

# **EMPLOYABILITY 2017**

A STUDY ON THE GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA

University Statistics & Data Monitoring Unit

## **Graduate Employability**

## of the

## University of Kelaniya

## 2017

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## PROLOGUE

Employability is an important indication for a University to measure the quality of their graduates. This report reveals the graduate employability based on the graduates passed out in 2017. The employability of University of Kelaniya is formed by a number of different pressures in the areas such as graduates soft skills, involvement in the extra-curricular activities, language proficiency, professional qualifications and practical knowledge and the research skills acquired through course works.

One of the key reasons why many students invest in the University education is to enhance their employment prospects. Being a graduate is, no longer appears to be sufficient to secure employment. Good academic achievement is highly valuated while the other qualification and the soft skills make the graduate stand out from the usual graduates. University education empowers the graduates to move on at the job market with good confidence. Sometimes, the percentage of employability reduces due to the academically weakness and the ineffective communication. The rate of the employability of a certain university becomes visible at the choice point for which university students apply to. Therefore, employability is one of the most influential key performing indicators of the university.



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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

| FCMS  | : | Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies |
|-------|---|--|
| FHU   | : | Faculty of Humanities                    |
| FMED  | : | Faculty of Medicine                      |
| FSC   | : | Faculty of Science                       |
| FSOSC | : | Faculty of Social Sciences               |
| F     | : | Female                                   |
| М     | : | Male                                     |



## 1. Introduction

Education is the key to unavoidable success and freedom from all of the forces. Also, it appears to be a key determinant of the development of a country. A nation full of well- educated, intelligent people is worth than anything. Since a very small percentage, 10%, get the chance of being selected to the State Universities, the responsibility to nurture the nation to wealthiness has lain on the top of each graduate who pass out of state universities. Graduates can contribute to the development of the country by involvement in various employments.

For a University, it is crucial to know that its graduates are employable since it is a major criterion of measuring the quality of the University. Thus, employability of the graduates has become a key performance indicator of all the Universities.

As a leading university, University of Kelaniya has realized and identified what the challenges are to achieve a high employability rate in a short period and how the system of the education, curriculum activities and facilities should be prepared.

University Statistics and Data Monitoring Unit annually conducts the Employability of Graduates survey to ensure that the graduates of the University of Kelaniya are employable. This year, 2017, this survey has highlighted several issues to develop the existing curriculum to achieve higher employability than now.

This report consists of the methodology, how the survey was conducted and the results found out from analyzing the responses.



## 2. Methodology

The employability survey was carried out parallel to the convocation of the University. Accordingly, the survey was conducted in two sessions using an online form (Google Forms). Students belonging to the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies and the Faculty of Science were involved in the first session while the students of Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Social Sciences were involved in second session.

The questionnaire (Annexure) was consisted of three main sections, general questions asked about the respondents' profile and degree and questions if the graduate is employed and questions if the graduate is not employed. It was used closed- ended questions in the questionnaire with several open ended questions.

The total graduate output of the University in the year 2017 is 2431 students. And for this survey, 348 graduates (Excluding the students of Faculty of Medicine) have responded in which, approximately 16% <sup>1</sup>of graduates are represented in the sample.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding the output of the Faculty of Medicine University Statistics & Data Monitoring Unit



## 3. Examination Output of the University 2017

In the year 2017, total of 2431 graduates have been passed out from the Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Social Sciences. The following table 1 illustrates the distribution of undergraduate examination output of the University.

| Faculty                                  | Female | Male | Total |
|--|--------|------|-------|
| Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies | 307    | 226  | 533   |
| Faculty of Humanities                    | 334    | 118  | 452   |
| Faculty of Medicine                      | 154    | 66   | 220   |
| Faculty of Science                       | 255    | 175  | 430   |
| Faculty of Social Sciences               | 684    | 112  | 796   |
| Grand Total                              | 1734   | 697  | 2431  |

Table 1: Undergraduate examination output of the University

Out of the 2431 graduates, least (8.5%) have obtained first class honors while the majority of the students have received second class upper divisions (49.6%). When analyzed the class obtained by the graduates by the faculty, it was found that the most of graduates who had gained first class honors belong to the Faculty of Science, while the least are from the Faculty of Medicine. Also, most of the graduates belonging to the Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies and Faculty of Medicine have obtained ordinarily passes. Table 1 and 2 illustrates the classes obtained by the students of each faculty.

