

**December 2013 Future Plans Survey
All Respondents: Overview**

This overview report presents findings from all graduating seniors participating in the December 2013 Future Plans Survey. Additional reports on the survey methods and analysis, college results, departmental summaries, as well as a copy of the questionnaire, can be found at <http://upa.ncsu.edu/srvy/stdnt/future-plans/dec13>.

Plans Following Graduation

As of the time they completed the survey, a plurality of students graduating in December 2013 indicated that they had secured some type of employment. Over one-quarter of all respondents reported that they had *accepted a position that would begin after graduation* (29.7%), while 13 percent said they would *continue working in a job they had prior to graduation* (12.9%), and 6 percent said they would either be *starting their own business* (1%), *working as an intern* (3.3%), *serving in the military* (0.9%), or doing *paid volunteer work* (0.8%).

About one-fourth of the graduates said they were actively seeking employment but had not yet found a position (24.7%). Only 4 percent said they were planning on looking for work but had not yet begun to do so (3.9%). Finally, 17 percent of respondents anticipated going to graduate/professional school as their primary activity in the year after their graduation (11.2%) or going to graduate/professional school and working (5.6%).

Table 1: Plans Following Graduation

	N	%
Have accepted position that will begin after graduation	237	29.7
Will continue working in job I had prior to graduation	103	12.9
Have started/will be starting my own business	8	1.0
Will be working as an intern	26	3.3
Currently seeking employment	197	24.7
Have not begun to seek employment, will begin within year	31	3.9
Going to grad/prof school within the year	89	11.2
Going to grad/prof school and working	45	5.6
Taking additional undergraduate coursework	6	0.8
Military service	7	0.9
Volunteer activity	6	0.8
Starting/raising a family	8	1.0
Don't know yet	7	0.9
Other	27	3.4

Post-Graduate Employment

This section of the report first provides detailed information specifically on those students who indicated they had obtained a full-time position. That is followed by information provided by those who said they were actively seeking employment but had not yet found a position, and lastly, a brief look at those few respondents who said they had not yet begun their job search.

Full-Time Employment

The majority of respondents who said they had secured employment for after graduation indicated they would be working full-time (89.7%).

Table 2: Full- or Part-Time Employment (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Full-time	365	89.7
Part-time	42	10.3

Number of Job Offers

Forty-two percent of the students having secured a full-time position said that had been their only job offer. Another 46 percent of respondents said that they had one (29.7%) or two additional job offers (16.1%). Thirteen percent of respondents indicated that they had three or more job offers from which to choose.

Table 3: Number of Job Offers (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Yes: This was my only job offer	129	41.6
No: I had one other job offer	92	29.7
No: I had two other job offers	50	16.1
No: I had three or more other offers	39	12.6

Employers

Graduates securing employment were asked the name of the organization for which they would be working after graduation. Although NC State graduates accepted jobs in many, many different companies, those hiring the greatest numbers of NC State December 2013 graduates were Deloitte, Fidelity Investments, Cisco, and IBM.

A complete list of the companies/organizations where graduates will be working full-time can be found in Appendix A.

Industry and Occupation

Students having obtained full-time employment were asked to select the type of industry and the occupational classification of the job in which they would be working from a list of industries and occupations identified by NC State's ePack tool. Although the graduates are heading into a wide range of industries, the most common industries in which they say they will be working are *engineering* (13.8%), and *computer software/hardware* (7.2%). Those finding full-time employment were most likely to say they would have a job function related to *engineering* (20%), followed by *software development* (6.9%), *sales* (5.3%), and *consulting* (5%).

Table 4: Industry (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Accounting	11	3.0
Advertising	2	0.6
Aerospace	3	0.8
Agriculture	12	3.3
Arts & Entertainment	1	0.3

	N	%
Automotive	4	1.1
Banking	6	1.7
Biotechnology	8	2.2
Business Services	7	1.9
Chemicals	3	0.8
Communications	1	0.3
Computer Software/Hardware	26	7.2
Construction	12	3.3
Consulting	15	4.1
Consumer Products	2	0.6
Counseling	1	0.3
Design	5	1.4
Education	15	4.1
Electronics	2	0.6
Energy	7	1.9
Engineering	50	13.8
Entrepreneurial/Venture Capital	1	0.3
Faith Based	3	0.8
Fashion	2	0.6
Financial Services	13	3.6
Food Science	3	0.8
Government	4	1.1
Health Care	7	1.9
Hotel, Restaurant, Hospitality	6	1.7
Human/Social Services	2	0.6
Insurance	3	0.8
Legal	1	0.3
Manufacturing	13	3.6
Marketing	6	1.7
Materials - Plastics, Metals, Ceramics	1	0.3
Media	1	0.3
Military & Defense	12	3.3
Museums & Libraries	1	0.3
Natural Resources	5	1.4
Non-Profit/Philanthropy	4	1.1
Pharmaceutical	10	2.8
Print & Publishing	1	0.3
Public Policy	1	0.3

	N	%
Public Relations	1	0.3
Real Estate	2	0.6
Recreation & Sports	10	2.8
Research	2	0.6
Retail/Merchandising	12	3.3
Staffing & Executive Search	1	0.3
Technology	11	3.0
Telecommunications	6	1.7
Trade	1	0.3
Transportation	1	0.3
Travel & Tourism	3	0.8
Utilities (Public & Private)	2	0.6
Veterinary	3	0.8
Wood Products	2	0.6
Other	13	3.6

