

**December 2016 Future Plans Survey
All Respondents: Overview**

This overview report presents findings from all graduating seniors participating in the December 2016 Future Plans Survey. Additional reports on the survey methods and analysis, college results, and departmental summaries, as well as a copy of the questionnaire, can be found [online](#).

Plans Following Graduation

As of the time they completed the survey, over 80 percent of students graduating in December 2016 said they would exclusively be employed or pursuing employment after graduation, and about half said they had already secured some type of employment. Thirty-five percent of respondents indicated that they had accepted a position that would begin after graduation, while 11 percent said they would continue working in a job they had prior to graduation (10.7%), and about four percent said they would either be working as an intern (2.2%), starting their own business (1.0%), doing paid volunteer work (0.7%), or serving in the military (0.4%).

Over one-quarter of the graduates said they were actively seeking employment but had not yet found a position (27.2%), and three percent said they had not yet begun their search, but were planning to seek employment within the year (3.1%).

Finally, about 17 percent of respondents indicated that they were planning on 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 (6.0%).

Table 1: Plans Following Graduation

	N	%
Have accepted position that will begin after graduation	238	35.0
Will continue working in job I had prior to graduation	73	10.7
Have started/will be starting my own business	7	1.0
Will be working as an intern	15	2.2
Currently seeking employment	185	27.2
Have not begun to seek employment, will begin within year	21	3.1
Going to grad/prof school within the year	74	10.9
Going to grad/prof school and working	41	6.0
Taking additional undergraduate coursework	3	0.4
Military service	3	0.4
Volunteer activity	5	0.7
Starting/raising a family	4	0.6
Don't know yet	5	0.7
Other	6	0.9

Post-Graduation Employment

This section of the report provides detailed information specifically on those students who indicated they had obtained a full-time position, 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 but would do so in the coming year.

Full-Time Employment

The majority of respondents who said they had secured employment after graduation indicated they would be working full-time (89.8%).

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

	N	%
Full-time	316	89.8
Part-time	36	10.2

Number of Job Interviews and Job Offers

Just under half of the students having secured a full-time position reported that they had been on interviews for one (24.4%) or two (24.1%) different positions during their most recent job search, and 41 percent of the graduates indicated having gone on three or more interviews (40.6%), with 14 percent having gone on interviews for five or more positions before accepting an offer (14.5%). Eleven percent of graduates obtaining a full-time position indicated they did not go on any interviews in their most recent job search (10.9%).

Just over half of the students having secured a full-time position indicated that the position they accepted had been their only job offer (51.9%), while nearly 40 percent of respondents said that they had received one (22.7%) or two job offers (15.3%) in addition to the one they accepted. The remaining 10 percent of respondents indicated that they had three or more additional job offers from which to choose (10.2%).

Table 3: Number of Positions Interviewed For (full-time employees only)

	N	%
None	33	10.9
One	74	24.4
Two	73	24.1
Three	54	17.8
Four	25	8.3
Five or more	44	14.5

Table 4: Number of Job Offers (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Only job offer	153	51.9
One additional job offer	67	22.7
Two additional job offers	45	15.3
Three or more additional job offers	30	10.2

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 graduates were Cisco, International Paper, NC State University, 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

About 80 percent of the graduates with full-time employment indicated that they would be working in a private, for profit business or organization (78.4%), with an additional 17 percent reporting they would be working for the federal, state, or local government (12.9%) or in academia (4.5%). The remaining four percent reported that they will be working in a private, non-profit business or organization (1.9%) or were self-employed (2.3%).

Table 5: Type of Employment (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Academic	14	4.5
Federal, state, or local government	40	12.9
Private, for profit business or organization	243	78.4
Private, not for profit business or organization	6	1.9
Self-employed	7	2.3

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* (15.5%), *computer software/hardware* (8.1%), and *manufacturing* (7.1%). Those finding full-time employment were most likely to say they would have a job function related to *engineering* (22.1%), followed *software development* (7.8%) and *accounting* (5.2%).

Table 6: Industry (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Accounting	13	4.2
Advertising	1	0.3
Aerospace	3	1.0
Agriculture	10	3.2
Arts & Entertainment	1	0.3
Automotive	3	1.0
Banking	10	3.2
Biotechnology	5	1.6
Business Services	7	2.3
Chemicals	1	0.3
Communications	1	0.3
Computer Software/Hardware	25	8.1
Construction	12	3.9
Consulting	7	2.3
Consumer Products	1	0.3
Design	1	0.3
Education	11	3.5
Electronics	1	0.3
Energy	8	2.6
Engineering	48	15.5
Environment/Sustainability	5	1.6
Fashion	2	0.6
Financial Services	6	1.9
Food Science	3	1.0
Government	5	1.6
Health Care	13	4.2
Hotel, Restaurant, Hospitality	1	0.3
Human/Social Services	3	1.0
Insurance	3	1.0
Law Enforcement/Security/Corrections	3	1.0
Legal	2	0.6
Manufacturing	22	7.1
Marketing	7	2.3
Materials - Plastics, Metals, Ceramics	1	0.3
Military & Defense	4	1.3
Museums & Libraries	1	0.3
Non-Profit/Philanthropy	1	0.3
Pharmaceutical	8	2.6

Table 6: Industry (full-time employees only), continued

	N	%
Real Estate	2	0.6
Recreation & Sports	5	1.6
Research	6	1.9
Retail/Merchandising	4	1.3
Staffing & Executive Search	2	0.6
Technology	9	2.9
Telecommunications	1	0.3
Transportation	6	1.9
Utilities (Public & Private)	1	0.3
Veterinary	4	1.3
Wood Products	3	1.0
Other	8	2.6

