

Research Title : A Follow - up Study of Bachelor Degree Graduates from
Rajabhat Institute Suan Dusit during the 2543 - 2544
Academic Years

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Organization : Rajabhat Institute Suan Dusit

Year of Completion : 2545

ABSTRACT

The purposes of this research was to follow-up study of bachelor degree holders who graduated from Rajabhat Institute Suan Dusit during the 2543 - 2544 academic years. The variables being studied were : employment status, occupation condition, search for employment, further study without being employed, further training without being employed, and opinion regarding characteristics of graduates. Research population consisted of 7,481 bachelor degree graduates from Rajabhat Institute Suan Dusit during the 2543 - 2544 academic years. The instrument for data collection was a questionnaire developed by the Office of Rajabhat Institutes Council. Data collection was undertaken during the commencement rehearsal . A total of 6,774 graduates, or 90.55 percent of the population, responded to the questionnaire. The statistical procedure for data analysis was the percentage computed with the SPSS

Research findings can be concluded as follows :

1. General information : The majority of graduates were female (76.35 percent) . Graduates from two-year bachelor degree programs made up for 64.04 percent of the total number. Graduates from the Liberal Arts Program constituted 85.61 percent of the total number, to be followed by those from the Education Program (7.90 percent) and the Science Program (6.45 percent) respectively.

2. Employment status : As a whole, 82.84 percent of graduates had already been employed. Breaking down by fields of study, The percentage of graduates who had been employed were : 82.75 percent in the field of education , 80.71 percent in the field of science, and 83.01 percent in the field of liberal arts. The top three programs with highest percentages of employed graduates were Early Childhood Education Program , the Sports Science Program , and the Business English Program.

3. Future study : Graduates who continued their studies without gaining employment comprised 32.15 percent of the total number of graduates. The majority of them continued their studies at the bachelor's degree level, to be followed by the master degree level and the graduate diploma level, respectively.

4. Search for employment : The majority of graduates submitted job application more than five workplaces. The first frequently mentioned problem regarding job application was that the workplace being located far from graduate's home ; to be followed by the lack of additional qualifications such as foreign language competency, computer competency, etc. ; and the workplace did not want to accept graduates from Rajabhat Institutes Additional competencies that greatly helped graduates in gaining employment were computer and foreign language competencies.

5. Occupation condition : The majority of graduates worked in private organizations, to be followed by government organizations, one's own business (self - employment) , and state enterprises, respectively. The most frequently mentioned job was the one concerning accounting/finance/credit, to be followed by the secretarial/clerical job. The majority of them received monthly salaries that is , between 6,000 - 8,000 baht, to be followed by over 10,000 baht. Moreover, the majority of graduates earned additional income of less than 2,000 baht from extra jobs. Additional competencies that were used most frequently in their jobs were Other computer program and Other additional Competencies respectively. The most frequently

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mentioned work problem was Problems Concerning Colleagues , to be followed by the Job being not relevant to one's field of Study , and problems with their superior, respectively.

6. Opinions regarding characteristics of graduates : Based on graduates perception, the five characteristics that they have acquired most were honesty , the love for fellow human beings and the environment , responsibility , industriousness and perseverance and the ability to work with others. The five characteristics that they possessed least were the ability to use foreign languages, the ability to use computer, the ability to think critically, insightful knowledge in one's own field and Creativity.