| Faculty     | First Class Honors |       | Second Class Upper |       | Second Class Lower |       | econd Class Upper Second Class Lower Ordinary Pass |       | nary Pass |
|-------------|--------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|--|-------|-----------|
| FCMS        | 54                 | 10.1% | 162                | 30.4% | 108                | 20.3% | 209  | 39.2% |           |
| FHU         | 55                 | 12.2% | 223                | 49.3% | 54                 | 11.9% | 120  | 26.5% |           |
| FMED        | 6                  | 2.7%  | 36                 | 16.4% | 62                 | 28.2% | 116  | 52.7% |           |
| FSC         | 61                 | 14.2% | 152                | 35.3% | 73                 | 17.0% | 144  | 33.5% |           |
| FSOSC       | 31                 | 3.9%  | 632                | 79.4% | 42                 | 5.3%  | 91   | 11.4% |           |
| Grand Total | 207                | 8.5%  | 1205               | 49.6% | 339                | 13.9% | 680  | 28.0% |           |

Table 2: Classes obtained by the students of each Faculty- as a percentage



## 4. Profile Analysis

### 4.1. Respondents by Faculty

The respondents of the survey consisted with the graduates of the Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Social Sciences. Following figure shows how the respondents varied across each Faculty.

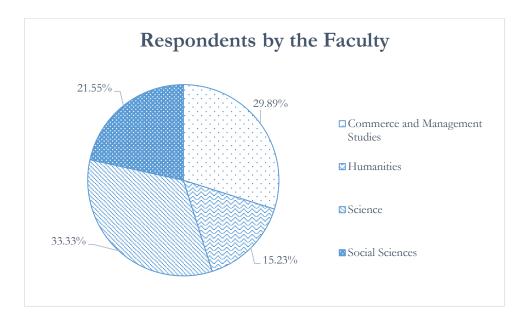


Figure 1: Respondents by the Faculty

According to the figure, the highest number of respondents was to be found from the Faculty of Science while least number of respondents were from the Faculty of Humanities.



## 4.2. Respondents by Gender

A higher percentage of the survey respondents are female graduates while the least are male graduates.

| Faculty                       | Female | Male   |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Commerce & Management Studies | 56.73% | 43.27% |
| Humanities                    | 84.91% | 15.09% |
| Science                       | 63.79% | 36.21% |
| Social Sciences               | 86.67% | 13.33% |
| Grand Total                   | 69.83% | 30.17% |

Table 3: Respondents by Gender

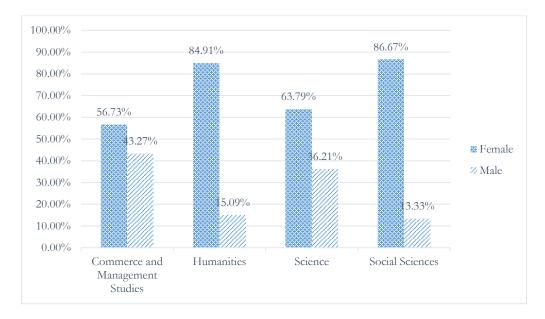


Figure 2: Respondents by Faculty and gender



## 4.3. Respondents by Degree Type

Respondents to this survey were graduates from two types of different undergraduate degree programs. They are, General degree programs (3 years) and Special/ Honors degree programs (4 years). Following figure specifies how the respondents have varied according to the type of degree program.

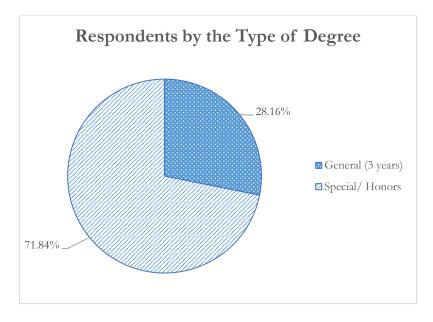


Figure 3: Respondents by the degree type

According to the statistics, most of the respondents had followed a special/ honors degree program.



### 4.4. Respondents by the Class Received

| Faculty                            | First class | Second<br>Upper | Second<br>Lower | Ordinary<br>pass |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Commerce and Management<br>Studies | 12.50%      | 29.81%          | 26.92%          | 30.77%           |
| Humanities                         | 30.19%      | 47.17%          | 3.77%           | 18.87%           |
| Science                            | 22.41%      | 39.66%          | 15.52%          | 22.41%           |
| Social Sciences                    | 4.00%       | 85.33%          | 2.67%           | 8.00%            |
| Grand Total                        | 16.67%      | 47.70%          | 14.37%          | 21.26%           |

The class received by the graduate respondents of this survey is summarized in following table.