Table 7: Job Function (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Account Management	2	0.7
Accounting	16	5.2
Actuarial/Statistical & Data Analysis	1	0.3
Administrative	4	1.3
Agronomy/Plant/Crop Science	2	0.7
Analyst	8	2.6
Animal/Veterinary	6	2.0
Construction	9	2.9
Consulting	9	2.9
Creative Design/Graphic Arts	2	0.7
Customer Service	4	1.3
Database Management	1	0.3
Education/Teaching/Curriculum Development	8	2.6
Engineering	68	22.1
Environmental/Conservation	5	1.6
Finance	3	1.0
Fundraising/Development	1	0.3
Government	4	1.3
Horticulture/Turfgrass	2	0.7
Human Health/Medical	9	2.9
Human Resources	8	2.6
Human/Social Services	2	0.7
Information Technology/Systems	8	2.6
Laboratory Science	4	1.3
Legal/Corrections/Criminology	3	1.0

Table 7: Job Function (full-time employees only), continued

	N	%
Management	14	4.6
Manufacturing/Production/Development	12	3.9
Marketing	8	2.6
Non Profit	1	0.3
Operations	2	0.7
Product Development/Management	4	1.3
Project Management	5	1.6
Quality Assurance	1	0.3
Recreation/Sports	3	1.0
Research & Development	7	2.3
Sales	13	4.2
Science - Life/Physical Science	1	0.3
Software Development	24	7.8
Supply Chain Management/Logistics	7	2.3
Training & Development	2	0.7
Other	11	3.6
Not sure	3	1.0

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 (67.7%) and just seven percent said it was “not at all related” (7.1%). The vast majority of those obtaining full-time employment said they were “very satisfied” (56.1%) or “satisfied” (33.9%) with the job in which they will be working. Interestingly, those who said they will be working in a position “directly related” and those few who will be working in a job “not at all related” to their major were both more likely to be “very satisfied” (64.3% and 59.1%, respectively) than those who said their job was only “somewhat related” to their major (33.3%). However, those who said their job was “not at all related” to their major were also more likely than others to say they were “dissatisfied” with their job (4.5%). In no case did a respondent indicate being “very dissatisfied” with their job.

Table 8: 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	210	64.3%	30.0%	5.2%	0.5%	0.0%	67.7%
Somewhat related	78	33.3%	46.2%	20.5%	0.0%	0.0%	25.2%
Not at all related	22	59.1%	27.3%	9.1%	4.5%	0.0%	7.1%
All	310	56.1%	33.9%	9.4%	0.6%	0.0%	100.0%

Job Location

While NC State graduates will be employed across the nation, in addition to a few working in other countries, three-fourths of those students having accepted a full-time job say they will be staying in North Carolina (74.7%), with over half (55.2%) working in the Research Triangle area (e.g., Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill).

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

Table 9: Job Location (Top Five States of Employment; full-time employees only)

	N	%
North Carolina	230	74.7
Georgia	9	2.9
Virginia	7	2.3
South Carolina	7	2.3
Texas	6	2.0

Table 10: Job Location (In or Out of the Triangle; full-time employees only)*

	N	%
Triangle	160	55.2
Other N.C.	60	20.7
In U.S. outside N.C.	66	22.8
Outside U.S.	4	1.4

*Some respondents staying in North Carolina did not provide the name of the city 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. A large majority of respondents said they would be getting paid a salary (76.3%), and a significant portion said their income would include hourly wages (19.9%), and/or performance bonuses (12.3%). An additional five percent of respondents said they would be receiving compensation via commission (4.7%) and/or tips/gratuities (0.6%).

Further analysis shows that graduates are being compensated through a variety of methods. For example, while more than half of respondents said they would be receiving only a salary (59.4%) and 17 percent said they would be exclusively receiving hourly wages (16.9%), 17 percent reported receiving a salary in combination with one or more other forms of compensation (e.g., performance bonuses, commission, and/or hourly wages; 17.1%).

Table 11: Type of Compensation (full-time employees only)*

	N	%
Salary	241	76.3
Hourly	63	19.9
Performance Bonuses	39	12.3
Commission	15	4.7
Tips/Gratuity	2	0.6
Other	14	4.4

*Respondents could indicate more than one type of compensation.

Table 12: Type of Compensation, Combined (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Salary only	183	59.4
Hourly only	52	16.9
Salary plus perf. bonuses	32	10.4
Salary plus commission	10	3.2
Salary plus hourly	9	2.9
Commission only	2	0.6
Salary plus comm plus perf bonus	2	0.6
Hourly plus tips	1	0.3
Hourly plus perf. bonuses	1	0.3
Other comp. only	10	3.2
Other combinations	6	1.9

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 \$51,392 (median = \$53,750).

Table 13: Annual Starting Salary (full-time employees only)

(Average = \$51,392, median = \$53,750)	N	%
Less than \$30,000	42	14.4
\$30,000 - \$39,999	35	12.0
\$40,000 - \$49,999	47	16.1
\$50,000 - \$59,999	45	15.4
\$60,000 or more	113	38.7
Would prefer not answer	6	2.1
Not sure	4	1.4

One-Time Compensation: Signing Bonuses and Relocation Packages

More than one-quarter of respondents with full-time employment said they had received a signing bonus (28.4%). Close to half of those receiving a bonus said it was for \$5,000 or more (49.4%), with 10 percent saying it was for \$10,000 or more (10.1%).

