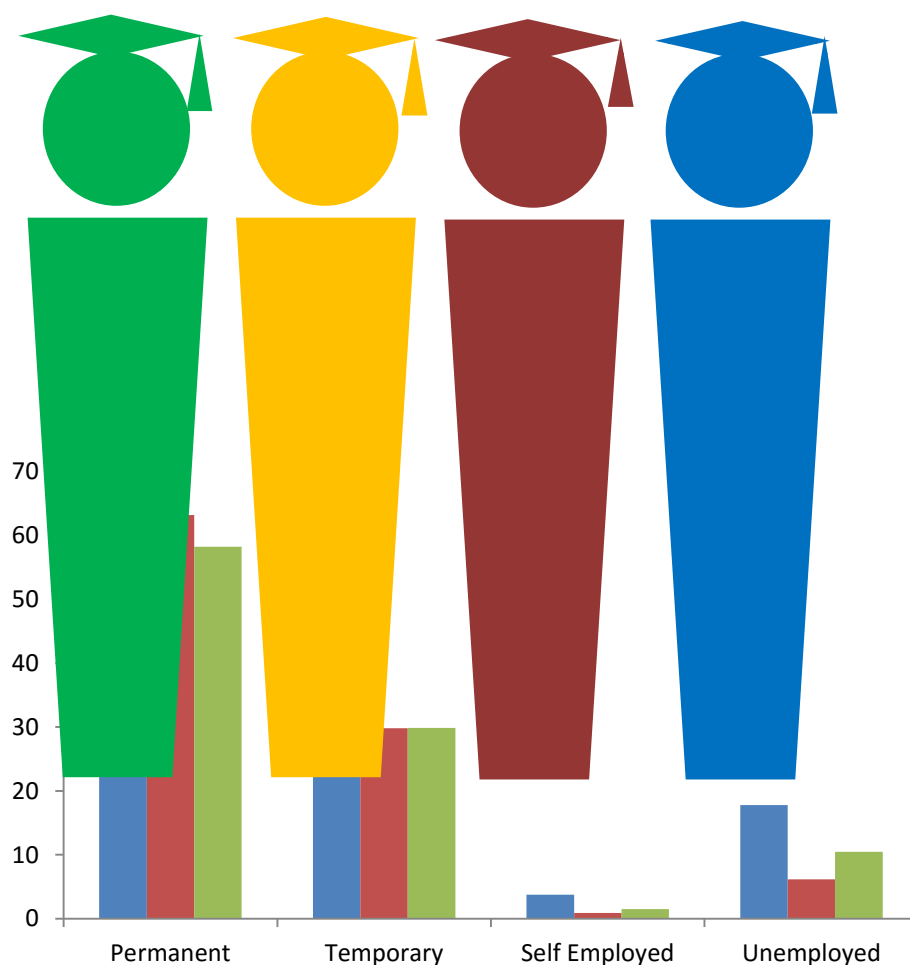


EMPLOYABILITY SURVEY REPORT WAYAMBA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA



**External Affairs Unit
2017**



EMPLOYABILITY SURVEY REPORT

WAYAMBA UNIVERSITY OF SRI

LANKA

by
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Wayamba University of Sri Lanka
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Employability Survey Results 2017: Faculty of Applied Sciences (FAS)

Response Rate of FAS for Employability Survey

This census comprises the graduates of four Departments of Faculty of Applied Sciences. The questionnaires were distributed among all students eligible to receive degrees in the General Convocation of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka in 2017. The response rate for the questionnaire was high in all degree programmes and was 99% (**Table 1**).

Table 1:

Degree programme	No. of Questionnaire Sent	No. of Questionnaire Received
B.Sc. (General)	32	31
B.Sc. (Joint Major)	53	53
B.Sc. (Special) in Applied Electronics	5	5
B.Sc. (Special) in Mathematics with Statistics	5	5
B.Sc.(Special) in Industrial Management	6	6
Total	101	100

Demography of FAS Graduates

Among the total graduates of the faculty of FAS 53% were females and 47% were males. More females were enrolled in specialization programmes according to statistics (**Table 2**).

