

TCNJ Class of 2010 Survey Excerpts

Post Graduation Activity Summary

A total of 1444 graduates were awarded baccalaureate degrees in August 2009, December 2009, and May 2010. 545 (38%) graduates responded to the survey. In an effort to respond to declining response rates, the Career Center incorporated data obtained through immediate response surveys from the School of Business, the School of Engineering and the Center for Institutional Effectiveness, as well as data from the Admissions Clearinghouse. Incorporating these data sources, data was obtained on a total of 843 (58%) graduates.

606 (95%) of those on whom we gathered information (excluding clearinghouse only data) indicated they were either working *and/or* attending graduate school in the first year after graduation. This marks a 1 percentage point decrease in unemployment in comparison with the Class of 2009. 31 (5%) of those surveyed indicated that they were unemployed and not attending graduate school (truly unemployed). This is 4.4 percentage points lower than the New Jersey unemployment rate of 9.4% as of July 2011. Additionally, only 28 (4%) indicated that they were unemployed, not attending graduate school and seeking employment.

Internship Participation

451 (82%) of the eligible respondents indicated they had participated in an internship or practicum experience during their undergraduate careers. They interned in an average of 2.66 experiences for an average of 2.79 semesters/summers.

TCNJ Career Preparation & Graduate Expectations

99% indicated that they had either used the Career Center or received career advice from faculty. 77% of the respondents indicated that their career preparation by TCNJ was above average or excellent. 72% of the respondents indicated that they had received career advice from their faculty or department – 52% had received post graduation career planning advice from faculty; 45% had received advice regarding internships; and, 39% received advice regarding pursuing graduate/professional school. 98% indicated that they had used Career Services during their tenure.

Of the 295 (85%) respondents to the questions 218 (74%) indicated that their expectations were met on both issues.

Top 10 Employers - The Top Employers (based on number of TCNJ, Class of '10 graduates hired) were:

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| 1. PricewaterhouseCoopers (10) | 5. Johnson & Johnson (4) | 9. The College of New Jersey (3) |
| 2. Bank of America/Merrill Lynch (9) | 5. KPMG (4) | 9. US Army (3) |
| 3. Deloitte (8) | 5. Scotch Plains-Fanwood Schools (4) | |
| 4. Ernst & Young (7) | 5. WithumSmith+Brown (4) | |

Salary Information

The mean starting salary for graduates of the Class of '10 was **\$45,999** (from salary ranges). Average salaries by school were:

| | Art & Communications | Business | HSS | Education | Engineering | NU HES | Science |
|----------------|----------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|
| Average Salary | \$40,938 | \$49,294 | \$40,212 | \$43,167 | \$51,328 | \$52,300 | \$44,214 |

Comparing estimated salaries, males earn an average of \$4,606 (10%) per year more than females. This is consistent with the Class of 2009 but 5 percentage points higher than the Class of 2008 – the impact of the current economy appears to be more significant for our female graduates than for our male graduates.

The following academic majors, with more than one graduate reporting, had the highest reported average salaries:

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| 1. Computer Eng. (3) \$62,500 | 5. Accounting (26) \$53,462 | 9. Biology (3) \$49,167 |
| 2. Nursing (16) \$59,688 | 6. Ed of Dev Handicap (2) \$52,500 | 10. Computer Sci (5) \$48,500 |
| 3. Mech Eng (7) \$58,214 | 7. Gen Business (28) \$51,161 | 10. Tech Ed (5) \$48,500 |
| 4. Civil Eng (3) \$57,500 | 8. Spanish (3) \$50,833 | |

Graduate School Summary

42% of the Class of '10 indicated that they had applied for admission to graduate/professional school during their senior year. Of those that applied, 50% developed a contingency plan for if they were not successful in seeking admission.

28% of the graduates who responded to the survey were attending graduate/professional school.

Through admissions data secured from the Student Loan Clearinghouse and surveys obtained by Career Center we were able to determine that 401 (28%) graduates of the total Class of 2010 attended graduate school within the year after graduation. 56% of graduates indicated they plan to attend graduate/professional school in the future.

The Top Graduate/Professional Schools (based on number of TCNJ, Class of '10 graduates attended) were:

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| 1. TCNJ (61) | 4. Seton Hall (13) | 6. Montclair (6) | 10. Columbia (5) |
| 2. UMDNJ (54) | 5. Drexel (12) | 6. NYU (6) | |
| 3. Rutgers (40) | 6. Monmouth (6) | 6. U of Penn (6) | |

Fields of Employment

Students pursue occupations in a variety of career fields. The 360 (91%) of those employed full time answered as follows:

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|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8 (2%) in Arts | 19 (5%) in Engineering | 23 (6%) in Nursing |
| 133 (37%) in Business | 7 (2%) in Government | 11 (3%) in Science |
| 15 (4%) in Communication | 8 (2%) in Health (non-med or nursing) | 12 (3%) in Human/Social Service |
| 14 (4%) in Computers | 35 (10%) in Law or Law Related fields | 28 (8%) in other fields |
| 80 (22%) in Education | 2 (<1%) in Medicine | |

Average Salaries

283 (71%*) 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 \$85,000 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 \$45,998. This reflects a <1% increase in comparison with the Class of 2009. Salaries ranged from a low of \$19,999 to a high of \$85,000.

