

Where did the 1998 Ph.D. graduates go ?

I. Introduction

The information contained in this paper is extracted from the Graduate Employment Survey of 1998 to answer the following questions about Doctor of Philosophy graduates : -

- How were they employed six months after graduation ?
- Of those who pursued further studies, what programmes did they follow ?
- Of those who were employed full-time, how long did it take them to secure their first job offer ?
- In which sectors were they employed ?
- How much did they receive in salary ?
- How many job offers did they receive ?
- Who were their employers and what were their job titles ?

II. Employment Situation in 1998

Out of 146 Ph.D. graduates, 82 responded to our survey, representing a response rate of 56%. Of these, 89% (or 73 graduates) were in full-time employment within six months of graduation. 2.4% (or 2 graduates) went on for further studies. Another 6.1% (or 5 graduates) were still seeking full-time employment at the time of the survey. (Table 1)

	Ph.D.										HKU Overall					
	Total				Male				Female				(Research Postgraduates)			
	'98		'97		'98		'97		'98		'97		'98		'97	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<i>No. of respondents</i>	82	100	70	100	57	100	48	100	25	100	22	100	184	100	143	100
<i>F/T employed</i>	73	89.0	62	88.6	50	87.7	42	87.5	23	92.0	20	90.9	148	80.4	117	81.8
<i>P/T employed seeking F/T job</i>	2	2.4	2	2.9	1	1.8	2	4.2	1	4.0	0	0	3	1.6	2	1.4
<i>Unemployed seeking F/T job</i>	3	3.7	3	4.3	3	5.3	1	2.1	0	0	2	9.1	9	4.9	4	2.8
<i>Further studies</i>	2	2.4	3	4.3	2	3.5	3	6.3	0	0	0	0	19	10.3	19	13.3
<i>Emigration/home country</i>	1	1.2	0	0	1	1.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.5	0	0
<i>Not seeking F/T job</i>	1	1.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4.0	0	0	4	2.2	1	0.7

Table 1. Employment situation

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III. Further Studies

The graduate who pursued postgraduate studies took up a master (coursework) programme in a local tertiary institution. Table 2 shows the academic programmes pursued & Table 3 shows the source of finance.

Field of Study	Academic Programme
	Master (Coursework)
Business Administration/Management	1

