

December 2014 Future Plans Survey All Respondents: Overview

This overview report presents findings from all graduating seniors participating in the December 2014 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://oirp.ncsu.edu/srvy/stdnt/future-plans/dec14>.

Plans Following Graduation

As of the time they completed the survey, over half of students graduating in December 2014 indicated that they had secured some type of employment. Over one-third of all respondents reported that they had *accepted a position that would begin after graduation* (36.4%), while 13 percent said they *would continue working in a job they had prior to graduation* (12.6%), and five percent said they would either be *working as an intern* (2.5%), *serving in the military* (.5%), *starting their own business* (1.1%), or doing *paid volunteer work* (0.5%).

Almost one-fourth of the graduates said they were actively seeking employment but had not yet found a position (22.8%). Only three percent said they were planning on looking for work but had not yet begun to do so (3.1%). Finally, 16 percent of respondents anticipated going to graduate/professional school as their primary activity in the year after their graduation (10.9%) or going to graduate/professional school and working (5.1%).

Table 1: Plans Following Graduation

	N	%
Have accepted position that will begin after graduation	266	36.4
Will continue working in job I had prior to graduation	92	12.6
Have started/will be starting my own business	8	1.1
Will be working as an intern	18	2.5
Currently seeking employment	167	22.8
Have not begun to seek employment, will begin within year	23	3.1
Going to grad/prof school within the year	80	10.9
Going to grad/prof school and working	37	5.1
Taking additional undergraduate coursework	6	0.8
Military service	4	0.5
Volunteer activity	4	0.5
Starting/raising a family	2	0.3
Don't know yet	9	1.2
Other	15	2.1

Post-Graduation Employment

This section of the report provides detailed information specifically on those students who indicated they had obtained a full-time position. This is followed by information provided by those who said they were actively seeking employment but had not yet found a position. Finally, this section contains 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 after graduation indicated they would be working full-time (90.1%).

Table 2: Full- or Part-Time Employment (among those securing employment)

	N	%
Full-time	364	90.1
Part-time	40	9.9

Number of Job Offers

Forty percent of the students having secured a full-time position indicated that had been their only job offer (39.8%). Nearly half of respondents said that they had one (31.0%) or two additional offers (17.3%). Almost 12 percent of respondents indicated that they had three or more job offers from which to choose (11.9%).

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

	N	%
Yes: This was my only job offer	131	39.8
No: I had one other job offer	102	31.0
No: I had two other job offers	57	17.3
No: I had three or more other offers	39	11.9

Employers

Graduates securing full-time employment were asked the name of the organization for which they would be working after graduation. Although NC State graduates accepted jobs in many different companies and organizations, those hiring the greatest number of NC State December 2014 graduates were NC State University, Fidelity Investments, SAS Institute, IBM, and FDH Engineering.

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. Although the graduates are heading into a wide range of industries, the most common industries in which they report they will be working are *engineering* (16.4%) and *computer software/hardware* (6.8%). Those finding full-time employment were most likely to say they would

have a job function related to *engineering* (21.2%), followed by *software development* (7.6%), and *manufacturing/production/development* (5.4%).

Table 4: Industry (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Accounting	6	1.7
Aerospace	1	0.3
Agriculture	11	3.1
Automotive	5	1.4
Banking	7	2.0
Biotechnology	2	0.6
Business Services	5	1.4
Chemicals	6	1.7
Communications	2	0.6
Computer Software/Hardware	24	6.8
Construction	19	5.4
Consulting	18	5.1
Consumer Products	1	0.3
Design	2	0.6
Education	13	3.7
Electronics	1	0.3
Energy	2	0.6
Engineering	58	16.4
Entrepreneurial/Venture Capital	2	0.6
Environment/Sustainability	4	1.1
Faith Based	1	0.3
Fashion	1	0.3
Financial Services	17	4.8
Food Science	4	1.1
Government	8	2.3
Health Care	10	2.8
Hotel, Restaurant, Hospitality	5	1.4
Human/Social Services	3	0.8
Insurance	5	1.4
Law Enforcement/Security/Corrections	2	0.6
Legal	2	0.6

Table 4: Industry (full-time employees only), continued

	N	%
Manufacturing	19	5.4
Marketing	5	1.4
Media	3	0.8
Military & Defense	3	0.8
Museums & Libraries	1	0.3
Natural Resources	3	0.8
Non-Profit/Philanthropy	4	1.1
Pharmaceutical	4	1.1
Print & Publishing	1	0.3
Public Policy	1	0.3
Real Estate	1	0.3
Recreation & Sports	9	2.5
Research	8	2.3
Retail/Merchandising	8	2.3
Staffing & Executive Search	3	0.8
Technology	10	2.8
Telecommunications	2	0.6
Trade	1	0.3
Transportation	1	0.3
Travel & Tourism	1	0.3
Utilities (Public & Private)	2	0.6
Veterinary	4	1.1
Wood Products	2	0.6
Not sure	1	0.3
Other	10	2.8

