Graduate Placement Report

South Dakota State University
Undergraduate Cohort • Spring 2012
# Table of Contents

- Task Force Development and Collection 3
- Snapshot of Results 4
- College-by-College Results 5-10
  - Agriculture and Biological Sciences
  - Arts and Sciences
  - Education and Human Sciences
  - Engineering
  - Nursing
  - Pharmacy
Task Force Development and Collection

Membership
In October 2010, the Graduate Placement Survey Task Force was appointed and began developing an effort designed to collect information related to the future plans of graduating seniors at South Dakota State University (SDSU). The task force included:

- Marysz Rames, Vice President for Student Affairs (Chair)
- Carla Anderson, Student Services Coordinator, Education and Human Sciences
- Susan Fredrikson, Career Center Specialist, Student Affairs
- Dan Hansen, Assistant Dean for Student Services, College of Pharmacy
- Janet Lord, Department Head, Undergraduate Nursing
- Don Marshall, Associate Dean, College of Agricultural and Biological Sciences
- Tiffany Petersen, Program Assistant, College of Arts and Sciences
- Rich Reid, Associate Dean, College of Engineering
- Jennifer VanderWal, Institutional Research Analyst, Office of Institutional Research
- Nick Wendell, Director of the Center for Student Engagement, Student Affairs

Activity
The task force researched best practices at peer institutions and evaluated SDSU's current collection processes. Using this information, a list of common themes and recommendations was developed (Graduate Placement Survey Task Force Report, April 2012).

Collection Process
An updated version of the Graduate Placement Survey was developed and approved by the task force. Campus Labs, an electronic survey instrument, was identified as the primary collection tool.

Timeline
In April 2012, the task force report was submitted to and approved by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Laurie Nichols. In late April, the following distribution and collection method was implemented:

- **Late April** College representatives sent an email, regarding the survey, to graduating seniors.
- **May 1** Campus Labs sent an initial email, with the survey link, to graduating seniors.
- **Mid-May** Campus Labs sent a follow-up email and link, to graduating seniors that had not replied.
- **End of May** An email, on behalf of college deans, was sent to graduating seniors that had not replied.
- **Early June** Students not completing graduation requirements (spring 2012) were dropped from the list and received no further communication.
- **Mid-June** An email, from the Office of Career Development, was sent to graduating seniors that had not replied.
- **Mid-July** Students that had not replied were called by student staff from the New Student Orientation program.
- **Spring 2013** Results were analyzed by the Office of Career Development and shared with key stakeholders. The findings of the survey were reported publicly.
Snapshot of Results

The information below outlines the demographics of those surveyed, the response rate and general findings based on the response of survey participants.

Demographics
Sample: May 2012 Graduates (undergraduate degree)
Survey Size: 1,389 recipients
Response Rate: 30% (423 respondents)

Overall Findings
Plans upon graduation: (results based on 423 respondents)
- Employed (full or part-time) 64% (271)
- Entering graduate/professional school 17% (70)
- Seeking employment 13% (55)
- Other (service work, seeking additional licensure/degree, etc.) 5% (20)
- Considering an offer <1% (4)
- Full-time military <1% (2)
- Not pursuing paid employment at this time <1% (1)

Salary Range: (results based on 240 respondents)
- Less than $15,000 – 29,999 per year 23% (56)
- $30,000 – 49,999 per year 43% (102)
- $50,000 – 79,999 per year 22% (52)
- $80,000 – 100,000 or more per year 12% (30)

State of Employment: (results based on 242 respondents)
- South Dakota 66% (160)
- Minnesota 14% (35)
- Iowa 6% (15)
- North Dakota 2% (6)
- Indiana 1% (3)
- Missouri 1% (3)
- Nebraska 1% (3)
- Other (15 states) <1%

Employment Related to Career Goals (results based on 245 respondents)
- Yes 90% (220)
- No 10% (25)

Employment Related to Major (results based on 245 respondents)
- Yes 89% (219)
- No 11% (26)
The information below outlines the demographics of those surveyed, the response rate and general findings based on the response of survey participants.

