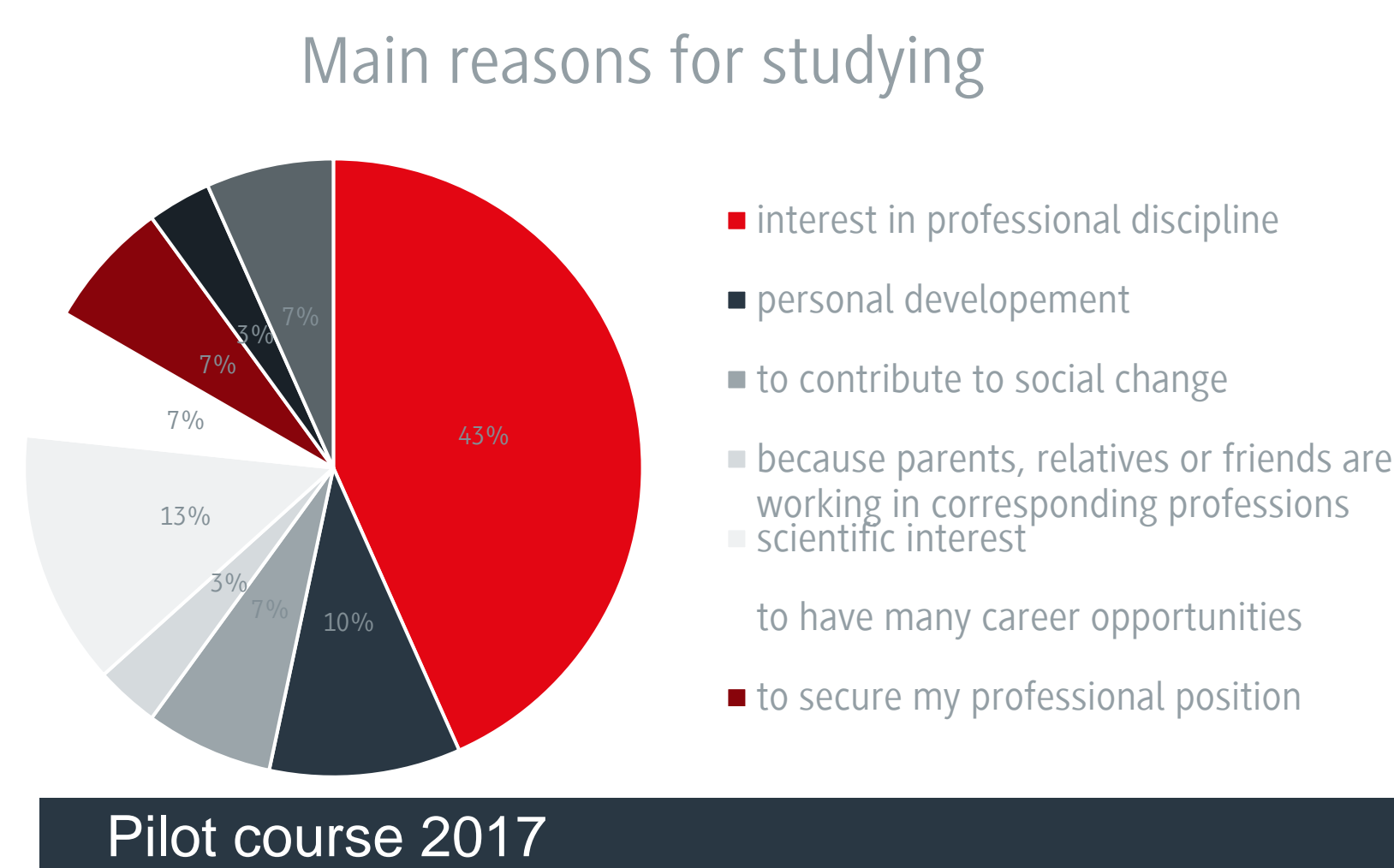
Future Education in Midwifery (FEM)

Higher scientific education for midwives after professional training

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Project

The study program intends to complement and broaden existing practical knowledge of midwives. The FEM project was funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.



