



Post School Education and Training (PSET) Tracer Study on 2005 & 2006 Graduates

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION	pg 2
2.	PURPOSE OF THE STUDY	pg 2
3.	METHODOLOGY	pg 2
4.	OUTCOMES OF THE STUDY	pg 5
	4.1 Major findings of the study	pg 6
	4.2 Employers of PSET graduates	pg 6
	4.3 Duration for graduates to find employment	pg 7
	4.4 How graduates obtained employment	pg 7
	4.5 Graduates perception of relevance of PSET training to graduate employment	pg 8
	4.6 Graduates pursuing further education (Higher Qualifications)	pg 8
	4.7 Graduate perception on obtaining employment	pg 9
5.	LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY	pg 10
6.	CONCLUSION	pg 10
7.	RECOMMENDATIONS	pg 11

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 - SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE	pg 12
APPENDIX 2 - GRADUATES RESPONSES	pg 14

1. Introduction

As part of the Samoa Qualifications Authority's (SQA) on-going research activities on the Post School Education and Training (PSET) sub sector, the HRD Policy Division within the SQA decided to conduct a tracer study based upon findings from an earlier research conducted by the Authority in 2006.

The findings from the earlier research on initial data collection from PSET Providers highlighted that the majority of providers do not conduct proper tracers on their graduates. As such, this study was initiated.

2. Purpose of the PSET Tracer Study

This tracer study investigates the whereabouts of graduates that had completed their training/studies for the years 2005 and 2006 from seven (7) selected PSET Institutions.

The main objectives of the Tracer Study are:

- *To assess the employment status of the graduate students from selected PSET Institutions for the years 2005 and 2006;*
- *To assess the impact of training from the selected PSET providers on job appointments; and*
- *To assess how graduates in employment perceive their PSET provider in relation to their academic and professional development.*

3. Methodology of the Tracer Study

(a) Seven (7) PSET providers were approached through a formal letter for possible participation in the study. The letter explained the purpose of the study, the methodology that would be used to conduct the study and the benefit each Institution would receive through documented feedback obtained from their graduates if they agreed to participate.

The Providers approached for the study are as follows:

1. Laumua o Punaoa Technical Center
2. Don Bosco Technical Center
3. Leulumoega Fou School of Fine Arts
4. Tesese Institute of Administrative Studies
5. Pacific International Uni-Tech

6. The National University of Samoa (Institutes of Higher Education & Institute of Technology);
and
7. The University of the South Pacific (School of Agriculture – Alafua Campus).

All of the Providers agreed to take part in the study. However, it should be noted that the study will only cover six (6) PSETs as information requested from the last Provider was not forthcoming during the time the analysis took place.

- (b) Through follow up by the HRD Policy Division, the PSET providers were then asked to provide contact details of their 2005 and 2006 graduates from the selected programs each PSET offered. Random samples of students under each of the selected programs were to be taken and then those targeted were to be contacted and approached via telephone by the Division regarding the second phase of the study.

The selected programs under each PSET are as follows:

i) Laumua o Punaoa Technical Center:

- Certificates in Food and Nutrition Technology – 2005
- Certificate in Textile and Garment Construction – 2005
- Certificate in Textile and Garment Construction – 2006
- Certificate in Welding and Fabrication – 2005
- Certificate in Welding and Fabrication – 2006
- Certificate in Electrical Equipment – 2005
- Certificate in Electrical Equipment – 2006

ii) Don Bosco Technical Center:

- Certificate in Carpentry and Joinery (Specialized Program) – 2005
- Certificate in Carpentry and Joinery (Specialized Program) – 2006
- Certificate in Metal Fabrication (Specialised Program) – 2005
- Certificate in Metal Fabrication (Specialised Program) – 2006

iii) Leulumoega Fou School of Fine Arts:

- Diploma of Fine Arts – 2005
- Diploma of Fine Arts – 2006
- Advanced Certificate in Fine Arts – 2006
- Certificate in Fine Arts - 2006

iv) Tesese Institute of Administrative Studies:

- Certificate in Computing and Office Skills – 2005
- Certificate in Reception and Customer Service – 2006
- Diploma of Computing – 2005
- Diploma of Computing – 2006

v) Pacific International Uni-Tech:

