

2005 Master of Library & Information Science Placement Survey

FACULTY OF INFORMATION AND MEDIA STUDIES

The University of Western Ontario



**2005 Placement Survey of MLIS Graduates
Faculty of Information and Media Studies
The University of Western Ontario**

SUMMARY

Of the 128 students who graduated from the Master of Library and Information Science program in 2005, 47 completed the placement survey. This represents an overall response rate of 36.7%.

Note: The majority of statistics that follow in this report (e.g. type of employment, location, etc.) pertain to those respondents who reported finding employment.

Placement Rate

Of the 47 respondents, 39 reported finding employment. This represents an 83% placement rate. Nearly 95% of employed respondents reported working in positions related to the MLIS degree. The majority of graduates are employed in full-time positions (74%), most in permanent positions (62%).

Types of Placement and Job Assignment

Graduates accepted positions in many different types of organizations, the most common being public libraries (26%) and university or college libraries (21%). The most common primary job assignment reported was reference or information services (29%).

Salary

Graduates holding full-time positions reported an annual salary range from \$31,200 to \$70,000. The median full-time salary was \$44,500.

Location of Placement

All employed respondents reported being employed within Canada, with the majority located in Ontario (89%).

Length of Job Search

Approximately 60% of employed respondents reported finding employment within three months of completing the degree, including 11 students who secured positions prior to graduation. Nearly 90% of employed respondents had secured employment within six months of graduation.

Skill or Knowledge Most Influential in Securing Employment

Nearly half of respondents (42%) identified subject specialization as the skill or knowledge that was most helpful in securing employment. Co-op experience was cited second, by 26% of respondents.

SURVEY DATA

Total Number of Survey Respondents: 47

Table 1: Gender		
	No.	%
Female	27	69.2%
Male	12	30.8%
	39	100.0%

Table 2: Employment Status		
	No.	%
Full-Time	35	74.5%
Part-Time	4	8.5%
Not Employed	8	17.0%
	47	100.0%

Table 3: Relation of Employment to MLIS Degree		
	No.	%
Yes (Related)	37	94.9%
No (Not Related)	2	5.1%
	39	100.0%

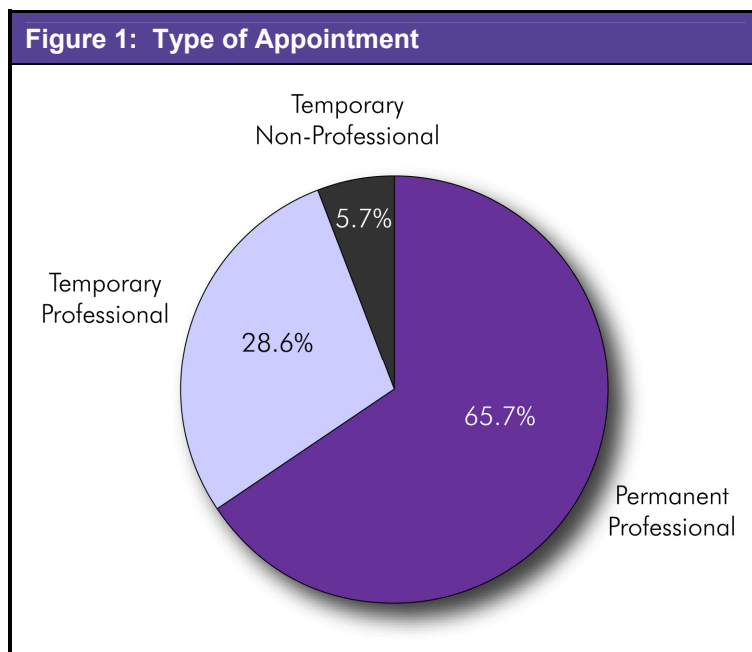


Table 4: Type of Organization		
	No.	%
University or College Library	8	21.1%
Government Library	5	13.2%
Public Library	10	26.3%
Special Library	3	7.9%
School Library	1	2.6%
Archives	1	2.6%
Library Cooperative/Network	1	2.6%
*Other (please specify)	9	23.7%
	38	100.0%

*Other: Hospital (2)
Prospect Research Organization
Corporate Information Management
Library Services Provider (2)
Book Vendor

Table 5: Primary Job Assignment		
	No.	%
Administration/Management	1	2.6%
Archives	1	2.6%
Cataloguing	5	13.2%
Collections	2	5.3%
Marketing, Outreach, Public Relations	1	2.6%
Reference/Information Services	11	28.9%
Systems/Network Manager	2	5.3%
Youth and Children's Services	5	13.2%
*Other (please specify)	10	26.3%
	38	100.0%