Table 2: Gender composition of graduates of FAS.

Degree programme	Female	Male	Total	% Female	% Male
B.Sc. (General)	13	16	29	45	55
B.Sc. (Joint Major)	26	26	52	50	50
B.Sc. (Special) in Applied Electronics	2	3	5	40	60
B.Sc. (Special) in Mathematics with Statistics	5	0	5	100	0
B.Sc.(Special) in Industrial Management	5	1	6	83	17
Total	51	46	97	53	47

Age structure at the graduation is given in the **Figure 1**. Majority of the students were within the age range of 24-26 and 4% students were in the age over 30 years. Of the total graduates 20% were in the age group of 27-29 years.

Three ethnic groups were represented among the total graduates and 96%, 3% and 1% were reported as Sinhala, Sri Lankan Tamil and Muslim respectively (**Figure 2**).

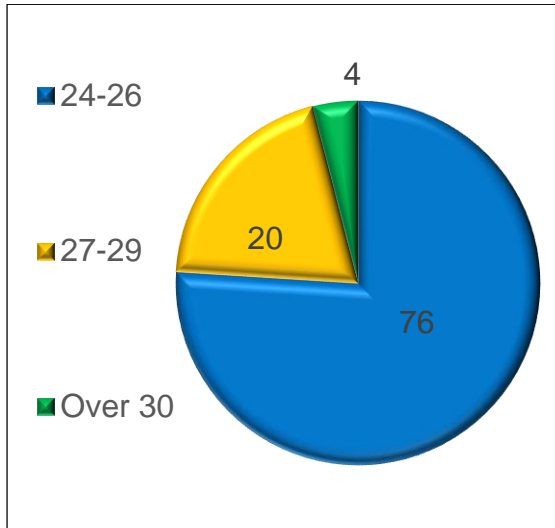


Figure 1. Age structure of the graduates in the FAS.

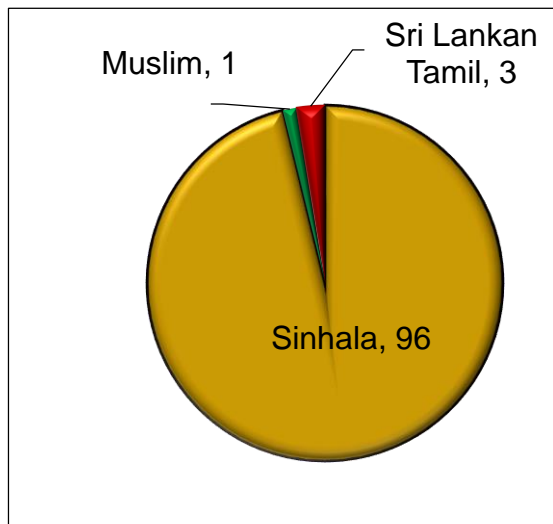


Figure 2. Representation of different ethnic groups among the graduates in the FAS.

Majority of the students graduated from FAS in 2017 came from semi-urban area of the country and was reported as 56%. Students from rural and urban areas were similar and were reported as 22% and 23% respectively (**Figure 3**).

Number of entry attempts in Advance Level examination of the graduates in the FAS were reported as 22% in first attempt, 50% in second attempt and 28% from third attempt (**Figure 4**).