Table 5: Job Function (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Account Management	4	1.1
Accounting	15	4.2
Actuarial/Statistical & Data Analysis	2	0.6
Administrative	3	0.8
Advertising	1	0.3
Agricultural Business/Economics	3	0.8
Agronomy/Plant/Crop Science	1	0.3
Analyst	11	3.1
Animal/Veterinary	4	1.1
Arts/Performing Arts/Music	1	0.3
Buying/Purchasing	3	0.8
Construction	7	1.9
Consulting	18	5.0
Creative Design/Graphic Arts	3	0.8
Customer Service	4	1.1
Database Management	1	0.3
Education/Teaching/Curriculum Development	13	3.6
Engineering	72	20.0
Environmental/Conservation	6	1.7
Finance	15	4.2

	N	%
Food Science/Nutrition	2	0.6
Government	3	0.8
Horticulture/Turfgrass	4	1.1
Human Health/Medical	2	0.6
Human Resources	3	0.8
Human/Social Services	3	0.8
Information Technology/Systems	9	2.5
Laboratory Science	2	0.6
Management	13	3.6
Manufacturing/Production/Development	10	2.8
Marketing	8	2.2
Media/Journalism	1	0.3
Non Profit	3	0.8
Operations	3	0.8
Political Organizations/Advocacy	1	0.3
Product Development/Management	4	1.1
Project Management	7	1.9
Quality Assurance	5	1.4
Recreation/Sports	5	1.4
Religion/Ministry	1	0.3
Research & Development	3	0.8
Sales	19	5.3
Science - Life/Physical Science	2	0.6
Software Development	25	6.9
Supply Chain Management/Logistics	4	1.1
Training & Development	3	0.8
Travel/Tourism/Hospitality	3	0.8
Web Design/Development	1	0.3
Other	21	5.8
Not Sure	3	0.8

Relationship of Job to Academic Major and Satisfaction with Job

Two-thirds of those with full-time employment said their job was *directly related* to their academic major (63.6%), and about ten percent said it was *not at all related* (10.5%). While the vast majority of those obtaining full-time employment said they were satisfied with the job in which they will be working, those who said they will be working in a position directly related to their major were more likely to very “very satisfied.” Interestingly, those receiving jobs “somewhat related” to their majors were only slightly more likely to be “very satisfied” than those receiving jobs “not at all related” to their majors (52.2% versus 45.9%). However, while still a relatively small number, those starting in jobs “not at all related” to their major were more likely than others to report being “dissatisfied” (2.7%) with their upcoming job.

Table 6: Relationship of Job to Major and Satisfaction with Job (full-time employees only)

	All	Satisfaction w/ job					All
		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	
Directly related	225	65.8%	30.7%	3.1%	0.4%	.	63.6%
Somewhat related	92	52.2%	32.6%	15.2%	.	.	26.0%
Not at all related	37	45.9%	35.1%	16.2%	2.7%	.	10.5%
All	354	60.2%	31.6%	7.6%	0.6%	.	100.0%

Job Location

While NC State graduates will be employed across the nation, 73 percent of those students having accepted a full-time job say they will be staying in North Carolina, with 53 percent working in the Research Triangle area (e.g., Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill).

A complete list of the countries and states where graduates will be working can be found in Appendix B.

Table 7: Job Location (Top Five States of Employment; full-time employees only)

	N	%
North Carolina	249	72.6
Virginia	11	3.2
Florida	9	2.6
District of Columbia	8	2.3
Georgia	8	2.3

Table 8: Job Location (In or Out of the Triangle; full-time employees only)*

	N	%
Triangle	178	52.5
Other NC	62	18.3
Outside NC	99	29.2

*Some respondents did not provide the name of the city in which they would be working and therefore region could not be determined.

Compensation

Students with full-time positions were asked to indicate the different ways in which they would be compensated. While 73 percent said they would be getting a salary and 24 percent said their income would include hourly wages, results indicate that graduates are being compensated through a variety of methods. For example, 53 percent said they will be getting only a salary, 12 percent a salary plus performance bonuses, 17 percent only hourly, 3 percent salary plus commission, and 3 percent salary plus commission and performance bonuses.

Table 9: Type of Compensation (full-time employees only) *

	N	%
Salary	267	73.2
Hourly	87	23.8
Performance Bonuses	63	17.3
Commission	23	6.3
Other	21	5.8
Tips/Gratuities	8	2.2

*Respondents could indicate more than one type of compensation.

Table 10: Type of Compensation, Combined (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Salary only	191	53.4
Hourly only	62	17.3
Salary plus perf. bonuses	42	11.7
Other	13	3.6
Other comp. only	11	3.1
Salary plus comm plus perf bonus	10	2.8
Salary plus commission	10	2.8
Salary plus hourly	7	2.0
Hourly plus perf. bonuses	4	1.1
Hourly plus tips	3	0.8
Hourly plus commission	2	0.6
Tips only	2	0.6
Hourly plus comm plus perf bonus	1	0.3

Respondents were asked to indicate their annual starting salary. NC State's graduates with full-time employment report an average annual starting salary of \$48,833. This excludes those working in internships.

Table 11: Annual Starting Salary (full-time employees only, excluding internships)

(Average salary = \$48,833)	N	%
Less than \$30,000	49	15.1
\$30,000 - \$39,999	61	18.8
\$40,000 - \$49,999	38	11.7
\$50,000 - \$59,999	63	19.4
\$60,000 or more	91	28.0
Would prefer not answer	14	4.3
Not sure	9	2.8

One-Time Compensation: Signing Bonuses and Relocation Packages

One-in-five of those with full-time employment said they had received a signing bonus. Forty-four percent of those receiving a bonus said it was for \$5,000 or more (44.4%). Slightly less than one-quarter of those receiving a signing bonus said it was for \$10,000 or more (23.8%).