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

	N	%
Account Management	3	0.8
Accounting	7	2.0
Actuarial/Statistical & Data Analysis	2	0.6
Administrative	7	2.0
Agricultural Business/Economics	3	0.8
Agronomy/Plant/Crop Science	1	0.3
Analyst	9	2.5
Animal/Veterinary	5	1.4
Arts/Performing Arts/Music	1	0.3
Bio/Ag Engineering	3	0.8
Buying/Purchasing	3	0.8
Construction	8	2.3
Consulting	16	4.5
Creative Design/Graphic Arts	3	0.8
Customer Service	5	1.4
Education/Teaching/Curriculum Development	11	3.1
Engineering	75	21.2
Environmental/Conservation	5	1.4
Film/Video	1	0.3
Finance	7	2.0
Food Science/Nutrition	2	0.6
Government	5	1.4
Horticulture/Turfgrass	1	0.3
Human Health/Medical	4	1.1
Human Resources	7	2.0
Human/Social Services	1	0.3
Information Technology/Systems	7	2.0
Laboratory Science	4	1.1
Legal/Corrections/Criminology	2	0.6
Management	18	5.1
Manufacturing/Production/Development	19	5.4
Marketing	6	1.7
Non Profit	2	0.6

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

	N	%
Operations	8	2.3
Product Development/Management	3	0.8
Project Management	4	1.1
Public Administration/Policy	1	0.3
Public Relations	1	0.3
Quality Assurance	2	0.6
Recreation/Sports	5	1.4
Religion/Ministry	1	0.3
Research & Development	8	2.3
Sales	18	5.1
Science - Life/Physical Science	4	1.1
Software Development	27	7.6
Soil/Environmental Science	1	0.3
Supply Chain Management/Logistics	2	0.6
Training & Development	2	0.6
Travel/Tourism/Hospitality	3	0.8
Writing/Editing/Translation	1	0.3
Not sure	3	0.8
Other	7	2.0

Relationship of Job to Academic Major and Satisfaction with Job

More than two-thirds of those with full-time employment said their job was *directly related* to their academic major (71.1%) and only eight percent said it was *not at all related* (7.9%). 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 be “very satisfied.” Those starting in jobs “not at all related” to their major were more likely than others to report being “dissatisfied” (3.6%) or “very dissatisfied” (7.1%) 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	253	61.7%	31.2%	6.7%	0.4%	.	71.1%
Somewhat related	75	45.3%	40.0%	9.3%	4.0%	1.3%	21.1%
Not at all related	28	32.1%	39.3%	17.9%	3.6%	7.1%	7.9%
All	356	55.9%	33.7%	8.1%	1.4%	0.8%	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 (73.1%), with over half (52.8%) 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	258	73.1
Virginia	15	4.2
Georgia	11	3.1
Florida	9	2.5
South Carolina	7	2.0

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

	N	%
Triangle	178	52.8
Other NC	72	21.4
Outside NC	87	25.8

*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 more than three-fourths of respondents said they would be getting a salary (76.1%) and 22 percent said their income would include hourly wages (21.7%), results indicate that graduates are being compensated through a variety of methods. For example, more than half of respondents said they would be receiving only a salary (58.1%), 17 percent hourly only, and 12 percent would be compensated via a salary plus performance bonuses.

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

	N	%
Salary	277	76.1
Hourly	79	21.7
Performance Bonuses	59	16.2
Commission	24	6.6
Other	11	3.0
Tips/Gratuities	5	1.4

*Respondents could indicate more than one type of compensation.

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

	N	%
Salary only	208	58.1
Hourly only	60	16.8
Salary plus perf. bonuses	42	11.7
Salary plus commission	9	2.5
Salary plus comm plus perf. bonus	8	2.2
Other	7	2.0
Other comp. only	6	1.7
Salary plus hourly	5	1.4
Hourly plus tips	4	1.1
Hourly plus commission	4	1.1
Hourly plus perf. bonuses	4	1.1
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 (excluding those working in internships) report an average annual starting salary of \$50,333.

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

(Average Salary = \$50,333)	N	%
Less than \$30,000	39	11.7
\$30,000 - \$39,999	61	18.4
\$40,000 - \$49,999	39	11.7
\$50,000 - \$59,999	75	22.6
\$60,000 or more	101	30.4
Would prefer not answer	13	3.9
Not sure	4	1.2

One-Time Compensation: Signing Bonuses and Relocation Packages

One-fifth of respondents with full-time employment said they had received a signing bonus (21.7%). More than half of those receiving a bonus said it was for \$5,000 or more (52.2%), with 13 percent saying it was for more than \$10,000 (13.4%).

