COLLEGE OF COMPUTER SCIENCE (CCS)
Bachelor of Science in Business Informatics (BSCS)

Alumni Survey SY 2013-2014

Introduction

AMA International University-Bahrain (AMAIUB) periodically conducts tracer studies on its alumni. This is purposely to monitor the link of the program with the employment of its graduates, to better improve its curricular offerings, systems and procedures to enable the graduates to be competitive and responsive to the needs of the labor environment. Hence, this report summarizes the results of the tracer study to graduates of the BSCSprogram.

Objectives

This alumni tracer report generally aims to determine the alumni-respondents personal employment profile of the graduates of the BSCS program and the attainment of the Program Educational Objectives (PEOs). Specifically, to identify the employment destination/status/information/sector and the nature of industry the alumni-respondents are involved in.

Methodology

A survey was conducted in July 2014 among the graduates of the Bachelor of Science in Business Informatics (BSCS) using the Alumni Survey Questionnaire. Alumni of batch 2010 were the respondents of the survey specifically on the assessment of the PEOs based on the given indicators.

A total of 40 alumni of batch 2010, the actual number of alumni-respondents totaled 18 or 45% of the expected respondents of 40.

The alumni themselves were contacted through phone interviews conducted by the AMAIUB Alumni Office using the Alumni Database. The survey forms were sent and/or retrieved from the alumni-respondents through e-mail, phone interviews, or their personal visits in the university. Gathered data were tabulated, analyzed and interpreted.

The evaluation of the PEOs was rated by the alumni-respondents using the five-point Likert scale as shown below:

> 5- Strongly Agree
> 4- Agree
> 3- Agree to some extent

2- Disagree

1- Strongly Disagree

The mean ratings were interpreted and described based on their level of agreement and disagreement on the given indicators as follows:

4.51- 5.00	Strongly Agree
3.51- 4.50	Agree
2.51- 3.50	Agree to some extent
1.51- 2.50	Disagree
1.00- 1.50	Strongly Disagree

Hence, mean ratings of 3.51 to 5.00 means that the PEOs were **Attain**. The AMAIUB graduates of the BSCS program were able to practice successful management in business and industry (PEO 1) and foster professionalism grounded on the highest ethical standards (PEO 2).

Executive Summary

This Alumni Survey conducted in June aims to determine the alumni-respondent's evaluation of AMAIUB's Program Educational Objectives (PEOs) of the Bachelor of Computer Science (BSCS). Results of this survey will serve as a basis for improving the quality of teaching and learning and in identifying the key result areas for improvement. This then will ensure that the curriculum is in harmony with the needs of the various manpower resources.

Table 1
Summary of BSCS Alumni-Respondents
(2010)

Batch	Number of Graduates			Percentage (%) of Respondents
	Actual	Expected Number of Respondents	Actual Number of Respondents	
2010	40	40	18	45%

Employment Profile of AMAIUB BSCS Alumni

 Table 2 presents the results of the alumni-respondents destination. Sixty nine (10) or 56% proceeded to appropriate employment; 5 or 33% proceeded to other employment; 0 or 0% have taken graduate studies and 3 or 6% were engaged in other activities.

Table 2
Results of Alumni-Respondents Destination

Destination of Graduates	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Proceeded to appropriate employment	10	56%
Proceeded to other employment	5	33%
Undertaken post graduate studies	0	0%
Engaged in other types of activities	3	6%
Total	**18**	**100%**

Most of the alumni-respondents are employed (83%) (Table 3) in the private sector (40%) while 60% in the government as depicted in Figure 1.

Table 3
Summary of Graduate-Respondents Employment Status

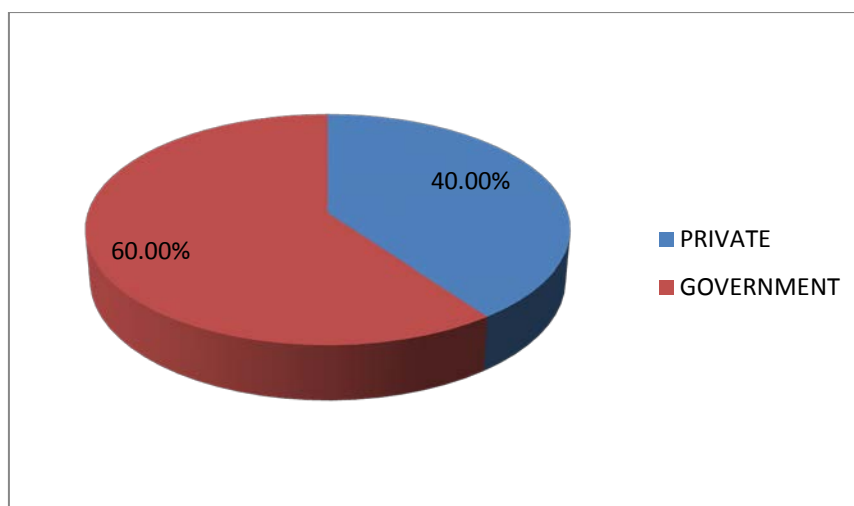| Employment Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Employed	15	83%
Unemployed	3	17%
Total	**18**	**100%**

