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HKUST Unveils Job Survey for Higher Degree Graduates

Nearly 99% of the advanced degree recipients of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) had found full-time jobs, were pursuing further studies or had returned to their country of origin by December 2000, according to a survey conducted by HKUST's Career Center.

The survey covered 306 full-time graduates who obtained PhD, MPhil, MSc/MA or MBA degrees at HKUST in 2000. Of the 271 respondents, 63% were engaged in full-time employment or business start-ups, down 4% from the previous year. However, more graduates were pursuing further studies at local or overseas institutions. 19% had opted for further studies, representing a rise of 4% over their counterparts in 1999. 16% of the graduates had returned to their country of origin. The unemployment rate dropped from 4% in 1999 to 1%.

Commerce and business have replaced education as the largest employment sector, absorbing 48% of the graduates, up 15% from 1999. The number of graduates joining the education sector dropped from 45% to 29%. Manufacturing and industries came third with 17% joining the sector, an increase of 3% over the previous year.

The mean gross monthly income of these graduates has risen between 3% to 35%. PhD graduates receive \$32,586 on average, MPhil graduates earn \$17,494 while MSc/MA graduates get \$15,526. MBA graduates receive the highest pay of \$38,384.