Table 12: Signing Bonus (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Yes	65	20.2
No	257	79.8

Table 13: Amount of Signing Bonus (full-time employees only)

	N	%
\$1,000 to \$1,999	2	3.2
\$2,000 to \$2,999	13	20.6
\$3,000 to \$3,999	11	17.5
\$4,000 to \$4,999	2	3.2
\$5,000 to \$5,999	7	11.1
\$6,000 to \$6,999	5	7.9
\$8,000 to \$8,999	1	1.6
\$10,000 or more	15	23.8
Would prefer not answer	5	7.9
Not sure	2	3.2

When asked if they were offered a relocation package, almost half of the students with full-time jobs said that such a package was “not applicable” (44.8%). However, 19 percent of all those with full-time employment said they were offered a relocation package. Offers of relocation packages, not surprisingly, were related to whether or not the future employee would be working in North Carolina. Half (50%) of those graduates who would be working outside of North Carolina received a relocation package. Fifteen percent of those who said they would be working in North Carolina but outside of the Triangle received a relocation package.

Table 14: Relationship of Relocation Package and Region of Job (full-time employees only)

	All	Offered relocation package			All
		Yes	No	N/A	
Triangle	177	3.4%	29.4%	67.2%	52.5%
Other NC	62	14.5%	46.8%	38.7%	18.4%
Outside NC	98	50.0%	41.8%	8.2%	29.1%
All	337	19.0%	36.2%	44.8%	100.0%

The Job Search

Thirty percent of respondents who had obtained a full-time position said they began actively looking for a job 9 or more months before graduating (29.6%). Slightly more than 10 percent of those attaining full-time work started looking less than three months before graduation (11.7%).

Table 15: When Started Looking for a Job (full-time employees only)

	N	%
12 or more months before graduation	60	19.5
9-11 months before graduation	31	10.1
6-8 months before graduation	82	26.6
3-5 months before graduation	99	32.1
1-2 months before graduation	29	9.4
Less than one month before graduation	7	2.3

Students were asked to indicate what resources had proven to be helpful in their job search. Those with full-time employment were most likely to say that an internship/externship had been helpful (38.1%), followed by attending a career fair at NC State (31%), personal connections within the company (22.2%), applying for a job via ePACK (21.9%), networking with family/friends/classmates/co-workers (19.7%), campus or college career center (19.5%), and/or on-campus interviewing (15.6%). Note that some resources may have in fact been helpful for those who used them, but have a smaller frequency overall because fewer students used that particular resource (e.g., Student teaching experience).

Table 16: Helpful Resources (full-time employees only)*

	N	%
Internship/externship	139	38.1
Career fair at NC State	113	31.0
Personal connection(s) within the company	81	22.2
Applied for job via ePACK	80	21.9
Family/friends/classmates/co-workers	72	19.7
Campus or college career center	71	19.5
On-campus interviewing	57	15.6
Other	44	12.1
Internet	42	11.5
Employer information session on campus	33	9.0
Co-op experience	29	7.9
Consultation with Career Counselor/Coach at NC State	24	6.6
Employer found resume via ePACK	24	6.6
Faculty member or found job listing in an NC State dept	22	6.0
Professional society	13	3.6
Career fair off-campus	10	2.7
Student teaching experience	8	2.2
Staffing agency	4	1.1

*Respondents could select more than one resource.

Seeking Employment

Almost one-fourth of the December graduates responding to the Future Plans Survey indicated that as of the time they completed the survey they were *currently seeking employment* (24.7%) and a small number (3.9%) said they had *not yet begun to seek employment but that they planned to do so within a year after graduation* (Table 1). This section of the report first looks at those who were actively seeking a job, and then briefly at those who had not yet begun their job search.

The Job Search

The majority of students who said they were looking but had not yet found a job as of the time they completed the survey - - typically within two weeks before or after graduation - - said they first started looking for a job less than 6 months before their graduation (83.8%). Of these respondents, 39 percent said they started looking for a job three to five months before graduation, one-third said they started looking one to two months prior to graduation, and 12 percent of those without a job said they began their search less than one month prior to graduation.

Table 17: When Started Looking for a Job (among those seeking but not yet securing a job)

	N	%
12 or more months before graduation	6	3.1
9-11 months before graduation	5	2.6
6-8 months before graduation	20	10.4
3-5 months before graduation	74	38.5
1-2 months before graduation	64	33.3
Less than one month before graduation	23	12.0

A sizeable number of December graduates who had been seeking but not yet found employment indicated that it was not due to lack of offers. Twenty percent said that they had actually received a job offer with 6 percent having received two or more offers. These students were asked to briefly describe why the job offer(s) they had received had not worked out. Several respondents indicated they were actually still in the process of considering a job offer, or that the details had just not yet been worked out. Reasons given for not accepting a job offer included compensation (e.g., salary too low), job location (e.g., did not want to relocate to the area or the commute would be too long), the job was only part-time or non-permanent, or that the job was just not a good fit for their career goals.

Table 18: Received any job offers (among those seeking but not yet securing a job)

	N	%
No	156	79.6
Yes: one	28	14.3
Yes: two	11	5.6
Yes: three or more	1	0.5

Type of Work Seeking

The large majority of job-seekers said they were looking for full-time work (88.8%), with most of the remainder indicating they were looking for either full- or part-time work (10.2%). Almost all of those seeking employment said they were looking for a job either *directly* (35.7%) or *somewhat related* (56.6%) to their major.

Table 19: Looking for full-time or part-time work

	N	%
Full-time	174	88.8
Part-time	2	1.0
Either	20	10.2

Table 20: Relationship of Job Seeking to Major

	N	%
Looking for position directly related to my major	70	35.7
Looking for position somewhat related to my major	111	56.6
Looking for position unrelated to my major	2	1.0
How closely position is related to major is irrelevant	13	6.6

Location of Job Seeking

Eighty percent of those still looking for a job at the time of the survey said they were looking only in the United States, with all but two of the remaining saying they were looking both inside and outside the U.S. (19.4%). Almost half of those looking only in the U.S. said they were only looking in North Carolina (46.2%) and 47 percent said that they were looking both in North Carolina and other states as well. The remaining seven percent said they were looking for employment only outside of North Carolina.