- Certificate in Clerical Computing – 2006
- Certificate in Office Administration – 2006
- Certificate in Networking Technology – 2006
- Certificate in Business Studies (Accounting) – 2005
- Certificate in Business Studies (Accounting) - 2006

vi) The National University of Samoa - Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) & Institute of Technology (IOT):** Institute of Higher Education:**

- Certificate in Commerce (Accounting, Management, Economics, Banking & Finance, Marketing) – 2005 & 2006
- Diploma of Commerce (Accounting, Management, Economics, Banking & Finance) – 2005 & 2006
- Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting, Management, Economics) – 2005 & 2006

 Institute of Technology:

- Certificate in Tourism and Hospitality – 2005 & 2006
- Diploma of Tourism and Hospitality – 2005 & 2006
- Diploma of Business Studies – 2006 (new program – introduced in 2006)

- Diploma of Secretarial Studies – 2005 & 2006
- Certificate in Tropical Horticulture – 2005 & 2006
- Intermediate Certificate in Refrigeration & Air-conditioning – 2005 & 2006
- Intermediate Certificate in Welding and Fabrication – 2005 & 2006
- Certificate of Full Technology in Plumbing and Sheet-metal – 2005 & 2006

(c) Upon receiving the graduates' names and contact details from the Providers, it was found that some PSETs were not able to give contacts for their students at all.

Hence, the Division abandoned the random sampling method and decided to contact all those graduates with telephone contacts submitted with the objective of obtaining as many respondents as possible.

(d) Of the graduates that were managed to be contacted by telephone, the purpose of the study was explained to them and those whom agreed to take part for the second phase of the study were interviewed via a designed questionnaire that was approved by the SQA team.

(e) The information received from those graduates agreeing to partake in the study was recorded, compiled and analyzed accordingly.

4. Outcomes of the Tracer Study

The total number of graduate contacts provided by the six (6) Post School Education and Training Providers was 595. From this number, 463 students were able to be traced. This equates to 78% of the total target group of 595.

From the 463 students that were able to be traced, 445 students agreed to participate in the study and responded to the questionnaire. This is the equivalent of 75% of the total target group and 96% of those that were able to be traced. Eighteen (18) students from the 463 traced did not respond to the questionnaire after being approached twice by the Division, equivalent to 3% of the total target group and 4% of those able to be traced. Box 1 that follows summarizes these major findings.

4.1 Major findings from the Tracer Study

Box 1 – An overview of main findings in numbers:

Total target group (total no. submitted by PSETs)	595 graduates
Traced students (those identified and located)	463 graduates
Students that responded to questionnaires	445 graduates
Students that did not respond to questionnaire	18 graduates
<i>Of the respondents:</i>	
Number of graduates who are employed	344 graduates
Number of graduates who are unemployed	42 graduates
Number of graduates continuing education	59 graduates

For the purpose of the study, responses from only those graduates who are employed are addressed in the tables that follow.

4.2 Employers of graduates

Table 1 shows the various types of organizations that have employed these PSET graduates.

Table 1: Employers of PSET Graduates

Employment Provider	Number of Graduates Employed	% of the Total Respondents
Government Ministries	38	11%
Government Corporations	67	19%
NGOs	4	1%
Companies / Private Sector	206	60%
Regional / International Organisations	5	2%
Churches	16	5%
PSET Providers	8	2%
TOTAL	344	100%

As can be seen from Table 1, the private sector is the leading employer of graduates of PSET providers that have responded to the survey. This accounts for 60% of the total number. Government corporations are ranked second with 19% while government ministries rank third with 11%. In addition, 86% relayed that their current job is the first one they have held upon graduating from a PSET provider while 14% relayed they had changed jobs since graduation.

4.3 Duration for graduates to find employment

The graduates were also asked how long it took them to find a job. Table 2 below displays their responses.

Table 2: Duration for graduates to find a Job

2 – 3 Weeks	1 – 6 Months	Straight After Graduation	Work & Study
33 students	184 students	39 students	88 students

As indicated in Table 2, the majority of graduates were able to find jobs between 1 and 6 months after graduation. This accounted for over half (i.e. 53%) of the total number of graduates employed. The second largest group of respondents worked and studied at the same time (i.e. 26%), 11% found employment straight after graduation and 10% relayed that it took them less than a month to look for work.

4.4 How graduates obtained employment

Table 3 below shows the source from which graduates were able to obtain job appointments.

Table 3: Job sources where graduate obtained job appointments.

