

**A SURVEY ON EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF GRADUATES OF
EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA AND THEIR
EMPLOYER SATISFACTION: SPECIAL REFERENCE TO
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT**

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ABSTRACT

Graduates face several problems in their work places. Main reason for this issue is graduates lack the necessary core skills which are most important to the success of their work, it leads to employer dissatisfaction toward the graduates. Main purpose of this study is to identify the employment status of graduates of Eastern University, Sri Lanka and their employer satisfaction. Objectives of this survey area identify the current status of graduates of Eastern University, Sri Lanka in terms of employment status and career progression, explore the satisfaction of employers in terms of professional and personal attributes, assess the preferences of employers towards Eastern University graduates when compared with graduates of other universities during recruitment and selection, and identify the relationship between overall level of satisfaction of employers and overall quality of Eastern University graduates. All the Eastern University graduates from Trincomalee District were considered as the population for this study. Study targeted a sample size of 130 graduates from Trincomalee District, convenience sampling was used. A structured questionnaire was used to collect the primary data from the graduates. Descriptive analysis and correlation analysis were constructed for analysis purpose. SPSS software was used to analyze the collected data. Finding of this survey revealed that most of the graduates are working as Teacher and development officers in government sector. These graduates got their first job with one year, and only 26% of them completed their postgraduate studies. Furthermore, this survey discovered that employers have higher level of satisfaction towards EUSL graduates in terms of professional and personal attributes. Moreover, this survey highlighted that employers prefer to recruit EUSL graduates to their organizations in the future. Finally, this survey shows there is a strongly positive relationship between overall quality of Eastern University graduates and overall satisfaction of employers.

Keywords: Professional Attributes, Personal Attributes, Graduates Quality, Overall Quality of the Graduates, Overall Employer Satisfaction, and Employer Preferences.

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