No Response = 1

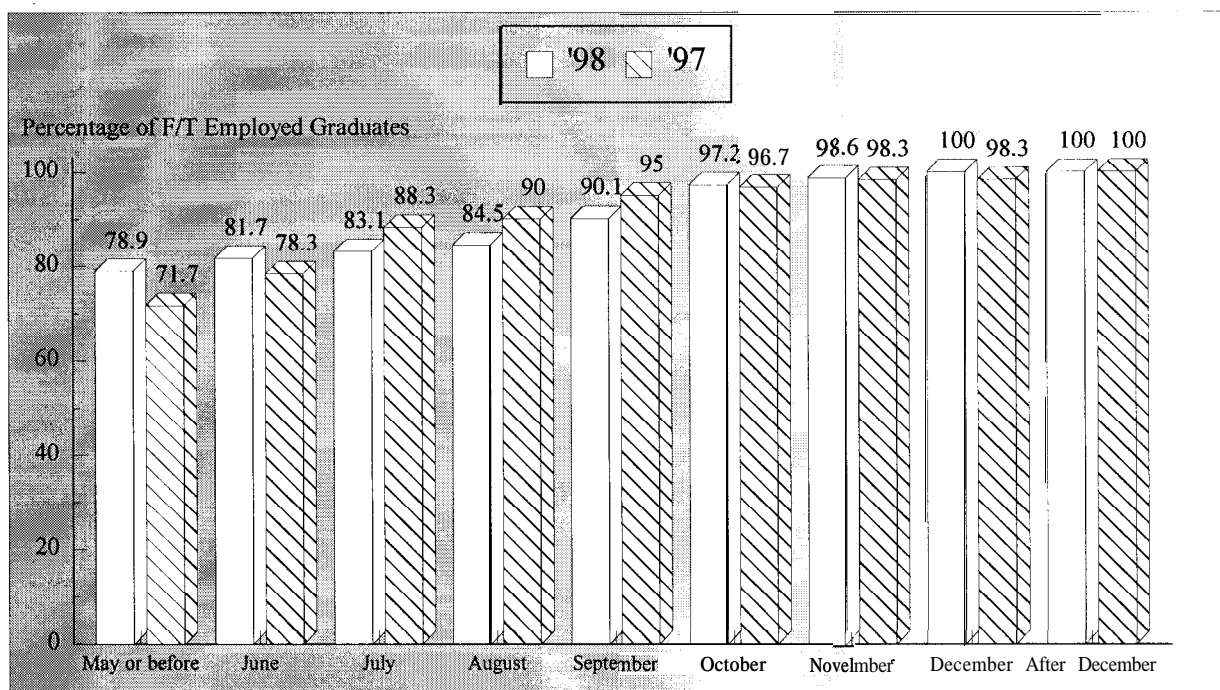
Table 2. Academic programme

Source of Finance	No. of Graduates
Own Funds	2

Table 3. Source of finance for further studies

IV. Time Taken to Secure Employment

Among those graduates in full-time employment, 82% secured their first job offer before the end of June. The figure increased to 100% by the end of December. (Figure 1)



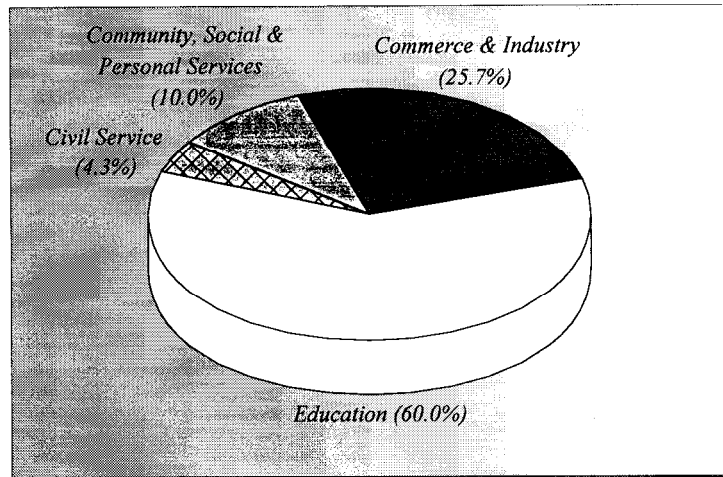
No Response = 2

Figure 1. Time taken to secure employment

Where did the 1998 Ph.D. graduates go ?