Job source	Number of Graduates	% of Graduates
Through a PSET Provider	0	0%
Through school work attachment or direct approach from an employer	32	9%
Through a direct approach to an employer	44	13%
Through family or friend's contact	35	10%
From answering a newspaper / radio / TV advertisement	127	37%
Through Government sponsoring of the course	8	2%
Work & study at the same time	88	26%
Others (PSC Circulars)	10	3%
Total	344	100

Table 3 reveals that the majority of students sought employment through the newspapers and radio and secondly through a direct approach to an employer. A few received jobs through family or friends while none responded to TV advertisements or were assisted through the Providers themselves.

4.5 Graduates perception of relevance of PSET training to graduate employment

Table 4 below indicates the relevance of graduates' qualifications, skills and knowledge acquired through PSET training to their jobs.

Table 4: Relevance of PSET training to employment of graduates

	No. of Graduates	% of Graduates
Graduates employed in field of study/training	254	74%
Graduates not employed in field of study/training	90	26%

As revealed from the table, over half of the respondents (i.e. 254 or 74%) highlighted that they are currently employed in areas related to education and training they received from PSET Institutions. 90 respondents (i.e. 26%) relayed the difficulty of obtaining jobs in their fields of study and as such, have had to settle for other types of jobs. For example, certificate and diploma graduates from some trade programs are currently being employed as cashiers, office assistants or clerks.

4.6 Graduates pursuing further education (higher qualifications)

Table 5 below splits the respondents into two groups, indicating whether or not they are pursuing further education and training with local PSET providers.

Table 5: Graduates Responses to Continuing Education

	No. of Graduates	% of Graduates
Graduates continuing education	99	29%
Graduates not continuing education	245	71%

Table 5 reveals that 245 graduates decided not to pursue further training after graduation. The main reasons given were to look for jobs to support their families and to gain some work experience before returning to continue with the diploma and degree programs.

For the 99 graduates that decided to pursue further training, some felt confident to continue onto the diploma and degree level programs after acquiring their existing qualifications whereas the rest relayed that the skills and knowledge gained through on the job training enabled them to pursue higher qualifications.

4.7 Graduate perception on obtaining jobs given qualifications and training

Table 6 below shows graduate perception on obtaining jobs given their qualifications and training received.

Table 6: Graduate perception on obtaining jobs

	No. of Graduates	% of Graduates
Easy to obtain jobs	259	75%
Not easy to obtain jobs	70	20%
Very difficult to obtain jobs	15	5%

Table 6 reveals that more than half of the respondents (i.e. 259 or 75%) found it easy to obtain jobs given their existing qualifications received from PSET providers. 20% of the graduates had a hard time getting jobs, mainly due to the fact that they did not have first hand experience while 5% responded that it was difficult for them to secure employment due to lack of skills and qualifications employers were looking for.

5. Limitations of the Tracer Study

The major problem that was encountered by the Division during the course of the study involved obtaining accurate or up to date information on the contact details of students from the PSET Providers.

For instance, upon having received the initial lists of student contacts from Providers, the team has had to go back to some Providers quite a few times for alternative telephone numbers as numbers given on the initial lists were not very helpful. They either belonged to a neighbor or to a friend.

Secondly, if a student had given the contact number of their workplace when he/ she registered with the Provider, it was relayed by the workplace or employer once we called them that the student no longer worked there.

Thirdly, the inclusion of the eighteen students that the Division managed to trace but could not get responses to for the questionnaires would have possibly altered information displayed in the tables provided in the study. Such information, if captured would have been very beneficial for the study.

6. Conclusion

The study overall proved to be a success despite a few problems encountered by the Division along the way. It has revealed that the telephone method decided upon for tracing the graduates of the selected PSET Institutions has been very effective and that there is a great need for PSET record keeping to be strengthened and updated.

The findings revealed from the surveys succeeded in achieving the main objectives of the study in that:

- ✚ The private sector was found to be the leading employer of graduates from PSET Institutions and accounts for 60% of the total number of employed respondents to the survey;
- ✚ It took more than half (i.e.53%) of the respondents to the survey between 1 to 6 months to find jobs. This can possibly indicate the need for more jobs in Samoa;
- ✚ On job sources for job appointments, the majority of respondents obtained their jobs through newspapers. With the revelation that none of the respondents indicated assistance from PSET providers to obtain jobs, this could indicate the need for student advisory or career services to be strengthened within the PSET Institutions themselves;

- ✚ More than half of the respondents (i.e. 74%) relayed of the great impact training from the PSET providers had on job appointments;
- ✚ Most of the respondents (i.e. 71%) preferred to work rather than continue with further studies, giving family obligations and lack of work experience as important factors in their decisions; and
- ✚ Given their existing qualifications and training, 75% of the respondents revealed that they found it easy to obtain jobs.