Table 14: Signing Bonus (full-time employees only)

	N	%
Yes	80	28.4
No	202	71.6

Table 15: Amount of Signing Bonus (among full-time employees receiving a signing bonus)

	N	%
Less than \$500	1	1.3
\$500 to \$999	1	1.3
\$1,000 to \$1,999	12	15.2
\$2,000 to \$2,999	14	17.7
\$3,000 to \$3,999	5	6.3
\$4,000 to \$4,999	2	2.5
\$5,000 to \$5,999	15	19.0
\$6,000 to \$6,999	7	8.9
\$7,000 to \$7,999	4	5.1
\$8,000 to \$8,999	3	3.8
\$9,000 to \$9,999	2	2.5
\$10,000 or more	8	10.1
Would prefer not answer	4	5.1
Not sure	1	1.3

When asked if they were offered a relocation package, over one-third of the students with full-time jobs said that such a package was “not applicable” (38.3%). However, about 22 percent of those with full-time employment said they were offered a relocation package (22.4%). Offers of relocation packages, not surprisingly, were related to whether or not the employee would be working in North Carolina – over 60 percent of those who said they were working outside of North Carolina received a relocation package (61.4%), whereas just 28 percent of those who said they would be working in North Carolina but outside of the Triangle received a relocation package (28.3%).

Table 16: Relationship of Relocation Package and Region of Job (full-time employees only)

	All	Offered relocation package			All
		Yes	No	Not applicable	
Triangle	160	3.1%	33.8%	63.1%	55.2%
Other NC	60	28.3%	56.7%	15.0%	20.7%
Outside NC	70	61.4%	37.1%	1.4%	24.1%
All	290	22.4%	39.3%	38.3%	100.0%

The Job Search

Over half of those with full-time employment reported starting their job search six or more months before graduation (52.7%), while just seven percent of those with full-time employment started looking for work less than three months before graduation (7.3%).

Table 17: When Started Looking for a Job (full-time employees only)

	N	%
12 or more months before graduation	66	21.9
9-11 months before graduation	18	6.0
6-8 months before graduation	75	24.8
3-5 months before graduation	121	40.1
1-2 months before graduation	17	5.6
Less than one month before graduation	5	1.7

Students were asked to indicate what resources had proven to be helpful in their job search. Those graduates with full-time employment were most likely to say that an *internship/externship* had been helpful (46.8%), followed by *attending a career fair at NC State* (30.7%) and *applying for a job via ePACK* (26.6%). 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 18: Helpful Resources (full-time employees only)*

	N	%
Internship/externship	148	46.8
Career fair at NC State	97	30.7
Applied for job via ePACK	84	26.6
Campus or college career center	68	21.5
Personal connection(s) within the company	61	19.3
On-campus interviewing	59	18.7
Family/friends/classmates/co-workers	56	17.7
Co-op experience	39	12.3
Internet: LinkedIn	39	12.3
Internet: Other	34	10.8
Employer found resume via ePACK	22	7.0
Consultation with Career Counselor/Coach at NC State	21	6.6
Faculty member or found job listing in an NC State dept	19	6.0
Employer information session on campus	18	5.7
Professional society	18	5.7
Staffing agency	9	2.8
Career fair off-campus	5	1.6
Student teaching experience	4	1.3
Other	27	8.5

*Respondents could select more than one resource.

Seeking Employment

Over one-quarter of the December 2016 graduates responding to the Future Plans Survey indicated that as of the time they completed the survey, they were *currently seeking employment* (27.2%) and a small number (3.1%) reported 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

Over three-fourths of the 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 began looking for a job less than six months before graduation (78.0%). Forty-one percent said they started looking for a job three to five months before graduation (40.7%) and about one-fourth said they started looking one to two months prior to graduation (23.7%). Fourteen percent without a job said they began their search less than one month prior to graduation (13.6%).

Table 19: When Started Looking for a Job (among those seeking but not yet securing a job)

	N	%
12 or more months before graduation	5	2.8
9-11 months before graduation	4	2.3
6-8 months before graduation	30	16.9
3-5 months before graduation	72	40.7
1-2 months before graduation	42	23.7
Less than one month before graduation	24	13.6

Nearly 70 percent of graduates who said that they were currently seeking employment reported that they had an interview for at least one position during their most recent job search (68.5%), with one-third reporting having gone on interviews for three or more positions (33.7%).

Table 20: Number Of Positions Interviewed For (among those seeking but not yet securing a job)

	N	%
None	56	31.5
One	35	19.7
Two	27	15.2
Three	24	13.5
Four	18	10.1
Five or more	18	10.1

Notably, a 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-fifth said that they had received at least one job offer (19.6%), with five percent having received two or more offers (5.1%). 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 include currently being in the process of negotiating or considering one or more job offers, the job not being a good fit for their interests or career goals, or dissatisfaction with the proposed compensation (e.g., salary too low).

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

	N	%
None	144	80.4
One job offer	26	14.5
Two job offers	8	4.5
Three or more job offers	1	0.6

Type of Work Seeking

Eighty-seven percent of current job-seekers said they were looking for full-time work, with most of the remainder indicating they were looking for either full- or part-time work (10.8%). Almost all of those seeking employment said they were looking for a job either “directly related” (41.2%) or “somewhat related” (52.4%) to their major. The most common job functions students were hoping to be employed doing were related to *engineering* (14.9%), *environment/conservation* (5.2%) and *marketing* (5.2%).

