TRACER STUDY OF NATIONAL ECONOMICS UNIVERSITY - VIETNAM

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OVERVIEW OF TRACER STUDY IN VIETNAM
Current situation on tracer study

- Tracer study on graduates is quite new in Vietnam.
- Since 2008, only few universities started to carry out tracer study.
- Until now, 70% of universities and colleges have made 1-2 surveys on graduates.
- In 2010, more than 200 universities and colleges took part in training workshops on tracer study (one for Northern universities, one for Central and one for Southern).
- So far, the MOET has started to consider on the tracer study of universities/ and colleges.
TRACER STUDY ON ECONOMICS STUDENTS
Introduction

- **Objectives:**
  - The study aims to assess students’ employment after graduation and
  - To get the opinions about the training program that graduates received at university.

- **Survey scope:** The study was conducted with all regular and full-time students (317 students) of all faculties, graduated in 2010, in BA degree.

- **Methods:** Questionnaire is the major tool for gathering information
SURVEY RESULTS AND FINDINGS

**General information**

- There are a total of 225 graduates (71% of the total graduates) who participated in the study.
- 70% of them had graduated from Uni. with “Good” level
- 75% of them were female
- Graduates from 4 faculties:
  - 31.1% from Finance-Banking faculty;
  - 23.11% from Business administration;
  - 33.33% from Economics and
  - 12.44% from Politic-Economics Faculty.
Job situation after one year of graduation:

Most graduates have had jobs after one year.
Working section of the graduates

- Government agencies: 29.6%
- Private enterprises: 37.7%
- Self-employed: 16.6%
- Foreign-invested enterprises: 10.1%
- INGOs, NGO: 3%
- Others: 3%
Work Position and job changing

- **Work position:** 82.8% of responses start at the first level
- **Job Changing:** Most of economics students wish to have stable jobs after graduating. But in fact:

![Pie chart showing job changing distribution](chart.png)
In term of income, one-year economics graduate’s average income is around US$250 per month.
The suitability of the current job to the training program in the university

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Not suitable</th>
<th>Less suitable</th>
<th>Suitable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Politic-Economics</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>40.6</td>
<td>17.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business administration</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>46.9</td>
<td>34.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance - Banking</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>41.7</td>
<td>43.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Capacity to adapt to the job:
Taken time for being familiar with the work

- Time taken for accessing, grasping and mastering work
- Time taken for integrating into work environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Accessing, Grasping, Mastering</th>
<th>Integrating into Work Environment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance - Banking</td>
<td>6,71</td>
<td>4,27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>4,47</td>
<td>3,08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>6,63</td>
<td>4,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politic-Economics</td>
<td>7,76</td>
<td>4,79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,3</td>
<td>4,07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The transformation from the training program of the university to work of graduates

The usefulness of knowledge trained in university is respect to their current works

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Useful (%)</th>
<th>Less useful (%)</th>
<th>Not useful (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>57,4</td>
<td>41,1</td>
<td>1,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance - Banking</td>
<td>50,8</td>
<td>49,2</td>
<td>0,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business administration</td>
<td>42,9</td>
<td>55,1</td>
<td>2,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>33,4</td>
<td>65,2</td>
<td>1,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politic-Economics</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>0,0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Assessment on the training program of the university

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General assessment on the training program</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training program suits to the job requirements</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge learned is outdated comparing to the fact</td>
<td>24.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge learned is not associated with the actual work</td>
<td>58.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training program is lack of essential vocational knowledge</td>
<td>73.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training program is lack of vocational knowledge and skill</td>
<td>73.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training program is heavily theoretical</td>
<td>73.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The response of students to the universities training objectives and needs of the employers

- The result showed that the response level of graduates to the criterion of training program is $m=3.45$ (5 levels: very bad is 1 -> very good is 5).
- Among the 23 criterion given, 10 criterion are not achieved in the average ($m < 3.45$), which is the criterion related to professional skills.
- The weakest criteria is: meet the job requirements ($m = 2.99$); and ability to work in an international environment (with $m = 2.96$).
Summary the main findings of the survey

- The rate of response is high
- There has a high percentage of graduates who get job after six to twelve months after graduation;
- Although most of graduates get job which is not suitable for their training major,
- Graduates’ adaptation to the work environment and their ability to meet the job requirements are quite good.
- Most graduates have stable job and good income
Summary the main findings of the survey

- In order to meet requirements of the job, graduates need to be trained on professional skills, foreign languages, information technology.
- Training programs partially met actual requirements of their job and expectations of students.
- Although the ability to meet the knowledge’s requirement of jobs of students is not high (m = 3.45)
- Training programs of the university still have spent too little time for practice and practical application
CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTIVES OF TRACER STUDY ON GRADUATES IN VIETNAM
Challenges

- Inconsistency of study contents of annual/periodically surveys between universities
- Hard to identify the study subjects and sampling
- Limitation in awareness of managers
- Lack of contact information and data of graduates
- Selection bias (self-selection of successful vs. less successful graduates into the survey)
Perspectives

- The budget of many universities and college is ready for conducting the tracer study.
- MOET aware that universities and colleges need to be supported for the well-organized tracer study, solve the difficulties in the organization of the survey, analyze and apply the survey results.
- But still there is a long way from decision to practice.
THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

TERIMA KASIH UNTUK PERHATIAN ANDA!