Table 4: Respondents by the class received

The majority of the respondents from the Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Social Sciences have obtained second class upper divisions, while the majority of respondents of the Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies have obtained Ordinary passes.

### 4.5. Respondents by the Medium of Instruction

| Medium of Instruction                        | Percent |
|--|---------|
| English                                      | 70.11%  |
| English and Sinhala                          | 15.52%  |
| Sinhala                                      | 4.31%   |
| Other (Chinese, French, German and Japanese) | 10.06%  |
| Grand Total                                  | 100.00% |

Table 5: Respondents by the medium of instruction

Most of the respondents have studied in English Medium during the study period. The above table shows the percentage of respondents by the medium of instruction of the degree program.

## 5. Satisfaction About the Facilities Offered

Students responded to a set of questions asked about the degree program, lectures, welfare facilities and other facilities they were offered during the study period. According to the responses of the graduates, it was measured to what extent they agree with the University. The following table summarizes the information generated through the responses.

| Positive statements:   |        |
|--|--------|
| The teaching methods used at university are effective            | 79.75% |
| The learning process is suitable for the current job environment | 77.43% |
| The quality of lecturers/instructors is good                     | 80.41% |
| The lab facilities provided are satisfactory                     | 80.04% |
| The quality of classroom is good                                 | 81.03% |
| The library facilities are satisfactory                          | 96.23% |
| IT facilities are satisfactory                                   | 96.86% |
| Practical knowledge is acquired through course work              | 78.62% |
| Practical training is part of the university education           | 94.91% |
| Research skills are developed during the study period            | 94.92% |
| Negative statements:   |        |
| Learning is mostly done by memorizing the lecture notes          | 78.71% |
| Work load assigned is very high                                  | 77.97% |

Table 6: Satisfaction about the facilities provided

According to the statistics, to a higher extent students agree that the teaching methods, the quality of the lecturers, teaching and learning process and the quality of welfare facilities are satisfactory. Though they agree with the above statements, they mention that the learning was mostly done by memorizing the lecture notes. That is, academic courses should be designed in a way that the self- study methods can be developed. Or in other words, academic members and responsible authorities should be encouraged to motivate undergraduates to understand what they learn and self- study what is taught so that they could learn more than they are taught rather than creating a bunch of graduates who forgets what they learnt when returning from the examination hall. This really impacts on the employability, "the ability to engage in an



employment and to enhance the employment by personal attributes and skills", and the ultimate goal of creating a graduate, the growth of the motherland.

Further, students have highlighted that the workload associated with the degree program is very high. This should be considered in a special way so that it should be clarified that the undergraduates do not study stressed during the University study period.



## 6. Employability

The following table illustrates the percentage of students who are employed or engaged in a volunteer work and the students who are unemployed.

| Employment status      | Percent |
|------------------------|---------|
| Employed               | 78.74%  |
| Engaged as a volunteer | 2.30%   |
| Unemployed             | 18.97%  |
| Grand Total            | 100.00% |

Table 7: Employability

According to this table, approximately four fifths of graduates are employed in any kind of job. And approximately one fifth of graduates is un- employed. Therefore, it can be concluded that the majority of the graduates of the University of Kelaniya are employed and thus, University of Kelaniya holds a better employability status for the year 2017.



#### 6.1. Employability Estimation

In the year of 2017, total of 2211 graduates have been passed out from the internal undergraduate degree programs. And, for this survey, 348 graduates have been responded. Thus,

$$N = 2211$$
 and  $n = 348$ 

Out of the sample of 348 graduates, 282 are employed (employed/ engaged in volunteer service). Thus,

$$r = 282$$

The sample proportion of employed graduates are,

$$p = \frac{282}{348} = 0.81$$

Sample proportion is an unbiased estimator for the population proportion. Thus, population proportion of employed graduates are,

$$\hat{P} = p = 0.81$$

The variance of the population proportion estimator is,

$$Var(P) = \frac{p(1-p)}{n-1}$$
$$Var(P) = 0.00044$$

Therefore, the 95% Confidence interval for population proportion of employed graduates are,

$$p \pm \left( Z_{\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n-1}} + \frac{1}{2n} \right)$$

$$(0.78, 0.84)$$

Thus, there is a 95% probability that the population graduate employability of 2017 may lie between 78% to 84%. That is, out of 2211 graduates, a number between 1725 to 1857 may employ by now.