Figure 1
Alumni-Respondents Employment Sector Distribution

It can be noted in Table 4 that the majority of the BSCS graduates are in the information and technology (4%), education (4%) and Ministry of interior (3%).

Table 4
Categories of Alumni-Respondents Employment

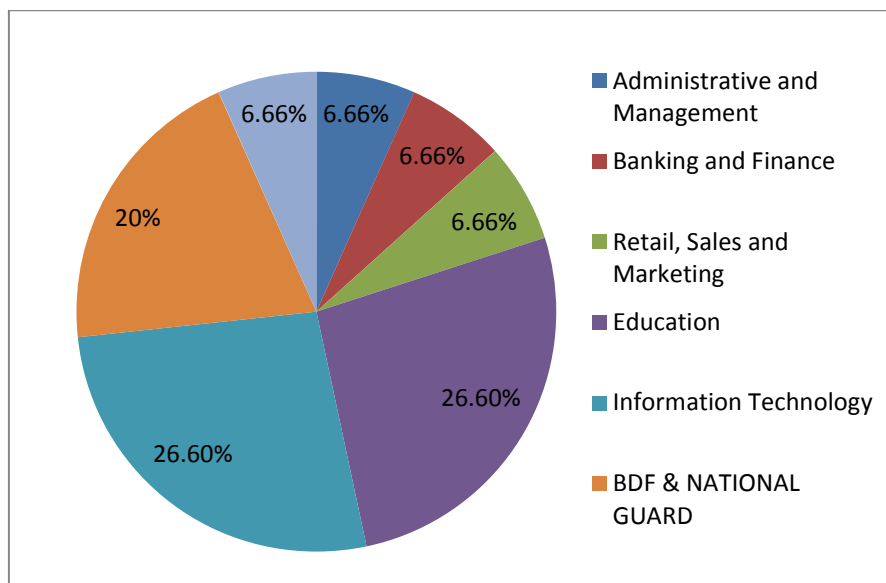| Nature of Industry	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Administrative and Management	1	6.66%
Banking and Finance	1	6.66%
Retail, Sales and Marketing	1	6.66%
Education	4	26.6%
Information Technology	4	26.6%
BDF & NATIONAL GUARD	3	20%
Real State and Property	1	6.66%
Total	**15**	**100%**

*3 Unemployed

Figure 2
Alumni-Respondents Employment Nature Industries Distribution

Results of the employment profile imply that the graduates of the BSCS program are prepared to be in their chosen field or in any other available employment to practice their respective profession. Hence, the university was able to prepare them in their professional career equipped with the knowledge, skills, and training.

Assessment of BSCS Program Educational Objectives (PEOs)

The program educational objectives are broad statements that describe the attainment of the expectations from the graduates of a specific program after graduation. The BSCS alumni were able to evaluate the following PEOs:

PEO1. To enable our graduates to practice a successful computing professionals for the advancement of society.
PEO2. To promote professionalism in computing practice.

Table 5
Results ofPEOs Evaluation by the BSCS
Alumni-Respondents

PEO1. To enable our graduates to practice a successful computing professionals for the advancement of society.	Mean N= 15	Interpretation
• working, being promoted, or given positions of increasing responsibilities in a job related to computing	3.56	Agree
• participating in projects that show my ability to solve complex computing problems, working in multidisciplinary teams, whose solutions respond to the needs of the Kingdom of Bahrain or the GCC	3.67	Agree
• engaging in continuing professional development through: completion of advanced degree; taking industry training or certification courses; attending seminars, conferences, or workshops; or actively participating in professional organizations – related to the field of computing	4.22	Agree
• using current computing techniques, skills, and tools necessary for the practice of my profession	4.33	Agree
Weighted Mean	**3.94**	**Agree**
PEO2. To promote professionalism in computing practice.	Mean N= 15	Interpretation
• setting or applying professional standards to achieve excellence in the workplace	3.89	Agree
• upholding ethical standards and contributing to the broader computing community	3.89	Agree
• adhering to the required codes or laws relating to public safety, health, welfare and environmental concerns	3.78	Agree
• applying the same professionalism to my own personal life	3.89	
Weighted Mean	**3.86**	**Agree**