7. Recommendations

Given the conclusion, the question that now springs to mind is “Where to from here?” Certainly, the selected PSET providers that agreed to partake in the study will appreciate documented feedback on the whereabouts of their former students and the authenticity of the results may be questioned by some of these Providers given the method used to collect the information.

However for SQA, the study is the Authority’s first attempt at undertaking a tracer. It has allowed for data and statistics on PSET graduates to be captured and documented for future PSET research and policy formulation purposes.

Perhaps, the next logical step would be to prepare a survey for the employers of these PSET graduates to investigate what they thought were the most employable skills, what training they thought was oversupplied and what skills gaps they felt needed to be addressed.

Such information, although not directly targeting PSET school leavers and graduates, has been addressed and made available through labour market surveys published by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour (MCIL) in the past. The latest publication on private sector employers was in 2004.

It is therefore recommended for SQA to discuss the possible inclusion of PSET specific information in MCIL’s upcoming survey so that the above areas in need of investigation can be covered.

APPENDIX 1 – SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE



SQA HRD POLICY DIVISION
PSET PILOT TRACER STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE – 2007

Institution:

Name:

Gender:

Date of Interview:

Qualification / Year:

1. Are you currently employed or looking for work? Yes / No
If YES, where are you working?

(go to question 2)

If NO, why are you not working?

(go to question 6)

2. How long did it take you to get a job after graduating?

3. How did you get your job?

- a) Through a PSET provider
- b) Through school work attachment or direct approach from an employer
- c) Through a direct approach to an employer
- d) Through family or friend's contact
- e) From answering a newspaper / radio / TV advertisement
- f) Through Government sponsoring of the course
- g) Other

4. Is this the only job you have held since graduating? YES / NO

5. Are you employed in your field of training? YES / NO

- a) If YES, did you find the training / program you underwent at the PSET useful for your current job?

Any suggestions for improvements (if relevant)

b) If NO, what is your current job?

6. Are you continuing your education at a local or external provider?

7. Has your training enhanced your chances for further study / promotion? YES or NO, please explain WHY???

8. With your training, was it easy / not easy / very difficult / to get a job? Please explain.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!!!

APPENDIX 2 – ANALYSIS OF GRADUATES RESPONSES

LAUMUA O PUNAOA TECHNICAL CENTER

Total Graduates – 2005 & 2006	25
Total Graduates not located	19
Total Respondents	6
Respondents Program of Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 – Certificate of Electrical Equipments, 2006
Question 1: Are you currently employed or looking for work? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 – Yes (1 Samatic Co. Ltd, 1 HJF Electronics, 1 Methodist Church Printing & 1 Yazaki EDS). • 1 – No (1 stay home to look after the family) • 1 – continue studies
Question 2: How long it takes to get a job after graduation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 – straight after graduation • 1 – 2 to 3 weeks • 1 – 2 months • 1 – 3 months
Question 3: How jobs were obtained / offered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 – newspaper/radio/TV advertisements, • 1 – work attachment, • 1 – through family/friends contacts
Question 4: Only job since graduating? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 4
Question 5: Employed in the field of study? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 3 • No – 1 (working as a cashier/office assistant)
Question 6: Further education at a local / external provider. Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 1 • No – 3
Question 7: Has the training enhanced chances for further study / promotion? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 1 (enables him to enter NUS_IOT to do Certificate in Electrical Engineering)
Question 8: With training / qualifications gained, was it easy, not easy / very difficult to get a job? Explain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy – 4 (practical knowledge gained from years spent learning at Laumua o Punaoa)