Table 21: Looking for Employment Inside or Outside the U.S.

	N	%
United States	156	79.6
Outside U.S.	2	1.0
Both	38	19.4

Table 22: Looking for Employment Inside or Outside the N.C.

	N	%
N.C. only	72	46.2
Only outside N.C.	11	7.1
Both	73	46.8

Future Job Seekers

A very small number of December 2013 graduates (3.9%) said that while they had not yet begun their search for employment, their primary activity after graduation would be to find a job (Table 1). In response to a question asking those respondents when they planned to start looking, the majority said they would begin within one month after graduation (73.3%).

Table 23: When Will Begin Job Search

	N	%
Within the next couple of weeks	10	33.3
Within a month after graduation	12	40.0
Within 2-3 months after graduation	4	13.3
Within 4-6 months after graduation	1	3.3
Within 6-12 months after graduation	3	10.0

Further Education

This section of the report provides detailed information on further education being pursued by NC State December 2013 graduates. Seventeen percent of the 1,559 graduating seniors who submitted the Future Plans Survey said that they planned on going to graduate or professional school in the coming year (Table 1).

Students planning on attending graduate/professional school were asked to indicate from a list of options the reasons why they had decided to pursue post-graduate education. The most common reason cited was to *enhance my knowledge in a particular subject area* (67.2%), closely followed by *chosen career field requires graduate/professional school* (62.7%). Other reasons cited include they *will be able to earn a higher salary with an advanced degree* (58.2%) and that they *want to improve their marketability* (46.3%). Just 3 percent indicated that being *unable to find a job* was a reason for attending graduate/professional school.

Table 24: Reasons for Attending Graduate/Professional School*

	N	%
I want to enhance my knowledge in a particular subject area	90	67.2
My chosen career field requires graduate/professional school	84	62.7
I will be able to earn a higher salary with an advanced degree	78	58.2
I want to improve my marketability	62	46.3
Other	6	4.5
My employer is encouraging me to attend	5	3.7
I have been unable to find a job	4	3.0

*Respondents could select more than one reason.

Current Status for Graduate/Professional School Attendance

Of the December 2013 graduates planning on attending graduate/professional school, the majority responded they *have not yet applied but plan to do so within the next year* (38.8%), while 29 percent had *applied, but not yet been accepted* into a graduate school (29.1%). However, over one-quarter of respondents indicated they *have been accepted and know where I'm going* (27.6%). A relatively small percentage indicated that they *have been accepted but are still undecided* (4.5%).

The remainder of this section reports on only those who indicated they have been accepted and definitely know where they will be attending graduate/professional school (27.6%).

Table 25: Current Status for Graduate/Professional School Attendance

	N	%
Have not applied but plan to do so within the next year	52	38.8
Have applied, but not yet been accepted	39	29.1
Have been accepted and know where I'm going	37	27.6
Have been accepted but undecided	6	4.5

School Attending

Two-thirds of the respondents who at the time of the survey knew where they would be attending graduate/professional school said they will be staying in North Carolina (67.6%), with 62 percent actually attending NC State University. The majority of those going on to graduate/professional school say will be attending their first-choice school (94.6%).

Table 26: State of School Attending

	N	%
North Carolina	25	67.6
Illinois	2	5.4
Tennessee	2	5.4
District of Columbia	1	2.7
Georgia	1	2.7
Louisiana	1	2.7
Massachusetts	1	2.7
Mississippi	1	2.7
New Hampshire	1	2.7
Oregon	1	2.7
Virginia	1	2.7

Table 27: Name of School Attending

	N	%
NC State University	23	62.2
Bridgewater State University	1	2.7
East Carolina University	1	2.7
Georgetown University	1	2.7
Liberty University	1	2.7
Life University	1	2.7
Louisiana State University	1	2.7
Mississippi State University	1	2.7
Oregon State University	1	2.7
Southern New Hampshire University	1	2.7
University of Illinois	1	2.7
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	1	2.7
University of Tennessee	1	2.7
University of Tennessee Knoxville	1	2.7
Wake Forest University	1	2.7

Table 28: Attending First Choice School?

	N	%
Yes	35	94.6
No	2	5.4

Degree Seeking

Students committed to attending a specific graduate/professional school in the coming year were asked in what degree program they will be enrolled. Eighty-nine percent of students said they would be in a Master's program, 5 percent in a Doctoral program, and 3 percent in a Professional program.

NC State graduates were seeking a wide range of Master's degrees, but most commonly an MS and MCRP. All of the survey respondents enrolling in a Doctoral program will be pursuing a PhD. One graduate will be seeking a Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine (DC) professional degree.

Table 29: Degree Program Enrolled In

	N	%
Master's	33	89.2
Doctoral	2	5.4
Professional	1	2.7

*Respondents could select more than one degree.

*Some respondents skipped this question.

Table 30: Master's Degree Programs (among those enrolling in a Master's program)

	N	%
MS	16	48.5
MCRP	5	15.2
MAT	2	6.1
MBA	2	6.1
ME	2	6.1
MAC	2	6.1
MPH	1	3.0
MA	1	3.0
MNR	1	3.0
MSME	1	3.0

Table 31: Doctoral Degree Programs (among those enrolling in a Doctoral degree program)

	N	%
PhD	2	100.0

Table 32: Professional Degree Programs (among those enrolling in a Professional degree program)

	N	%
DC	1	100.0

Graduate/Professional School Funding/Awards Received

NC State undergraduates going on to graduate/professional school received a variety of funding and/or awards as part of their acceptance into their program of study. *Research Assistantships* (24.3%) was the most commonly reported type of funding/awards, followed by *Scholarships* (10.8%), *Teaching Assistantships* (5.4%), and *Fellowships* (2.7%).