## 6.2. Employability by Faculty

Faculty wise distribution of employability reveals that the higher employability rate is reported from the Faculty of Science. The Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies and Faculty of Humanities records the second and the third employability rates respectively. However, the lowest employability rate is reported from the Faculty of Social Sciences.

| Employment status      | Faculty |        |        | Overall |        |
|------------------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
|                        | FCMS    | FHU    | FSC    | FSOSC   | Overan |
| Employed               | 80.77%  | 73.58% | 88.79% | 64.00%  | 78.74% |
| Engaged as a volunteer | 1.92%   | 5.66%  | 0.00%  | 4.00%   | 2.30%  |
| Unemployed             | 17.31%  | 20.75% | 11.21% | 32.00%  | 18.97% |

Table 8: Employability by Faculty

It should be taken into account that the graduates from the Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Social Sciences have highest rate of volunteer services.

### 6.3. Employability by Gender

In 2017, total of 2211 (two thousand two hundred and eleven) graduates have been passed out from the main stream and repeat stream. Out of 2211 graduates 1580 students are female while the remaining 631 students are males. The following figure illustrates that nearly three fourth of graduates are females.

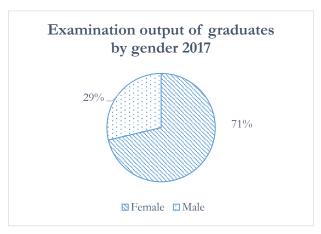


Figure 4: Examination output of graduates by gender



| Employment status      | Female | Male   | Overall |
|------------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| Employed               | 76.13% | 84.76% | 78.74%  |
| Engaged as a volunteer | 2.06%  | 2.86%  | 2.30%   |
| Unemployed             | 21.81% | 12.38% | 18.97%  |

Table 9: Employability by gender

Out of the female graduates approximately 76% are employed and of the male graduates, more than 80% are employed. Thus, comparatively, male graduates tend to have employment than female graduates.

When breakdown gender- wise employability with each Faculty, it was found that, in the Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Medicine, female graduates reports higher employability rate than male graduates. Following table shows the Faculty- level breakdown of gender- wise employability.

| Employment             | FC     | MS     | FF     | HU     | FS     | SC     | FSC    | DSC    |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Status                 | F      | Μ      | F      | М      | F      | Μ      | F      | Μ      |
| Employed               | 77.97% | 84.44% | 77.78% | 50.00% | 85.14% | 95.24% | 63.08% | 70.00% |
| Engaged as a volunteer | 1.69%  | 2.22%  | 2.22%  | 25.00% |        |        | 4.62%  |        |
| Unemployed             | 20.34% | 13.33% | 20.00% | 25.00% | 14.86% | 4.76%  | 32.31% | 30.00% |

Table 10: Employability by faculty and by gender



### 6.4. Employability by Class Received

Among the 2431 graduates passed out in the year 2017, only 8.5% have obtained first class honors. And the majority of students have received second class upper divisions, while the graduates with ordinary passes are higher than that of the graduates with second class lower division. Following figure shows the distribution of class obtained among the graduates of 2017.

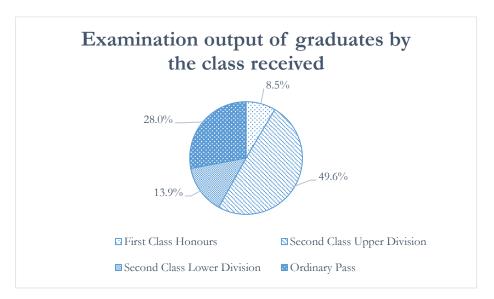


Figure 5: Examination output of the graduates by the class received

| Employment Status      | First class | Second Upper | Second Lower | Ordinary pass |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Employed               | 89.66%      | 72.29%       | 78.00%       | 85.14%        |
| Engaged as a volunteer | 1.72%       | 3.01%        | 2.00%        | 1.35%         |
| Unemployed             | 8.62%       | 24.70%       | 20.00%       | 13.51%        |

Table 11: Employability by the class received

The statistics shown in above table reveals that, in 2017, students with first class honors have higher employability than others and however, students with second class upper division have the lowest employability among all.



