

# Tracking Career Outcomes for Graduate Degree Recipients

Lynne Pepall

Dean, Graduate School of Art & Sciences

CGS Annual Meeting December 2010

### ? Your institution is:

- (a) Research University/Very High or High
- (b) Doctoral Research University
- (c) Masters College or University/Large
- (d) Masters College or University/Small, Med
- (e) Other

Large: More than 200 degrees



## ? The total student enrollment FTE at your graduate school is:

- (a) Below 2000
- (b) 2000 5000
- (c) 5000 10,000
- (d) Greater than 10,000

(FTE: full-time plus one-third part-time)



# ? Your graduate school grants graduate degrees in:

- (a) Arts and Sciences
- (b) Arts, Sciences and Engineering
- (c) Education
- (d) Health Sciences
- (e) Some combination of the above



## Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Tufts:

- Enrollment roughly I I 00 students
- 12 doctoral programs
- 27 masters programs, ranging from professional masters programs to academic masters
- Microcosm



## ? Career tracking of graduates and alumni is done:

- (a) By program or department
- (b) By the graduate school
- (c) By alumni relations
- (d) Other
- (e) Is not done systematically by any of the above

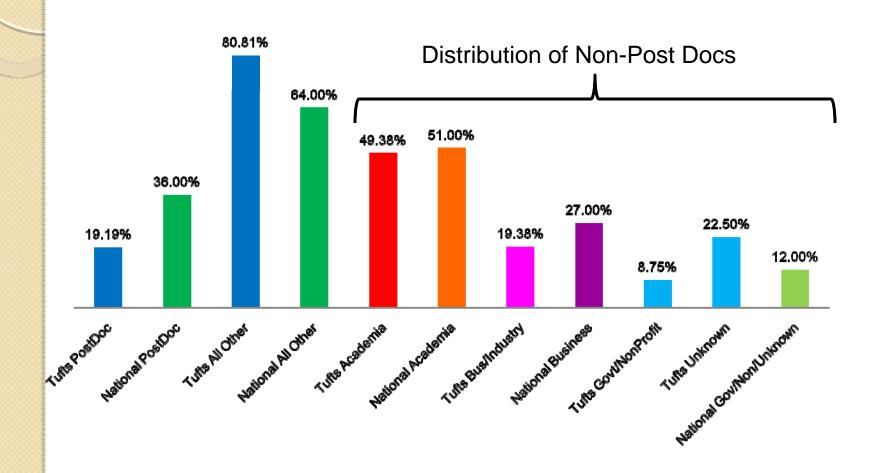


### Career Tracking: Questions

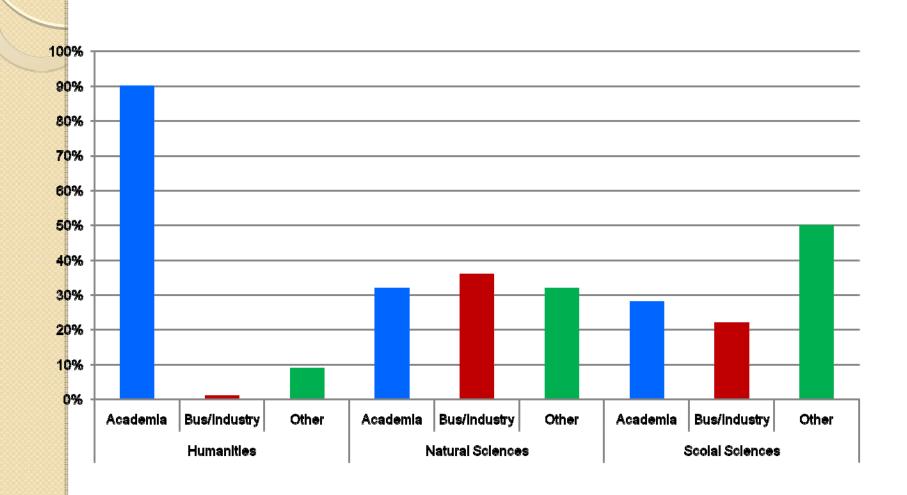
- (I) Where do our graduates go?
- (2) Do they go where they expected to go?
- (3) If they had to do it again, would they pursue a graduate degree?