Results

The new developed bachelor program in Applied Midwifery Science started in 2017 with 32 Midwives

Base-time evaluation 2017

- » Average age of 37.7 years, 80% have a highschool degree, overall 12 years of practical experience,
- » The leading motivations for studying are: An interest in midwifery-specific topics and issues (43.4 %), a general interest in science (13.3 %), the desire for personal growth (10 %)

Half-time evaluation 2019

Self-assessed student competence:

- » growth in domains of professional, methodological, communication and scientific skills

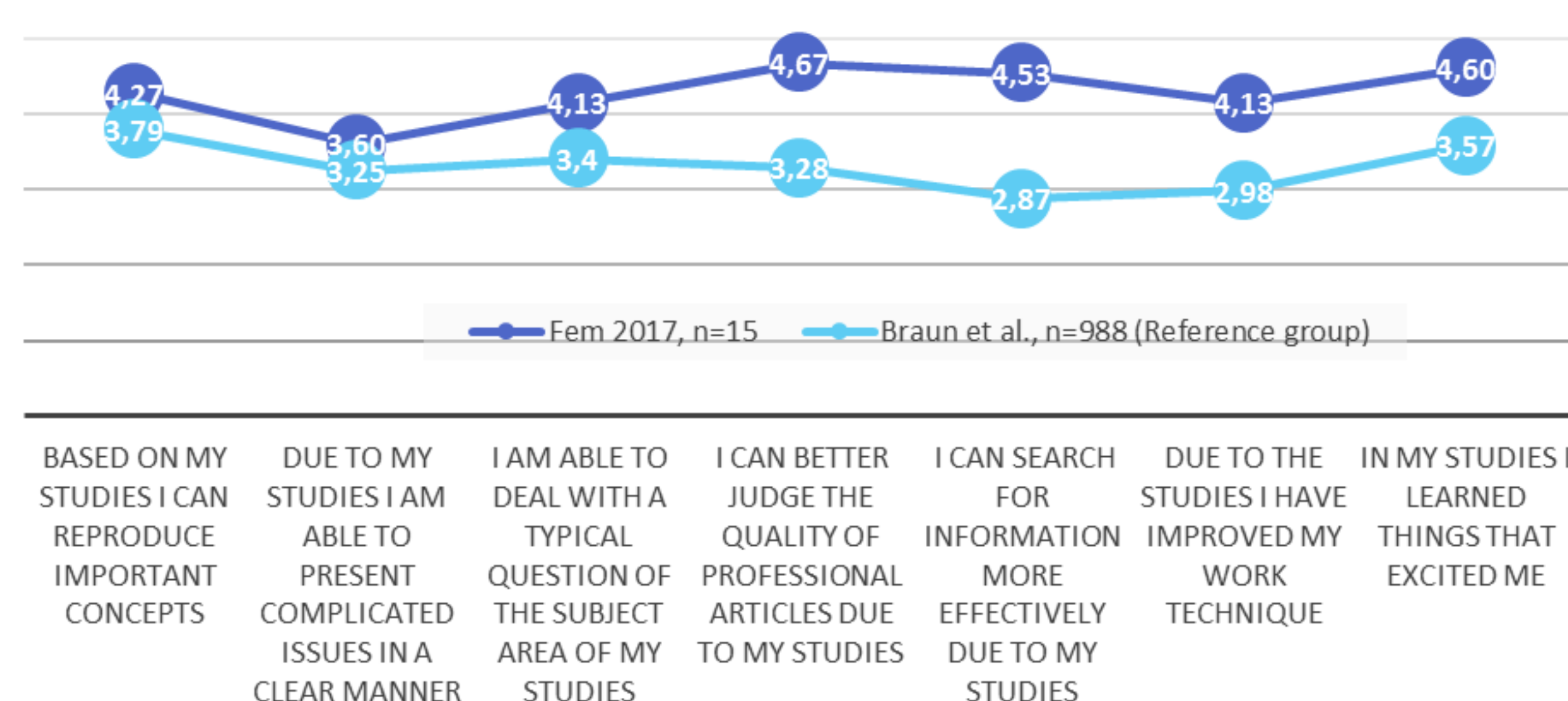
Role of students:

- » FEM students take an active role in the courses and contribute more than average to the lectures

Reconciling study, work and private life

- » The question about the compatibility of studies, work and private life shows a diverse picture.
- » The majority of students experience support from their employers while 32% do not receive any support from their employer

Self-assessed student competence (selection)



Comparison self-assessed student competence FEM 2017 and Braun et al. (BEvaKomp)

Objectives

The FEM program enables midwives (non-traditional students) to earn a Bachelor's degree.

- » to improve the quality of maternity care through evidence-based midwifery practice
- » to strengthen midwifery science as a discipline
- » increased competitiveness through academization
- » study, work and family compatibility
- » support of scientific training
- » dual interlinking of theory and practice

Method

The study program was developed 2015-2017, established 2017 and evaluated throughout the duration of the pilot-project FEM. Project-accompanying evaluation research based on a tailored framework was conducted at the beginning, midway through and at the end of the pilot study course.

Conclusion

- » the format of the course is appropriate for students regarding requirements, content, and examination formats
- » Specifically designed degree and certificate programs for midwives contribute to the future of midwifery education in Germany
- » FEM successfully integrates professional midwives in an academic learning environment. Further research is needed regarding to the question how professional practice benefits from the increase in midwifery competency and whether this changes the care provided to women and families.



Literature

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