## 7. Type of Employment

Out of the respondents, most of the graduates are employed in the private sector organizations and the least are engaged in foreign employments. It is highlighted that, significant percent are working in Universities as temporary University staff.

| Employment Type                  | Percent |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Foreign Employment               | 1.05%   |
| Private Sector                   | 66.55%  |
| Public Sector Other              | 5.28%   |
| Public Sector Teaching           | 3.17%   |
| Self- employed/ Entrepreneurship | 1.06%   |
| Semi- Government                 | 3.52%   |
| University Staff (Temporary)     | 19.37%  |
| Grand Total                      | 100%    |

Table 12: Type of employment

| Employment Type                  | FCMS   | FHU    | FSC    | FSOSC  | Overall |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Foreign Employment               | 0.00%  | 4.54%  | 0.00%  | 1.96%  | 1.05%   |
| Private Sector                   | 89.53% | 43.18% | 65.05% | 50.98% | 66.55%  |
| Public Sector Teaching           | 1.16%  | 9.09%  | 1.94%  | 3.92%  | 3.17%   |
| Public Sector Other              | 3.49%  | 4.55%  | 4.85%  | 9.80%  | 5.28%   |
| University Staff (Temporary)     | 1.16%  | 31.82% | 25.24% | 27.45% | 19.37%  |
| Semi- Government                 | 4.65%  | 4.55%  | 1.94%  | 3.92%  | 3.52%   |
| Self- employed/ Entrepreneurship | 0.00%  | 2.27%  | 0.97%  | 1.96%  | 1.06%   |

Table 13: Type of employment by faculty

When compared to the employment sector of each Faculty, it was found that the highest percentage of graduates who work in the private sector are from the Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies (89.53%). And the least were recorded from the Faculty of Humanities (43.18%).



Analysis reveals that, male graduates work in private sector than female graduates. Also, it can be highlighted that, there are more male graduate employees engaged as entrepreneurs than female graduate entrepreneurs.

| Employment Type                  | Female | Male   |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Foreign Employment               | 1.57%  | 0%     |
| Private Sector                   | 61.78% | 76.34% |
| Public Sector Teaching           | 3.66%  | 2.15%  |
| Public Sector Other              | 5.76%  | 4.30%  |
| University Staff (Temporary)     | 23.04% | 11.83% |
| Semi- Government                 | 3.67%  | 3.23%  |
| Self- employed/ Entrepreneurship | 0.52%  | 2.15%  |

Table 14: Type of employment by gender



## 8. Gross Monthly Salary

In general, most of the employed graduates of the University of Kelaniya are salaried between Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 40,000. And there are approximately 7% of graduates who earn over Rs. 80,000.

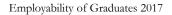
| Gross Monthly Salary | Percent |
|----------------------|---------|
| Less than 20,000     | 9.29%   |
| 20,000 - 40,000      | 52.50%  |
| 40,000 - 60,000      | 26.79%  |
| 60,000 - 80,000      | 4.64%   |
| Above 80,000         | 6.79%   |
| Grand Total          | 100.00% |

Table 15: Gross monthly salary

According to the responses, when compared the statistics between each Faculty it was found that, among the four faculties, more graduates belonging to the Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies earn less that Rs. 20,000 than the other faculties. Also, the majority of the graduates of the same faculty earn salary in between Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 40,000.

| Gross Monthly Salary | FCMS   | FHU    | FSC    | FSOSC  |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Less than 20,000     | 13.95% | 7.14%  | 5.83%  | 10.20% |
| 20,000 - 40,000      | 62.79% | 40.48% | 49.51% | 51.02% |
| 40,000 - 60,000      | 15.12% | 38.10% | 29.13% | 32.65% |
| 60,000 - 80,000      | 3.49%  | 0.00%  | 7.77%  | 4.08%  |
| Above 80,000         | 4.65%  | 14.29% | 7.77%  | 2.04%  |

Table 16: Gross monthly salary by faculty





| Gross Monthly Salary | Female | Male   |
|----------------------|--------|--------|
| Less than 20,000     | 9.04%  | 9.78%  |
| 20,000 - 40,000      | 57.98% | 41.30% |
| 40,000 - 60,000      | 24.47% | 31.52% |
| 60,000 - 80,000      | 3.19%  | 7.61%  |
| Above 80,000         | 5.32%  | 9.78%  |

Graduates from the Faculty of Humanities, earn over Rs. 80,000 more than that of the other faculty. Above table illustrates the distribution of salary among each faculty.