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

	N	%
Yes	70	21.7
No	253	78.3

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

	N	%
\$500 to \$999	1	1.5
\$1,000 to \$1,999	4	6.0
\$2,000 to \$2,999	8	11.9
\$3,000 to \$3,999	11	16.4
\$4,000 to \$4,999	3	4.5
\$5,000 to \$5,999	22	32.8
\$6,000 to \$6,999	1	1.5
\$7,000 to \$7,999	2	3.0
\$9,000 to \$9,999	1	1.5
\$10,000 or more	9	13.4
Would prefer not answer	4	6.0
Not sure	1	1.5

When asked if they were offered a relocation package, 40 percent of the students with full-time jobs said that such a package was “not applicable” (39.9%). However, nearly one-fourth of those with full-time employment said they were offered a relocation package (23.8%). Offers of relocation packages, not surprisingly, were related to whether or not the future employee would be working in North Carolina. More than half of those working outside of North Carolina received a relocation package (60.9%). Close to one-third (30.6%) 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	2.8%	32.8%	64.4%	52.7%
Other NC	72	30.6%	45.8%	23.6%	21.4%
Outside NC	87	60.9%	35.6%	3.4%	25.9%
All	336	23.8%	36.3%	39.9%	100.0%

The Job Search

About half of those with full-time employment started looking for work six or more months before graduation (49.4%). Sixteen percent of those with full-time employment started looking for work less than three months before graduation (15.9%).

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

	N	%
12 or more months before graduation	54	16.8
9-11 months before graduation	26	8.1
6-8 months before graduation	79	24.5
3-5 months before graduation	112	34.8
1-2 months before graduation	36	11.2
Less than one month before graduation	15	4.7

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 (41.5%), followed by attending a career fair at NC State (32.1%), applying for a job via ePACK (24.2%), personal connections within the company (22%), campus or college career center (20.3%), and family/friends/classmates/co-workers (19.8%). 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., staffing agency).

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

	N	%
Internship/externship	151	41.5
Career fair at NC State	117	32.1
Applied for job via ePACK	88	24.2
Personal connection(s) within the company	80	22.0
Campus or college career center	74	20.3
Family/friends/classmates/co-workers	72	19.8
On-campus interviewing	50	13.7
Co-op experience	45	12.4
Internet	44	12.1
Employer found resume via ePACK	40	11.0
Faculty member or found job listing in an NC State dept	30	8.2
Consultation with Career Counselor/Coach at NC State	28	7.7
Employer information session on campus	16	4.4
Professional society	16	4.4
Student teaching experience	8	2.2
Career fair off-campus	7	1.9
Staffing agency	7	1.9
Other	32	8.8

*Respondents could select more than one resource.

Seeking Employment

Just under one-fourth of the December 2014 graduates responding to the Future Plans Survey indicated that as of the time they completed the survey they were *currently seeking employment* (22.8%) and a small number (3.1%) report they *have not yet begun to seek employment, but 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 vast 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 six months before their graduation (86.3%). Of these respondents, close to 40 percent said they started looking for a job three to five months before graduation (39.4%); over one-fourth said they started looking one to two months prior to graduation (26.3%). One-fifth of those without a job said they began their search less than one month prior to graduation (20.6%).

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

	N	%
12 or more months before graduation	1	0.6
9-11 months before graduation	6	3.8
6-8 months before graduation	15	9.4
3-5 months before graduation	63	39.4
1-2 months before graduation	42	26.3
Less than one month before graduation	33	20.6

A sizeable number of December graduates who had been seeking but not yet found employment indicated that it was not due to a lack of offers. One-fourth (24.6%) said that they had received a job offer, with six 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. The most common reasons given for not accepting a job offer included currently being in the process of negotiating or considering multiple job offers, the job was not a good fit for their career goals (e.g., not in their field of study), or compensation (e.g., salary too low).

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

	N	%
No	126	75.4
Yes: one	31	18.6
Yes: two	7	4.2
Yes: three or more	3	1.8

Type of Work Seeking

The vast majority of job-seekers said they were looking for full-time work (90.4%), with most of the remainder indicating they were looking for either full- or part-time work (8.4%). Almost all of those seeking employment said they were looking for a job either *directly* (39.5%) or *somewhat related*

(52.7%) to their major. The most common occupations in which students were hoping to be employed were *administration* (15.3%), *film/video* (14.1%), and *account management* (12.9%).

Table 19: Looking for full-time or part-time work (among those seeking but not yet securing a job)

	N	%
Full-time	151	90.4
Part-time	2	1.2
Either	14	8.4

Table 20: Relationship of Job Seeking to Major (among those seeking but not yet securing a job)

	N	%
Looking for position directly related to my major	66	39.5
Looking for position somewhat related to my major	88	52.7
Looking for position unrelated to my major	5	3.0
How closely position is related to major is irrelevant	8	4.8

Table 21: Job Function of Job Seeking (among those seeking but not yet securing a job)

	N	%
Account Management	21	12.9
Accounting	10	6.1
Administrative	25	15.3
Advertising	11	6.7
Agricultural Business/Economics	6	3.7
Agronomy/Plant/Crop Science	2	1.2
Analyst	5	3.1
Animal/Veterinary	8	4.9
Arts/Performing Arts/Music	6	3.7
Construction	3	1.8
Consulting	10	6.1
Counseling - School/Agency/College	9	5.5
Customer Service	2	1.2
Economics	4	2.5
Education/Teaching/Curriculum Development	1	0.6
Engineering	6	3.7
Environmental/Conservation	1	0.6
Film/Video	23	14.1
Not sure	10	6.1

Location of Job Seeking

A plurality of those still looking for a job at the time of the survey said they were only looking for employment in North Carolina (38.9%). Another third said they were looking for a job anywhere in the U.S. (31.1%), while a small number were looking anywhere in the U.S. except North Carolina (5.4%). One-fourth of the job-seekers indicated they were looking at jobs both inside and outside of the U.S.

