Career Services at Virginia Tech
Post-Graduation Report 2012-2013 Executive Summary
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2012-2013 grads: Who was surveyed and responded, and when:
- **WHO:** We surveyed all bachelor's & associate's degree graduates (N=5,418) completing in academic year 2012-2013 (Dec. 2012, May + summer 2013) based on Application For Degree (AFD) records with the University Registrar. Response N=3,232; rate=60% (higher than 57% in past two years, below rates of four prior years: 63% in 2009-2010; 69% in 2008-2009 & 2007-2008; 73% in 2006-2007). [Methodology](#).
- **WHEN:** Survey opens prior to commencement and closes six months after for each sub-cohort (Dec | May+sum). Respondents whose plans were not firm were periodically asked to update responses.
- **DEFINITION:** All stats refer to respondents, so "grads" or "graduates" means responding graduates.
- **UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE / MAJOR DATA:** Stats are for whole university, unless noted. Full report online includes stats viewable by college and major.
- **TEN YEARS OF COMPARABLE DATA:** Reports are in the same format, and thus comparable, for ten years: graduates of academic years 2003-2004 through 2012-2013. Several [multi-year summaries](#) online.

2012-2013 continuing education or employment [a.k.a. "firm plans"]: **77%**.
- **Down 5 percentage points from prior year.** By college, same for two, down for four, up for one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Continuing education % (prior year %)</th>
<th>Employed % (prior year %)</th>
<th>Firm plans: continuing education or employed % (prior yr %)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Univ.</td>
<td>25% (down from 27%) Same as 10-11</td>
<td>52% (down from 55% and 53% prior 2 years)</td>
<td>77% (down from 82% &amp; 78% prior 2 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGLS</td>
<td>46 (46)</td>
<td>36 (36)</td>
<td>82 (82)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCHUS</td>
<td>11 (11)</td>
<td>51 (61)</td>
<td>62 (72)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUS</td>
<td>10 (11)</td>
<td>73 (72)</td>
<td>83 (83)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGR</td>
<td>17 (18)</td>
<td>65 (67)</td>
<td>82 (85)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAHS</td>
<td>26 (31)</td>
<td>46 (43)</td>
<td>72 (74)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRE</td>
<td>18 (21)</td>
<td>55 (44)</td>
<td>73 (65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCI</td>
<td>42 (46)</td>
<td>33 (36)</td>
<td>75 (82)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See ten years for trends: [Firm plans university and college, ten years](#).*

2012-2013 grads continuing education: **25%**.
- **Back to 2010-2011 level after rise to 27% in 2011-2012.**
- **By college, continuing education rates varied from 11% - 46% (for 2012-2013 & 2011-2012 grads).** Compared to prior year, 2012-2013 rates are down for four colleges; same for two.
  - Highest percentages of continuing education are in AGLS (46%) and SCI (42%), followed by LAHS (26%).
  - For all ten years, more SCI grads continue education than go to work. Ditto for AGLS for seven years.
  - ARCHUS (11%) and BUS (10%) grads continue education at the lowest percentages for all ten years.
- **DEGREES pursued post-undergrad remain fairly steady year to year:** 2012-2013 grads pursuing: master's degree=59%; M.D./other medical=13%; law=6%; another bachelor's=6%; Ph.D.=7%; D.V.M.=5%.
- List of degrees, programs of study, institutions and locations, by undergrad major in [annual reports online](#).

2012-2013 grads employment: **52%**.
- **Lower than all years except three:** 2009-2010=49%, 2008-2009=50% & 2003-2004=48%.
  - Up: BUS (73%), LAHS (46%), NRE (55%). Same: AGLS (36%). Down: ARCHUS (51%), ENGR (65%), SCI (33%).
- **Quality of employment continues to trend up.** Best stats since 07-08
  - Employment related to career goals? "Very" up to 72% from 70%. "Somewhat" down to 28% from "30%. "Not" 0%, same as prior year.
  - Employment related to major? "Very" up to 63% from 62% (prior 2 years=58%). "Somewhat" up to 27% from 27%. "Not" down to 9% from 11%.

*See: [Highlights, ten years](#).*
How 2012-2013 employed grads found jobs: NOT new news!

- **#1 WORKED FOR EMPLOYER PRIOR=26%**. (through internship, summer or p-t job, volunteer work, etc.)
  - #1 or #2 for last seven years; job source for 22% to 29%.
  - By college: job source for **19-40%** of employed 2012-2013 grads.

- **#2 NETWORKING=23%**. (contacts through friends, family, employers, faculty/staff, alumni, fellow org members)
  - #1 or #2 for all 10 yrs; job source for 21-26%.
  - #1 for AGLS, LAHS, SCI; #2 for ARCHUS, BUS, LAHS, NRE; #3 for ENGR. By college: job source for **15-41%**, 13-45% over ten years.
  - 1st place for SCI all ten years, for AGLS nine years, and for LAHS eight years.

- **#3 CAREER FAIRS for seven years**.
  - Up to 21% for 2012-2013 grads.
  - Colleges vary: 3% (AGLS) - 33% (ENGR).
  - Total univ: trending up since 2009-2010 (14%); highest since 2008-2009 (18%).
  - Since last year: Big increase: BUS, ENGR. Up some: LAHS, SCI. Down: AGLS, ARCHUS, NRE.

- **#4 OCI/H4H for eight years**:
  - 2012-2013= 9%, lowest rate of all 10 years.
  - Colleges vary: 0% (ARCHUS & NRE) - 19% (BUS).
  - Drop to #3 spot BUS. Steady #4 source ENGR (9%). Bottom, second-to-last, or non-existent for all other colleges.

- *How employed grads found jobs, by university and colleges, ten years*

**Salary median:**

- Same as last year: $50,000. Higher than all eight prior years. (N=1,329 reporting salary) for 2012-2013.

- **But they don’t all tell.** 80% of employed 2012-2013 grads reported salaries; higher than four prior years; but lower than four earlier years when 90% and 83% reported $.

- Compared to prior year: Five colleges’ reporting levels rose (AGLS 70%; ARCHUS 82%; ENGR 89%; LAHS 69%; SCI 71%). Two had lower reporting levels (BUS 87%; NRE 55%).

- *Salary medians, university and colleges, ten years*

**Career-related experience during college? Yes.**  Regrets about career planning? Yes.

- **60% wished they had done something differently related to planning for life after college.**
  - Has always been half or more. 60% is highest level of ten years; increase from 58% in prior four years.
  - 30% of all respondents wished learned more/earlier about career options (also highest level of ten years).

- **91% of all respondents had one or more types of career-related experience.**
  - 35% of all respondents wished they’d gotten MORE (highest level of all ten years).

- *What grads wished they had done, university, ten years*

**Who employs our grads?**

- **Over 900 organizations** were reported by the N=1,713 2012-2013 grads who stated they are employed.

- **136 grads** (over 8%) who claimed employment did not provide their employing organization.

- **Most-frequently-named employer,** cited by N=43 grads, **2.58% of all employed**, is **Virginia Tech**, which has been in the top five all nine years since 2004-05. This year's N and % for VT are an all-time high.

- 2nd place (last year's 1st place): Deloitte (25 grads; 1.5%); #3 (same as last year) Accenture (23 grads); #4 (also same as last year) U.S. Army (22 grads).

- **Most-reported employers, ten-year list** shows employers reported by 5 or 6 or more grads over 10 years.

- List of all employers, job titles, locations, **by major** in annual reports online.

The full annual reports online – viewable by university, colleges and majors – include much more.