Table 17: Gross monthly salary by gender

The above table illustrates that most of female graduate employees are having salary below Rs. 60,000 while most of the male graduate employees are having salary over Rs. 60, 000. Thus, it can be concluded that, in general, male graduates have a tendency to have higher salaries than female graduates.



# 9. Important things to secure the job as mentioned by graduates

Respondents of this survey answered to a question asked about the skills which is needed to gain and secure a job. More than 90% of respondents has agreed that soft skills possessing have a great impact on employment.

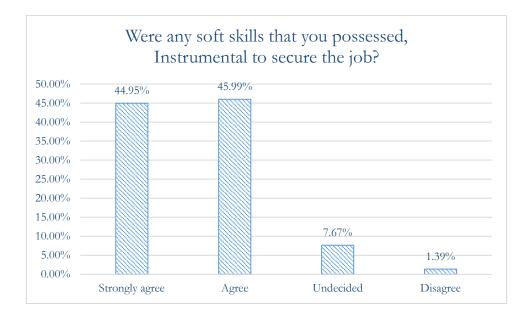
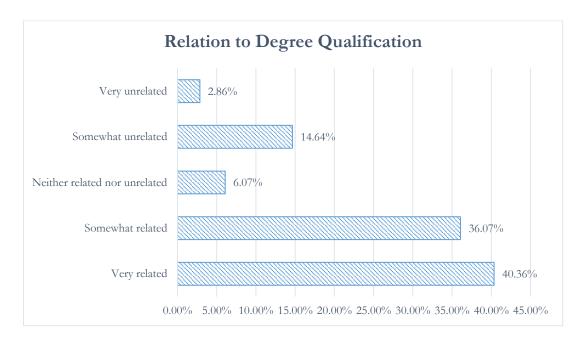


Figure 6: Responses to the question "Were any soft skills that you possessed, Instrumental to secure the job?"

Respondents have stated that communication skills along with English language proficiency is highly important to get and secure an employment. Also, leadership skills, presentation skills are influential in employability. Additionally, professional qualifications other than the degree and research experiences are also instrumental in securing a job. Class obtained, Field of study, subject knowledge and interpersonal skills and personality is also important for employability as stated by the respondents.





## 10. Relation to field of study and current employment

Figure 7: Relation to Degree Qualification

As shown in above figure, most of the respondents stated that their current employment is related to their degree qualification. Only about 15% of respondents had stated that they are involved in jobs which are unrelated to their degree qualification.

Most of the respondents who stated their current employment is unrelated to their degree qualification has mentioned that they have selected that job because they were unable find a job related to their field of study. Also, some have stated that the remuneration package is small for the jobs related to their degree qualifications. Some graduates are doing jobs which are related to their professional qualifications.



## 11. Discussion and Conclusion

Employability is one of the most explicit reflections of the quality of education of a University. On the other hand, employability influences the popularity of the institution. As long as the employability of graduates of the University of Kelaniya is high the growth and the development of the university is unavoidable.

In 2017, total of 2211 graduates have been passed out and among them 81% of graduates have been employed after a year passed since their results released. About 60% of employed graduates are working in the private sector and on average, most of them are earning around Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 60,000. Most of the students who are unemployed, states that they are unemployed since the lack of experiences they got and due to the reduced linkage with industries. However, by seeing the comments of the responses, some of the graduates have received job opportunities which are not suitable to the qualifications they proceed.

To overcome the problems associated with not having a proper employment, students have suggested and commented about the experiences they had during their study period. Most of the students are like to have an industrial training during their university period. According to their point of view the need a 6-12 moths training. Though some students already have internship programs, they suggest to increase the training period and they ask for compulsory the industrial training to be graduated. The experience gain through the training period would be helpful for the students to find a job after the graduation immediately. The students are requiring a more practical knowledge which is relevant to the industrial sector and also they are asking new job oriented degree programs and update the existing programs.

Students are willing to have career guidance programs to improve their soft skills and the skills what industry expect. Create a proper pathway to help the graduates understand the opportunities available in the job market and also the graduates who were not finding comfort over their job and also after their graduation they need some sort of a query process or questions and answer process between the students and lecturers via internet to further guidance to find a job.

The graduates greatly appreciate if the university can encourage the students to improve their soft skills and English language during their university period to compete with students who pass out from private universities. Especially they want to be fluent in English and Information Technology.



