Tracking the Outcomes of Graduate Center Alumni

Jennifer Kobrin
Director of Institutional Research & Effectiveness
The Graduate Center

The Graduate Center’s mission is to prepare students to be scholars, teachers, experts, and leaders in the academy, the arts and in the private, nonprofit and government sectors.

Since 1965, more than 13,500 individuals have earned doctorates from the Graduate Center, and they are now among the leaders in our nation's teaching and research efforts across the country.
Context

• Between now and 2020, an estimated 2.6 million jobs will require an advanced degree.
• The number of jobs requiring a master’s degree will increase by 22%, and those requiring a doctorate or professional degree will increase by 20%*.
• Many of these jobs are not tenure-track positions in academia.
• The value of an advanced degree has come into question.

The imperative of tracking doctoral graduate career outcomes

• Only about a third of graduate programs currently have an established process for documenting the career outcomes of their students (June, 2013; 2016).

• Such data can:
  – Help with decisions about course and professional development offerings
  – Initiate discussions about alternative career paths and how to prepare students for a variety of job options
  – Make career pathways more transparent
  – Help current and potential students make better informed decisions and set realistic expectations
Research Questions

• What are the career outcomes of GC graduates?
• Do the career outcomes of GC graduates differ by cluster/discipline?
• Have the career outcomes of GC graduates changed over time?
• How do the career outcomes of GC graduates compare to “leavers”, and how do they compare to national trends?
Methods

• Data Sources:
  – GC Enrollment and Graduation Records
  – Exit Survey (2013-14)
  – Alumni Survey (2004-07)
  – GC Doctoral Program Records
  – Internet (LinkedIn, Google, SeeThroughNY)

• Employment information was collected for 3,725 or approximately 89% of the 4,168 graduates from 2003 to 2014.

• A random sample of 10% of “leavers” in the Humanities (N=90) was selected for comparison. Employment information was obtained for 57 leavers.
# Coding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>CUNY, Non-CUNY NYC, NYC Metro Area, Other NY State, All Other States, Non-US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Work Activity</td>
<td>Teaching, Research &amp; Development, Management or Administration, Professional/Technical Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Sector</td>
<td>Education, Non-Profit, Government, Private Industry or Business, Self-Employed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT/PT Status</td>
<td>Full time or Part time employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution Type</td>
<td>e.g., US Preschool/Elementary/Middle/High School, US Two-Year College, US Four-Year College, Non-Profit, US Federal, State or Local Government, Private Industry, Self-Employed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Classification</td>
<td>R1, R2, R3, M1, M2, M3, Baccalaureate Colleges, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>Administrator Adjunct, Administrator Faculty, Administrator Staff, Adjunct, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Lecturer or Instructor, Professor, Postdoc, Visiting or Substitute, Non-US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenure Track</td>
<td>Yes or No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academia</td>
<td>Faculty, Non-Faculty, Non-US</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are the career outcomes of GC graduates?

**Job Sector**
- Industry/Business: 14%
- Non-Profit: 8%
- Govt: 4%
- Education: 68%

**Primary Work Activity**
- Teaching: 55%
- Prof/Tech: 15%
- Mgt/Admin: 12%
- R&D: 19%

**Academia**
- Faculty: 48%
- Non-Faculty: 9%
- Non-U.S.: 8%
- All Other States: 30%
- Non-U.S., 11%
- Academic, 65%

**Location**
- CUNY: 21%
- Non-CUNY NYC: 25%
- NYC Metro Area: 10%
- Other NY State: 3%
## Do the career outcomes of GC graduates differ by cluster/discipline?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Sector</th>
<th>Cluster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>80.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Industry/Business</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Employed</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Work Activity</th>
<th>Cluster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management or Administration</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/Technical Services</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and Development</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>74.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## GC Humanities Graduates Vs. “Leavers”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Leavers</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CUNY</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-CUNY NYC</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYC Metro Area</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other NY State</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other States</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-U.S.</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Primary Work Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Leavers</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management or Administration</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/Technical Services</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and Development</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td>74.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Job Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Leavers</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>35.1%</td>
<td>80.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Industry or Business</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Employed</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How do the career outcomes of GC graduates compare to national trends and peer institutions?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Employment</th>
<th>Graduate Center (all cohorts)</th>
<th>NSF Survey of Earned Doctorates (2014)</th>
<th>Stanford (10-yr &amp; 5-yr cohorts)</th>
<th>Michigan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>~50%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>Not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>Engineering (15%) Physical Sciences (29%) Life Sciences (47%)</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>Not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>Not available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data for only the most recent graduating cohort (2013-14): 70% of humanities, 51% science, and 59% social science alumni have an academic position (faculty, non-faculty, or non-US).
Alumni Dashboard

https://public.tableau.com/profile/jennifer.kobrin#!/vizhome/AlumniDashboard/Story1
THANK YOU!

Jennifer Kobrin

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