Table 22: Looking for Employment Inside or Outside the U.S. (among those seeking but not yet securing a job)

	N	%
Only N.C.	65	38.9
In N.C. and other U.S. states	52	31.1
In U.S., but outside N.C.	9	5.4
Inside and outside the U.S.	40	24.0
Outside U.S. only	1	.06

Future Job Seekers

A very small number of December 2014 graduates (3.1%) 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, just over half said they would begin within one month after graduation (52.1%).

Table 23: When Will Begin Job Search

	N	%
Within the next couple of weeks	5	21.7
Within a month after graduation	7	30.4
Within 2-3 months after graduation	8	34.8
Within 4-6 months after graduation	3	13.0

Further Education

This section of the report provides detailed information on further education being pursued by NC State December 2014 graduates. Sixteen percent of the 731 graduates who submitted the Future Plans Survey said 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 reasons cited were *to enhance professional knowledge in a particular subject area* (64.3%) and *my chosen career field requires graduate/professional school* (63.5%). Other reasons cited include *wanting to be able to earn a higher salary with an advanced degree* (53.9%) and *that they wanted to improve their marketability* (48.7%). Just five 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	74	64.3
My chosen career field requires graduate/professional school	73	63.5
I will be able to earn a higher salary with an advanced degree	62	53.9
I want to improve my marketability	56	48.7
I have been unable to find a job	6	5.2
My employer is encouraging me to attend	2	1.7
Other	4	3.5

*Respondents could select more than one reason.

Current Status for Graduate/Professional School Attendance

Of the December 2014 graduates planning on attending graduate/professional school, close to one-third said they *have been accepted and know where they will be going* (30.4%). Ten percent of graduates planning on attending graduate/professional school said they *have been accepted but are still undecided* on whether or not or where they will actually attend. One-fourth *had applied, but had not yet been accepted* (23.5%) and over one-third responded that they *have not yet applied, but plan to do so within the next year* (36.5%).

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.

Table 25: Current Status for Graduate/Professional School Attendance

	N	%
Have been accepted and know where I'm going	35	30.4
Have been accepted but undecided	11	9.6
Have applied, but not yet been accepted	27	23.5
Have not applied but plan to do so within the next year	42	36.5

School Attending

A large majority 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 (84.8%), with over half attending NC State University (51.5%). The majority of those going on to graduate/professional school say they will be attending their first-choice school (91.2%).

Table 26: State of School Attending

	N	%
North Carolina	28	84.8
Florida	2	6.1
Maine	1	3.0
Pennsylvania	1	3.0
Virginia	1	3.0

Table 27: Name of School Attending

	N	%
NC State University	17	51.5
East Carolina University	3	9.1
Liberty University	2	6.1
Meredith College	2	6.1
Duke University	1	3.0
Florida State University	1	3.0
Murphy Deming	1	3.0
Temple University	1	3.0
University of New England	1	3.0
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	1	3.0
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	1	3.0
University of North Carolina at Wilmington	1	3.0
University of South Florida	1	3.0

Table 28: Attending First Choice School?

	N	%
Yes	31	91.2
No	3	8.8

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 percent of students said they would be in a Master's program, and about ten percent each in either a Doctoral program (11.4%) or a Professional program (8.6%).

NC State graduates were seeking a wide range of Master's degrees, but most commonly an MS, an MAC, or an MA. Three of the respondents enrolling in a Doctoral program will be pursuing a PhD, while a fourth will be in a Doctorate of Occupational Therapy program. The three respondents enrolling in a Professional Degree program will be seeking a JD, DPM, and DDS.

Table 29: Degree Program Enrolled In*

	N	%
Master's	28	80.0
Doctoral	4	11.4
Professional	3	8.6

*Respondents could select more than one degree.

*Some respondents who indicated they had been accepted and knew where they would be attending graduate/professional school did not provide information on their degree program.

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

	N	%
MS	8	29.6
ME	4	14.8
MPH	2	7.4
MA	2	7.4
MArch	2	7.4
MAT	2	7.4
MBA	1	3.7
MR	1	3.7
MSME	1	3.7
MCS	1	3.7
MSA	1	3.7
MSW	1	3.7
MAC	1	3.7

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

	N	%
PhD	3	75.0
OTD	1	25.0

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

	N	%
JD	1	33.3
DPM	1	33.3
DDS	1	33.3

Graduate/Professional School Funding/Awards Received

About 40 percent of NC State undergraduates going on to graduate/professional school received funding and/or awards as part of their acceptance into their program of study (42.9%). Twenty percent of all those going on to graduate/professional school received a teaching assistantship, while 17 percent received a research assistantship. A few reported getting a scholarship (8.6%) or fellowship (5.7%).