According to the ideas of the graduates, conducting workshops for graduates in collaboration with private or public sector employers is much important to get an idea about the job market. They think that when Compared to the most of other leading state universities, University of Kelaniya has a very few MOU between the top companies. It is better to develop a platform for coordinating with private sector job opportunities via MOU. Most respondents need to have the convocation immediately to be stable in the job market. Some students are expecting a final support to start a new own business.



### Annexure

## Estimate of Employability

| <i>N</i> = 2211  | Eq 1: Population Size                                   |
|--|---|
| <i>n</i> = 348   | Eq 2: Sample Size                                       |
| r = 282  | Eq 3: Number of graduates who are employed              |
| $p = \frac{r}{n} = \frac{282}{348} = 0.81$   | Eq 4: Sample proportion                                 |
| $\hat{P} = p = 0.81$   | Eq 5: Estimator for population proportion               |
| $Var(P) = \frac{p(1-p)}{n-1} = 0.00044$  | Eq 6: Variance for proportion estimator                 |
| 95% Confidence interval for P: $p \pm \left(Z_{\frac{\alpha}{2}}\sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n-1}} + \frac{1}{2n}\right)$ | Eq 7: 95% confidence interval for population proportion |

(0.78,0.84)



## Questionnaire

## **Employability Study of Graduates - 2017**

This questionnaire is used to collect the employability data of graduates of the University of Kelaniya.

Please complete the questionnaire and help improve and reform the quality of higher education in the university. The estimated time to complete this questionnaire is less than 15 minutes. Note that your answers are anonymous and that they will be protected by the law.

This survey is conducted by the University Statistics & Data Monitoring Unit, University of Kelaniya. For inquiries, contact us on <u>statunit@kln.ac.lk</u>



#### \*Required

1). Gender Mark only one oval.

| $\supset$ | Male   |
|-----------|--------|
| $\supset$ | Female |

2). Ethnicity Mark only one oval.

|   |           | Sinhala |
|---|-----------|---------|
| ( | $\supset$ | Tamil   |

- ) Muslim
- Burgher
  - Other
- 3). Faculty \* Mark only one oval.
  - Humanities

Social Sciences

## Degree type and Subjects:

Please indicate your degree type, and your subjects of specialization or the name of the Degree

4 4.1) Degree type? \* Mark only one oval.

General (3 years)

Special/ Honors



#### 4.2) If General, please specify the name of your degree

Ex: Bachelor of Arts

#### 4.3) If Special, please specify the area of specialization

Please type the subject in the space

#### 5). Medium of instruction \* Mark only one oval.

| $\bigcirc$ | English |
|------------|---------|
|            |         |

- 🔵 Sinhala
- ) Tamil
- \_\_\_\_ English and Sinhala
- \_\_\_\_ English and Tamil
  - ) Other

#### 6). Class received \* Mark only one oval.

First class
Second Upper
Second Lower
General pass

#### 7). Please indicate your English Language Proficiency Mark only one oval per row.



#### 8). How Computer literate are you? (Tick all that applies) Tick all that apply.

- Have not used a computer
- Comfortable browsing the web
- Use e-mail regularly
- Use social media
- Able to use Microsoft Office package
- \_\_\_\_\_ Use the computer to search for jobs
- Able to write computer programs



#### 9). What is the highest level of education achieved by either your father/mother or

guardian? Tick all that apply.

| Less than G.C.E.O/L            |
|--------------------------------|
| Passed G.C.E. O/L              |
| Passed G.C.E. A/L              |
| Degree or Equivalent or higher |
| Not known                      |
| Other:                         |
|                                |

## **Undergraduate Studies**

# Were you involved in any of the following during your University years?

#### 10.1 Extra-Curricular Activities Tick all that apply.

- Sports
- Active member of Students' Associations/Unions (Student Unions, AISEC, Gavel, etc.) I
- did not participate in any extra- curricular activities

#### 10.2 Vocational Training/ Internships Mark only one oval.

| $\supset$ | Yes |
|-----------|-----|
| $\supset$ | No  |

(

#### 10.3 Certificate courses offered by the University Mark only one oval.

Yes No



#### 11). To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

Mark only one oval per row.

| 2 1  |                   |                   |            |                      |                      |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|  | Strongly<br>Agree | Somewhat<br>agree | Undicied   | Somewhat<br>disagree | Strongly<br>Disagree |
| Teaching methods used at<br>university are effective           | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| Learning process is<br>suitable for current job<br>environment | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| The quality of<br>lecturers/instructors is<br>good             | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| The lab facilities provided<br>are satisfactory                | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| The quality of class room<br>is good                           | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| The library facilities are<br>satisfactory                     | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| IT facilities are satisfactory                                 | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| Practical knowledge is<br>acquired through course<br>work      | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| Practical training is part of<br>the university education      | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| Research skills are<br>developed during the<br>study period    | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| Learning is mostly done by<br>memorizing the lecture<br>notes  | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |
| Work load assigned is<br>very high                             | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$        | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$           | $\bigcirc$           |

# Do you possess any qualification other than degree completed at the University of Kelaniya?

12.1). Do you have any professional qualification? Mark only one oval.