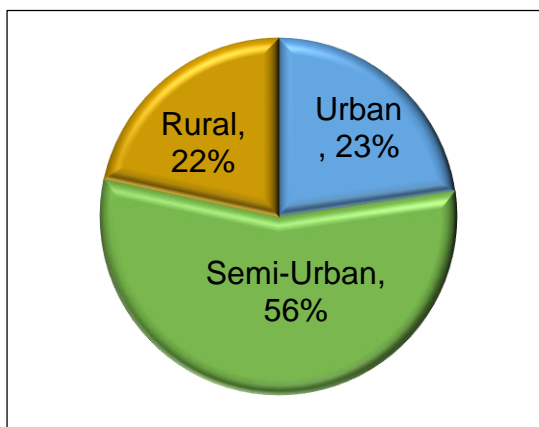


Figure 3. Broad categories of residential areas of graduates

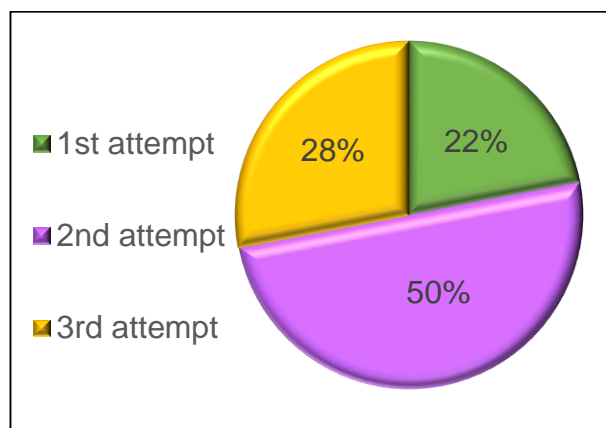


Figure 4. Number of A/L attempts at university entrance

Medium of A/L education of the majority (93%) of graduates were in Sinhala. Tamil and English medium A/L candidates were reported as 5% and 2% respectively (**Figure 5**).

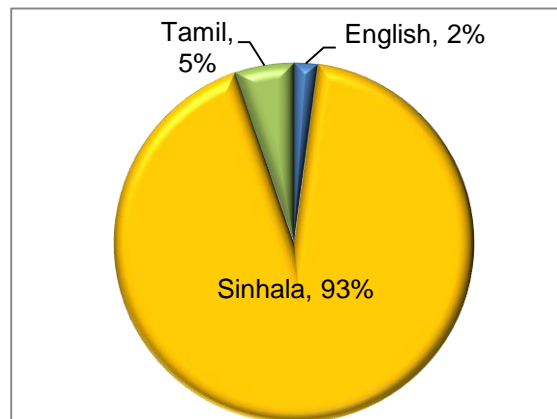


Figure 5: Medium of A/L examination of graduates

Overall Academic Performances of FAS Graduates

Of the 95 students responded to the questionnaire, 2% received First Class and 15% received Second Class Upper divisions while 29% received Second Class Lower divisions. Among total graduates 54% received a General pass for their degree. **Table 3** indicate the number of students with their respective grades at the final degree examination and **Figure 6** indicates the percentages of different grades among degree programmes of FAS.

Table 3: Overall performance of graduates in different degree programmes in FAS De-

De- gree	First Class	Second Upper	Second Lower	General Pass	Total
B.Sc. (General)	0	1	4	23	28
B.Sc. (Joint Major)	0	4	21	26	51
B.Sc. (Special) in Applied Electronics	0	4	1	0	5
B.Sc. (Special) in Mathematics with Statistics	1	4	0	0	5
B.Sc.(Special) in Industrial Management	1	1	2	2	6
Percentage of different grades	2	15	29	54	100

