

90% of UCSD graduates with Ph.D. degrees find employment

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Despite a tight job market for Ph.D.s in many fields, 90 percent of the University of California, San Diego students who graduated with Ph.D. degrees during the 1973-74 academic year are now employed, a campus survey disclosed.

According to Dr. Roy Harvey Pearce, Dean of Graduate Studies at UCSD, the employment figure for new Ph.D.s from San Diego campus has been at 90 percent or above for each of the four years a survey has been run and indications are that this year's figure may be higher by the start of the fall academic quarter.

The campus-wide survey indicates that 100 of 110 graduated entering the job market have found positions in universities, government or industry. Of the 10 who are still unemployed, most are in academic fields which are heavily overstaffed nationally. Two other new Ph.D.s, not included in the survey as seeking u.c.ployrlent, are continuing their education - one in medical school and the other in law school.

The majority of the new graduates -- nearly half -- have indicated they have accepted positions either in research or as faculty members at colleges and universities both in this country and abroad. The foreign countries include, Mexico, England, Canada, Japan, the Congo, Brazil, Venezuela, the Philippines and Scotland.

Nearly 20 of the new degree holders indicate they have accepted postdoctoral or postgraduate positions in colleges and universities both in country and abroad. Twenty others have gone into research positions in private industry and eight have accepted similar positions with state or federal governmental agencies.

Three graduates are returning to military service.

Pearce said the 90 percent employment figure is one, which roughly holds true nationwide for such prestigious institutions as Berkeley, UCLA, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Wisconsin and Chicago. The problem placing Ph.D.s, Pearce said, comes from those institutions which quickly expanded their programs during the Sputnik era without adequate library or laboratory facilities.

"Those institutions are, in my opinion, not being sufficiently cautious about the numbers of students they turn out with Ph.D.s," Pearce said. "We are being cautious and optimistic at the same time."

Pearce said there are a number of academic areas in which the job market is actually booming causing a demand for graduates in these fields.

"The national job picture is extremely tight in disciplines such as mathematics and physics," he said. "On the other hand, the job market is booming in areas such as engineering sciences and the health sciences."

"There is a good job market in these areas right now because there is a national need," Pearce said. "However, the word is not out to the students yet. They are a little slow to enter these fields."

In anticipation of the need, Pearce said UCSD is planning to beef up its engineering programs including the development of a five-year program leading to the Master of Science degree. The Ph.D. programs in the health sciences, which are just starting at UCSD, are also scheduled for further development.

Included are programs in experimental pathology, medical physics and clinical psychology - a program given jointly by the departments of psychiatry, psychology, anthropology and sociology.

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