Table 22: Looking for Full- or Part-Time Work

	N	%
Full-time	161	87.0
Part-time	4	2.2
Either	20	10.8

Table 23: Relationship of Job Seeking to Major

	N	%
Looking for position directly related to my major	76	41.1
Looking for position somewhat related to my major	97	52.4
Looking for position unrelated to my major	4	2.2
How closely position is related to major is irrelevant	8	4.3

Table 24: Job Function of Job Seeking

	N	%
Account Management	3	1.7
Accounting	3	1.7
Actuarial/Statistical & Data Analysis	1	0.6
Administrative	2	1.1
Agricultural Business/Economics	3	1.7
Agronomy/Plant/Crop Science	1	0.6
Analyst	1	0.6
Animal/Veterinary	4	2.3
Architecture/Landscape Architecture	1	0.6
Bio/Ag Engineering	2	1.1
Buying/Purchasing	2	1.1
Construction	1	0.6
Creative Design/Graphic Arts	3	1.7
Education/Teaching/Curriculum Development	7	4.0
Engineering	26	14.9

Table 24: Job Function of Job Seeking, *continued*

	N	%
Environmental/Conservation	9	5.2
Film/Video	1	0.6
Finance	5	2.9
Food Science/Nutrition	2	1.1
Horticulture/Turfgrass	2	1.1
Human Health/Medical	4	2.3
Human/Social Services	3	1.7
Information Technology/Systems	5	2.9
International/NGO	3	1.7
Laboratory Science	7	4.0
Legal/Corrections/Criminology	2	1.1
Management	3	1.7
Manufacturing/Production/Development	2	1.1
Marketing	9	5.2
Media/Journalism	5	2.9
Non Profit	2	1.1
Product Development/Management	1	0.6
Project Management	1	0.6
Public Relations	2	1.1
Publishing/Print	1	0.6
Quality Assurance	1	0.6
Recreation/Sports	1	0.6
Research & Development	5	2.9
Sales	7	4.0
Science - Life/Physical Science	3	1.7
Software Development	8	4.6
Soil/Environmental Science	1	0.6
Supply Chain Management/Logistics	4	2.3
Travel/Tourism/Hospitality	1	0.6
Writing/Editing/Translation	2	1.1
Other	4	2.3
Not sure	8	4.6

Location of Job Seeking

About one-third of those still looking for a job at the time of the survey said they were only looking for employment in North Carolina (31.9%). Just over 40 percent said they were looking for a job in somewhere in the U.S. states including but not limited to North Carolina (39.5%), or in other U.S. states not including North Carolina (2.7%). One-quarter of the job-seekers indicated they were both inside and outside of the U.S. for employment (24.3%).

Table 25: Looking for Employment Inside or Outside the U.S.

	N	%
Only N.C.	59	31.9
In N.C. and other U.S. states	73	39.5
In U.S., but outside N.C.	5	2.7
Inside and outside the U.S.	45	24.3
Outside U.S. only	3	1.6

Future Job Seekers

Just three percent of December 2016 graduates said that while they had not yet begun their search for employment, their primary activity after graduation would be to find a job (3.1%; Table 1). When asked when they planned to begin their job search, the majority of the small number of respondents who had not yet begun their job search said they would begin within one month of graduation.

Table 26: When Will Begin Job Search

	N	%
Within the next couple of weeks	7	36.8
Within a month after graduation	9	47.4
Within 2-3 months after graduation	3	15.8
Within 4-6 months after graduation	0	0.0
Within 6-12 months after graduation	0	0.0
Not for at least a year	0	0.0

Further Education

This section of the report provides detailed information on further education being pursued by NC State December graduates. About 17 percent of the 680 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 *their chosen career field requires graduate/professional school* (68.7%), *to be able to earn a higher salary with an advanced degree* (65.2%), and *to enhance professional knowledge in a particular subject area* (66.1%). Five percent indicated that being *unable to find a job* was a reason for attending graduate/professional school (5.2%).

Table 27: Reasons for Attending Graduate/Professional School*

	N	%
My chosen career field requires graduate/professional school	79	68.7
I will be able to earn a higher salary with an advanced degree	76	66.1
I want to enhance my knowledge in a particular subject area	75	65.2
I want to improve my marketability	51	44.3
I have been unable to find a job	6	5.2
My employer is encouraging me to attend	3	2.6
Other	6	5.2

*Respondents could select more than one reason.

Current Status for Graduate/Professional School Attendance

Of the December 2016 graduates planning on attending graduate/professional school, about one-quarter said they *have been accepted and know where they will be going* (23.5%) and an additional six percent reporting that they *have been accepted but are still undecided* on whether or not or where they will actually attend (6.1%). Thirty-one percent said they *have applied, but have not yet been accepted* (31.3%). Finally, about 40 percent responded that they *have not yet applied, but plan to do so within the next year* (39.1%).

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 28: Current Status for Graduate/Professional School Attendance

	N	%
Have been accepted and know where I'm going	27	23.5
Have been accepted but undecided	7	6.1
Have applied, but not yet been accepted	36	31.3
Have not applied but plan to do so within the next year	45	39.1

School Attending

The vast 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 (88.9%), with two-thirds attending NC State University (66.7%). Over 90 percent of those going on to graduate/professional school say they will be attending their first-choice school (92.6%).

Table 29: Location of School Attending

	N	%
North Carolina	24	88.9
California	1	3.7
Florida	1	3.7
Outside United States	1	3.7

Table 30: Name of School Attending

	N	%
NC State University	18	66.7
Duke University	2	7.4
Campbell University	1	3.7
East Carolina University	1	3.7
Gardner-Webb University	1	3.7
UNCW	1	3.7
University of Miami	1	3.7
University of Southern California	1	3.7
University of Sydney	1	3.7

Table 31: Attending First Choice School?