** See Appendix A for a breakdown of salaries by major and school.*

Work Locations

Following graduation, 287 (74%) of those who indicated they were employed full time and indicated the location of their employment, indicated they were employed in New Jersey. This is consistent with the Class of 2009. New York employs the second largest number of these graduates at 40 (10%), consistent with the Class of 2009 but an increase of 5 percentage points in comparison with the class of 2008. Pennsylvania employs the third largest number of these graduates with 29 (7.5%), also consistent with the Class of 2009 and higher than the class of 2008 (2 percentage points). An additional 30 (8%) are employed outside of NJ, NY and PA, in the following locales: Arizona, Arkansas, California (3), Connecticut , Delaware, Washington, D.C. (2), Florida (3), Georgia, Illinois (2), Maryland (3), Massachusetts , Michigan, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Texas (3) and Virginia (2) in the US and France, Haiti and Japan abroad .

Time Span from Graduation to Employment

325 (84%) of the 388 (60%) respondents to this item indicated they had secured employment within six months of graduation. This reflects a 6 percentage point increase in those securing employment within this time frame.

164 (42%) respondents secured employment prior to graduation. This reflects a 12 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2009 and a 2 percentage point increase in comparison to the Class of 2008. We cannot identify the cause of the increase, but possibilities include more students seeking employment prior to graduation or increased hiring prior to graduation. Graduates of the School of Business (67%) and the School of Science (50%) were the most likely to secure employment prior to graduation.

260 (67%) respondents secured employment within the first 3 months after graduation.

325 (84%) respondents secured employment within the first six months after graduation.

370 (95%) respondents secured employment within one year of graduation.

Number of Offers

166 (48%) of the respondents who were working full time received more than one job offer. This reflects a 16 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2009 and a return to the percentage of those receiving multiple job offers as compares with the Class of 2007, reversing a trend that started with the Class of 2009. The number of employment offers received ranged from 1 to 10, with respondents receiving a mean of 1.76 offers of employment per graduate, which reflects a 19% increase in comparison with the Class of 2009.

Job Satisfaction

Using a likert scale of 5 high to 1 low, graduates indicated the level of satisfaction they felt with their jobs. 248 (91%) of the respondents to job satisfaction indicated an above average or high level of job satisfaction. The average satisfaction score for the 321 (83% of those employed full time) respondents to this item was 4.23

Relationship between Academic Major and Position Obtained Graduate Expectations

Graduates indicated the relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained since graduation. Of the 539 (98%) respondents:

- 332 (62%) respondents indicated a direct relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained. This reflects a 10 percentage point decrease in comparison with the Class of 2009.
- 113 (21%) respondents indicated an indirect relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained. This reflects a 4 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2009.
- 67 (12%) respondents indicated there was no relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained. This reflects a 1 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2009.
- 27 (5%) respondents did not feel a relationship could be assessed.

Additionally, this year we asked those who were employed full time whether the position they obtained was in the field they expected and was the type of position they expected. Of the 295 (85%) respondents to the questions 218 (74%) indicated that their expectations were met on both issues. Though there were no differences in the overall responses to the two items, differences did exist between fields and positions when broken down by school and gender (see School Comparative Report and Sex Comparative Report for more information).

Internship Participation

450 (83%) of the respondents indicated they had participated in an internship or practicum experience during their undergraduate careers – this reflects a 7 percentage point increase in comparison to the Class of 2009 and a 14 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2008.

Graduates indicated that, on average, they spent 2.79 semesters or summers interning and participated in an average of 2.66 experiences (some students interned multiple semesters with the same employer, which is why the number of experiences is smaller than the length of time spent in internships).

Receipt of Career Advice from Faculty

392 (72%) of the respondents to this item, indicated that they received career advice from faculty in their departments or programs prior to graduation. This reflects a 3 percentage point decrease in comparison with the Class of 2009. They indicated the type of advisement as follows:

- 287 (52%) indicated they had received advice from faculty regarding their post-graduation career plans. Reflects a 5 percentage point decrease in comparison with the Class of 2009
- 244 (45%) indicated they had received advice from faculty on internships
- 212 (39%) indicated they had received advice from faculty on graduate or professional school options. This reflects a 3 percentage point decrease in comparison with the Class of 2009.

547 (99%) respondents secured advice from faculty or the Career Center regarding career, internships or graduates school planning. This reflects a 2 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2009.