**Demographics**
Sample: May 2012 Graduates (College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences)
Survey Size: 287 recipients
Response Rate: 29% (82 respondents)

**Overall Findings**
Plans upon graduation: (results based on 82 respondents)
- Employed (full or part-time) 56% (46)
- Entering graduate/professional school 24% (20)
- Seeking employment 10% (8)
- Other (service work, seeking additional licensure/degree, etc.) 9% (7)
- Considering an offer <1% (1)
- Full-time military 0% (0)
- Not pursuing paid employment at this time 0% (0)

Salary Range: (results based on 41 respondents)
- Less than $15,000 – 29,999 per year 29% (12)
- $30,000 – 49,999 per year 54% (22)
- $50,000 – 79,999 per year 17% (7)
- $80,000 – 100,000 or more per year 0% (0)

State of Employment: (results based on 242 respondents)
- South Dakota 49% (20)
- Minnesota 24% (10)
- Iowa 15% (6)
- North Dakota <5% (2)
- Wisconsin <5% (2)
- Missouri <5% (1)

Employment Related to Career Goals (results based on 41 respondents)
- Yes 98% (40)
- No 2% (1)

Employment Related to Major (results based on 41 respondents)
- Yes 95% (39)
- No 5% (2)
The information below outlines the demographics of those surveyed, the response rate and general findings based on the response of survey participants.

**Demographics**
Sample: May 2012 Graduates (College of Arts and Sciences)
Survey Size: 370 recipients
Response Rate: 30% (112 respondents)

**Overall Findings**
Plans upon graduation: (results based on 112 respondents)
- Employed (full or part-time) 49% (55)
- Entering graduate/professional school 25% (28)
- Seeking employment 16% (18)
- Other (service work, seeking additional licensure/degree, etc.) 7% (8)
- Considering an offer 1% (2)
- Not pursuing paid employment at this time <1% (1)
- Full-time military 0% (0)

Salary Range: (results based on 54 respondents)
- Less than $15,000 – 29,999 per year 59% (32)
- $30,000 – 49,999 per year 41% (22)
- $50,000 – 79,999 per year 0% (0)
- $80,000 – 100,000 or more per year 0% (0)

State of Employment: (results based on 52 respondents)
- South Dakota 79% (41)
- Minnesota 8% (4)
- Indiana <4% (2)
- Ohio <4% (2)
- Other <4% (3)

Employment Related to Career Goals (results based on 54 respondents)
- Yes 63% (34)
- No 37% (20)

Employment Related to Major (results based on 54 respondents)
- Yes 57% (31)
- No 43% (23)
The information below outlines the demographics of those surveyed, the response rate and general findings based on the response of survey participants.

**Demographics**
Sample: May 2012 Graduates (College of Education and Human Sciences)
Survey Size: 143 recipients
Response Rate: 24% (35 respondents)

**Overall Findings**
Plans upon graduation: (results based on 35 respondents)
- Employed (full or part-time) **43%** (15)
- Entering graduate/professional school **26%** (9)
- Seeking employment **26%** (9)
- Other (service work, seeking additional licensure/degree, etc.) **5%** (2)
- Considering an offer **0%** (0)
- Not pursuing paid employment at this time **0%** (0)
- Full-time military **0%** (0)

Salary Range: (results based on 15 respondents)
- Less than $15,000 – 29,999 per year **67%** (10)
- $30,000 – 49,999 per year **33%** (5)
- $50,000 – 79,999 per year **0%** (0)
- $80,000 – 100,000 or more per year **0%** (0)

State of Employment: (results based on 15 respondents)
- South Dakota **53%** (8)
- Minnesota **20%** (3)
- Nebraska **13%** (2)
- Other **13%** (2)

Employment Related to Career Goals (results based on 15 respondents)
- Yes **80%** (12)
- No **20%** (3)

Employment Related to Major (results based on 15 respondents)
- Yes **87%** (13)
- No **13%** (2)
The information below outlines the demographics of those surveyed, the response rate and general findings based on the response of survey participants.

