

Council of Graduate School 51st Annual Meeting

**“Inclusiveness, Innovation and Excellence
Creating the Future for Graduate Education”**

Graduate Student Outcomes: An International Roundtable

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Outcome-based Approach to Student Learning (OBASL)

- Shift focus from teaching to learning: define and assess learning outcomes
 1. alignment between MPhil/PhD programme learning outcomes and individual courses offered
 2. learning outcomes, pedagogy and assessment for each course are well-aligned



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Vision on Graduate Education

- *Raison d'être* for Research Postgraduate (RPg) as **education and training of next generation of researchers**
- RPg education should be **student-centred** and is a joint responsibilities of the **University central, Faculties, Departments** and **supervisors**



RPg Education at HKU

Faculties/ Departments

Discipline-specific
knowledge and
skills

- Courses offered by
Faculties/
Departments
- Work with
supervisors in labs
or individual/small
group tutorials



Graduate School

Generic research
skills

Transferable skills

Teaching skills



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Transferable Skills Training

- **International Research Skills Development Programme (IRSD)**
 - Co-organised with **Imperial College** and a Mainland University (**Tsinghua University**, **Shanghai Jiaotong University**) since 2009
 - Benefited 147 students so far
 - Making new international connections and interacting with RPs of different backgrounds
 - Potential partners: Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (India)



Transferable Skills Training

- **HKU Research Skills Development Course**
 - In-house course offered twice a year since March 2010
 - Benefited 53 HKU students so far
 - Interactive teaching focusing on experiential learning
 - HKU tutors received training from experienced IC tutors



Mandatory Teaching Skills Training

- **Certificate of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education**
 - For RPg students undertaking teaching and/or assessment duties
 - Equips graduates for professoriate positions
 - Provides good grounding in communication broadly for graduates pursuing non-academic careers



Students' Feedback

- Overall satisfaction rate with the RPg programmes was **93.5%** (Graduate School exit survey of student 2009-10)



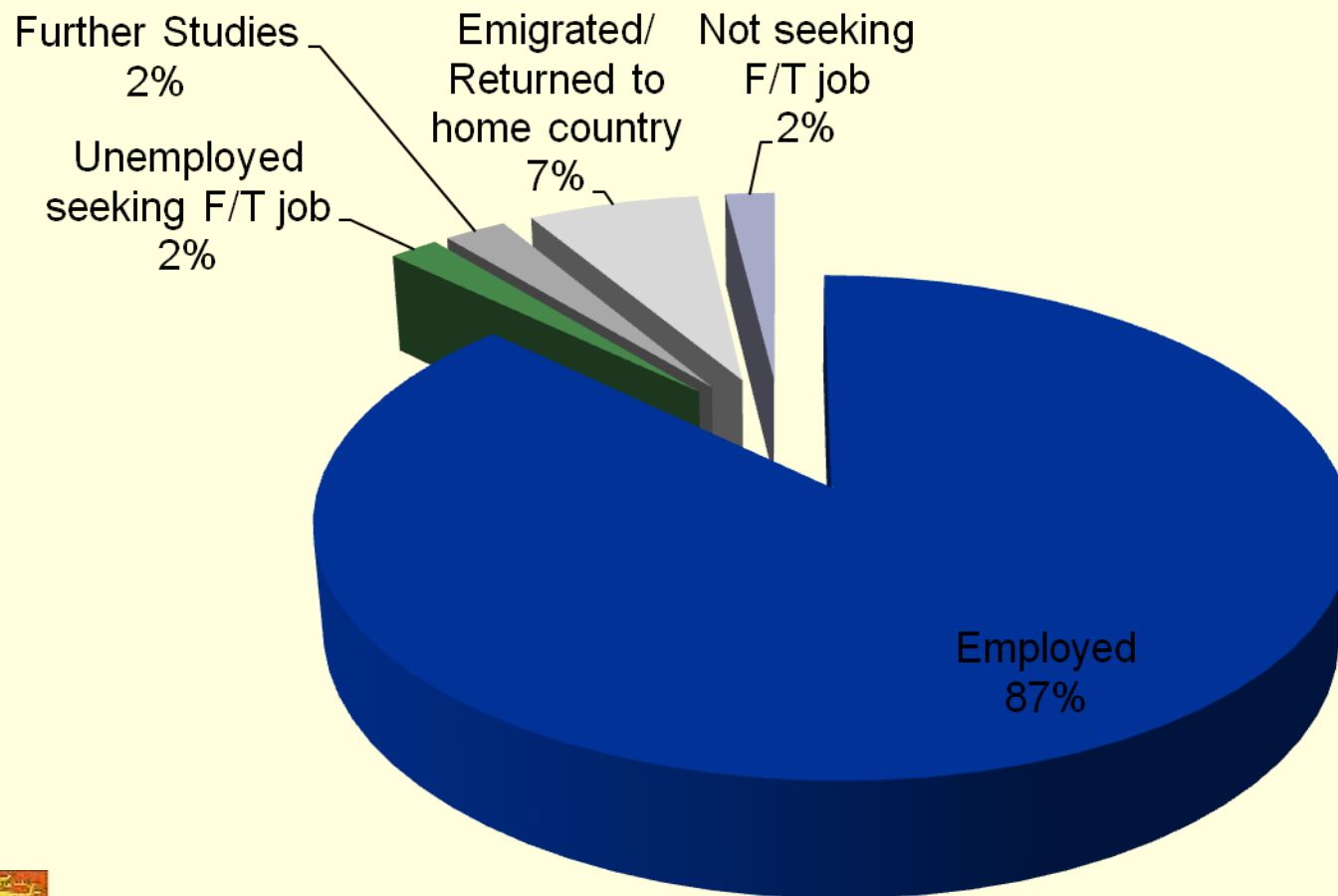
Employment outcomes for RPg students

- Our graduates have bright career prospects
- Employed in high-level positions in **universities, government, business and industry** in Hong Kong and around the world.