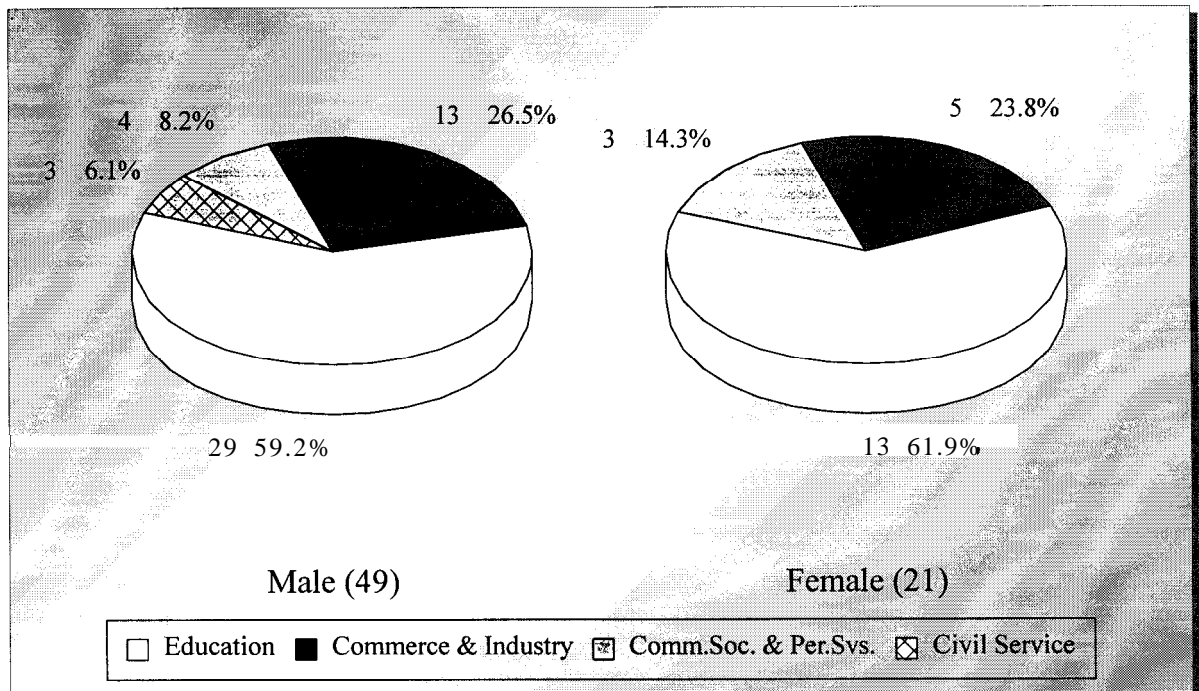
V. Employment Sectors

60% (or 42 graduates) of the Ph.D. graduates were employed in the education sector, followed by 26% (or 18 graduates) in commerce & industry and 10% (or 7 graduates) in the community, social and personal services. The remaining 4.3% (or 3 graduates) joined the civil service. (Figures 2 & 3)



No Response = 3

Figure 2. Employment sectors



No Response = 3

Figure 3. Employment sectors by sex

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VI. Basic Salary and Gross Income

The remuneration received by the Ph.D. graduates is shown in Table 4.

	<i>Basic Salary</i>				<i>Gross Income</i>			
	Ph.D.		HKU Average*		Ph.D.		HKU Average*	
	'98	'97	'98	'97	'98	'97	'98	'97
Mean	\$34,269	\$31,443	\$28,769	\$27,070	\$38,457	\$36,584	\$31,577	\$30,400
Median	\$29,700	\$27,790	\$22,075	\$24,000	\$30,000	\$28,083	\$23,833	\$25,000
Minimum	\$9,120	\$13,000	\$9,120	\$9,500	\$9,120	\$15,167	\$9,120	\$9,500
Maximum	\$77,000	\$85,000	\$77,000	\$85,000	\$138,022	\$111,000	\$138,022	\$111,000

Table 4. Basic salary and gross income

* HKU average refers to the income received by research postgraduates.

VII. Number of Full-Time Job Offers

Of those in full-time employment, 43% of the graduates had more than one job offer. 17% reported having received three to eight or more job offers. On average, each graduate received 1.8 job offers. (Figure 4)

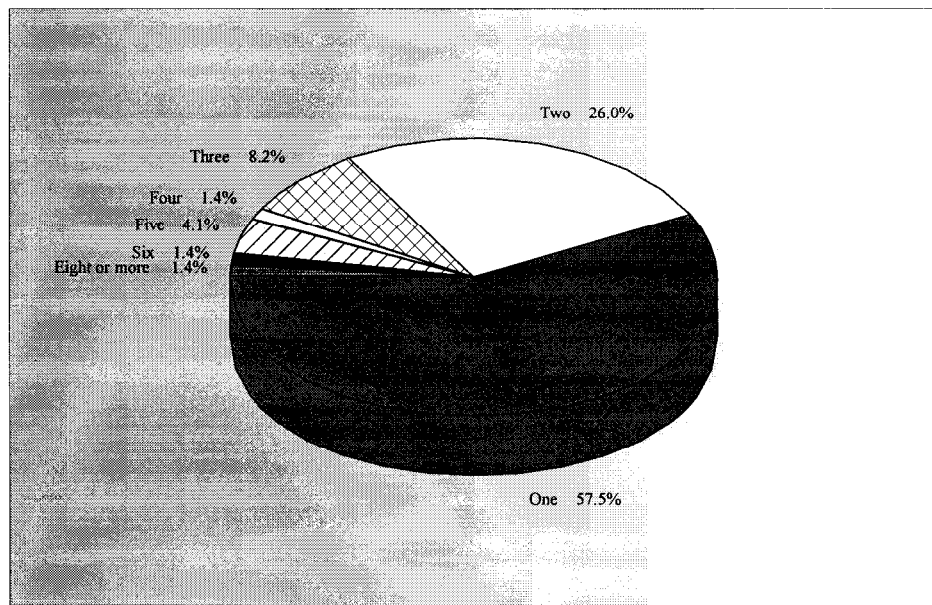


Figure 4. No. offull-time job offers

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VIII. Names of Employers and Job Titles

The job titles of the Ph.D. graduates in full-time employment and the names of the employers are listed below.