Table 33: Graduate/Professional School Funding/Awards

	N	%
Research Assistantship	9	24.3
Scholarship	4	10.8
Teaching Assistantship	2	5.4
Fellowship	1	2.7
Other assistantship	1	2.7

*Respondents could select more than one type of funding/award.

NC State Experiences and Resources

All graduating seniors participating in the Future Plans Survey were asked about their participation in various work-related experiences, as well as about various career-related resources they might have used while at NC State. This section of the report summarizes the information they shared about these experiences.

Work-Related Experiences

Respondents were asked whether or not they had participated in various work-related experiences while a student at NC State, and if so, for how many semesters/summers they did it, and whether or not it was helpful in securing a job offer. Sixty percent of the students reported having had an *internship/externship* or job in their field of study. A significant number of students also reported participating on a *class project specifically designed to work with a company/organization outside of NC State* (25.5%), and/or on a *research project with a faculty member* (17.5%).

Not only did sizeable numbers of graduates have such experiences, they often had them for extended periods of time. Participation in *co-ops* and *internships/externships or job in field* in particular tended to be relatively long term, with such experience taking place for three or more semesters/summers (43.8% and 36.1%, respectively). Most likely to be short-term experiences were *practicums*, *student teaching*, and *class projects*.

Table 34: Participation in Work-Related Experiences*

	Had Experience		# of Semesters/Summers				
	N	%	Less than one	1	2	3	4+
Co-op	65	8.3%	3.1%	20.3%	32.8%	31.3%	12.5%
Internship/externship or job in field	468	59.8%	0.6%	34.8%	28.5%	15.7%	20.4%
Practicum	29	3.7%	6.9%	86.2%	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%
Student teaching	61	7.8%	1.6%	55.7%	24.6%	4.9%	13.1%
Research w/ faculty	137	17.5%	5.9%	36.8%	27.2%	17.6%	12.5%
Class project	200	25.5%	5.5%	65.3%	18.1%	7.0%	4.0%

*Respondents could select more than one experience.

For the most part, regardless of the type of work-related experience, students who were interested in finding employment were very positive about the helpfulness of the experience in securing a job offer. *Co-ops* and *internships/job in field* were most likely to be viewed as “very helpful” (63.3% and 63.0%) Although the majority viewed it as a helpful experience, *class projects* working with outside company/organization were more likely than other work-related experiences to be viewed as “not very helpful” or “not at all helpful” (27.3%) in securing employment. Those who were not seeking employment (e.g., because they were continuing their education or have some other plans following graduation) were given the option to select “not applicable” when asked about the helpfulness of the work-related experience. In Table 35, “not applicable” responses have been excluded.

Table 35: Helpfulness of Work Experiences in Securing Employment (among those having had the experience and having looked for employment)

	4: Very helpful	3: Somewhat helpful	2: Not very helpful	1: Not at all helpful	N
Co-op	63.3%	26.7%	6.7%	3.3%	60
Internship	63.0%	28.3%	5.9%	2.8%	427
Practicum	59.3%	22.2%	11.1%	7.4%	27
Student teaching	40.0%	36.0%	20.0%	4.0%	50
Research w/ faculty	31.5%	45.9%	16.2%	6.3%	111
Class project	29.6%	43.2%	16.6%	10.7%	169

Career Service Offices

Graduating seniors were asked if they had ever used the different career service offices on campus, and if so how frequently they had used them and how they would rate the services provided. Among respondents overall, a plurality graduates reported having never used any of the career centers asked about (45.6%). Use of the career centers asked about, however, varied widely by college. For example, those in the College of Textiles were by far the most likely to report having used a career center, with 90 percent having gone to at least one of the centers asked about. In comparison, only about 15 percent of those in the College of Education had ever used one of the career centers asked about.

Not surprisingly, use of the various career centers was strongly related to students' college, with students being most likely to have gone to the career service office in their own college, when available. In addition, college career services offices typically attracted very few students from outside their college. Among survey respondents, 87 percent of the students in the College of Textiles reported going to the College of Textiles Career Services office. More than half of those in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Design, and the Poole College of Management used their respective college career services office (57.3%, 63.6%, and 64.1%, respectively). The Career Development Center was most likely to be used by those without such services in their own college, such as in the colleges of Engineering (51.3%), Natural Resources (42.4%) Sciences (38.7%), Humanities and Social Sciences (38.1%), and by the very few respondents graduating from the Division of Academic and Student Affairs (50%).

Table 36: Career Service Offices Used; Overall and by College Graduated From*

	Overall	College/School									
		COE	CHASS	PCOM	COS	CALS	CNR	COT	Design	CED	DASA
Career Development Center	36.7%	51.3%	38.1%	27.2%	38.7%	19.5%	42.4%	22.6%	9.1%	15.4%	50.0%
CALS Career Services	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	33.3%	57.3%	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
College of Textiles Career Services	3.8%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	87.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
College of Design Career Services	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	63.6%	0.0%	0.0%
PCOM Career Development Center	10.1%	0.5%	3.9%	64.1%	2.2%	1.2%	1.7%	3.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
None	45.6%	48.7%	59.7%	28.2%	40.9%	36.6%	55.9%	9.7%	36.4%	84.6%	50.0%
Total	783	191	181	103	93	82	59	31	22	13	8

*Respondents could select more than one option.

