School of Information Career Survey 2008

The School of Information annually conducts a survey of the students’ post graduation status. The report includes information pertaining to the students’ specialization during their studies, the classification of what type of job they accepted, their profile before starting at the School of Information, their career search process and timing, job sector and industry, the companies they will work at and its location, and salary information.

Of the 31 students that completed their studies by the end of May 2008, 22 provided information regarding their employment status as of two weeks after graduation. The results showed:

- 13 had accepted a full-time, career position
- 3 were planning to start their own company (all respondents were starting the company together)
- 3 had not yet found full-time employment or were working temporarily
- 3 were continuing with their education

### Specialization at the I School

![Specialization Chart]

*Primary Focus at the I School (n=17)*

*Closest match to current job (n=16)*

### Completed the MOT (Management of Technology Program)

Yes: 35%; No: 65% (n = 20)

### Career Search Methods and Timing

The three main methods used while searching for employment were the UCB Campus Career Fair, networking with friends, and the I School specific Career Fair. Other common methods included specific resources provided at the School of Information (including the I School jobs listserv and networking with Faculty, Staff and Alumni). Several students also chose to utilize an outside online career site.

The main method that students cited as being responsible for the job they eventually chose was the UCB Campus career fair. Other notable mentions included their former job/internship site and friends.
A majority of the respondents began their job search in the Fall of their second year of the program. On average, it took approximately two to four months to secure a job. Two respondents reported receiving an offer immediately after a summer internship with their employer.

The average number of jobs the students applied for was between 5 - 6 (with a range between 0 – 15), with most students being invited for 3 or 4 interviews. This figure includes multiple interviews at the same company for the initial, same position.

The average number of job offers was 4.

**Job Sector and Industry**
An estimated 75% of the students who secured a position indicated they would be working in the private sector. Two respondents reported they would be in an Academic setting. There was one respondent each for a Non-Profit and a Public Company.

All respondents reported they would work in the Technology or Software sector. However, one respondent specified they would be working in the Technology department of a financial institution.

**Job Titles**
The actual Job Titles varied. They included Analyst, Associate, Development Engineer, Chief Software Architect, Cofounder, Software Developer, Interaction Designer, Project Management Business Analyst, QA Engineer, Senior Product Manager, Software Developer, Software Engineer, Software Development Engineer, User Experience Designer, and User Interface Engineer.

**Companies and Location**
A vast majority of the respondents (76%) elected to stay in the California Bay Area (including Berkeley, Cupertino, Mountain View, Redwood City, San Francisco, and Santa Clara). Other cities included Boston, Berlin, New York, and Somerville, MA. The companies or organizations at which students accepted offers included: Alexandria Archive Institute, Apple, Inc., Goldman Sachs, MySpace, Oracle, Popcuts (self-started company), Salesforce, Splunk, UC Berkeley, Watercooler, and Yahoo! Inc.

Additional companies from which students reported receiving offers, but chose to decline, included CISCO, Frogmetrics, George Mason University, Infosys, Internet Archive, KPMG, and Protiviti.

**Salary Information**
The range of salaries reported was $35,000 - $106,000, with the average being $84,077 (n = 13, median = $90,000). Before negotiations, the average initial salary offer was $85,750.

Students with more significant and relevant work experience (between 4 - 7 years) showed a salary increase ranging from $5,000 - $39,000. One respondent with 4 years of relevant work experience had a $58,000 salary increase. None of the respondents reported a salary decrease after their studies at the I School.

A vast majority of the respondents also reported receiving other benefits including health insurance coverage, yearly performance bonuses, stock options, and retirement benefits. 50% reported receiving a signing bonus and yearly bonus, while 31% received moving expenses.

**Student Profiles Prior to the School of Information**
- **Average Salary**: $57,000 (n = 11, median = $58,000, range between $12,000 - $91,000)
- **Average Number of Years of Professional Experience in the Industry**: 4.17 years (range between 0 - 7 years)
- **Professional Industry**: A majority of the students (approximately 40%) reported that they were in the technology or software development sector. Three respondents were previously employed in Academia. There was only one respondent for each of the following industries: Arts Education, Consulting, Government Science Research, and Insurance.