The Graduate School at the University of Notre Dame PhD Career Pathways Project

Communiqué #1: Wave 1 Humanities PhD Alumni

ND Survey Response Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years out</th>
<th>Response Rate (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 years</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 years</td>
<td>61%</td>
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</tbody>
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Career Preparation for Diverse Job Sectors

- Government
- Archives
- Startups
- Universities
- Libraries
- Nonprofits

Career Skills and Attributes

PhD Career Pathways consortium data suggest that the skills humanities PhD alumni use in academic and non-academic careers are more similar than different.

At ND, our findings were consistent, with ND alumni in both academic and non-academic careers citing the following top 5 skills they use in their current jobs:

- Understanding the broader significance of one’s research
- Written communication
- Critical analysis
- Tools and techniques
- Oral communication

Career Preparation Adaptability

PhD Career Pathways consortium data suggest alumni from 3 years out felt less prepared for their jobs than those 8 and 15 years out.

At ND, this was not the case, with 83% of alumni from 3 years out reporting they were prepared “very well” or “extremely well” for their current jobs.

These findings suggest ND’s career preparation approach has adapted well with changing career trends.

Room to Improve: Grant Writing

ND alumni felt least prepared for grant writing. This feedback challenges us to raise awareness for internal grant-writing resources, like the Office of Grants and Fellowships which has helped students raise millions in external funding.

Annual external funding awarded to grad students

- 2009: $10,000
- 2010: $15,000
- 2011: $20,000
- 2012: $25,000
- 2013: $30,000
- 2014: $35,000
- 2015: $40,000
- 2016: $45,000
- 2017: $50,000
- 2018: $55,000
- 2019: $60,000
- 2020: $65,000
- 2021: $70,000
- 2022: $75,000

Percentage of alumni reporting they were prepared “very well” or “extremely well” for their current jobs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Doctoral Graduation</th>
<th>Prepared Very Well</th>
<th>Prepared Extremely Well</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 years</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 years</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% survey respondents