**Demographics**
Sample: May 2012 Graduates (College of Engineering)
Survey Size: 176 recipients
Response Rate: 39% (68 respondents)

**Overall Findings**
Plans upon graduation: (results based on 68 respondents)
- Employed (full or part-time) 72% (49)
- Entering graduate/professional school 13% (9)
- Seeking employment 10% (7)
- Other (service work, seeking additional licensure/degree, etc.) 3% (2)
- Full-time military <2% (1)
- Considering an offer 0% (0)
- Not pursuing paid employment at this time 0% (0)

Salary Range: (results based on 44 respondents)
- Less than $15,000 – 29,999 per year 2% (1)
- $30,000 – 49,999 per year 30% (13)
- $50,000 – 79,999 per year 68% (30)
- $80,000 – 100,000 or more per year 0% (0)

State of Employment: (results based on 44 respondents)
- South Dakota 50% (22)
- Minnesota 30% (13)
- Iowa 9% (4)
- Other 11% (5)

Employment Related to Career Goals (results based on 44 respondents)
- Yes 91% (40)
- No 9% (4)

Employment Related to Major (results based on 44 respondents)
- Yes 98% (43)
- No 2% (1)
The information below outlines the demographics of those surveyed, the response rate and general findings based on the response of survey participants.

**Demographics**
Sample: May 2012 Graduates (College of Nursing)
Survey Size: 201 recipients
Response Rate: 28% (57 respondents)

**Overall Findings**
Plans upon graduation: (results based on 57 respondents)
- Employed (full or part-time) **65%** (37)
- Seeking employment **23%** (13)
- Entering graduate/professional school **7%** (4)
- Other (service work, seeking additional licensure/degree, etc.) <**2%** (1)
- Full-time military <**2%** (1)
- Considering an offer <**2%** (1)
- Not pursuing paid employment at this time **0%** (0)

Salary Range: (results based on 37 respondents)
- Less than $15,000 – 29,999 per year **2%** (1)
- $30,000 – 49,999 per year **76%** (28)
- $50,000 – 79,999 per year **22%** (8)
- $80,000 – 100,000 or more per year **0%** (0)

State of Employment: (results based on 37 respondents)
- South Dakota **73%** (27)
- Minnesota **11%** (4)
- North Dakota **8%** (3)
- Other **8%** (3)

Employment Related to Career Goals (results based on 37 respondents)
- Yes **95%** (35)
- No **5%** (2)

Employment Related to Major (results based on 37 respondents)
- Yes **97%** (36)
- No **3%** (1)
The information below outlines the demographics of those surveyed, the response rate and general findings based on the response of survey participants.

**Demographics**
Sample: May 2012 Graduates (College of Pharmacy)
Survey Size: 69 recipients
Response Rate: 100% (69 respondents)

**Overall Findings**
Plans upon graduation: (results based on 69 respondents)
- Employed (full or part-time) **100%** (69)
- Seeking employment **0%** (0)
- Entering graduate/professional school **0%** (0)
- Other (service work, seeking additional licensure/degree, etc.) **0%** (0)
- Full-time military **0%** (0)
- Considering an offer **0%** (0)
- Not pursuing paid employment at this time **0%** (0)

Salary Range: (results based on 49 complete respondents, 20 elected not to share)
- Less than $15,000 – 29,999 per year **0%** (0)
- $30,000 – 49,999 per year **24%** (12)
- $50,000 – 79,999 per year **14%** (7)
- $80,000 – 100,000 or more per year **61%** (30)

State of Employment: (results based on 69 respondents)
- South Dakota **67%** (46)
- Minnesota **14%** (10)
- Iowa **4%** (3)
- Missouri **3%** (2)
- Other **12%** (8)

Employment Related to Career Goals (results based on 69 respondents)
- Yes **100%** (69)
- No **0%** (0)

Employment Related to Major (results based on 69 respondents)
- Yes **100%** (69)
- No **0%** (0)