Table 33: Graduate/Professional School Funding/Awards

	N	%
Teaching Assistantship	7	20.0
Research Assistantship	6	17.1
Scholarship	3	8.6
Fellowship	2	5.7
Honors/Award	1	2.9
Other assistantship	1	2.9

*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-three 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 in a class project specifically designed to work with a company/organization outside of NC State* (23%), and/or on a *research project with a faculty member* (16.6%).

Not only did a sizeable number of graduates have such experiences, they often had them for extended periods of time. Participation in *internships/externships or job in field* and in *research with faculty* in particular tended to be relatively long-term, with such experiences taking place three or more semesters/summers (31.2% and 26.9% respectively). While relatively fewer students had a co-op experience, such experiences were more likely than others to be long-term. Over half of those having done a co-op did so for three or more semesters (54.4%). 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	68	9.5%	2.9%	20.6%	22.1%	35.3%	19.1%
Internship/externship or job in field	452	63.0%	2.7%	38.3%	27.9%	15.5%	15.7%
Practicum	35	4.9%	2.9%	85.3%	5.9%	0.0%	5.9%
Student teaching	40	5.6%	2.5%	65.0%	17.5%	10.0%	5.0%
Research w/ faculty	119	16.6%	3.4%	37.0%	32.8%	15.1%	11.8%
Class project	165	23.0%	6.7%	61.2%	24.2%	4.8%	3.0%

*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/jobs in field* were most likely to be viewed as “very helpful” (67.7% and 63.8% respectively). Although the majority viewed it as a helpful experience, *class projects* working with outside companies/organizations were more likely than other work-related experiences to be viewed as “not very helpful” (22.1%) or “not at all helpful” (11.4%) 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)

	Mean	4: Very helpful	3: Somewhat helpful	2: Not very helpful	1: Not at all helpful	N
Co-op	3.63	67.7%	29.2%	1.5%	1.5%	65
Internship	3.54	63.8%	28.1%	7.0%	1.2%	417
Practicum	3.28	37.9%	51.7%	10.3%	0.0%	29
Student teaching	2.89	27.0%	45.9%	16.2%	10.8%	37
Research w/ faculty	3.21	46.4%	34.0%	13.4%	6.2%	97
Class project	2.80	25.0%	41.4%	22.1%	11.4%	140

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, close to half (46.4%) of graduates reported having never used any of the career centers asked about. Use of 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 over 90 percent having gone to at least one of the centers asked about (91.3%). In comparison, less than 15 percent of those in the College of Education had ever used one of the career centers asked about (13.3%).

Not surprisingly, use of the specific 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 own college. Among survey respondents, 91 percent of the students in the College of Textiles reported going to the College of Textiles Career Services office. Nearly 60 percent of those in the Poole College of Management used their college career office (58.2%) and half of those in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Design used their respective career offices (54.3% and 50%). 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 (60.2%), Natural Resources (40%), and Humanities and Social Sciences (38.2%).

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

	Overall	College/School									
		CALS	Design	CED	COE	CNR	CHASS	COS	COT	PCOM	DASA
Career Development Center	41.0%	28.6%	12.5%	13.3%	60.2%	40.0%	38.2%	32.8%	13.0%	35.2%	50.0%
CALS Career Services	8.9%	54.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	4.2%	25.4%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%
College of Textiles Career Services	3.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	91.3%	0.0%	0.0%
College of Design Career Services	1.3%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
PCOM Career Development Center	9.3%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	5.0%	4.2%	0.0%	4.3%	58.2%	0.0%
None	46.4%	37.1%	50.0%	86.7%	39.3%	60.0%	59.4%	55.2%	8.7%	33.0%	50.0%
Total	717	70	16	15	206	60	165	67	23	91	4

*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 almost half saying they go “on a regular basis” (39.1%) or that they had gone “many times” (8.7%). Thus, most students in the College of Textiles take advantage of their career services office, and many do so frequently.

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	4.4%	5.4%	37.8%	52.4%	294
CALS Career Services	4.7%	1.6%	37.5%	56.3%	64
College of Textiles Career Services	39.1%	8.7%	26.1%	26.1%	23
College of Design Career Services	0.0%	11.1%	55.6%	33.3%	9
PCOM Career Development Center	6.0%	10.4%	38.8%	44.8%	67

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.” Graduates from the College of Textiles were by far most likely to rate their Career Services office “excellent,” with nearly 90 percent of graduates doing so (87%).

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	37.1%	50.0%	11.6%	1.4%	0.0%	294
CALS Career Services	37.5%	45.3%	15.6%	0.0%	1.6%	64
College of Textiles Career Services	87.0%	13.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	23
College of Design Career Services	44.4%	55.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	9
PCOM Career Development Center	44.8%	44.8%	10.4%	0.0%	0.0%	67

Career Services and Fairs

Students were asked whether or not they had used various specific career-related services. Overall, a majority of students indicated that they had taken advantage of ePACK, the University Career

Center’s online tool for connecting students with potential employers (69.2%) or that they had *attended a career fair (either on or off campus)* (66.8%). About one-third of students said that they had attended *presentations about resume writing, interviewing, and other career skills* (35.7%), *visited the NC State Career Development Center website* (33.1%), or had attended *employer information sessions* (31.7%). Finally, about one-fourth of students said they had engaged in *on-campus interviewing* (27.1%) or *joined a professional society at NCSU related to their career field* (25.1%).

