

** The Class of 2008 is the first graduating class of the newly formed School of Arts & Communication. Due to the school realignment this data is incomparable with the data from previous classes.*

***All percentages are rounded to the nearest full point; therefore, they may not add to 100%.*

Class of 2008 - School of Arts & Communication

A total of 186 Arts & Communication graduates were awarded baccalaureate degrees in August 2007, December 2007, and May 2008. 87 (47%) graduates responded to the survey. In an effort to increase the accuracy of our post-graduation activity data, Institutional Research provided additional graduate school attendance information secured through the Student Loan Clearinghouse, which resulted in our learning the post-graduation activities of an additional 4 (2%) graduates.

POST GRADUATION ACTIVITY

Graduate School Attendance

A total of 25 (28%) of those who *responded* indicated that they attended graduate school immediately after graduation.

Employment

83 (95%) respondents indicated they were either working *and/or* attending graduate school in the first year after graduation.

A total of 68 (77%) graduates indicated they are employed. Their employment status is as follows:

51 (58%) indicated they were employed full time

17 (19%) indicated they were employed part time

10 (11%) indicated they were employed and in graduate school.

15 (17%) indicated they were unemployed, but were attending graduate school.

4 (5%) indicated they were both unemployed and not attending graduate school.

Average Salaries

31 (61%) respondents who were employed full time provided salary information.

All salary information is calculated using the actual salary the respondent provided or the median of the salary range selected by the respondent. Respondents that indicated their salaries fell below \$19,999 or above \$69,999 and did not include a precise amount were excluded from the calculations.

The mean reported salary for the respondents that met the above criteria is \$40,569. Salaries ranged from a low of \$22,500 to a high of \$57,500.

Fields of Employment

Students pursue occupations in a variety of career fields. The 53 (78%) respondents that answered this item regarding employment fields are employed as follows: (Respondents were permitted to select multiple fields.)

14 (26%) in Arts

6 (11%) in Computers

1 (2%) in Health (non-med or nursing)

6 (11%) in Business

22 (42%) in Education

1 (2%) in Human/Social Service

9 (17%) in Communications

1 (2%) in Engineering

3 (6%) in other fields

Time Span for Securing Employment

48 (89%) of the 53 respondents to this item indicated they had secured employment within six months of graduation..

11 (20%) Arts & Communication graduates secured employment prior to graduation.

36 (67%) respondents secured employment within the first three months after graduation.

48 (89%) respondents secured employment within the first six months after graduation.

53 (98%) respondents secured employment within one year of graduation.

Job Offers

Of the Arts & Communication graduates employed who responded to this item, 13 (25%) received more than one job offer. The number of employment offers received ranged from 1 to 6, with respondents receiving a mean of 1.39 offers of employment per graduate.

Satisfaction with Employment

Using a likert scale of 5 high to 1 low, Arts & Communication graduates indicated the level of satisfaction they felt with their jobs. 45 (88%) of the respondents employed indicated an above average or high level of job satisfaction. The average satisfaction score for the respondents to this item was 4.48 – in comparison with the other academic schools, only the School of Education graduates indicated a higher degree of satisfaction with their employment.

Usage of Career Services

44 (76%) respondents indicated they had utilized Career Services during their academic careers. Using a likert scale of 5 high to 1 low, graduates who utilized Career Services were asked to rate the service provided. The average rating was 3.91.

34 (59%) respondents reported utilizing TCNJ recruitment programs (i.e., internship programs and resources, job listings/binders, on-campus recruitment and Career Days).

Job Search Resources

Arts & Communication graduates utilized a variety of resources to find their employment. Of the 46 (68%) of those employed who responded to this item, the most popular job search resources utilized by respondents continue to be direct contact/self initiated, MonsterTRAK/Career Services (MonsterTRAK is the vendor TCNJ uses to operate its recruitment systems), and networking.