	N	%
Yes	25	92.6
No	2	7.4

Degree Seeking

Students attending a specific graduate/professional school in the coming year were asked in what degree program they will be enrolled. About three-fourths of students said they would be in a Master's program (77.8%). Four students indicated that they would be pursuing a Professional degree, while one respondent said he or she would be enrolling in a Doctoral program (i.e., a PhD). Finally, one student said she or he would be enrolling in some other type of degree program (i.e., a BSN).

Table 32: Degree Program Enrolled In*

	N	%
Master's	21	77.8
Professional	4	14.8
Doctoral	1	3.7
Other	1	3.7

*Respondents could select more than one degree.

Table 33: Master's Degree Programs (among those enrolling in a Master's program)

	N	%
MS	11	50.0
MAC	2	9.1
MA	2	9.1
MEM	1	4.5
MAT	1	4.5
MAEd	1	4.5
MSIE	1	4.5
MCS	1	4.5
ME	1	4.5

Table 34: Doctoral Degree Programs (among those enrolling in a Doctoral degree program)

	N	%
PhD	1	100.0

Table 35: Professional Degree Programs (among those enrolling in a Professional degree program)

	N	%
PharmD	1	25.0
DPT	1	25.0
PA	1	25.0
DVM	1	25.0

Table 36: Other Degree Programs (among those enrolling in some other degree program)

	N	%
BSN	1	100.0

Graduate/Professional School Funding/Awards Received

Thirteen of the 27 undergraduates who said they had been accepted to graduate/professional school and knew where they would be going indicated that they had received funding and/or awards as part of their acceptance into their program of study. The most commonly awarded types of funding were research assistantships and scholarships.

Table 37: Graduate/Professional School Funding/Awards

	N	%
Research assistantship	5	18.5
Scholarship	4	14.8
Honors/Award	2	7.4
Fellowship	1	3.7
Teaching assistantship	1	3.7
Other assistantship	1	3.7

*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 an activity, and whether or not it was helpful in securing a job offer. Two-thirds of the students reported having had an *internship/externship or job in their field of study* (66.6%). About one-fifth of students reported *participating in a class project specifically designed to work with a company/organization outside of NC State* (22.4%), and/or on a *research project with a faculty member* (19.4%).

A sizeable number of graduates reported having long-term work-related experiences through *internships/externships or job related to major and research with faculty*, with such experiences taking

place for three or more semesters/summers (39.1% and 37.0% respectively). While relatively fewer students had a co-op experience, such experiences were most likely to be long-term, with 63 percent of those having done a co-op doing so for three or more semesters (63.4%). Most likely to be short-term experiences were *practicums*, *class projects*, and *student teaching*.

Table 38: Participation in Work-Related Experiences*

	Had Experience		# of Semesters/Summers				
	N	%	Less than one	1	2	3	4+
Co-op	63	9.4%	0.0%	14.3%	22.2%	44.4%	19.0%
Internship/externship or job in field	447	66.6%	2.0%	33.9%	24.9%	20.2%	18.9%
Practicum	28	4.2%	17.9%	71.4%	10.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Student teaching	44	6.6%	4.5%	54.5%	25.0%	6.8%	9.1%
Research w/ faculty	130	19.4%	3.1%	34.6%	25.4%	18.5%	18.5%
Class project	150	22.4%	12.8%	53.0%	27.5%	3.4%	3.4%

*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 related to major* were most likely to be viewed as “very helpful” (66.1% and 62.5%, respectively). Although the majority viewed it as a helpful experience, *practicums* and *class projects* working with outside companies/organizations were more likely than other work-related experiences to be viewed as “not very helpful” or “not at all helpful” in securing employment (39.1% and 29.1%, respectively). 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 39, responses of “not applicable” have been excluded.

Table 39: 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	66.1%	27.4%	6.5%	0.0%	62
Internship/externship or job in field	62.5%	29.3%	6.5%	1.7%	416
Practicum	17.4%	43.5%	26.1%	13.0%	23
Student teaching	28.2%	53.8%	7.7%	10.3%	39
Research w/ faculty	46.2%	41.5%	9.4%	2.8%	106
Class project	22.0%	48.8%	17.3%	11.8%	127

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, about 46 percent of graduates reported having never used any of the career centers asked about (45.8%). 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 86 percent having gone to at least one of the centers asked about (85.7%). In comparison, none of the nine seniors in the College of Education who had participated in the survey had ever used one of the career centers asked about.

Not surprisingly, use of the specific career centers was strongly related to the college to which a student belonged, 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 few students from outside their own college. Among survey respondents, 86 percent of the students in the College of Textiles reported going to the College of Textiles Career Services office (85.7%) and close to two-third of those in the Poole College of Management used their own career services office (64.6%). In contrast, just under half of students in CALS reported using their own career services office (48.2%). The Career Development Center was most likely to be used by those without such services in their own college, such as in the College of Engineering (59.2%), the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (42.1%), and the College of Sciences (35.4%).