Table 39 shows differences in career resources used based on whether a student indicated that they planned 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* (72.2%), with over half of those planning on attending graduate/professional school having done the same (55.9%). Those planning on employment were much more likely than those planning on continuing their education to have *attended employer info sessions* (34.5% vs. 15.7%) and to have participated in *on-campus interviews* (30% vs. 10.8%). 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* (35.3% vs. 23.5%).

Table 39: Resources Used at NC State*

	NCSU	Accepted Job/Seeking Work/Planning to Look for Work	Attending/Planning to Attend Grad School
ePACK	69.2%	72.2%	55.9%
Attended career fair	66.8%	67.9%	58.8%
Presentations on resume writing, interviewing skills, etc	35.7%	35.7%	31.4%
Visited NC State Career Development Center website	33.1%	33.8%	30.4%
Attended employer info sessions	31.7%	34.5%	15.7%
On-campus interviewing	27.1%	30.0%	10.8%
Joined professional society at NCSU related to career field	25.1%	23.5%	35.3%
Spoke w/ Career Counselor/Coach	23.2%	24.4%	18.6%
Mock interviews w/ Career Counselor/Coach	13.2%	13.6%	10.8%
Total	717	583	102

*Respondents could select more than one resource.

Students who said they had attended a career fair were asked which career fair(s) they had attended. Looking at students overall, among the 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* (45.9%), followed by the *PCOM Career and Internship Fair* (20%), and the *CALS Career Expo* (17.1%).

Looking at career fair attendance by the college from which a student graduated is informative. Ninety percent of COE students attended a career fair, with almost all of those participating in the *Engineering Career Fair* (97.8%), and very few attending a career fair organized by any other college/division. Over 80 percent of the COT students attended a career fair, with all of them saying they went to the fair sponsored by their college. About three-fourths of PCOM (73.6%) and CALS

students (71.4%) attended a career fair, again with almost all of them going to the fair sponsored by their respective college.

While the majority of COS respondents had gone to a career fair (58.2%), less than half of those said they went to their own college fair, while 62% said they went to the CALS Career Expo. About half of those in CNR went to a career fair, with a majority saying they went to “another fair” at NC State (i.e., one not included in the list of fairs as a response option). Less than half of CHASS and Design students attended a fair, with a majority of them going to their own college fair (60.5% and 71.4%, respectively). Finally, perhaps not surprisingly for those graduating in December, few CED students had attended a career fair (13.3%).

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 and in the College of Sciences had 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									
		CALS	Design	CED	COE	CNR	CHASS	COS	COT	PCOM	DASA
Attended any career fair	66.8%	71.4%	43.8%	13.3%	90.3%	51.7%	46.1%	58.2%	82.6%	73.6%	50%
<i>Career Fair Attended (among those attending a career fair)</i>											
CALS Career Expo	17.1%	94.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	22.6%	3.9%	61.5%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%
CHASS Career Fair	10.6%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	60.5%	2.6%	5.3%	3.0%	0.0%
College of Design Networking Fair	1.3%	0.0%	71.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Engineering Career Fair	45.9%	12.0%	0.0%	50.0%	97.8%	12.9%	9.2%	17.9%	15.8%	13.4%	50.0%
Poole COM Career & Internship Fair	20.0%	14.0%	14.3%	0.0%	1.6%	3.2%	21.1%	2.6%	5.3%	98.5%	0.0%
College of Sciences Career Fair	5.8%	6.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0.5%	6.5%	2.6%	48.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Textiles Job Forum	4.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grad School Career Fair at NC State	3.3%	6.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%	9.7%	5.3%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Law School Fair	2.1%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Health Career Expo	3.1%	4.0%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.6%	17.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other fair at NC State	11.3%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.5%	71.0%	10.5%	10.3%	5.3%	6.0%	0.0%
Career fair at other university	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	6.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%
Career fair unaffiliated w/ university	3.3%	4.0%	14.3%	50.0%	2.2%	6.5%	5.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%
Don't know/don't remember	2.9%	0.0%	28.6%	0.0%	0.5%	9.7%	7.9%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%
Total	479	50	7	2	186	31	76	39	19	67	2

*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 2014 graduates said they were either “satisfied” (39.4%) or “very satisfied” (28.3%) with the career guidance they received from their academic department/college. While a sizeable number were neutral about the guidance they received (25.9%), only about six percent said they were either “dissatisfied” (4.6%) or “very dissatisfied” (1.8%) with the career guidance they received.

Overall, the December 2014 graduates are excited about their futures. When asked which statement comes closest to how they were feeling about their future, about 80 percent of respondents said that they were either “very excited” (42.9%) or “pretty excited” (36.9%). A smaller percentage of respondents chose “a bit confused/uncertain - I’m not really sure what I want to do at this time” (18.4%), and very few (1.8%) selected the last option of “very confused/uncertain - I don’t know what I want to do at this time.”