10 (22%) self initiated/applied directly to the company.	8 (17%) continued in the same job/internship.
15 (33%) used Career Services and Monster.	12 (26%) used networking.
1 (2%) used an employment agency.	9 (20%) used the internet (other than Monster).
2 (4%) used the newspaper.	6 (13%) used other resources.

Relationship between Academic Major and Position Obtained

Arts & Communication graduates indicated the relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained since graduation. Of the 82 (94%) respondents:

- 48 (59%) respondents indicated a direct relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained.
- 14 (17%) respondents indicated an indirect relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained.
- 20 (24%) respondents indicated there was no relationship between their academic major and the position they obtained.

Internship Participation

58 (66%) of Arts & Communication majors who responded to the survey indicated participation in internships for an average of 2.05 semesters.

TCNJ's Preparation of Students' Career Goals

Arts & Communication graduates rated how TCNJ prepared them for their current position utilizing a five-point scale (i.e., excellent to poor). Of the 58 (85%) of employed respondents, 40 (69%) rated their preparation as excellent or above average. The average rating was 3.93.

19 (33%) excellent	13 (22%) average	0 (0%) poor
21 (36%) above average	5 (9%) below average	

Quality of Academic Experience

Arts & Communication graduates assessed the overall quality of their academic experience. Of the 59 (68%) respondents, 50 (85%) assessed their academic experience as excellent or above average. The average rating was 4.27.

25 (42%) excellent	9 (15%) average	0 (0%) poor
25 (42%) above average	0 (0%) below average	

Receipt of Career Advice

When asked if they had received career advice from faculty in their department or program, 31 (53%) respondents indicated they had. 49 (84%) of the respondents indicated they had either received career advice from their faculty or had used Career Services.

GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL

Current Graduate/Professional School Attendance

Of the survey respondents direct reporting of graduate school attendance, 25 (29%) of survey respondents are currently enrolled in graduate/professional school. Through the combination of the clearinghouse and self reporting, we identified that a total of 29 (32%) attended graduate/professional school after graduation. 31 (35%) of respondents indicated that they applied for graduate/professional school in the first year after graduation. 4 (13%) of those that applied had a contingency plan for if they were not admitted to graduate school.

Areas of Current & Intended Study

Arts & Communication graduates who indicated they are attending (25 or 28%) or plan to attend (41 or 45%) further study indicated they will pursue the following fields (number and percent of total respondents to item).

Field of Study	Those who currently attend		Those who plan to attend		Field of Study	Those who currently attend		Those who plan to attend	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Arts	9	36%	20	49%	Health Related	1	4%	0	0%
Business	0	0%	2	5%	Human/ Social Svcs	1	4%	2	5%
Communications	4	16%	3	7%	Law/Law Related	1	4%	0	0%
Education	4	16%	15	37%	Nursing	1	4%	1	2%
Computers	2	8%	1	2%	Science	1	4%	1	2%
Government	1	4%	0	0%	Other	4	16%	2	5%

Future Plans for Graduate Study

41 (45%) Arts & Communication graduates plan to attend graduate/professional school in the future. 41 (100%) of graduates indicated the timing of their future attendance in graduate school:

- 10 (24%) respondents plan to attend within the first 2 years after graduation.
- 26 (63%) respondents plan to attend within 2-4 years after graduation.
- 40 (98%) respondents plan to attend within 4-6 years after graduation.
- 41 (100%) respondents plan to attend in more than 6 years after graduation.

Current Degrees and Highest Degree Level Sought

23 (92%) of those currently attending responded to the degree level they are pursuing. In addition, 46 (53%) graduates provided information on the highest degree level they intended to pursue. Of those intending to pursue advanced degrees:

Degree Level	Currently Pursuing		Highest Degree Planned	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Masters	22	96%	31	62%
Specialist	0	0%	1	2%
Doctorate	0	0%	13	26%
Professional	1	4%	1	2%

* Percentage reflects percent of those who responded to this item.