12.2 If YES, please specify your qualification?

## Employability

13). What is your current employment status? \* Mark only one oval.

Employed

- ) Unemployed
- Engaged as a volunteer





# If you are still unemployed answer question 14 and move to section 5 and 6

## 14). If you are still UNEMPLOYED, please state the reason (Tick more than one if

| <b>relevant)</b> Tick all that apply |
|--------------------------------------|
|--------------------------------------|

| Lack of work experience  |
|--|
| Lack of communication skill  |
| Lack of linkage with employers   |
| I would like to continue my further studies                            |
| I am not interested in working due to personal reasons                 |
| I am preparing to start an own business                                |
| I received job offers which do not meet my qualifications/expectations |
| Other:   |

# Details about employment (If you are unemployed skip this section)

15). Type of employment Mark only one oval.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Full Time
- Part Time

16). Which sector are you employed in? Mark only one oval.

- University staff
- \_\_\_\_\_ Private sector
- \_\_\_\_\_ Public sector, teaching
- \_\_\_\_\_ Public sector, Other
- \_\_\_\_\_\_ Self- employed
  - ) Semi government sector
- \_) Other:

17). Name of the organization you are currently employed in?

### 18). Please state your position (Designation)?



19). What is your current gross monthly salary (Rs.)? Mark only one oval.

Less than 20,000
 20,000 - 40,000
 40,000 - 60,000
 60,000 - 80,000
 Above 80,000

# How long did it take to find your first employment after completing the degree?

#### 20.1 Months:

20.2 Timing of the employment Mark only one oval.

After releasing the results

After sitting the final exam

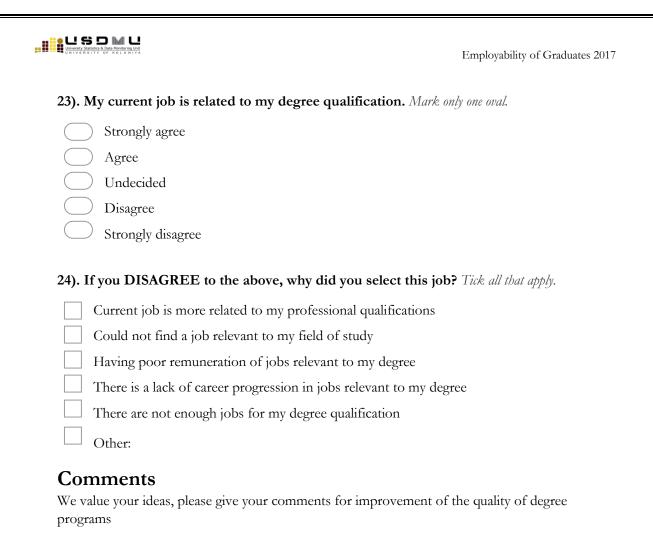
During the University period

**21).** Were any soft skills that you possessed, Instrumental to secure the job? *Mark only one oval.* 

- Strongly agree
- ) Agree
- Undecided
- ) Disagree
- Strongly disagree

## 22). If you AGREE to above question, which of the soft skills were most instrumental (Tick ONLY THE ONE most appropriate.) *Mark only one oval.*

- English language
- Communication Skills
- Presentation skills
- \_\_\_\_\_ Leadership Skills
- Other:



25. What do you think could be done to facilitate the first employment after graduation?

#### 26. Any other comments

## Annual Employability Tracer Survey

#### Would you like to join the annual survey about Employability study of Graduates?

Annual Survey on Employment of Graduates of University of Kelaniya is conducted by the University Statistics and Data Monitoring Unit, University of Kelaniya. *Mark only one oval.* 

|   | ) | Yes |
|---|---|-----|
| _ |   | No  |

If YES, please insert your e-mail address:

## Thank you!







## **EMPLOYABILITY 2017**

A STUDY ON THE GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA University Statistics & Data Monitoring Unit



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