Most December 2014 graduates also feel prepared for their futures. Asked about how prepared they felt for their future career paths, over 90 percent of respondents said that they felt either “somewhat prepared” (47.9%) or “very prepared” (44.5%) for their future career paths. Just one percent of respondents said they felt “very unprepared” (1.3%).

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	3.88	28.3%	39.4%	25.9%	4.6%	1.8%	714

Table 42: Feelings about Future Career Path

	N	%
Very excited - I'm confident that this is what I want to do at this time	306	42.9
Excited - I'm fairly sure this is what I want to do at this time	263	36.9
A bit confused/uncertain - I'm not really sure what I want to do at this time	131	18.4
Very confused/uncertain - I don't know what I want to do at this time	13	1.8

Table 43: Feelings of Preparation for Future Career Path

	N	%
Very prepared	318	44.5
Somewhat prepared	342	47.9
Somewhat unprepared	45	6.3
Very unprepared	9	1.3

**December 2014 Future Plans Survey
Appendix A: Complete List of Employers
(among those accepting full-time employment)**

Table 1: Company Name

Company Name	N
ABB Inc.	3
ADP	1
AGDATA	1
AICPA	1
ALDI	1
AON	1
ARCADIS	1
AT&T	1
Able Auto and Cycle Insurance	1
Accenture	1
Acosta	1
Agri Waste Technology	1
Ajax Building Corporation	1
All Starz Children's Academy	1
Allscripts	1
Allstate	1
Ally Financial	2
Altec Industries	1
American Buildings Company	1
American Woodmark	1
Analog Devices	1
AndyMark, Inc.	1
Anheuser-Busch	1
Animal Emergency Hospital and Urgent Care	1
Ansible	1
Anytime Fitness	1
Apttus	1
Athens Drive High School	1
Athletes in Action	1
Avery Dennison	1

Company Name	N
B&S Enterprises, Inc.	1
BASF	2
BB&T	2
BMC Software, Inc.	1
Baldor Electric	1
Banfield Pet Hospital	1
Bank of America	3
Bayer Crop Science	1
Beabout Brock Easley	1
Bear Claw Events	1
Beck Group	1
Bennett Aerospace, Inc.	1
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina	1
Bob Evans	1
Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica	1
Brinker International	1
Brown and Caldwell	1
Builders Mutual Insurance Company	1
Burns & McDonnell	2
CAPTRUST Financial Advisors	1
CB&I	1
Caldwell County	1
Cape Fear Valley Health System	1
Care First Animal Hospital	1
Carter's	1
Caterpillar	3
Celanese	2
Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools	2
Cintas	1
Cisco Systems	3
City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources	1
Clayton Middle School	1
Coastal Agrobusiness	1
Cognizant	1

Company Name	N
Comprehensive Pain Solutions	1
Consolidated Manufacturing International	1
County of Ventura	1
Credit Suisse	2
Cummins, Inc.	1
DST	1
Daimler Trucks North America	1
Danaher Corporation	1
Danaher Speciality Products	1
Dehnel & Associates Inc.	1
Deloitte	3
Device Solutions	1
Digital Kitchen	1
Domtar Paper Company	1
Duke Energy	4
EMC Squared	1
Eastman Chemical Company	1
Eaton Corporation	1
Eco Turf Incorporated	1
EcoLab	1
Edward Jones Investments	1
ElectriCities of NC	1
Empowered Benefits	1
Environmental Holding Group LLC	1
Ernst & Young	2
Espirer	1
Extron	1
F and R	1
FDH Engineering	5
FM Global	1
Fedex	1
Fetzer Strategic Partners	1
Fidelity Investments	8
Flanders	1

Company Name	N
Florida State University	1
Frank L. Blum	2
Franklin County Public School System	1
Friday Institute	1
Fruit of the Loom	1
Futeca Group	1
GE Power and Water	1
Garden Fresh Restaurant Corp	1
General Motors	1
Georgia Pacific	3
Global Golf Post	1
Goldsboro Milling	1
Google	2
Guide One Insurance	1
Gypsy Divers Aquatic Center	1
Hart & Hickman	1
Hazen and Sawyer	1
Hill-Rom Holdings Inc.	1
Hipp Engineering & Consulting	2
Honda Power Equipment Mfg	1
Hughes Network System	1
Hyatt House Hotel	1
IBM	6
IBS Paper Performance Group	1
IDEO	1
INC Research	1
IQ Contracting	1
IVC Inc.	1
Icon Media Holdings	1
Impact Orthopaedics	1
Industrial Extension Service	1
Insight Global	2
Integro	1
Interactive Intelligence	1

Company Name	N
International Paper	1
International Textile Group	1
JE Dunn	1
James G. Davis Construction Corporation	1
Johns Hopkins University	1
Johnson Lambert LLP	1
Joint Venture Jewelry	1
Jones & Frank	1
KPMG	1
Kimley-Horn and Associates	1
Kioti Tractor	1
LGS Innovations	1
LKC Creative	1
LORD Corporation	1
LabCorp	2
Lawless and Mangione LLC	1
Lear Corporation	1
Leesville Road High School	1
Lend Lease	2
Lenovo	1
Liberty National	1
Lockheed Martin	1
Longent LLC	1
Lonnie Poole Golf Course	1
Malartu Funds	1
Manhattan Associates	2
Maxim Staffing Solutions	1
Merck	3
Milal	1
Mooresville Spinners Baseball LLC	1
Morgan Stanley	1
Murphy Family Ventures	1
NASA Johnson Space Center	1
NAVSEA	1