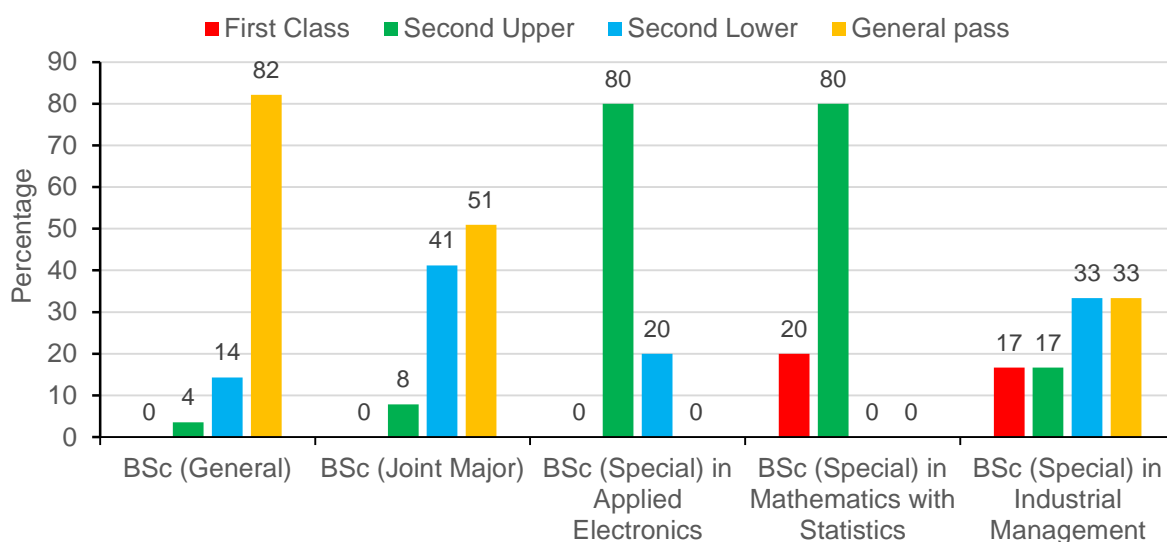


Figure 6: Percentages of different grades obtained by students in different degree programmes offered by FAS.

Employability Status of Graduates

Employability status of the graduates in FAS at the general convocation of 2017 is given in the **Table 4**. Among all graduates of FAS 77% were employed at the time of the survey. Of the all employed graduates 40% have obtained permanent jobs and 20% of them were in temporary positions, 8% in contract basis and 2% were self-employed (**Figure 7**).

Table 4: Different categories of employments in relation to the field of study

Degree	Contract basis	Part Time	Permanent	Self Employed	Temporary	Training	Unemployed	Total
B.Sc. (General)	5	1	13	0	1	0	9	29
B.Sc. (Joint Major)	3	0	24	2	9	2	12	52
B.Sc. (Special) in Applied Electronics	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	5
B.Sc. (Special) in Mathematics with Statistics	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	5
B.Sc.(Special) in Industrial Management	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	6
Total	8	1	39	2	19	6	22	97

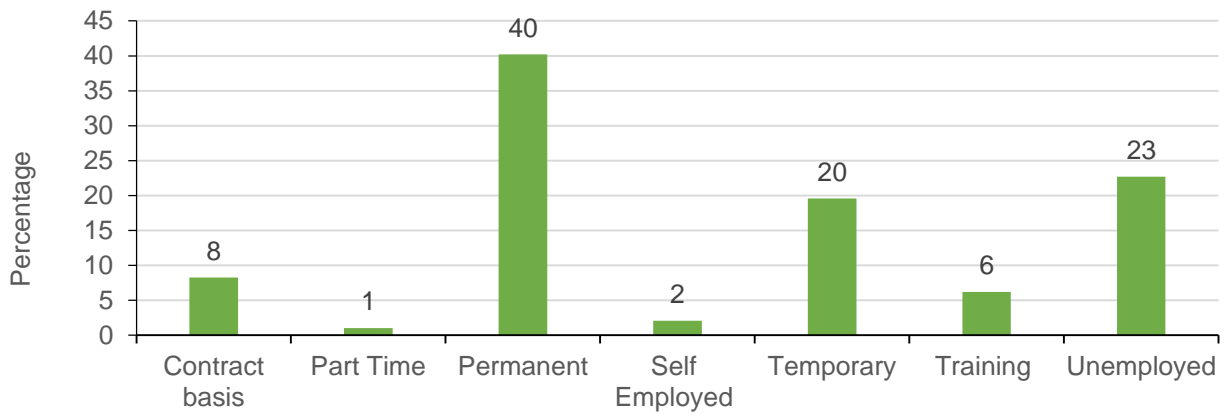


Figure 7. Percentage enrolments of graduates in different employability categories in FAS

Sector of Employments of Graduates

Among responded graduates 68 had answered for this question. Among the responded graduates for this question and excluding the trainees (01), percentage employed in different sectors was calculated. Percentage employability of graduates in private sector, public sector and semi government sector were reported as 62%, 22% and 13% respectively (**Figure 8**). Self-employment was considered as a category and was represented as 3%.