*Other: Liaison Librarian
Strategic Policy & Planning
Prospect Research (3)
Information/Records Management (2)
Electronic Resources Specialist

Table 6: Employment by a Former Co-op Employer		
	No.	%
Yes	3	7.9%
No	21	55.3%
Not Applicable	14	36.8%
	38	100.0%

Table 7: Reported Full-Time Salaries	
Low Salary	\$31,200
High Salary	\$70,000
Median Salary	\$44,500
Average Salary	\$45,155

Number of respondents who included salary data for a full-time position = 30

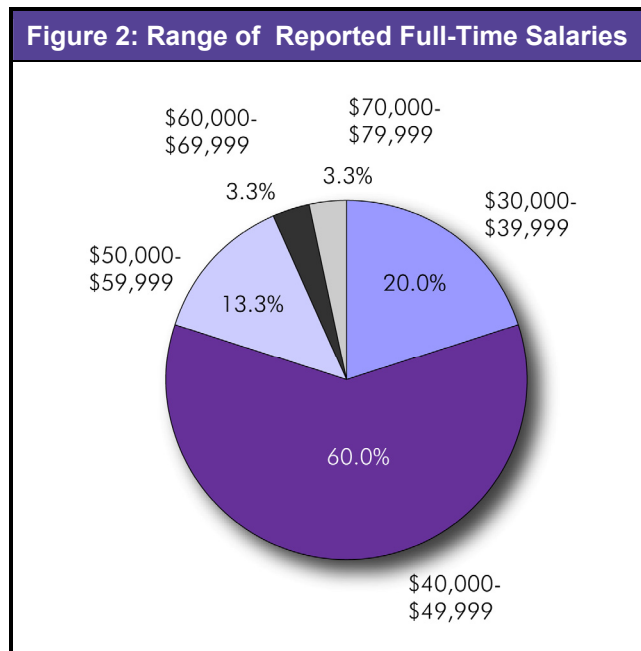


Table 8: Location of Placement		
	No.	%
Ontario	34	89.4%
Alberta	1	2.6%
Nova Scotia	1	2.6%
Saskatchewan	2	5.3%
	38	100.00%

Figure 3: When Employment Was Received

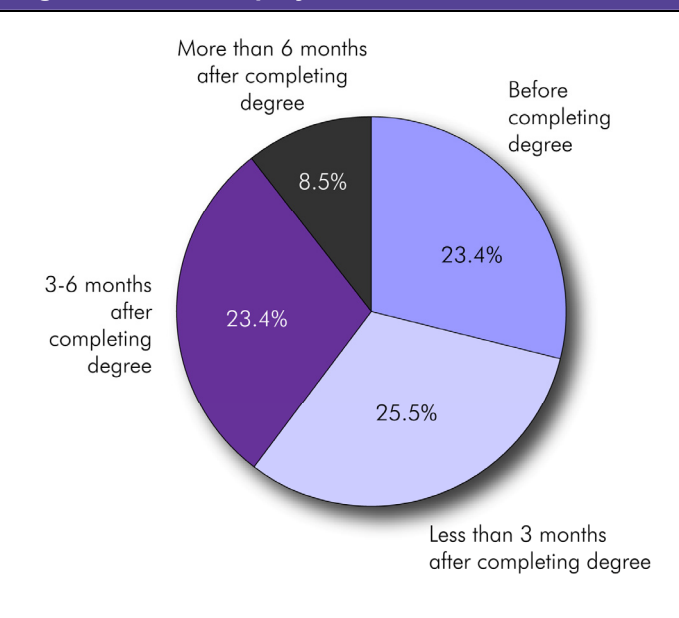


Table 9: Skill or Knowledge Most Influential in Securing Employment

	No.	%
Subject specialization (cataloguing, reference, business, science etc.)	16	42.1%
Type of library environment (academic, public, special, school etc.)	3	7.9%
Technological skills	2	5.3%
Management, marketing, communication skills	6	15.8%
Co-op experience	10	26.3%
Other	1	2.6%
	38	100.0%

Table 10: Situation of Graduates Currently Not Employed in a Library / Information Field

	No.	%
Working in another field	2	22.2%
Seeking employment in the LIS field	4	44.5%
Further study	3	33.3%
	9	100.00%