Table 40: Career Service Offices Used; Overall and by College Graduated From*

	Overall	College/School								
		CALS	Design	CED	COE	CNR	CHASS	COS	COT	PCOM
Career Development Center	40.4%	22.4%	14.3%	0.0%	59.2%	39.2%	42.1%	35.4%	33.3%	32.3%
CALS Career Services	8.6%	48.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%	1.6%	15.2%	0.0%	1.0%
College of Textiles Career Services	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%
College of Design Career Services	0.6%	0.0%	57.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Poole COM Career Development Center	10.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	5.4%	3.2%	0.0%	4.8%	64.6%
None	45.8%	45.9%	42.9%	100.0%	40.8%	55.4%	57.1%	54.4%	14.3%	27.1%
Total	671	85	7	9	174	74	126	79	21	96

*Respondents could select more than one career service office.

Among those using a career services office, those going to the career services office in the College of Textiles were by far most likely to go frequently, with over 60 percent saying they went “on a regular basis” (44.4%) or that they had gone “many times” (16.7%). Thus, most students in the College of Textiles take advantage of their career services office, and many do so frequently.

Table 41: 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	3.3%	6.6%	33.9%	56.1%	271
CALS Career Services	3.4%	1.7%	29.3%	65.5%	58
College of Textiles Career Services	44.4%	16.7%	27.8%	11.1%	18
College of Design Career Services	0.0%	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	4
Poole COM Career Development Center	2.8%	9.7%	40.3%	47.2%	72

Graduating seniors were also asked to evaluate the services provided by the career services offices they had used. Ratings were largely positive—career services offices were most often rated “excellent” or “good.” The four respondents reporting having ever used the College of Design Career Services office all rated the services provided as “excellent.” All those rating the College of Textiles career services office rated the services as “excellent” (72.2%) or “good” (27.8%). In no case did more than a small number of users rate the services of any given center as “poor” or “very poor.”

Table 42: 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	31.5%	50.7%	14.8%	1.9%	1.1%	270
CALS Career Services	36.2%	44.8%	15.5%	0.0%	3.4%	58
College of Textiles Career Services	72.2%	27.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	18
College of Design Career Services	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4
Poole COM Career Development Center	31.9%	55.6%	9.7%	1.4%	1.4%	72

Career Services and Fairs

Students were asked whether or not they had used specific career-related services. Overall, a majority of students indicated that they had taken advantage of *ePACK*, the Career Development Center's online tool for connecting students with potential employers (71.5%) or that they had *attended a career fair (either on or off campus)* (62.9%). Over 30 percent said they had *attended presentations about resume writing, interviewing, and other skills* (33.4%) or *employer information sessions* (31.4%).

Table 43 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. About three-quarters of students who had either accepted a job or were looking or planning to look for employment had used *ePACK* (73.6%), while about 64 percent of those planning on attending graduate/professional school reported having done the same (64.4%). Similarly, graduates pursuing employment were more than twice as likely to have participated in *on-campus interviews* compared to those pursuing further education (29.5% vs. 13.5%). Those planning on employment were also slightly more likely than those planning on continuing their education to have *attended career fairs* (64.7% vs. 60.6%), *attended employer information sessions* (33.2% vs. 25.0%), *visited the NC State Career Development Center website* (30.6% vs. 26.0%), and participated in *mock interviews with a career counselor/coach* (11.8% vs 7.7%). In contrast, both those planning on entering the workforce and those planning on continuing their education were equally likely to have *attended presentations about resume writing, interviewing, and other skills* and to *have spoken with a career counselor/coach*.

Table 43: Resources Used at NC State*

	NCSU	Accepted Job/Seeking Work/Planning to Look for Work	Attending/Planning to Attend Grad School
<i>ePACK</i>	71.5%	73.6%	64.4%
<i>Attended career fair</i>	62.9%	64.7%	60.6%
<i>Presentations on resume writing, interviewing skills, etc</i>	33.4%	33.9%	32.7%
<i>Attended employer info sessions</i>	31.4%	33.2%	25.0%
<i>Visited NC State Career Development Center website</i>	29.7%	30.6%	26.0%
<i>On-campus interviewing</i>	26.5%	29.5%	13.5%
<i>Joined professional society at NCSU related to career field</i>	24.0%	24.4%	22.1%
<i>Spoke w/ Career Counselor/Coach</i>	21.2%	21.5%	21.2%
<i>Mock interviews w/ Career Counselor/Coach</i>	10.9%	11.8%	7.7%
Total (N)	671	549	104

*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. 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* (46.7%), followed by the *PCOM Career and Internship Fair* (21.6%).

Looking at career fair attendance by the college from which a student graduated is informative. Eighty-six percent of students in the College of Engineering attended a career fair (85.6%), with almost all of those participating in the *Engineering Career Fair* (96.6%). Similarly, over 80 percent of those in the College of Textiles attended a career fair (81.0%), and all of those who had gone to a career fair went to the fair affiliated with their college.

Overall, the Engineering Career fair attracted the widest breadth of students (i.e., many students from different colleges). Students in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences had the most number of students taking advantage of the broadest range of career fairs.

