

## ABSTRACT

Industries are focused on the development of the teamwork foundation. Thus, the companies acquired the teamwork resources by pressuring the universities to teach the collaborative skills to the students. Especially engineering universities prepared them with the teamwork knowledge and skills to face the working world. So, this is the very first study which was determined to identify the engineering students' teamwork behavior and their preference towards the group work. This study proposed to select the most beneficial team members for a team. For this reason, the study investigated by utilizing the team's perception and team role preference surveys to identify the teamwork preferences, the natural team roles, and the gender differences within the team. Further, the study carried out with the engineering students of the Mehran University of Engineering and Technology (MUET) with the sample size of 146 students. Thus, the results were analyzed by applying the qualitative and the quantitative methods. This study concluded that the engineering students were more often select their friends for a team which means that the students need to teach the best teammate selection instead of the personal likings. Natural Team Role identification of this study promoted the team role theory among the engineering students of MUET for building a well-balanced team. This study enabled the students to identify their common teamwork style. The study did not find the differences between both sexes for different working situations in the team. So, the male and female are equivalent to each team roles. The study integrated the strengths and weaknesses of the engineering students of MUET according to their identified natural team roles. Finally, the Team Role Circle of the engineering students of MUET presented the abundance of Action role and the lack of Social Role and Think Role. This means that the students were at risk of producing the leading- edge ideas and opportunities as well as they are missing the strategic approaches within the team. However, the responsibility of the project's coordinator within the team is likely to be very useful. Eventually, the study recommended for both the students and the university to promote the learning of the team roles and team management to develop a team-based environment.