2014 SCU Graduation Survey Executive Summary

In this first annual SCU Graduation Survey, we received 66 responses from the 130 students who applied to graduate by August 1, 2014 yielding a 51% return.

The degree 82% of respondents were earning at the time of graduation was a bachelor's degree, with 6% earning an associate's degree and 12% earning a master's degree.

In major field categories indicated (Chart A), the highest percentage of respondents were from the Business field with 29% and ministry/biblical studies areas with the second highest at 24%. None of our music majors responded, although we graduated four students in this major.

Chart A

For immediate plans following graduation, the highest percentage of respondents, 45%, indicated full-time employment in their field of study as their immediate plans following graduation, followed by 15% each for full-time employment not related to the field of study and full-time further education (Chart B).

Chart B

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT
Of the 45% respondents indicating full-time employment in the field of study, 57% were currently working full-time in a job related to their field of study, 13% were currently working full-time in a field not related to their field of study, 10% were working in a job not related to their field of study but were seeking a new job in their field, 7% had accepted a position to start after graduation, 10% had been interviewing for positions and were awaiting offers, and 3% were waiting to begin searching for a position until after graduation.

From the raw data, it was found that of the 64% already working full-time in their fields of study or had accepted a position to start after graduation, 42% were ministry/biblical studies related majors, 42% were in business related majors, and 16% were in human services related majors. Three percent of respondents indicated plans for full-time employment after graduation in
conjunction with some type of further education. This data was not included in the employment or educational data.

FURTHER EDUCATION
The percentage of respondents intending to pursue further education was 20%. Of those 77% planned to pursue full-time education. 31% are going on for their bachelor's degree, 62% for their master's degree and 1% for their doctorate. 85% were beginning their further educational pursuits immediately upon graduation with 64% of those being already accepted into graduate programs (37.5% continuing at SCU).

In comparison to national averages, a report from the National Center for Educational Statistics shows the number of master's degrees conferred in 2012-2013 was 42% of the number of bachelor's degrees conferred, and doctorate's was 1% the number of bachelor's. It can be assumed that on a national average, 42% of students with a bachelor's degree go on to complete a master's degree and 1% go on to complete a doctorate. With this data, SCU is on target with students with plans to obtain a doctorate degree, but there is a 22% difference in those who plan to continue into master's degree programs.


LOCATION OF EMPLOYMENT
Eight states and outside the U.S. were indicated as locations of employment for those who are already working or have accepted a position to begin after graduations. The highest state of employment was Oklahoma with 71%, followed by Texas with 10%.

SALARIES/WAGES (Chart C)
Salaries/wages for those already employed or have accepted a position to begin after graduation range from <$25,000 to over $100,000. The data shows that 41% of our 2014 graduates employed have salaries <$25,000, 41% between $25,001 and $40,000, 10% earn or will earn between $40,001 and $80,000, 0% between $80,001 and $100,000, and 8% over $100,000.

Chart C

From the raw data, of the 41% earning <$25,000, 23.5% are working part-time, and 29% are working either full-time or part-time in positions not related to their field. Additionally, 50% of those earning <$25,000 were graduating with a major in field related to religious studies. Only 14% of these 50% reported they were employed in a position not related to their field of study, and 28.6% were students who graduated with a master's degree from SCU. Chart D shows number of this group of respondents by major.
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Chart D

Sources of Locating Employment
Chart E indicates the sources utilized in finding employment. Other than family/friend at 18%, the highest source is "Other." Chart F shows the responses given for "Other."

Chart E

Chart F

Started my own company Victory School of Leadership in the newspaper applied on my own FAMILY Ministry Contacts Pre-existing job Friends a long time ago current local newspaper No Friend Self Self Employed EDD office I'm not working in the field for which my degree is in. Recruited

As the data shows, only 3% of our graduates learned about jobs from a source related to SCU. This shows SCU needs improvement with career services and support to our students.