Among those using a career services office, those going to the one in the College of Textiles were by far most likely to go frequently, with 16.7% saying they go “on a regular basis,” and another 20% saying they had gone “many times.” Thus, as noted above, most students in the College of Textiles are going to their career services office, and they are going there a lot. Other than the College of Textiles Career Services office, those using the Poole College of Management Career Development Center were next most likely to have used it at least many times (22.8%).

Table 37: Frequency of Use of Career Service Offices (among those ever having used the office)

	4: On a regular basis	3: Many times	2: Several times	1: Just once or twice	N
Career Development Center	3.9%	10.9%	37.2%	48.1%	285
CALS Career Services	2.5%	16.3%	36.3%	45.0%	80
College of Textiles Career Services	16.7%	20.0%	43.3%	20.0%	30
College of Design Career Services	7.1%	7.1%	50.0%	35.7%	14
PCOM Career Development Center	5.1%	17.7%	40.5%	36.7%	79

Ratings of all career services offices were generally positive - - in no case did more than a small number of users rate the services of any given center as “poor” or “very poor”. Once again the College of Textiles Career Services office came out on top, with three-fourths of those students using the office rating it as “excellent.”

Table 38: Rating of Career Offices' Services (among those ever having used the office)

	5: Excellent	4: Good	3: Fair	2: Poor	1: Very Poor	N
Career Development Center	37.9%	46.7%	14.7%	0.7%	0.0%	285
CALS Career Services	40.0%	51.3%	7.5%	1.3%	0.0%	80
College of Textiles Career Services	73.3%	26.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	30
College of Design Career Services	35.7%	57.1%	7.1%	0.0%	0.0%	14
PCOM Career Development Center	41.8%	51.9%	5.1%	1.3%	0.0%	79

Career Services and Fairs

Students were asked whether or not they had used various specific career-related services. Looking at respondents overall, we see that a majority of respondents indicated that they had *attended a career fair (either on or off campus)* (64%) or that they had taken advantage of *ePACK*, the University Career Center's online tool for connecting students with potential employers (68.2%). About one-third of students said that they had visited the *NC State Career Development Center website* (33%), attended *presentations about resume writing, interviewing, and other career skills* (32.7%), attended *employer information systems* (29.1%), and/or *joined a professional society/organization at NC State in career area* (26.3%). Respondents were least likely to have participated in *mock interviews with a Career Counselor/Coach* (13.3%).

Table 39 shows differences in career resources used based on whether a student appeared to be planning on joining the workforce or going on to graduate/professional school after graduation. The majority of students who had either accepted a job, were looking or planning to look for employment had used *ePack* (70.6%), but over half of those planning on graduate/professional school had used it as well (59.3%). Those planning on employment were much more likely than those planning on continuing their education to have participated in *on-campus interviewing* (27.3% vs 14.2%) and they were more likely to have visited the *attended employer info sessions* (31.5% vs 19.5%). In contrast, those planning on continuing their education were more likely than those planning on entering the workforce to have *joined a professional society at NCSU related to their career field* (38.1% vs 25.4%).

Table 39. Resources Used at NC State; Overall and by Plans at Time of Graduation*

	NCSU	Accepted Job/ Seeking Work/ Planning to Look for Work	Attending/ Planning to Attend Grad School
ePACK	68.2%	70.6%	59.3%
Presentations on resume writing, interviewing skills, etc	32.7%	33.9%	29.2%
Attended employer info sessions	29.1%	31.5%	19.5%
Visited NC State Career Development Center website	33.0%	33.1%	35.4%
Spoke w/ Career Counselor/Coach	24.3%	24.4%	25.7%
Mock interviews w/ Career Counselor/Coach	13.3%	13.3%	14.2%
On-campus interviewing	24.5%	27.3%	14.2%
Attended career fair	64.0%	66.2%	55.8%
Joined professional society at NCSU related to career field	26.3%	25.4%	38.1%
Total (N)	783	622	113

Students who said they had attended a career fair were asked which career fair(s) they had attended. Looking at students overall, among the more than two-thirds of respondents who said they had *attended a career fair, either on or off campus*, students were most likely to report attending the *Engineering Career Fair* (41.7%), followed by the *PCOM Career and Internship Fair* (20.4%), the *CALS Career Expo* (19%).

Looking at career fair attendance by the college from which a student graduated is informative. Virtually all of the survey respondents graduating from the College of Engineering indicated that they had attended the Engineering Career Fair (98.8%). Similarly, 96 percent of those in the Poole College of Management and College of Textiles attended their college career fairs. Overall, the Engineering Career fair attracted the widest breadth of students (i.e., many students from several different colleges). Students in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Sciences, and College of Natural Resources have the most number of students taking advantage of the broadest range of career fairs.

Table 40: Career Fair Attended; Overall and by College Graduated From (among those having attended any type of career fair)*

	Overall	College/School									
		COE	PCOM	CHASS	COS	CALS	CNR	COT	Design	CED	DASA
CALS Career Expo	19.0%	0.6%	1.4%	8.3%	58.2%	89.1%	5.1%	7.4%	0.0%	16.7%	25.0%
CHASS Career Fair	9.2%	0.0%	0.0%	58.3%	1.8%	3.6%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Design Networking Fair	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Engineering Career Fair	41.7%	98.8%	16.7%	15.3%	23.6%	5.5%	7.7%	7.4%	14.3%	33.3%	0.0%
PCOM Career Fair	20.4%	0.0%	95.8%	23.6%	7.3%	5.5%	7.7%	18.5%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Col. of Sciences Career Fair	6.0%	0.6%	0.0%	2.8%	34.5%	7.3%	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Textiles Job Forum	5.6%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	96.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grad School Fair at NC State	3.6%	0.0%	1.4%	12.5%	7.3%	5.5%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Law School Fair	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Health Career Expo	3.2%	0.6%	0.0%	4.2%	14.5%	5.5%	0.0%	3.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other fair at NC State	10.8%	4.9%	2.8%	5.6%	7.3%	12.7%	56.4%	7.4%	14.3%	50.0%	25.0%
Career fair at other university	1.8%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	3.6%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Career fair unaffiliated w/ NC State	2.4%	1.8%	0.0%	8.3%	3.6%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know/don't remember	3.2%	0.6%	1.4%	5.6%	1.8%	0.0%	17.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%
Total	501	164	72	72	55	55	39	27	7	6	4

*Respondents could select more than one career fair.