DON BOSCO TECHNICAL CENTER

Total Graduates – 2005 & 2006	38
Total Graduates not located	22
Total Respondents	16
Respondents Program of Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 – Certificate Carpentry & Joinery 2005 & 2006 (Specialised Program) • 8 – Certificate Metal Fabrication 2005 & 2006 (Specialised Program)
Question 1: Are you currently employed or looking for work? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 – Yes (4 Strickland Brothers Ltd, 2 Don Bosco Tech Center, 2 MD's Big Fresh, 2 Yazaki EDS, 2 Pacific Aluminum, 1 Silva Transport, 1 Ah Liki Construction, 1 Rasmussen Engineering Shop, 1 – DC Engineering) • 0 – No • 0 – Continue studies
Question 2: How long it takes to get a job after graduation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 – straight after graduation • 2 – 4 months • 2 – 3 months • 4 – 2 months • 2 – 1 month • 3 – 2 to 3 weeks
Question 3: How jobs were obtained / offered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 – work attachment • 4 – direct approach to an employer • 7 – newspaper/radio/TV advertisements • 1 – family/friends contacts
Question 4: Only job since graduating? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 16
Question 5: Employed in the field of study? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 16
Question 6: Further education at a local / external provider. Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No – 16
Question 7: Has the training enhanced chances for further study / promotion? Yes / No	Not Applicable
Question 8: With training / qualifications gained, was it easy, not easy / very difficult to get a job? Explain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy – 16 (knowledge & skills gained from DB, students from DB were highly recognized by employers, employers impressed with Certificate from DB, employers were impressed during the work attachments)

LEULUMOEGA FOU SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

Total Graduates – 2005 & 2006	15
Total Graduates not located	7
Total Respondents	8
Respondents Program of Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 – Diploma of Fine Arts, 2005 • 4 – Advanced Certificate of Fine Arts, 2006 • 1 – Certificate of Fine Arts, 2006
Question 1: Are you currently employed or looking for work? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 – Yes (1 Frankies Molesi, 1 Nuuausala College, 1 Ieremia Galuvale's Workshop, 1 Manny's Wear) • 0 – No • 4 – Continue studies
Question 2: How long it takes to get a job after graduation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 – 2 to 3 weeks • 1 – 1 month, • 2 – 2months,
Question 3: How jobs were obtained / offered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 – newspaper/radio/TV advertisements • 1 – family/friend contacts • 1 direct approach to an employer
Question 4: Only job since graduating? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 4 • No - 0
Question 5: Employed in the field of study? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 3 • No – 1 employed as a salesperson
Question 6: Further education at a local / external provider. Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes - 0 • No – 4
Question 7: Has the training enhanced chances for further study / promotion? Yes / No	Not Applicable
Question 8: With training / qualifications gained, was it easy, not easy / very difficult to get a job? Please Explain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy – 3 (skills and knowledge gained from studying at LSFA) • Not Easy – 1 (hard to get a job in field of study)

TESESE INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES

Total Graduates – 2005 & 2006	39
Total Graduates not located	17
Total Graduates not able to be interviewed	2
Total Respondents	20
Respondents Program of Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 – Certificate of Computing & Office Skills, 2005 • 8 – Certificate of Computing & Office Skills, 2006 • 3 – Certificate of Reception & Customer Services, 2005 • 3 – Certificate of Reception & Customer Services, 2006 • 1 – Diploma of Computing, 2005 • 1 – Diploma of Computing, 2006
Question 1: Are you currently employed or looking for work? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 – Yes (3 Digicel Samoa, 1 Ministry of Finance, 1 Samoa Tel, 1 Electric Power Corporation, 1 Vacations Beach Fales, 1 Matuaileo'o Environmental Trust Incorporated, 2 Princess Tui Inn, 1 Newslite Newspaper, 1 MedCen Hospital, 3 A Well Financial Services, 1 Apia Haulage, 1 Charity Concrete Products, 1 Daystar Travel, 1 Big Bear Company, 1 Chan Mow Ltd) • 0 – No • 0 – Continue studies
Question 2: How long it takes to get a job after graduation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 – 2 to 3 weeks • 2 – 1 month, • 2 – 4 months, • 3 – 3 months, • 3 – 2 months, • 2 – straight after graduation, • 6 – working & studying
Question 3: How jobs were obtained / offered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 – newspapers/radio/TV advertisements • 3 – family/friends contacts • 3 – direct approach to an employer • 6 – work part time & study
Question 4: Only job since graduating? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 20 • No – 0
Question 5: Employed in the field of study? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 17 • No – 3 (telephone operator, cashier, loans officer)
Question 6: Further education at a local / external provider. Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 0 • No – 20
Question 7: Has the training enhanced chances for further study / promotion? Yes / No	Not Applicable
Question 8: With training / qualifications gained, was it easy, not easy / very difficult to get a job? Please Explain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 – Easy (on hand experience and skills gained from TIAS, and certificate & diploma awarded made it easy to obtain a job) • 5 – Not Easy (most of the employers approached were looking for graduates from NUS_IOT and with work experience)

PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL UNI-TECH

Total Graduates – 2005 & 2006	45
Total Graduates not located	16
Total Graduates not able to be interviewed	3
Total Respondents	26
Respondents Program of Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 – Certificate in Clerical Computing, 2006 • 4 – Certificate in Office Administration, 2006 • 5 – Certificate in Networking Technology, 2006 • 3 – Certificate in Business Studies, 2005 • 6 – Certificate in Business Studies, 2006
Question 1: Are you currently employed or looking for work? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 – Yes (1 CCCS Main Office, 1 Samoa Commercial Bank, 1 A & M Travel, 1 Samoa Ports Authority, 1 Maina's Supermarket, 1 Island Rock Video Shop, 1 Digicel Samoa Ltd, 5 Pacific International Uni-Tech) • 5 – No (1 stays home to look after the parents & kids, 2 still looking for a job, 1 stays home to look after the parents, 1 stays home to look after sick mother) • 9 – Continue studies
Question 2: How long it takes to get a job after graduation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 – 3 months • 1 – 2 months • 3 – 1 month • 1 – 2 to 3 weeks • 4 – straight after graduation • 2 – work & study at the same time
Question 3: How jobs were obtained / offered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 – direct approach to an employer • 4 – newspapers/radio/TV advertisements • 2 – family / friends contacts • 2 – through a PSET provider
Question 4: Only job since graduating? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 11 • No – 1
Question 5: Employed in the field of study? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 9 • No – 3 (cashier, sales assistant & telephone operator)
Question 6: Further education at a local / external provider. Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 6 (continue studies at PIU) • No – 6
Question 7: Has the training enhanced chances for further study / promotion? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 6 (able to do a higher certificate whilst some are able to do diploma courses)
Question 8: With training / qualifications gained, was it easy, not easy / very difficult to get a job? Please Explain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy – 11 (skills, knowledge and certificate gained from PIU, practical knowledge were highly praised by some employers) • Not Easy – 1

NUS – INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Total Graduates – 2005 & 2006	167
Total Graduates not located	18
Total Graduates not able to be interviewed	7
Total Respondents	142
Respondents Program of Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 - Certificate in Commerce • 3 - Certificate in Management • 17 - Diploma in Accounting • 8 - Diploma in Banking & Finance • 4 - Diploma in Management • 86 - Bachelor of Commerce
Question 1: Are you currently employed or looking for work? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 129 – Yes (7 Samoa Life Assurance Cropration, 8 National Provident Fund, 2 National University of Samoa, 6 Wespac Bank, 1 Uesiliana College, 9 Development Bank of Samoa, 4 Ministry of Revenue, 2 Lesa & Penn Accounting Firm, 2 Progressive Insurance, 1 Lending Tree, 3 Ah Chong's Public Accountant, 2 Samoa Shipping Corporation, 8 ANZ Bank, 2 Small Business Enterprises Centre, 7 Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture, 1 Public Service Commission, 1 Office of the Ombudsman, 3 Office of the Election Commission, 9 Samoa Commercial Bank, 3 Peace Corps Office, 2 European Union, 5 Electric Power Corporation, 9 Ministry of Finance, 1 Methodist Board of Education, 3 Ah Liki Wholesale, 5 Audit Office, 7 Samoa Tel, 1 Ministry of the Prime Minister & Cabinet, 1 TH Plantation, 3 Isitolo Leota's Accounting Firm, 3 Betham & Co, 1 Ministry of Justice & Courts Administration, 1 Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Labour, 1 Le Talie Rentals, 5 National Bank of Samoa) • 3 – No(1 stay home as full time mothers, 2 still looking for jobs) • 10 – Continue studies
Question 2: How long it takes to get a job after graduation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 – 2 to 3 weeks • 13 – straight after graduation • 24 – 1 month • 13 – 2 months • 9 – 3 months • 4 – 5 months • 3 – 6 months • 55 – working & studying
Question 3: How jobs were obtained / offered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39– newspapers/radio/TV advertisements • 9 – direct approach to an employer • 5 – others (PSC Circular) • 13 – family or friend's contact • 8 – government sponsoring course • 55 – working & studying