Usage of Career Services

541 (98%) of the self respondents indicated they had utilized the services provided by the Career Center during their academic careers. This reflects a 16 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2009. Using a likert scale of 5 high to 1 low, graduates who utilized the Career Center were asked to rate the services provided. The average rating was 3.83, which reflects a 2% increase in comparison to the Class of 2009.

411 (74%) respondents reported utilizing TCNJ recruitment programs (i.e., internship programs and resources, job listings/binders, on-campus recruitment and Career Days). This reflects a 7 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2009 and a 5 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2008.

TCNJ's Preparation of Students' for Their Career

Respondents rated how TCNJ prepared them for their current position utilizing a five-point scale* (i.e., excellent to poor). Of the 545 (99%) respondents, 421 (77%) rated their preparation as excellent or above average.

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|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| 203 (37%) excellent | 106 (19%) average | 6 (1%) poor |
| 218 (40%) above average | 12 (2%) below average | |

Quality of Academic Experience

Graduates assessed the overall quality of their academic experience. Respondents utilized a five-point scale* (i.e., excellent to poor). Of the 544 (99%) respondents, 500 (92%) assessed their academic experience as excellent or above average.

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|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 284 (52%) excellent | 41 (8%) average | 0 (0%) poor |
| 216 (40%) above average | 3 (<1%) below average | |

GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL

Current Graduate/Professional School Attendance

230 (42%) of the respondents indicated that they had applied to attend graduate school immediately after graduation. This reflects a 4 percentage point increase in comparison to the Class of 2009 but a 7 percentage point decrease in comparison with the Class of 2008. Of those 230 who applied to graduate and professional school, 115 (50%) of indicated that they had developed a contingency plan. This reflects a 6 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2009. 78% of those that applied enrolled in further study in their first year out of school. This marks a 3 percentage point decrease in comparison with the Class of 2009.

171 (31%) of those who *responded* to the Career Center survey indicated that they attended graduate school immediately after graduation. This marks a 2 percentage point decrease in comparison with the Class of 2009.

The accuracy of survey data is limited to the point that the respondent pool reflects the entire class. However, when reporting graduates pursuit of further study immediately after graduation, through the use of the Admissions Clearinghouse, we report on the entire Class of 2010. The combination of the clearinghouse and self reporting identified that a total of 401 (28% of entire class) pursued further study immediately following graduation. This marks a 3 percentage point increase in comparison with the Class of 2009. Appendix C indicates the schools all our graduates are attending and program of study, if available.

Future Plans for Graduate Study

**Planned further study includes those who are currently enrolled in Graduate/Professional School who intend to go farther than their current degrees.*

386 (73%) of respondents either are attending or definitely plan to attend in the future. Additionally, 105 (20%) indicate that they are unsure as to whether they will attend graduate or professional school in the future. Should they also choose to attend, 93% of the Class of 2009 will pursue further study at some time.

- 139 (50%) respondents plan to attend within the first 2 years after graduation.
- 242 (87%) respondents plan to attend within the first four years after graduation.
- 265 (95%) respondents plan to attend within the first 6 years after graduation.

Areas of Current & Intended Study

Graduates of the Class of 2010 who indicated they are attending (202) or plan to attend (291) further study indicated they will pursue the following fields (number and percent of total respondents to item).

| Field of Study | Those currently attending | | Those planning to attend | | Field of Study | Those currently attending | | Those planning to attend | |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Arts | 7 | 3% | 9 | 3% | Humanities | 13 | 6% | 12 | 4% |
| Business | 13 | 6% | 58 | 20% | Human/ Social Srvcs | 8 | 4% | 8 | 3% |
| Communications | 4 | 2% | 8 | 3% | Law/Law Related | 12 | 6% | 11 | 4% |
| Computers | 3 | 1% | 4 | 1% | Medicine | 24 | 12% | 11 | 4% |
| Education | 53 | 26% | 86 | 30% | Nursing | 6 | 3% | 24 | 8% |
| Engineering | 11 | 5% | 5 | 2% | Science | 14 | 7% | 13 | 4% |
| Government | 1 | <1% | 1 | <1% | Social Sciences | 12 | 6% | 10 | 3% |
| Health Related | 16 | 8% | 3 | 4% | Other | 5 | 2% | 14 | 5% |

Current Degrees and Highest Degree Level Sought

202 (88%) of those currently attending responded to the degree level they are pursuing. In addition, 521 (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 | |
|--------------|--------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Bachelors | 1 | <1% | 304 | 58% |
| Certificate | 7 | 3% | NA | NA |
| Masters | 0 | 0 | 7 | 1% |
| Specialist | 136 | 67% | 120 | 23% |
| Doctorate | 31 | 15% | 49 | 9% |
| Professional | 27 | 13% | 41 | 8% |