Objective and Subjective Effectiveness of Students in the Context of Their Activity Level

Abstract

Within recent years the percentage of students in relation to the total population of young adults has been increasing in Poland. In search of the psychological consequences of this situation a study has been conducted on the relation between the level of activity of students and both the objective and subjective indicators of their effectiveness and the level of autotelism/calculation of the initiated activities. The study in question has been performed among a group of 473 students of the University of Silesia, and the results thereof indicate differences between the non-active, averagely active and above-averagely active students in the scope of grade point averages, the amount of granted scholarships, subjectively perceived attractiveness for colleagues as well as for the potential employer, the level of identity integration and the position in group hierarchy. The theoretical concept for analyses is constituted by the concept of emerging adulthood, the evolutionary approach and the concept of career capital.

Keywords: students' activity, emerging adulthood, career capital, signalling theory, evolutionally psychology

Introduction

Within recent decades in Poland, an increase in individuals undertaking higher education and in the percentage of students among young adults has been observed. In the academic year 2011/2012 the gross schooling coefficient reached the value of 53.1% (source: Szkoły wyższe i ich finanse w 2011 roku, p.28). Do young people study