Question 4: Only job since graduating? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 113 • No – 16
Question 5: Employed in the field of study? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 109 • No – 20 (cashier / typist / clerk / receptionist)
Question 6: Further education at a local / external provider. Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 35 • No – 94
Question 7: Has the training enhanced chances for further study / promotion? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 29 (able to proceed to Diploma & Degree programmes)
Question 8: With training / qualifications gained, was it easy, not easy / very difficult to get a job? Please Explain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy – 93 (Degrees / Diplomas / Certificates awarded from NUS recognized by employers) • Not Easy – 29 (some employers were looking for applicants with experience) • Very Difficult – 7 (did not meet some of the employers expectations)

NUS – INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Total Graduates – 2005 & 2006	266
Total Graduates not located	33
Total Graduates not able to be interviewed	6
Total Respondents	227
Respondents Program of Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85 - Certificate of Tourism & Hospitality • 21 - Certificate in Tropical Horticulture • 9 - Certificate of Full Technology in Plumbing and Sheet Metal • 14 - Intermediate Certificate in Refrigeration & Air Conditioning • 17 - Intermediate Certificate in Welding & Fabrication • 44 - Diploma of Business Studies • 15 - Diploma of Tourism • 22 - Diploma of Secretarial Studies
Question 1: Are you currently employed or looking for work? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 159 – Yes (3 Seafood Restaurant, 2 LDS Church College, 1 Hotel Elisa, 5 Wespac Bank, 1 Ameperosa Law Firm, 4 Central Bank of Samoa, 6 CCCS Main Office, 7 Samoa Commercial Bank, 5 Samoa Water Authority, 7 National Bank of Samoa, 4 Lotto Samoa, 3 Computer Services Ltd, 4 Polynesian Airlines Ltd, 2 Samoa Fire Services Authority, 9 Electric Power Corporation, 1 Samoa Umbrella of NGO, 4 Samoa Tattslotto Ltd, 3 Samoa Breweries Ltd, 11 Bluebird Lumber & Hardware, 7 Aggie Grey's Hotel, 5 Hotel Kitano Tusitala, 3 Hotel Millenia Samoa, 4 Insel Fehmarn Hotel, 3 Sinalei Reef Resort, 4 Sunrise Restaurant, 2 Sails Restaurant, 5 Ott Transport, 4 Ministry of Works, Transport & Infrastructure, 2 Island Hopper Vacations Ltd, 2 Le Sina Travel & Tours, 3 Pacific International, 3 Polynesian Travel & Tours, 4 Craig Construction, 2 Janes Pasifika Travel Services, 3 Agriculture Store Corporation, 3 Kool Line Refrigeration, 2 Motors Distributors Samoa, 5 Samatic Co Ltd, 3 SL Refrigeration, 8 Yazaki EDS Samoa Ltd • 35 – No (16 stay home to look after their children, 11 used to work after graduation but left their jobs, 8 stay home to look after their family businesses) • 33 – Continue studies
Question 2: How long it takes to get a job after graduation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 – 2 to 3 weeks • 33 – 1 month • 28 – 2 months • 26 – 3 months • 9 – 4 months • 5 – 6 months • 16 – after graduation • 25 – working & studying

Question 3: How jobs were obtained / offered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65 – newspapers/radio/TV advertisements • 27 – school work attachment • 23 – direct approach to an employer • 14 – family or friend's contact • 5 – other (PSC Circulars) • 25 – working & studying
Question 4: Only job since graduating? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 127 • No – 32
Question 5: Employed in the field of study? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 97 • No – 62 (office job instead of fixing cars or actually doing practical work, salesperson, office boys, clerks, typists)
Question 6: Further education at a local / external provider. Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 57 • No – 102
Question 7: Has the training enhanced chances for further study / promotion? Yes / No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – 26 (able to proceed to do Diploma programmes)
Question 8: With training / qualifications gained, was it easy, not easy / very difficult to get a job? Please Explain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy – 117 (certificates / knowledge & skills gained from the Institution was well accepted by employers) • Not Easy – 34 (some employers preferred those who had previous experience) • Very Difficult – 8 (not able to meet the employers expectations)