Closing Comments

The Future Plans Survey closed by asking respondents to rate their overall satisfaction with the career guidance they had received from their department and/or college while at NC State, and to reflect on how they are feeling about their future. The majority of December 2013 graduates said they were either "satisfied" (40%) or "very satisfied" (26.3%) with the career guidance they had received from their academic department/college. While a sizable number were neutral about the guidance they received (25.6%), only about 8 percent said they were either "dissatisfied" (6.9%) or "very dissatisfied" (1.2%) with it.

Overall, the December 2013 graduates are excited about their futures. When asked which statement comes closest to how they were feeling about their future, 84 percent of respondents said that they were either "very excited" (48.3%) or "pretty excited" (36%). Students were less likely to choose "a bit confused/uncertain: I'm really not sure what I want to do and/or what I'm prepared to do" (14.5%). Finally, very few students appear to be feeling at a loss, with just 1.3 percent selecting the final option, "very confused/uncertain: I just don't feel ready/prepared to move on."

Table 41: Satisfaction with Career Guidance from Academic Department/College

	Mean	5: Very Satisfied	4: Satisfied	3: Neutral	2: Dissatisfied	1: Very Dissatisfied	N
Overall Satisfaction	3.83	26.3%	40.0%	25.6%	6.9%	1.2%	777

Table 42: Feelings about Future Career Path

	N	%
Very excited: Confident this is what I want to do and I'm prepared	374	48.3
Pretty excited: Fairly sure this is what I want to do	279	36.0
A bit confused/uncertain: Not really sure what I want to do	112	14.5
Very confused/uncertain: Don't feel ready/prepared to move on	10	1.3

December 2013 Future Plans Survey
Appendix A: Complete List of Employers
(among those accepting full-time employment)

Table 1: Company Name

Company Name	N
3Phoenix	1
ABB Inc.	1
AP Solutions, Inc	1
AT&T	1
ATI Allvac	1
AWNC	1
Advanced Micro Devices	1
Advantage Conveyor, Inc.	1
Air Force	1
Ajinomoto	1
Alliance	1
Allscripts Healthcare Solutions	2
Allwell Medical	1
Alpha Omega Bioservices / NIEHS	1
Altec	1
Amazon	3
AmeriCorps	2
American Forest Management	1
American Income Life	1
Anheuser-Busch	1
Animal Agriculture Alliance	1
Armada Animal Hospital	1
Avesta Computer Services, Ltd.	1
Avian and Exotic Animal Care	1
Avison Young	1
Axios	1
BE Aerospace	1
Bandwidth	3
Bank of America	2
Basnight's Lone Cedar Cafe	1
Bass Pro Shop	1
Baxter Healthcare	1
Bayer	1
Belk	1
Betts Tackle Ltd.	1

Company Name	N
Big Boss Brewing	1
BioMedomics, Inc.	1
Biogen Idec	1
Black & Veatch	1
Black Diamond Equipment	1
Black and Veatch	1
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina	1
Booth & Associates, LLC	1
Boskovic & Son, Inc.	1
Bowman-Andros	1
Brasfield & Gorrie	2
British Petroleum (BP)	1
Bronto Software	2
Brooks Machine & Design	1
Buhler Aeroglide	1
Burns & McDonnell	1
CMC Charlotte pediatric clinic	1
Campus Crusade for Christ	3
Capital Area Teen Court	1
Capital Area Transit	1
Carolina Electrical	1
Carolina Hurricanes	1
Carolina Mudcats Baseball	1
Carolina Ranch Animal Hospital and Resort	1
Caterpillar	2
CertainTeed	1
Chubb Insurance Group	1
Cisco Systems	6
Citrix	3
City Year	1
Clark Construction Group	1
Clarkston Consulting	1
Coffee Haven	1
Committee to Elect Tim Moffitt	1
Corner Creek Farm	1
Costume Department in the Motion Picture/Film Industry	1
Credit Suisse	4
DENSO	1
Dairy farm	1

Company Name	N
Damn Good Media	1
Danaher- Pelton & Crane	1
Deloitte	7
Diamonds Direct	1
Disney	1
Ditch Witch of North Carolina	1
Dixon Hughes Goodman	1
Domtar Paper Company	1
Dougherty and Dougherty Forestry Services Inc.	2
Dreamsports Center	1
Duke Energy Progress	1
Duke Homestead State Historic Site	1
E&J Gallo Winery	1
E-Z-GO	1
EMC	1
EY	1
Easter Seals UCP	1
Eastman Chemical Company	1
Eaton	2
Eisai	1
Elaine Miller Collection	1
Enso Movement LLC	1
Environmental Services Inc,	1
Enzymatic Deinking Technologies	1
Epic	1
Epic Systems	1
Evolugate	1
Extreme Networks	2
FDH Engineering	1
Fastenal	1
Fidelity Investments	7
Financial Symmetry Inc.	1
Fine Garden Creations	1
Fineline Prototyping	1
Fleming Farms	1
Foster Lake and Pond Management	1
Frill LLC	1
Fuji Film Diosynth	1
Fuquay-Varina High School	1

