

First Destination Surveys: Summer 2013 & Fall 2013

Brief description of program / project:

The First Destination Survey is emailed to all recent grads during each graduation period (August, December, and May) to obtain first destination information. The survey asks students to identify their main activity upon graduation (i.e., full-time job, volunteer service, graduation school, etc.) and then to provide more specific details on accepted offers for employment or graduate school.

Who was asked to complete the survey: Undergraduate and Graduate students who had registered to graduate for Summer 2013 and Fall 2013, respectively.

Response Rate: Summer 2013: 23.2% (433 of 1863)
Fall 2013: 30.2% (498 of 1650)

Administration Type: Email sent through Campus Labs

Summary of Key Findings:

The findings below represent respondents who indicated they were seeking a Bachelor's degree (214 respondents in August, 298 in December).

The majority of students planned to obtain full-time employment upon graduate (66% in August, 61% in December). The next highest first destination was full-time graduate school (15% in August, 18% in December). Out of the students who planned to obtain full-time employment, 36% had accepted a new offer of employment in August, and 28% had accepted a new offer of employment in December. For both graduation periods, the majority of students were employed, either with a new employer or previous employer (67% in August, 57% in December). It is not surprising that fewer students had found a job in December, as winter is typically more of a challenging time to job search.

For both August and December, students who majored in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, Humanities or Business made up the majority of respondents. A little over 50% of students completed at least one internship in college. While only 61% of August grads had utilized at least one Career Services resource or event during their time at the U, more than 90% of the December grads had participated in a Career Services resource or event.

Some of the themes from student feedback were that some of the special events, including the job and career fair and Suit Up, were especially beneficial. Students also liked the mock interviews. Navigating the website was a little challenging for some students, and many commented that they wished they had known about Career Services earlier. Other students commented that they did not like "unpaid" internship opportunities.

Actions Taken:

August survey results were shared and discussed with the Career Services team at staff meeting in the form of a PowerPoint. December survey results will be shared this spring. Placement data was entered

into CSO and will be used to update the “Who Hired UofU Grads” webpages, which list job titles, companies, and average salaries by major.

Which department and/or program goals does this program / project align with?

Implement coordinated assessment and research in support of our mission

Which Student Affairs goals does this program / project align with?

6. Utilize a coordinated assessment, evaluation and research approach to promote data driven decision-making.

d. Continue to increase assessment methods utilized in Student Affairs (e.g. data-mining, tracking, benchmarking and surveys).

Which Learning Domain(s) does this program / project align with?

Academic Persistence and Achievement