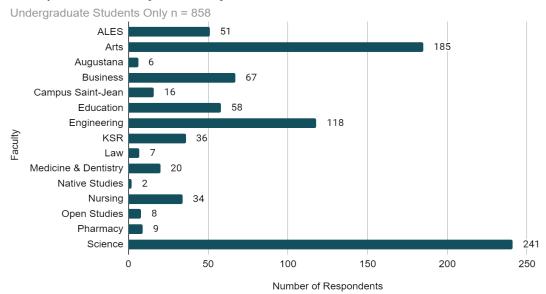
Student Plans/Opinions on Further Education December 8, 2022 Prepared for UASU Executive Committee



Overview

This briefing reviews a Perks survey about student plans/opinions on education after their current degree. A total of 1018 individuals (n=1018) filled out the survey with 872 identifying as undergraduate students. For the purposes of this report we have analysed only undergraduate student responses (n=872), which spanned several faculties, as displayed below.

Respondents by Faculty



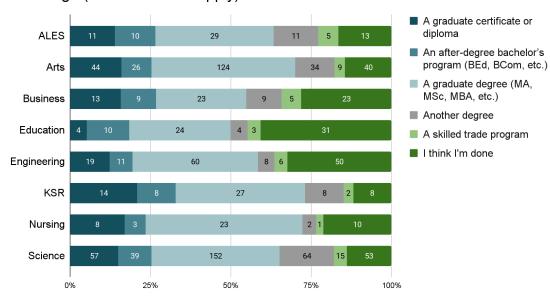
The Data

Analyzing additional education plans based on faculty we found that, regardless of area of study, more students plan on pursuing additional education than not.

The faculty/area of study with the highest percent (%) of students not planning on pursuing additional education was education students (40%).

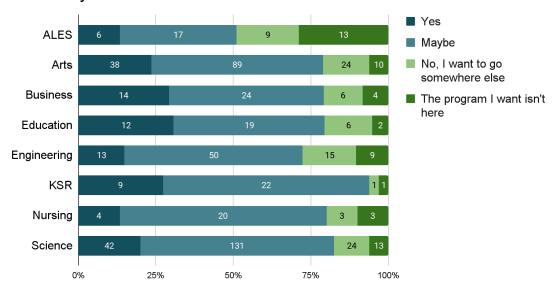
The faculty/area of study with the highest percent (%) of students planning on pursuing additional education was Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport students (88.1%).

Within five years after you graduate, are you considering enrolling in any of the following? (Choose all that apply)



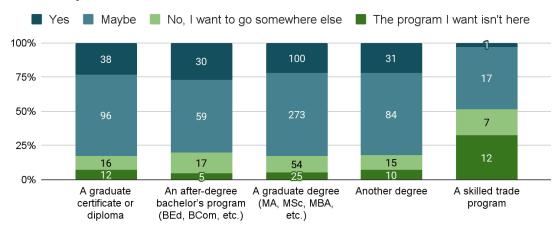
Of those students who plan on pursuing additional education, most do not plan on attending the University of Alberta. Instead, they indicated 'maybe' attending U of A, plans to go to a different school, or that the U of A doesn't have the program they want. Education (30.8%) and business (29.2%) had the highest percentages of students who plan to attend the University of Alberta for additional education.

If you do intend to pursue additional education, will you study at the University of Alberta?

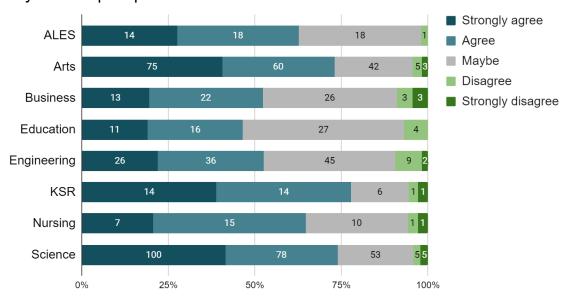


Diving respondents based on additional education type, only 23.5% of those who chose graduate certificate/diploma, 27% of those who chose after-degree, 22% of those who chose graduate degree, 22.1% of those who chose another degree, and 2.7% of those who chose skilled trade program indicated they plan on attending U of A for this degree. The majority of respondents indicated that they might attend the U of A, but were unsure.

If you do intend to pursue additional education, will you study at the University of Alberta?

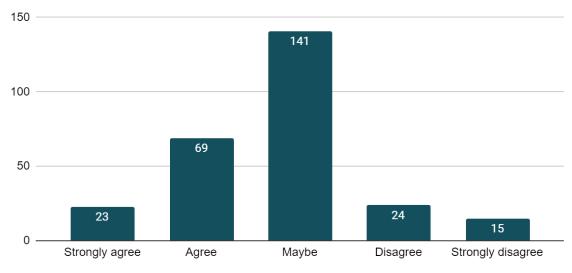


Agree or disagree: Further education after I graduate will improve my career prospects.



Very few students indicated further education after graduation will not or might not improve their career prospects.

Opinions of students not planning on pursuing another degree on the value of further education in career prospects

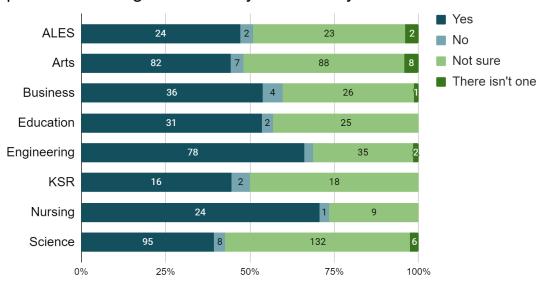


Further education after I graduate will improve my career prospects

Curiously, the students who do not have plans on pursuing additional education following their current degree indicated additional education would either definitely or likely help their career prospects, with 8.5% selecting strongly agree, 25% selecting agree, and 51% selecting maybe. Only 8.8% selected disagreed and 5.5% selected strongly disagreed.

This disparity between individuals' lack of desire to pursue additional education and acknowledgement of the value of additional education raises the question: What are the barriers/reasons students are not pursuing additional education, and how can we address these barriers?

After graduation, do you intend to become a member of a professional organization in your industry?



Respondents were more likely to indicate the intention of becoming a member of a professional organization than not. However, a large portion of students indicated uncertainty in joining one, and few indicated a lack of a professional industry in their field of study.