Company Name	N
Gap Inc	1
Garney Construction Company	1
GlaxoSmithKline	1
Global Mamas	1
Global knowledge	1
Granite Construction	1
Grant Thornton, LLP	1
Green Gate Olive Oils	1
HNTB	1
Hands On	1
Harris Teeter	1
Hazen and Sawyer	2
Hendrick Toyota of Apex	1
HiCaps Inc.	1
Hospira	1
Hummingbird Creative Group	1
Huntington Ingalls, Newport News Shipbuilding	1
I-cubed	1
IBM	6
INC RESEARCH	1
Illinois Connection	1
Illumina, Inc.	1
Immersive Display Solutions	1
In-home patient care	1
InView Eye Care OD, PLLC	1
International Paper	1
International Rescue Committee	1
International Textile Group	2
Jawbreaking	1
Jenny Craig	1
John Deere Landscapes	1
Johnson Lambert	1
Johnston County Schools	1
Jupiter Telecommunications Co.	1
KPMG	1
Kerr Drug	1
Kilian Engineering	1
Kimley-Horn and Associates	2
Kinemax Engineering LLC	1

Company Name	N
Kohl's	2
La Fe Foods/ Peace China Restaurants	1
LanguageCorps	1
Laut Design, Inc.	1
Learning Express Toy Store	1
Leary Plant Farm	1
Lee County Schools	1
Lend Lease	1
Lonnie Poole Golf Course	1
Magnus Health	1
Marriott - Residence Inn	1
Marsh Furniture	1
Masterbrand Cabinets, Inc	1
Maxpoint	1
Micheal D Neal and Associates	1
Microsoft	2
Mid-Atlantic Cattle Sales	1
Milliman	1
Mills Park Middle School	1
Mohu Consumer Electronics	1
Morehead Capital	1
Mu Sigma	2
Mulkey Engineers and Consultants	1
Murphy Brown	1
N/A	3
NACCO Material Handling Group	1
NC SECU	1
NC State University	3
NCDOT	1
Nan Ya Plastic Corporation	1
Navair	1
Nestle Purina	1
Netapp	1
Noodles and Company	1
North Carolina Cooperative Fisheries and Wildlife Unit	1
North Carolina Soybean Association	1
North Carolina State Employee Credit Union	1
North State Acceptance	1
Northwestern Mutual	1

Company Name	N
Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics	1
Novo Nordisk	1
Novozymes	1
Oracle	1
PCL Construction	1
PPM	1
PRA International	1
Penco international	1
Practichem or LinkedIn	1
Precision Fabrics Group	1
Precor	1
Primesport	1
Proactive Controls Group	1
PwC	1
Quintiles	1
R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company	1
ROI Machinery and Automation	1
Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department	1
Ramey Kemp and Associates	1
Robert E Mason Company	1
Robling Medical, Inc.	1
SAS	3
Sageworks	1
Sam's	1
Samaritan Ambulance Service	1
Schneider Electric	5
Seacamp Association, Inc.	1
Sedgefield Country Club	1
Self Employed	1
Sensus	1
Shaw Industries	1
Sheraton Hotels and Resorts	1
Sherwin Williams	1
Sibson Consulting	1
Southeastern Consulting Engineers	1
Southeastern Junior Golf Tour	1
SpaceX	1
Spaulding & Norris, PA	1
Spiral Graphics	1

Company Name	N
Standard Valuation Services	1
Sumitomo Electrical Wiring Systems Inc.	1
SuperDroid Robots	1
Syngenta Crop Protection	1
TBI Inc	1
TQL	1
Target Corp	1
Teach For America	4
Teleflex Medical	1
Tethis	1
The Golf Market	1
The Preiss Company	1
The Select Group	1
Thomas Built Bus	1
Tipper Tie, Inc.	1
Toast RVA	1
Tobin & Company	1
Tompkins International	1
Torrenti Cycles, Inc.	1
Toshiba	1
Total Flight Solutions	1
Tourico Holidays	1
Tower Engineering Professionals	1
Town of Apex	1
Trident Systems	1
Turf Tenders	1
US Air Force	1
US Marine Corps	3
US Navy	4
Unifi	1
Union Academy	1
University of Georgia 4-H	1
University of North Carolina	2
VHB	1
Vanguard	1
Verizon Wireless	1
Vishay Precision Group	1
VisionPoint Marketing	1
WEN TECHNOLOGY	1

Company Name	N
Wake Forest Baptist Health, School of Medicine	1
Wakefield High School	1
Walt Disney Company	1
Wells Fargo	1
Werum Software & Systems America	1
Whole Foods Market	1
Wild Birds Unlimited	1
Williams Used Cars, Inc.	1
Withers & Ravenel	1

December 2013 Future Plans Survey

Appendix B: Complete List of Countries and States in Which Graduates Will Be Working (among those accepting full-time employment)

Table 1: Country Will Be Working In

Job Country	N
China	1
Costa Rica	1
France	1
Ghana	1
Italy	1
Japan	3
Not sure	1
Senegal	1
Spain	1
Sweden	2
Thailand	1
United Kingdom	1
United States	346

Table 2: State Will Be Working In

Job State	N
Alabama	2
Arkansas	1
California	5
District of Columbia	8
Florida	9
Georgia	8
Illinois	3
Indiana	1
Iowa	2
Kentucky	2
Maryland	1
Massachusetts	1
Michigan	2
New York	4
North Carolina	249
Ohio	1
Pennsylvania	3

Job State	N
South Carolina	4
Tennessee	2
Texas	4
Utah	1
Virginia	11
Washington	5
Wisconsin	3
Wyoming	1
Not sure	10

For more information about the Future Plans Survey contact:
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