Table 44: 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
Attended career fair	62.9%	51.8%	28.6%	44.4%	85.6%	54.1%	41.3%	54.4%	81.0%	74.0%
Career Fair Attended (among those having attended a career fair)										
CALS Career Expo	15.2%	86.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.5%	7.7%	44.2%	0.0%	0.0%
CHASS Career Fair	7.3%	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	53.8%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%
College of Design Networking Fair	0.7%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Engineering Career Fair	46.7%	11.4%	50.0%	75.0%	96.6%	47.5%	9.6%	16.3%	17.6%	14.1%
Poole COM Career & Internship Fair	21.6%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	12.5%	21.2%	2.3%	5.9%	97.2%
Sciences, Sustainability, & Environmental Career Fair	7.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%	3.8%	30.2%	5.9%	0.0%
Textiles Job Forum	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	1.4%
Grad School Career Fair at NC State	2.8%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	2.5%	7.7%	7.0%	0.0%	1.4%
Law School Fair	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.5%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%
Health Career Expo	4.3%	9.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	5.8%	20.9%	0.0%	1.4%
Other fair at NC State	11.8%	11.4%	0.0%	0.0%	8.1%	30.0%	15.4%	20.9%	0.0%	5.6%
Career fair at other university	1.2%	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.8%	2.3%	5.9%	0.0%
Career fair unaffiliated w/ university	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	1.3%	7.5%	9.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know/don't remember	2.8%	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.5%	1.9%	16.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	422	44	2	4	149	40	52	43	17	71

*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 2016 graduates said they were either “very satisfied” (25.6%) or “satisfied” (43.2%) with the career guidance they received from their academic department/college. While about one-fourth said they were “neutral” about the

guidance they received (24.2%), only seven percent said they were either “dissatisfied” (4.8%) or “very dissatisfied” (2.3%) with the career guidance they received.

Overall, the December 2016 graduates are excited about their futures. When asked which statement comes closest to how they were feeling about their future, over 80 percent of respondents said that they were either “very excited” (43.8%) or “excited” (40.2%). A smaller percentage of respondents chose “a bit confused/uncertain - I'm not really sure what I want to do at this time” (13.1%), and just three percent (3.0%) selected the last option of “very confused/uncertain - I don't know what I want to do at this time.”

Most December 2016 graduates also feel prepared for their futures. Asked about how prepared they felt for their future career paths, 90 percent of respondents said that they felt either “very prepared” (45.1%) or “somewhat prepared” (44.8%) for their future career paths. Just three percent of respondents said they felt “very unprepared” (2.6%).

Table 45: Satisfaction with Career Guidance from Academic Department/College

	5: Very Satisfied	4: Satisfied	3: Neutral	2: Dissatisfied	1: Very Dissatisfied	N
Overall Satisfaction	25.6%	43.2%	24.2%	4.8%	2.3%	665

Table 46: Feelings about Future Career Path

	N	%
Very excited - Confident that this is what I want to do at this time	291	43.8
Excited - Fairly sure this is what I want to do at this time	267	40.2
A bit confused/uncertain - Not really sure what I want to do at this time	87	13.1
Very confused/uncertain - Don't know what I want to do at this time	20	3.0

Table 47: Feelings of Preparation for Future Career Path

	N	%
Very prepared	298	44.8
Somewhat prepared	300	45.1
Somewhat unprepared	50	7.5
Very unprepared	17	2.6

For more information about the Future Plans Survey contact:

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Posted: March, 2017

December 2016 Future Plans Survey

Appendix A: Complete List of Employers (among those accepting full-time employment)

Table 1: Company Name

	N
3 Birds Marketing	1
ATI Specialty Materials	1
Adcock's Nursery	1
Albemarle Corporation	1
Allscript	1
Ally Bank	1
Aloha Safari Zoo	1
Altec	1
Amazon	1
AmeriCorps VISTA	1
Aon Hewitt	2
Apex Tool Group	1
Armstrong Flooring	1
Asheville Cardiology	1
Aspirar Health	1
Atlantec Engineers	1
Avid Solutions	1
BP	1
BSN	1
Banfield Pet Hospital	1
Bankers Life	1
Belk	1
Big Dutchman	1
Black & Veatch	2
Bohler Engineering	1
Boise-Cascade	1
Booster Enterprises	1
Bot3	1
Brasfield & Gorrie	1
Brunswick Forest	1
Bullock's-Bar-B-Que	1
Burns & McDonnell	1
Butterball, LLC	2
CDM Smith	1
CRB	1

Table 1: Company Name, continued

	N
CVS	1
Caldwell County Sheriff Office	1
Capital One	2
Carolina Center for Eye Care	1
Cary Cart Company	1
Cassida Corporation	1
Caterpillar Inc.	1
Challenge Design Innovations	1
Chick-fil-A Inc.	1
Cisco	7
Citrix	1
City of Raleigh Neuse River Resource Recovery Facility	1
Cognizant Technologies	1
ConnectWise	1
Corning Inc	1
Credit Suisse	2
Cup A Joe	1
D. H. Griffin	1
DPR Construction	1
Dairy Records Management Systems	1
Dallas Zoo	1
Deloitte	2
Delta Airport Consultants, Inc	1
Dewberry	1
Discca	1
Dixon Hughes Goodman	1
Dollar Tree	1
Dragados USA	1
Duke Energy	3
ECS	2
East Mecklenburg HS	1
Edward Jones investments	1
Elavon	1
Elster	1
Emco Wheaton Retail	1
Engineered Controls International	1
Engineered Tower Solutions	2
Enterprise	1
Extron Electronics	1

Table 1: Company Name, continued

	N
ExxonMobil	1
Fast Enterprises	1
Federal Aviation Administration	1
Federal Corrections	1
Fidelity Investments	2
First Citizens Bank	1
FlatIron	1
Foundation Medicine, Inc.	1
Freese and Nichols	1
General Electric	2
General Mills	1
Georgia-Pacific	2
Golden Leaf BTEC center	1
Golder	1
Gospodarek & Dreher, CPA PA	1
Graham Sporting Goods	1
Grant Thornton	1
Greene Resources	1
HIGHFILL Infrastructure Engineering	1
Haas & Kennedy Engineers	1
Harris Corporation	1
Hazen and Sawyer	2
Helix3 Inc	1
Holly Aiken Bags	1
Honeywell Elster	1
Hospital	1
IBM	5
ImageSoft Inc.	1
International Paper	6
Intradeco Apparel	1
Inventure Civil	1
Ipreo	1
JP Morgan Chase & Co.	1
John Deere	1
Johnson Lambert	1
Juice That Brand	1
K.W. Davis Law Firm	1
KEMI : Kentucky Equine Management Internship	1
KPMG	2

