Doctoral Placement Data Collection and Use at Michigan State University

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Collection methods

- Exit ("Destination") survey at the time of dissertation submission to the Grad School
- "GradInfo" system input by graduate secretaries
- (coming soon) "direct deposit" of first placement info provided by student into GradInfo
- Use of social media for <u>current</u> placement

Use of social media for placement data

- In 14 days in 2011, 3 part-time undergrads and 2 office staff found 652 of possible 669 Ph.D. graduates (97%) using:
  - Google
  - Facebook
  - Linked In

  Domestic much easier to find than international

  We continued "finding" and recording Ph.D. grads back to 1999…current placement.

Comments

- Are social media sites reliable?

- Linked in was the most productive

- Double ("spot") checks with faculty

- Data entered into "GradInfo" system can be summarized by program into a report

- Data used in "public" data reporting on Ph.D. program outcomes on grad appl webpage

Public Ph.D. program outcomes

Initial Placement of Ph.D. Graduates (for 2007-08 thru 2009-10 grads)

- Faculty at 4-yr institution = 16
- Postdoc or Res Assoc = 1
- Non-US institution = 0
- Faculty at 2-yr institution = 2
- US K-12 school = 0
- Government = 1
- Non-profit = 0
- Industry or business = 1
- Self-employed = 0
- Student in Grad or Prof School = 0
- Other or Unknown = 7

Thanks to the University of Iowa for their Ph.D. program outcomes template!

Read more

- "Where did your graduates go? Linked In knows"
- http://chronicle.com/article/Where-Did-Your-Graduate/132197/