

Where did the 2004 Biochemistry graduates go?

I. Introduction

The information in this paper is extracted from the Graduate Employment Survey of 2004 to answer the following questions about Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry graduates :-

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

II. Employment Situations in 2004

Of the 36 graduates from this programme, 28 responded to the survey. Their employment situations are listed below.

	Biochemistry				HKU Overall*			
	2004		2003		2004		2003	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
No. of respondents	28	100%	29	100%	2361	100%	2364	100%
Employed	16	57%	16	55%	1787	76%	1712	72%
Unemployed seeking F/T job	0	0%	0	0%	15	0.6%	7	0.3%
Further Studies	12	43%	13	45%	531	22%	625	26%
Emigrated/Returned to home country	0	0%	0	0%	7	0.3%	3	0.1%
Not seeking F/T job	0	0%	0	0%	21	0.9%	17	0.7%

* HKU Overall refers to the figure for the total HKU population and includes M.B.,B.S. and B.D.S. graduates.

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III. Further Studies

12 graduates proceeded to postgraduate studies. The tables below show the academic programmes that they pursued and their sources of funds.

Field of Study	Academic Programme				
	M.Phil.	Master (Coursework)	Postgraduate Certificate	Advanced Diploma / Diploma	Others
Education	-	-	4	-	-
Medical Science	2	1	-	-	-
Science	1	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	1	1

No Response = 2

Source of Funds	No. of Graduates
Full Scholarship	1
Own Funds	6
Government Grant + Loan	1
Scholarship + Own Funds	1
Teaching Assistantship/Studentship	2

No Response = 1

IV. Time Taken to Secure Employment

The time taken for graduates to secure employment is shown below.

By the end of	% of new graduates who have secured employment	
	2004	2003
May or before	0%	6.7%
June	23%	40%
July	62%	60%
August	77%	80%
September	77%	87%
October	85%	100%
November	92%	100%
December	100%	100%

No Response = 3

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V. Employment Sectors

The majority of Biochemistry graduates were employed in Commerce & Industry, while others were employed in Educational Institutions and Community, Social & Personal Services.

Sector	% of graduates	
	2004	2003
Commerce & Industry	57%	81%
Educational Institutions	36%	6.3%
Community, Social & Personal Services	7.1%	6.3%
Civil Service	0%	6.3%

No Response = 2

VI. Basic Salary and Gross Income

The remuneration received by Biochemistry graduates is shown below.

	Basic Salary				Gross Income			
	Biochemistry		HKU Average*		Biochemistry		HKU Average*	
	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003
Mean	\$9,010	\$10,566	\$12,550	\$12,545	\$9,299	\$12,590	\$13,374	\$13,470
Median	\$8,567	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$9,500	\$9,000	\$13,000	\$10,292	\$10,000
Minimum	\$7,000	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$7,000	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$3,000
Maximum	\$15,000	\$23,095	\$55,000	\$60,000	\$15,000	\$23,095	\$62,500	\$60,000

* HKU Average refers to the figure for the total HKU population and includes M.B.,B.S. and B.D.S. graduates.

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VII. Number of Full-Time Job Offers

The number of job offers received by Biochemistry graduates is shown in the following table.

No. of job offers received	No. of graduates (% of graduates)
One	4 (31%)
Two	5 (38%)
Three	3 (23%)
Four	1 (7.7%)

No Response = 3

VIII. Names of Employers and Job Titles

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

<u>Employers</u>	<u>Job Titles</u>
Educational Institutions -	
- The Chinese University of Hong Kong	- Research Assistant
- The University of Hong Kong	- Research Assistant
- The University of Hong Kong	- Technical Assistant
- The University of Hong Kong - Department of Biochemistry	- Research Assistant
- TWGHs S C Gaw Memorial College	- Laboratory Technician
Community, Social and Personal Services -	
- The Hong Kong Society for the Blind	- Braille Production Assistant
Commerce and Industry -	
- AcNielsen (China) Limited	- Project Assistant
- Biocycle (HK) Ltd	- Customer Relations Executive
- Biocycle (HK) Ltd	- Customer Service Executive
- Healthcare Diagnostics Limited	- Sales Executive
- Hellmann Worldwide Logistics Ltd	- Customer Service Representative
- iMed House Asia Limited	- Marketing Executive
- Li Wai Tools Industrial Ltd	- Sales Assistant
- Organization's name not reported	- Executive

No Response = 2

Note: Some of the 2004 graduates indicated willingness to talk to individual students about their work. Contact numbers can be obtained from counsellors at the CePc.

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- IX.** Similar information on graduates from other disciplines is available for reference in the Careers Library.
Please contact the CePc for further details.

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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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