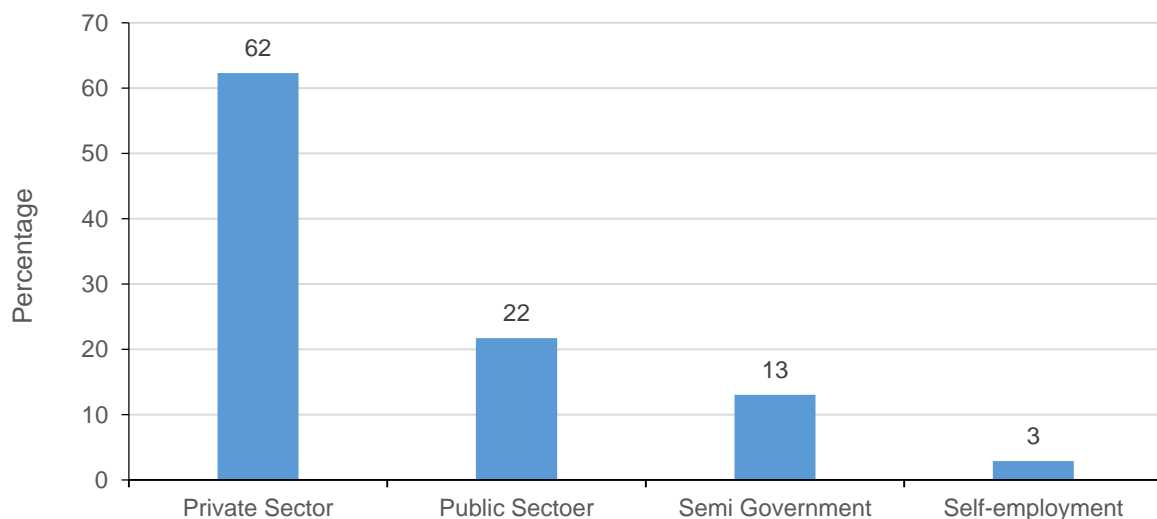


Figure 8. Percentage job enrolments of graduates in different sectors of employees.

Monthly Salary Levels of Employed FAS Graduates

Among all respondents in FAS, 69 graduates answered this question. **Table 5** indicates the distribution of graduates among different salary scales. Majority of students (53%) had received salaries between Rs. 30,000 to 50,000 scales. Salaries of 32% students were exceeded Rs. 50,000 and two students have exceeded Rs. 100,000 (**Table 5** and **Figure 9**).

Table 5: Salary levels of employed graduates from FAS

Monthly Salary (LKR)	B.Sc. (General)	B.Sc. (Joint Major)	B.Sc. (Special) in Applied Electronics	B.Sc. (Special) in Mathematics with Statistics	B.Sc.(Special) in Industrial Management
0-9999	1	0	0	0	0
10000-19999	3	0	1	1	2
20000-29999	1	2	0	0	0
30000-39999	3	11	1	3	1
40000-49999	2	12	1	0	2
50000-59999	2	4	1	0	1
60000-69999	6	2	0	0	0
70000-79999	0	2	0	0	0
80000-89999	1	0	0	0	0
90000-99999	1	0	0	0	0
< 100000	1	1	0	0	0
Total respondents	21	34	4	4	6