### Where do they go? Doctorates 2005-10, compared to SED data for 2007-08



#### Career distribution of PhD's by discipline:



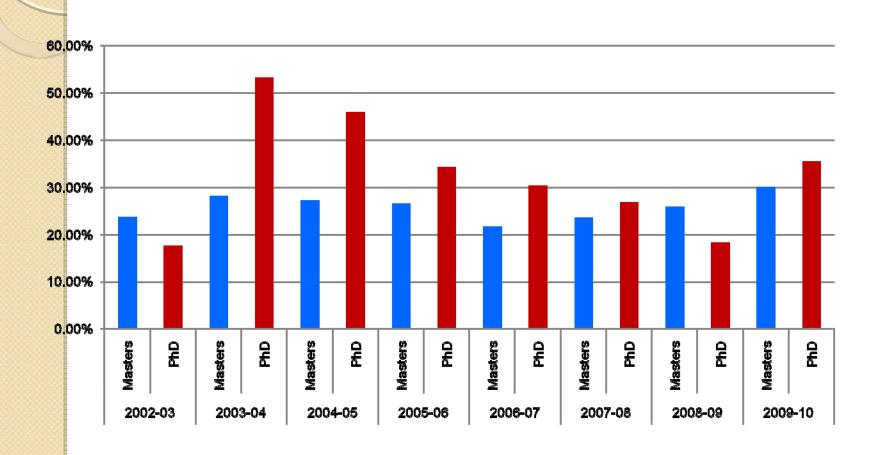




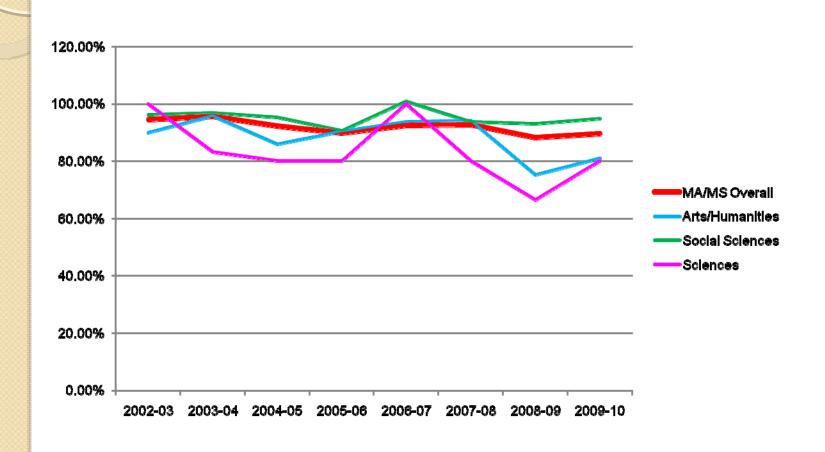
- Exit survey questions
- Did their career plans change?
- Would do they do it again?
- What about those who withdraw and did not complete a degree?



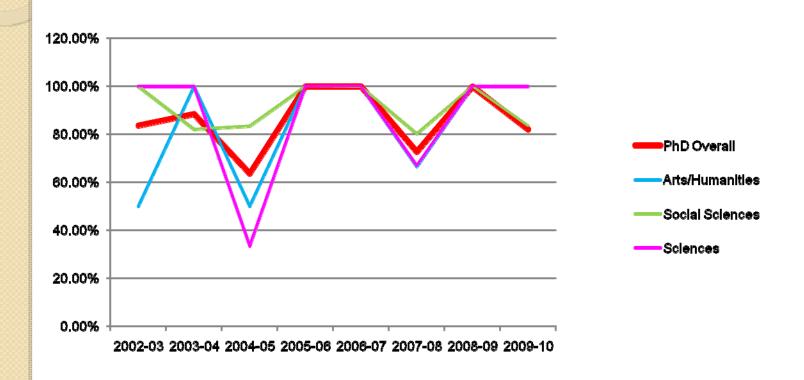
# Fraction of graduate students whose career plans changed while in graduate school, Exit Surveys 2002-10



### Of those whose career plans changed how many would still choose this graduate program? Masters:



# Of those whose career plans changed how many would still choose this graduate program? Doctorates:



# ? What attrition rate in a doctoral program is to be expected?

- (a) less than 10%
- (b) 10%-24%
- (c) 25%-34%
- (d) 35%-50%
- (e) above 50%

(Withdrawn or left with a masters within 6 years)



## ? Do you track your doctoral attrition rate? If so, what is it?

- (a) no tracking, don't know
- (b) 0 -25%
- (b) 26-35%
- (c) 35%-50%
- (d) over 51%



## Role of graduate school in preparing for success in career path:

- Academic track
  - Graduate Institute For Teaching
  - Excellence in teaching to be signature of our doctoral candidates
- Research career in industry
  - Faculty and alumni, dual degree programs
- Career in public service
  - Alumni, dual degree programs



### Dual degrees and career placement:

- Last year with Boston College Law School we developed a dual JD/MA in environmental law, policy and planning
- Allow students to complete both degrees in 4 years (instead of 5)
- Partnering with business school for management skills
- Masters degrees with teaching licensure



### ? Do you offer dual degrees at your institution or with a partner institution?

- (a) none
- (b) I-5
- (c) 5 10
- (d) more than 10



## Role of alumni in program evaluation: feedback

- Alumni: changing landscape of career opportunities
- Preparing Future Scholars
   Workshop
- Help network the graduate student community



#### Linked In:

