NIU Alumni Survey of Graduate Students
(Academic Year 2014-2015)

Employment, Additional Education, Satisfaction and Internships

Northern Illinois University
Your Future. Our Focus.

AAE (Institutional Effectiveness)
Background

• Sample
  – Graduate alumni
    • Graduated fall 2014/spring 2015/summer 2015

• Method
  – Alumni completed survey either online or via telephone
  – Students surveyed post-graduation, in 2017

• Survey Highlights
  – I. Alumni Employment and Additional Education
  – II. Alumni Satisfaction with NIU Services and Degree
  – III. Internship Experiences at NIU
Response Rates by College

Overall
- Number of Students Surveyed: 1703
- Respondents: 617
- Overall Response Rate: 36%

By College
- COB: Number of Students Surveyed: 476, Respondents: 162, Response Rate: 34%
- CLAS: Number of Students Surveyed: 409, Respondents: 163, Response Rate: 40%
- COE: Number of Students Surveyed: 348, Respondents: 135, Response Rate: 39%
- CHHS: Number of Students Surveyed: 196, Respondents: 58, Response Rate: 30%
- CEET: Number of Students Surveyed: 119, Respondents: 44, Response Rate: 37%
- LAW: Number of Students Surveyed: 99, Respondents: 30, Response Rate: 30%
- CVPA: Number of Students Surveyed: 56, Respondents: 25, Response Rate: 45%
I. Alumni Employment and Additional Education
Employment and Additional Education

Employed

- Full-Time Employment: 80%
- Part-Time Employment: 2%, 5%

Not Employed

- Seeking Employment: 1%, 3%
- Not Seeking Employment: 3%, 2%

Number of Respondents

Pursuing/Completed Additional Degree
No Additional Degree
Additional Education:
Type of Degree(s) Pursued

... By Respondents Who Pursued Additional Degree(s)

- Undergraduate Degree: 5%
- Master's: 20%
- Doctorate: 56%
- Education Specialist: 8%
- Law: 3%
- Medicine: 2%
- Other*: 19%

*Participants identified their degree as “Other” if it did not match any of the categories above.
Sector of Employment

... Of Respondents Employed Full Time or Part Time

- Business: 24%
- College/University: 17%
- Elementary/Secondary School: 12%
- Professional Firm: 10%
- Health Agency: 7%
- Government: 5%
- Manufacturing: 4%
- Non-Profit: 3%
- Self-Employed: 2%
- Industry: 1%
- Military: <1%
- Other*: 8%
- Unreported: 6%

*Participants identified their job as “Other” if it did not match any of the categories above.
Location of Employment

... Of Respondents Employed Full Time or Part Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other State</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unreported</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Time to Employment

... For Respondents Employed (Full Time or Part Time) After Graduation

Number of Respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less Than 6 Months</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 6 Months; &lt; 1 Year</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Year or More</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
My degree program at NIU prepared me well for my current job.

I am satisfied with my current job.

n = 527
n = 530
Relatedness of NIU Degree to Current Job

... Of Respondents Employed Full Time or Part Time

- 51% Job Closely Related to Degree
- 38% Job Related to Degree
- 4% Job Unrelated to Degree (by Choice)
- 3% Job Unrelated to Degree (Not by Choice)

*Note.* Due to missing data, percentages do not sum to 100%.
II. Alumni Satisfaction with NIU Services and Degree
Overall Satisfaction with NIU

- I am satisfied with my overall experience as a student at NIU. ($n = 583$)
  - Mean: 5.00

- I would recommend NIU to a prospective student. ($n = 582$)
  - Mean: 4.91
Satisfaction with NIU’s Services

- While on campus at NIU I felt safe.  
  - n = 582  
  - 5.16

- I am satisfied with the career advising I received at NIU.  
  - n = 559  
  - 4.22
I am satisfied with the academic advising I received within my graduate degree program.

I am satisfied with my educational experiences in my graduate degree program.

I am satisfied with my graduate degree from NIU represents a good value for the investment I made.

Considering my circumstances, I am satisfied with the amount of time it took me to complete my graduate degree.

I am satisfied with my graduate degree.
III. Internship Experiences at NIU
Number of Internships While Attending NIU

- None: 60%
- One: 26%
- Two: 9%
- Three or More: 6%

Number of Respondents
Of those alumni who had internships, at least one internship was...

- Paid: 48%
- For Credit: 82%
- Within Discipline: 96%
For more information...

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