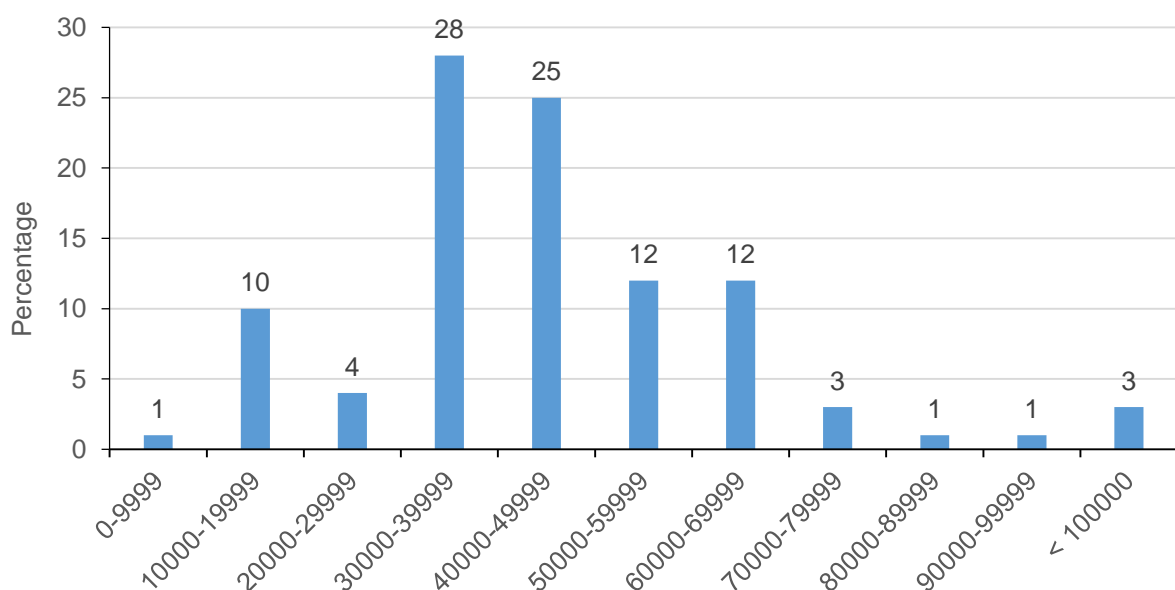


Figure 9. Percentage distribution of employed graduates in different salary levels

Relevance of Degree Programme to Current Employment of FAS Graduates

Relevance of the degree programme to the employment indicates employers' recognition of the knowledge and training provided by the degree programme as relevant to the needs of the industry. Majority of the students graduated from FAS in different degree programme had high relevancy to the job and the knowledge gained in the University (**Table 6**). **Figure 10** indicates the percentage of students in relation to different levels of relevancy of the job to the study programme. Among the respondents (68), 64% of graduates were employed in jobs with the relevancy higher than 75%. More than 85% employed graduates in the faculty had over 50% relevancy of their jobs to the study programme (**Figure 10**).

Table 6. Relevancy of the job to the study programme

Degree	Relevancy of the job to the study programme				
	10%	25%	50%	75%	100%
BSc (General)	0	2	9	6	0
BSc.(Joint Major)	0	4	5	13	15
BSc (Special) in Applied Electronics	1	1	1	0	1
BSc (Special) in Mathematics with Statistics	2	0	0	0	2
BSc (Special) in Industrial Management	0	0	1	2	3
Total respondents	3	7	16	21	21

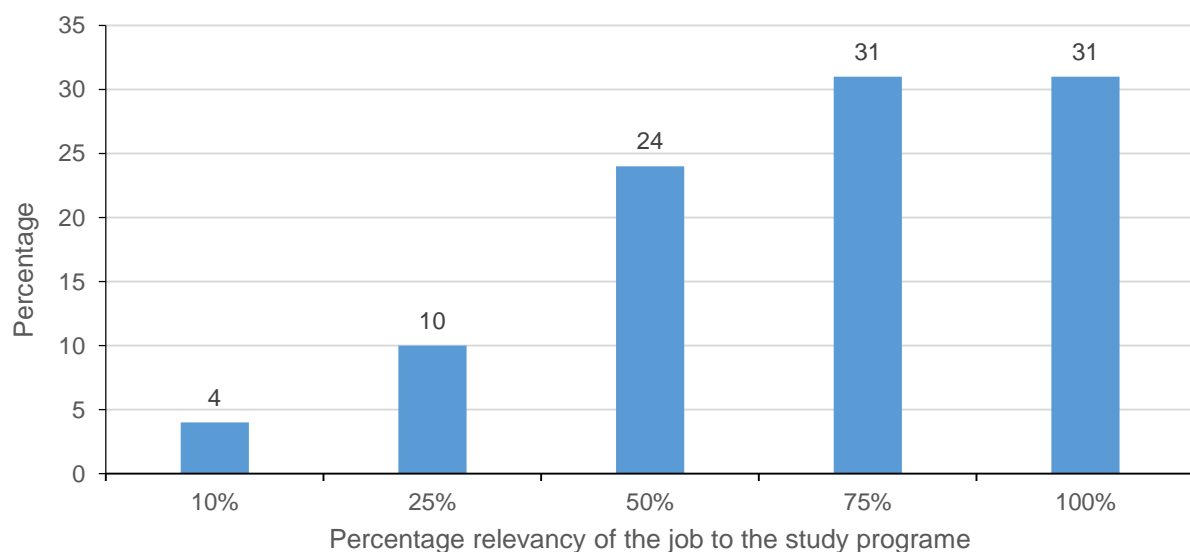


Figure 10 Percentage relevancy of the job to the study programme.

Level of Job Satisfaction among FAS Graduates

Among all graduates 50% were satisfied about the present job and 27% percent of graduates were very satisfied with the current employment. Present survey indicates that 23% of graduates had average satisfaction about their employment (**Figure 11**).

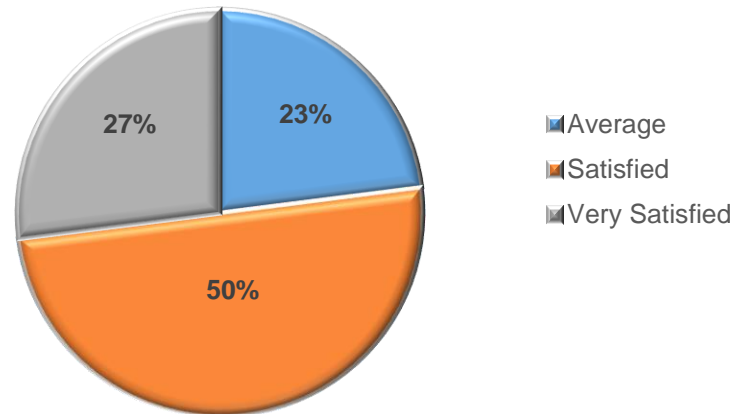


Figure 11. Level of satisfaction of the current employment

Most Influential Factors to Obtain Present Job

This question was answered by 73 students. From the frequency of the answers; Degree, field of study, personality and soft skills, proficiency in English and computer literacy were the key factors influenced to obtain the current occupation (which were indicated in green colour bars in **Figure 12**). Also the research experiences (orange colour bars 44%) and previous work experiences (magenta colour 23%) also had considerable influence on getting the current employment. Most importantly the class of the degree, reputation of the university, personal contacts had minor influences in finding the jobs of the graduates from FAS.