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Employment outcomes: PhD students

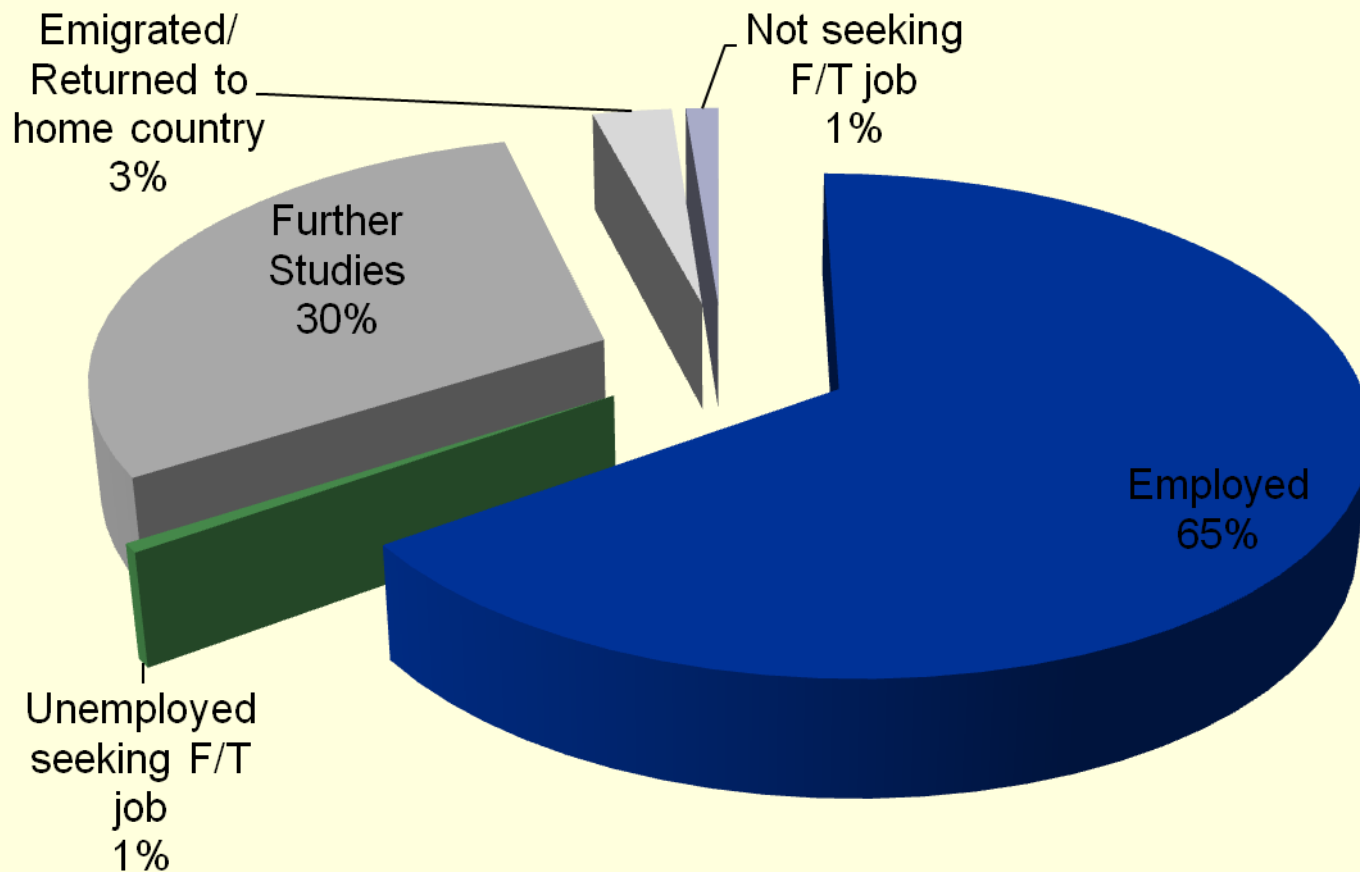


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Source: Graduate Employment Survey 2010

<http://www0.hku.hk/careers/leaflet2010/pdf/HD/PhD.pdf>

Employment outcomes: MPhil students



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Source: Graduate Employment Survey 2010

<http://www0.hku.hk/careers/leaflet2010/pdf/HD/MPhil.pdf>

2010 Graduate Employment Survey

Employment Sector

Employment Sector	MPhil & PhD	
	Graduates	%
Civil Service	11	4.3%
Education	148	58.0%
Community, Social & Personal Services	35	13.7%
Commerce & Industry	61	24.0%
Total	255	100.0%

Employment Sector	MPhil		PhD	
	Graduates	%	Graduates	%
Civil Service	9	9.0%	2	1.3%
Education	42	42.0%	106	68.8%
Community, Social & Personal Services	15	15.0%	20	13.0%
Commerce & Industry	34	34.0%	26	16.9%
Total	100	100%	154	100%

* No. of graduates who have responded to the survey and who have been employed.

Conclusion

- HKU is very concerned with RPg student outcomes and working hard to provide appropriate learning opportunities in addition to traditional discipline-specific knowledge and skills
- Continuously review to ensure consistency with global best practices and best prepare students for employment after graduation
- Plan to conduct longitudinal study of graduate's career outcome over 5, 10 years and longer



Thank You!



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