<u>Employers :</u>	<u>Job Titles :</u>
CIVIL SERVICE -	
• HKSAR - Fire Services Department	. Ambulance Officer
• HKSAR - Labour Department	. Assistant Occupational Hygienist
• HKSAR - Official Languages Agency	. Chinese Language Officer
EDUCATION -	
• Beijing Normal University, China	. Postdoctoral Fellow
• City University of Hong Kong	. Assistant Professor
• City University of Hong Kong	. Associate Professor
• City University of Hong Kong	. Associate Professor
• City University of Hong Kong	. Associate Professor
• City University of Hong Kong	. Associate Professor
• City University of Hong Kong	. Lecturer
• City University of Hong Kong	. Lecturer
• City University of Hong Kong	. Research Fellow
• Hong Kong Institution of Education	. Senior Lecturer
• Hong Kong Technical College	. Principal Lecturer
• Lingnan College	. Assistant Professor
• Lok Sin Tong Leung Kau Kui College	• General Manager
• Nanyang Technology University	. Assistant Professor
• Shantou University, China	• Associate Professor
• Shantou University, China	. Lecturer
• Sing Yin Secondary School	. Graduate Master
• Technical University of Munich	. Postdoctoral Fellow
• The Chinese University of Hong Kong	. Instructor
• The Chinese University of Hong Kong	. Postdoctoral Fellow
• The Chinese University of Hong Kong	. Research Associate
• The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	. Associate Professor
• The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	. Postdoctoral Fellow
• The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology	• Research Associate
• The Open University of Hong Kong	. Lecturer/Assistant Professor
• The University of British Columbia	. Postdoctoral Fellow
• The University of Hong Kong	. Assistant Research Officer
• The University of Hong Kong	. Language Instructor
• The University of Hong Kong	. Lecturer
• The University of Hong Kong	. Postdoctoral Fellow
• The University of Hong Kong	. Postdoctoral Fellow
• The University of Hong Kong	. Postdoctoral Fellow
• The University of Hong Kong	. Research Assistant
• The University of Hong Kong	. Research Assistant
• The University of Hong Kong	. Research Assistant
• The University of Hong Kong	. Research Associate
• The University of Hong Kong	. Senior Technician
• UCSD	. Postdoctoral Fellow

Where did the 1998 Ph.D. graduates go ?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Stellenbosch, South Africa • Victoria English Primary School • Vocational Training Council Technical Institutes • York University, Canada | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postdoctoral Fellow • Information Technology Consultant • Lecturer • Senior Research Fellow |
|--|--|

COMMUNITY, SOCIAL & PERSONAL SERVICES -

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital Authority • Hospital Authority • Hospital Authority • Hospital Authority • Landcare Research • The Croucher Foundation • Organization's name not reported | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Manager • Medical Officer • Medical Technologist • Physicist • Scientist • Postdoctoral Fellow • Regional Education Chemist |
|--|---|

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY -

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alpha Metals (HK) Ltd • Astec Custom Power (HK) Ltd • Atotech Asia Pacific Ltd • Coulter Electronics • Fantasea Cruises • Laser Computer Systems Ltd • Lea Ronal (Asia) Co Ltd • Lippo Securities Ltd • Mita Industrial Co (HK) Ltd • Mok Gwee & Associates Ltd • P & T Architects & Engineers Ltd • Safety Accident & Failure Experts • Same Time Electronic Ltd • Scott Wilson (HK) Ltd • Vicent Lai & Partners Ltd • Winstech Precise Media Co Ltd • Organization's name not reported • Organization's name not reported | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Chemist • Senior Engineer • Quality Control Supervisor • Regional Product Specialist • Marine Biologist • Consultant • Laboratory Chemist • Manager • Assistant Manager • Director • Senior Associate • Engineering Consultant • Senior Project Engineer • Resident Engineer • Associate Director • Production Engineer • Director • Engineer |
|--|--|

No Response = 3

Table 5. List of employers and job titles

Note: Some alumni have indicated willingness to talk to individual students about their work. Their contact telephone number can be obtained from counsellors at CEPC.

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- IX.** Similar information on graduates from other disciplines of study are available for reference in the Careers Library. Please enquire with the CEPC.

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June, 1999

The analysis is based on information provided by the respondents, and the Careers Education & Placement Centre should not be held responsible for any errors arising therefrom.

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