Table 1: Company Name, continued

	N
Kadro Solutions	1
KapStone	1
Kimley-Horn and Associates	1
Kinston Lenoir County Parks and Recreation Department	1
Kymanox	1
LA Fitness	1
LORD Corporation	1
LandDesign Inc.	1
Lane & Associates	2
Lenoir County Public Schools	1
Lenovo	1
Lonnie Poole Golf Course	1
Lucky Dog Industries	1
ML Trucking LLC	1
Mackay Communications	1
Manhattan Associates	1
Marsh Furniture	1
Martin Starnes & Associates CPAs PA	1
MaxPoint	1
Maxim Healthcare Services	1
McKim & Creed	1
Meridian Specialty Yarn Group	1
Metlife	2
Metrolina Greenhouses	1
Microsoft	1
Mizzen+Main	1
Moen Inc.	1
Mohawk	1
Mountain Advantage, LLC	1
N/A	1
NASA	1
NAVAIR	2
NC Cooperative Extension	3
NC General Assembly	1
NC Senior Games	1
NC State University	6
NCDOT	3
NMP Golf Course Construction	1
Nan Ya Plastic Group	1

Table 1: Company Name, continued

	N
National Institutes of Health	1
Netsertive	1
Neu Concepts	1
Nissan Motor Company	1
Norfolk Southern Railway	1
North State Medical Transport	1
Northwestern Mutual	2
Novozymes	1
Nutanix	1
Omni Cinemas	1
Optima Engineering	1
Oracle	1
PNC	2
Page and Smith	1
Peace Corps	3
Pennoni	1
Pentair	1
PetSmart	1
Peter Millar	1
Polytec Inc.	1
Pratt & Whitney	1
PriceWaterhouseCoopers	1
Principal Financial Group	1
Proctor & Gamble	1
Proto Labs	1
Quintiles	4
RS&H	1
RSM LLP	1
Real Facts NC	1
Red Hat	2
Restoration and Recovery	1
RoviSys	1
Ruffalo Noel Levitz	1
SAS Institute	3
SCA New Hampshire	1
Schneider Electric	3
Sensus/Xylem	1
Seqirus	1
Shaw Industries	3

Table 1: Company Name, continued

	N
Shelco LLC	1
Shinnecock Hills Golf Club	1
Sizemore realty group	1
Sonoco	1
Stantec	2
State of North Carolina / Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources	1
Stewart, Inc.	1
Stocks Engineering	1
Sunbelt Rentals	1
Sunrise Assisted Living	1
Supersmart.Com	1
SynTec Seating Solutions	1
Teaching Horse	1
Tergus Pharma	1
Tesla	1
The Produce Box	1
The Select Group	1
Thomas and Hutton	1
Thomas, Judy & Tucker	1
Toll Brothers	1
Tompkins International	1
Total Quality Logistics	1
Triangle Divorce Lawyers	1
Tyson Animal Hospital	1
UCB Biosciences Inc.	1
UNC REX Hospital	1
UNC School of Medicine	1
US Air Force	1
US Army	2
US Navy	2
Ulliman Schutte	1
United Therapeutics	1
University of Tennessee	1
Vanguard	1
Vannoy Construction	1
Venture Back Office	1
Vericon	1
Wake County Public School System	4
Wake Forest Dermatology	1

Table 1: Company Name, *continued*

	N
WalkMe	1
Wayne Farms LLC	1
WestRock	2
WillowTree	1
Winter Custom Yachts	1
WithersRavenel	1
Wolftrax Music Group	1
World Relief	1
Zoo Miami	1
bioMASON	1
iCiDIGITAL	1

December 2016 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

	N
Belize	1
Georgia	1
Jamaica	1
Peru	1
United States	307

Table 2: State Will Be Working In

	N
Alabama	1
California	4
Colorado	1
Connecticut	1
District of Columbia	1
Florida	4
Georgia	9
Illinois	1
Iowa	2
Kentucky	1
Louisiana	3
Maryland	2
Michigan	1
Minnesota	1
Montana	1
New Hampshire	1
New York	2
North Carolina	230
Ohio	2
Pennsylvania	5
Puerto Rico	1
South Carolina	7
Tennessee	2
Texas	6
Virginia	7
Not sure	8

December 2016 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

	N
Campbell University	1
Duke University	2
East Carolina University	1
Gardner-Webb University	1
NC State University	18
UNCW	1
University of Miami	1
University of Southern California	1
University of Sydney	1

**December 2016 Future Plans Survey
 Appendix D: Complete List of Degrees Students are Pursuing
 (among those having been accepted and planning on enrolling)**

Table 1: Master's Degree Program Enrolled In

	N
MA	2
MAC	2
MAEd	1
MAT	1
MCS	1
ME	1
MEM	1
MS	11
MSIE	1

Table 2: Doctoral Degree Program Enrolled In

	N
PhD	1

Table 3: Professional Degree Program Enrolled In

	N
DPT	1
DVM	1
PA	1
PharmD	1

Table 4: Other Degree Program Enrolled In

	N
BSN	1