Company Name	N
NC Community Foundation	1
NC Cooperative Extension	1
NC Department of Transportation	1
NC Division of Employment Security	1
NC General Assembly	2
NC Museum of Natural Sciences	1
NC State University	8
NC Wildlife Resources Commission	2
NCDOT	1
NSTAR Global Services	1
Nan Ya Plastics Corporation	1
Neff Rental	1
NeoNova Network Services	1
Noah's Ark Whitewater Rafting Co.	1
Norfolk Navy Shipyard	1
Norfolk Southern	2
North Idaho College Outdoor Pursuits	1
Northrop Grumman	1
O2 Fitness	1
Orthodox Presbyterian Church Japan Mission	1
PBM Graphics	1
PNC Financial Services	1
Panacea BioMatx	1
Park Sterling Bank	1
Parkway Ag Supply LLC	1
Parsons Brinckerhoff	1
PayPal	1
Peace Corps	2
Pelton and Crane	1
Perdue Agribusiness	1
Person County Health Department	1
Phillips and Jordan	1
PhotoFax Inc.	1
Piedmont Natural Gas	1

Company Name	N
Pizza Hut	1
PowerSecure	1
Poythress Commercial Contractors	1
PricewaterhouseCoopers	1
Principled Technologies	1
Prometheus Group	2
QGenda	1
Quintiles	1
REEF	1
RMF Engineering	1
RS&H	1
RTI International	2
Red Hat	2
Red Ventures	1
Relias Learning	1
Reynolds American	1
Riomar Country Club	1
Robert Bosch LLC	1
Rodger's Builders	1
Ross	1
RoviSys	2
RubiTrux.com	1
SAS Institute	6
SDI International	1
SKA Consulting Engineers Inc.	1
Safran Law Offices	1
Salzburg Global Seminar	1
San Diego Padres	1
Schneider Electric	3
ScottMadden, Inc.	1
Sealed Air	1
Shine Salon	1
Siemens	1
Signal Integrity Software, Inc.	1

Company Name	N
Skanska	2
South Rivers Forest Consultants	1
Southern Eye Associates	1
Stantec Consulting and Engineering	1
State Employees Credit Union	1
Strata Solar	1
Synechron	1
TE Connectivity	1
Target	1
Tethis, Inc.	1
Thanks A Latte	1
The Angus Barn	1
The Joint Chiropractic Office	1
The Select Group	1
The Walt Disney Company	1
Thomas Built Buses	1
Timmons Group	1
Tindall Corporation	1
Toshiba GCS	1
Tower Engineering Professionals	1
Track2Quit	1
True Homes USA	1
Turner Construction Corp.	1
Tyson Foods	1
UNCG	1
US Air Force	1
US Army	1
US House of Representatives	1
US Navy	3
USO of NC	1
Umstead Hotel and Spa	1
Unity House of Troy	1
VCA Durant Road Animal Hospital	1
Vicious Cycle Software	1

Company Name	N
Vinnie's Steak House and Tavern	1
W5	1
Wake County Public School System	1
Wake Tech Community College	1
Walter Holton	1
Wells Fargo Securities Technology	1
Weyerhaeuser	1
Wildlife Center of Virginia	1
Windsor Circle	1
Zee	1

December 2014 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

Country	N
Austria	1
Guatemala	1
Japan	1
Morocco	1
Not sure	1
Panama	1
United States	354

Table 2: State Will Be Working In

Job State	N
Arizona	3
Arkansas	1
California	6
Colorado	2
District of Columbia	1
Florida	9
Georgia	11
Idaho	1
Illinois	2
Indiana	1
Iowa	1
Kentucky	1
Maryland	3
Massachusetts	1
Michigan	1
Missouri	4
New Mexico	1
New York	5
North Carolina	258
North Dakota	1

Job State	N
Pennsylvania	1
South Carolina	7
Tennessee	2
Texas	5
Virginia	15
West Virginia	1
Not sure	9

**December 2014 Future Plans Survey
Appendix C: Graduate/Professional Schools Students Will Be Attending
(among those having been accepted and planning on enrolling)**

Table 1: Name of School Attending

School Name	N
Duke University	1
East Carolina University	3
Florida State University	1
Liberty University	2
Meredith College	2
Murphy Deming	1
NC State University	17
Temple University	1
University of New England	1
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	1
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	1
University of North Carolina at Wilmington	1
University of South Florida	1

For more information about the Future Plans Survey contact:
Dr. Nancy Whelchel, Associate Director for Survey Research
Office of Institutional Research and Planning
Box 7002
NC State University
Phone: (919) 515-4184
Email: nancy_wchelchel@ncsu.edu
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