

**EMPLOYABILITY STATUS OF GRADUATES: A STUDY ON
FACULTY OF COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT, EASTERN
UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**



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2018

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Abstract

The graduate job market has changed radically in the last two decades. Increasing proportions of young people now extend their education well beyond the compulsory requirement. The job market needs and employers' requirements for skills from graduates are changing. Undergraduate students should be aware of the job market needs and future employability skills requirements from the job market.

In this competitive business world, organizations expect many requirements from a prospective candidate or graduate for a job for the purpose of fulfilling particular job requirements at a bottom level. In completing work or job demands, achieving competitive advantage and goals, organization realized that many requirements are needed to do a job in an efficient and effective manner.

The main objective of this study is to find out current status of employability of graduates of Faculty of Commerce and Management, Eastern University of Sri Lanka. For conducting this research, questionnaires were sent through email to the undergraduate students of year 2010/2011 of the Faculty Commerce and Management. Out of 130 graduates of year of 2010/2011, 100 graduates were responded to research questionnaire. Out of this 74% of graduates were employed while the rest of 26% were not employed. They still have this employment status even though it has been more than two years since they have graduated. The employed graduates have been employed in many different fields. This research determines the employability of the graduates. Therefore, this study is the first to provide a comprehensive approach to the identification of employability status of EUSL graduates.

The findings of the study indicate that the degree has helped graduates to find employment and also this assists them in obtaining promotions. In addition to that, this study found out that the graduates who are following a professional course found employment easily and were also faster at getting promotions.

Key words: *Employability Status, Employment Status, Salary and Graduates*

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