

BRIEF: Career Resources used by Recent Alumni

In fall 2009, staff from several university offices, including Alumni Relations, Student Affairs, and Career Services, collaborated with staff in the Office of Institutional Analysis to develop questions for a one-year-out survey of university alumni. A link to the survey was e-mailed by staff in Alumni Relations to students receiving an undergraduate degree in September, 2007, February, 2008, or June, 2008. This brief presents the results of that survey.

Survey Response and Representation

Of the alumni who received an e-mail invitation, 154 submitted responses. Most of the alumni who responded (76.0%) received their degrees in June, 2008. In contrast to the gender composition of respondents to on-campus surveys, a larger proportion of males than females submitted responses to this survey (53.9% versus 44.8%). Most (93.5%) of the students were either U.S. citizens or permanent residents when they attended UB. In addition, respondents represented seven of the nine academic units offering undergraduate degrees: Architecture and Planning (7), Arts and Sciences (69), Engineering and Applied Sciences (30), Management (37), Medicine and Biological Sciences (4), Nursing (2), and Public Health and Health Professions (4). Only the schools of Pharmacy and Social Work were not represented among the respondents. Because the number of respondents from most of these areas is quite small, results are presented for the full group of respondents only and not separated out by academic unit or major program.

Of the students who responded, 69.5% are currently working either full- or part-time, 42.9% are enrolled in graduate or professional school either full- or part-time, and 16.9% are looking for a job. Each of these groups was asked a series of follow-up questions about their current vocational situation, including the specific career resources they had used or are currently using. The following tables present the percentages of respondents in each of the three categories (employed, enrolled in graduate/professional school, searching for a job) using the career resources specific to their needs.

Table 1: UB Career Services Resources Used to Secure the Present Position

Resource	Percent Using
BullsEye (Online Account and Job Postings)	57.4
Career Resource Library	31.5
Career Self-Assessments (e.g., FOCUS, MBTI, etc.)	5.6
Job Fairs (CareerFEST, Tech Fair, etc.)	57.4
Meetings with a Career Counselor	35.2
Mentor Network	11.1
On-Campus Interviewing	29.6
Practice Interviews	24.1
Reference File Service	0.0
UBE 202 Career Planning Class	7.4
Workshops	20.4

Table 2: Additional Resources Used to Secure the Current Position

Resource	Percent Using
Company-Specific Online Job Listings	49.3
Employment Agency	22.4
Newspaper Classified Ads	26.9
Online Job Boards (e.g., Monster.com)	61.2
Online Networking Sites (e.g., FaceBook, LinkedIn)	16.4
Professional Publications in Field	7.5
UB Faculty	25.4
UB School of Management Career Resource Center	23.9
Other*	17.9

Note: * The most common “other” responses are professional organizations and personal networking.

Table 3: UB Career Services Resources Used When Enrolling in Graduate/Professional School

Resource	Percent Using
Assistance with Personal Statement	25.0
BullsEye (Online Account and Job Postings)	25.0
Career Resource Library	15.0
Career Self-Assessments (e.g., FOCUS, MBTI, etc.)	7.5
Job Fairs	12.5
Meetings with a Career Counselor	32.5
Mentor Network	10.0
On-Campus Interviewing	29.6
Practice Interviews	12.5
Reference File Service	15.0
UBE 202 Career Planning Class	2.5
Workshops	22.5

Table 4: Additional Resources Used When Enrolling in Graduate/Professional School

Resource	Percent Using
Online Networking Sites (e.g., FaceBook, LinkedIn)	11.3
Professional Networking	7.8
Professional Publications in Your Field	7.5
Rankings of Graduate/Professional Programs	43.4
School Fairs (e.g., Graduate & Professional School Fair)	26.4
School-Specific On-Line Information	64.2
UB Faculty	50.9
UB School of Management Career Resource Center	1.9
Visits to Graduate/Professional Schools	52.8

Table 5: UB Career Services Resources Used in Current Job Search

Resource	Percent Using
BullsEye (Online Account and Job Postings)	62.5
Career Resource Library	12.5
Job Fairs (CareerFEST, Tech Fair, etc.)	50.0
Meetings with a Career Counselor	25.0
Mentor Network	12.5
On-Campus Interviewing	12.5
Practice Interviews	12.5
Reference File Service	0.0
Workshops	0.0

Table 6: Additional Resources Used in Current Job Search

Resource	Percent Using
Company-Specific Online Job Listings	69.2
Employment Agency	46.2
Newspaper Classified Ads	30.8
Online Job Boards (e.g., Monster.com)	61.5
Online Networking Sites (e.g., FaceBook, LinkedIn)	23.1
Professional Networking	46.2
Professional Publications in Field	23.1
UB Faculty	7.7
UB School of Management Career Resource Center	23.9