

*\*All percentages are rounded to the nearest full point; therefore, they may not add to 100%.*

## **Class of 2009 - School of Arts & Communication**

A total of 160 Arts & Communication graduates were awarded baccalaureate degrees in August 2008, December 2008, and May 2009. 80 (50%) graduates responded to the survey. In an effort to increase the accuracy of our post-graduation activity data, Institutional Research provided additional graduate school attendance information secured through the Student Loan Clearinghouse, which resulted in our learning the post-graduation activities of an additional 7 (4%) graduates.

### **POST GRADUATION ACTIVITY**

#### Further Study

A total of 16 (20%) of those who *responded* indicated that they attended graduate school immediately after graduation. However, through use of the Admissions Clearinghouse we know 23 (14% including respondents and non-respondents) pursued further study since graduation.

#### Employment

75 (94%) respondents indicated they were either working *and/or* attending graduate school in the first year after graduation.

A total of 68 (85%) graduates indicated they are employed. Their employment status is as follows:

43 (54%) indicated they were employed full time

25 (31%) indicated they were employed part time

9 (11%) indicated they were employed and in graduate school.

7 (9%) indicated they were unemployed, but were attending graduate school.

5 (6%) indicated they were both unemployed and not attending graduate school.

### **Average Salaries**

24 (56%) respondents who were employed full time provided salary information.

All salary information is calculated using the actual salary the respondent provided or the median of the salary range selected by the respondent. Respondents that indicated their salaries fell below \$19,999 or above \$80,000 and did not include a precise amount were excluded from the calculations.

The mean reported salary for the respondents that met the above criteria is \$39,583. This reflects a 1% decrease in comparison with the Class of 2008. Salaries ranged from a low of \$27,500 to a high of \$57,500.

### **Fields of Employment**

Students pursue occupations in a variety of career fields. The 53 (78%) respondents that answered this item regarding employment fields are employed as follows: (Respondents were permitted to select multiple fields.)

9 (17%) in Arts

2 ( 4%) in Business

6 (11%) in Communication

6 (11%) in Computers

18 (34%) in Education

2 (4%) in Government

2 (4%) in Human/Social Service

8 (15%) in other fields

## **Time Span for Securing Employment**

7 (14%) Arts & Communication graduates secured employment prior to graduation.  
20 (39%) respondents secured employment within the first three months after graduation.  
36 (71%) respondents secured employment within the first six months after graduation.  
49 (96%) respondents secured employment within one year of graduation.

## **Job Offers**

Of the Arts & Communication graduates employed who responded to this item, 12 (28%) of the 43 respondents employed full time received more than one job offer. The number of employment offers received ranged from 1 to 4, with respondents receiving a mean of 1.42 offers of employment per graduate.

## **Satisfaction with Employment**

Using a likert scale of 5 high to 1 low, Arts & Communication graduates indicated the level of satisfaction they felt with their jobs. 26 (87%) of the respondents employed indicated an above average or high level of job satisfaction. The average satisfaction score for the respondents to this item was 4.27.

## **Usage of Career Services**

59 (74%) respondents indicated they had utilized Career Services during their academic careers. Using a likert scale of 5 high to 1 low, graduates who utilized Career Services were asked to rate the service provided. The average rating was 3.48. 47 (59%) respondents reported utilizing TCNJ recruitment programs (i.e., internship programs and resources, job listings/binders, on-campus recruitment and Career Days).

## **Relationship between Academic Major and Position Obtained**

Arts & Communication graduates indicated the relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained since graduation. Of the 80 (100%) respondents:

- 35 ( 44%) respondents indicated a direct relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained.
- 24 ( 30%) respondents indicated an indirect relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained.
- 14 (17.5%) respondents indicated there was no relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained.

## **Internship Participation**

60 (75%) of Arts & Communication majors who responded to the survey indicated they participated in an average of 2.09 experiences over an average of 2.11 semesters.

## **TCNJ's Preparation of Students' Career Goals**

Arts & Communication graduates rated how TCNJ prepared them for their current position utilizing a five-point scale (i.e., excellent to poor). Of the 80 (100%) of employed respondents, 47 (59%) rated their preparation as excellent or above average. The average rating was 3.63.

16 (20%) excellent  
31 (39%) above average

25 (31%) average  
3 ( 4%) below average

5 (6%) poor

## **Quality of Academic Experience**

Arts & Communication graduates assessed the overall quality of their academic experience. Of the 80 (100%) respondents, 67 (84%) assessed their academic experience as excellent or above average. The average rating for this item was 4.20.

31 (39%) excellent  
36 (45%) above average

11 ( 14%) average  
2 (2.5%) below average

0 (0%) poor

## **Receipt of Advice from Faculty**

When asked if they had received career advice from faculty in their department or program, 52 (65%) respondents indicated they had.

37 (46%) indicated they had received advice regarding their post graduation career plans.

33 (41%) indicated they had received advice regarding internships.

29 (36%) indicated they had received advice regarding graduate and professional school.

68 (85%) indicated they had either received career advice from their faculty or had used Career Services.

# **GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL**

## **Current Graduate/Professional School Attendance**

20 (25%) of respondents indicated that they applied for graduate/professional school in the first year after graduation. This reflects a 10 percentage point decrease in comparison with the Class of 2008. 11 (55%) of those that applied had a contingency plan for if they were not admitted to graduate school. Of those that applied 80% enrolled in further study.

Of the survey respondents direct reporting of graduate school attendance, 16 (100%) of survey respondents were currently enrolled in graduate/professional school. This reflects a 9 percentage point decrease in comparison with the Class of 2008. Through the combination of the clearinghouse and self reporting, we identified that a total of 23 (14%) attended graduate/professional school after graduation.

## **Areas of Current & Intended Study**

Arts & Communication graduates who indicated they are attending (16 or 100% of those attending) or plan to attend (40 or 50% of all respondents) further study indicated they will pursue the following fields (number and percent of total respondents to item).

Field of Study	Those who currently attend		Those who plan to attend		Field of Study	Those who currently attend		Those who plan to attend	
Arts	4	25%	15	45%	Health Related	1	6%	0	0%
Business	0	0%	4	12%	Human/Social Services	1	6%	2	6%
Communications	3	19%	5	15%	Law/Law Related	0	0%	0	0%
Computers	0	0%	2	6%	Medicine	0	0%	1	3%
Education	4	25%	6	18%	Social Sciences	0	0%	1	3%
Government	2	12.5%	0	0%	Other	1	6%	2	6%

## **Future Plans for Graduate Study**

40 (50%) Arts & Communication graduates plan to attend graduate/professional school in the future. 27 (34%) of all graduates indicated the timing of their future attendance in graduate school:

- 11 ( 41%) respondents plan to attend within the first 2 years after graduation.
- 21 ( 78%) respondents plan to attend within 4 years after graduation.
- 27 (100%) respondents plan to attend within 6 years after graduation.

## **Current Degrees and Highest Degree Level Sought**

16 (100%) of those currently attending responded to the degree level they are pursuing. In addition, 77 (96%) graduates provided information on the highest degree level they intended to pursue. Of those intending to pursue advanced degrees:

Degree Level	Currently Pursuing		Highest Degree Planned	
Bachelors	0	0%	48**	62%
Masters	15	94%	12	16%
Specialist	1	6%	2	3%
Doctorate	0	0%	3	4%
Professional	0	0%	12	16%

\* Percentage reflects percent of those who responded to this item.

\*\* 8 individuals who responded that they plan to pursue further study indicated that the highest degree they plan to seek is a Bachelors degree.