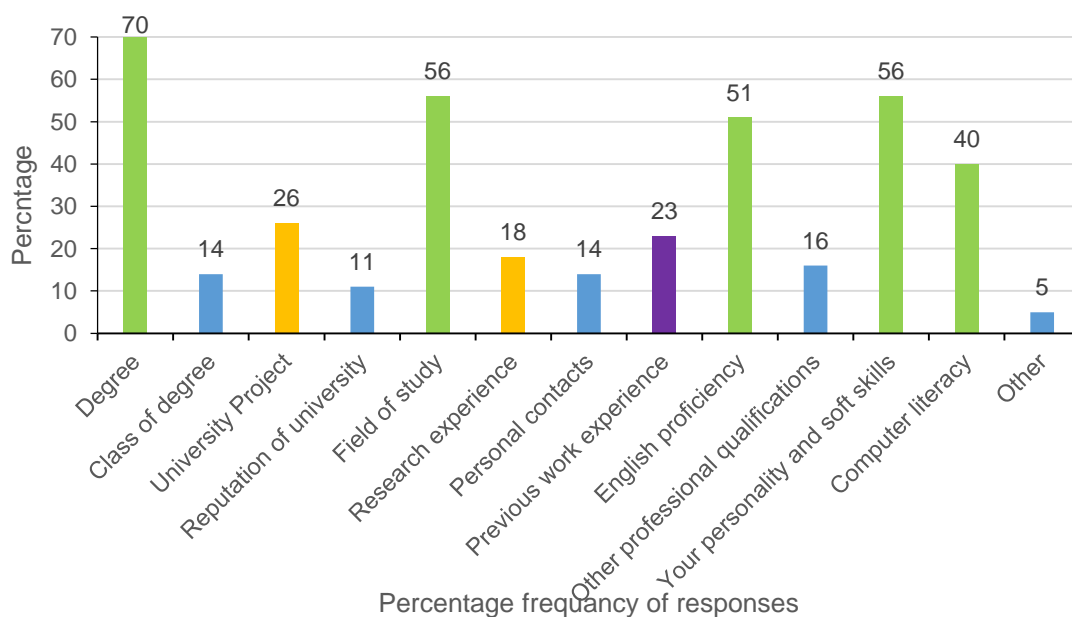


Figure 12. Most influential factors to obtain the present job.

Help from University Education to Career Development

Support of the degree programme to the career development was at satisfactory levels with average scores of nearly 4 out of the 5 Likert scale. . Support from the degree programme to develop entrepreneurial skills received the lowest rating indicating the need of further attention in that respect (**Figure 13**). This results indicate the need of further development to empower the graduates with necessary skills and attitudes to be successful in their future career.

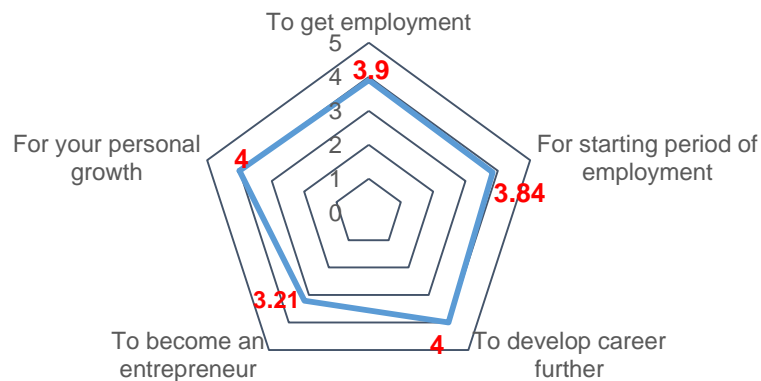


Figure 13. Evaluation of the university education for the career development graduates of FAS

Additional Qualifications (Postgraduates, Professional or other) of FAS Graduates

Considerable number of students (33) graduated from the FAS had additional qualifications and 16 of them are reading for such kind of proficiency at the period of survey (**Table 7**). This information indicates the eagerness of students to be more skilful, knowledgeable and proficient in their career paths and to be an empowered personal to excel in competitive world.

Table 7. Different additional qualifications of graduate at the period of survey. (C denotes the completed and R denotes the continuation of the programmes).

Degree	Diploma		Chartered Accountancy		CIMA		CCNA		MPhil		MBA		MSc		Other	
	C	R	C	R	C	R	C	R	R	R	R	R	C	R		
B.Sc. (General)	4	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	0				
B.Sc. (Joint Major)	12	2	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	4	2				
B.Sc. (Special) in Applied Electronics	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1				
B.Sc. (Special) in Mathematics with Statistics	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
B.Sc.(Special) in Industrial Management	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0				
Total	21	4	2	2	1	4	1	1	1	1	8	3				