The results of PEO1 evaluation by the BSCS alumni-respondents as presented in Table 5 shows a weighted mean of 3.94 which means that the graduates of the program

Agree that they were able to practice a successful computing professionals for the advancement of society, being promoted, or given positions of increasing responsibilities related to business informatics; have participated in projects that show their ability to solve business problems, have worked in multidisciplinary teams whose solutions responded to the needs of Kingdom of Bahrain or the GCC; have engaged in continuing professional development through active participation in professional organizations related to computer science; and computing techniques, skills, and tools necessary for the practice of my profession. Based on the given indicators, therefore, PEO1 is **attained.**

Program Educational Objective 2 (PEO2) as shown from table 5, the alumni-respondents considered that they were able to promote professionalism in computing practice by setting or applying professional standards to achieve excellence in their workplace;upholding ethical standards and contributing to the broader computing community, continuously adhering to the required codes or laws relating to public safety, health, welfare and environmental concerns; and have applied professionalism in their own personal life. On the basis of the given indicators, it can be concluded that PEO2 is **attained.** With a grand mean of 3.86, which means **Agree,** it can be further imply that the attainment of the PEOs for the BSCS program showed that AMAIUB has been successful in the delivery of outcome-based instruction through its committed faculty members equipped with diverse teaching, learning, and assessment methods, using updated teaching-learning resources, integrative curriculum, comprehensive work-based learning program, relevant research and publications, and community engagement programs.

Thus, AMAIUB will continuously develop and implement innovations in the pursuit of the university's tri-functions- instruction, research and community engagement in consultation with the stakeholders which support the attainment of the university's vision, mission, goals and objectives. Thus producing high-skilled BSCS graduates dedicated to lifelong learning and equipped with knowledge and skills to respond to the growing socio-economic needs of Bahrain and the GCC as well.

Table 6
Assessment on the alumni's experience at the College of Computer Studies (CCS) and on the extent the alumni's education has contributed to his/her professional and personal development.

FACTORS	N= 15	Interpretation
Overall, I am satisfied with my **_ACADEMIC_** experience at CCS.	3.85	Agree
Overall, I am satisfied with my **_ACADEMIC_** experience at AMAIUB.	4.20	Agree
Overall, I am satisfied with my **_SOCIAL_** experience at CCS.	4.25	Agree
Overall, I am satisfied with my **_SOCIAL_** experience at AMAIUB.	4	Agree
My education developed my ability to function and work effectively in teams.	3.95	Agree

My education promoted my understanding of professional, ethical, legal, security and social issues and responsibilities.	3.74	Agree
My education taught me the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of audience.	3.70	Agree
My education developed my ability to analyze the local and global impact of computing on individuals, the organization and society.	3.65	Agree
My education paved the way to recognize the need for and the ability to engage in lifelong learning.	4.11	Agree
*Overall, I am satisfied with the **programme** I completed.*	4.20	Agree
The sequencing of courses within the programme is well-balanced.	3.85	Agree
The scheduling of courses is appropriate and reasonable.	3.85	Agree
The elective courses offered are practical and adequate.	4.20	Agree
My education manifests application of knowledge of computing and mathematics appropriate to the discipline.	3.64	Agree
My education promoted my ability to analyze problems and identify and define the computing requirements appropriate to their solution.	4.35	Agree
My education developed my ability to design, implement, and evaluate computer-based systems, processes, components or programs to meet desired needs of varying complexities.	4.12	Agree
My education enabled the use of current techniques, skills, and tools necessary for computing practice	4.50	Agree
My education provided broad intellectual coverage of the fundamentals of algorithms, data structures, software, and desgin, concepts of programming languages and computer organization and architecture.	3.54	Agree
Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of instruction in the programme.	3.84	Agree

My professors stimulated me to think critically, creatively and constructively at all times.	3.64	Agree
CCS has prepared me well for future	4.00	Agree
Weighted mean	3.98	Agree

Summary

- The majority of the graduates of Bachelor of Computer Science (BSCS) program proceeded to appropriate employment after graduation mostly in private administrative and management industries.

- The alumni-respondents **Agree** on the attainment of the PEOs based on the different indicators.

- The alumni-respondents **Agree** on the Assessment on the alumni's experience at the College of Computer Studies (CCS) and on the extent the alumni's education has contributed to his/her professional and personal development.

- AMAIUB will continue to produce graduates of the program equipped with knowledge and skills for the growing needs of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the region.

Recommendations

AMAIUB should:

- Ensure that the BSCS programme is consistent with the Bahrain Vision 2030
- Emphasize its culture of quality education
  - Produce highly-skilled and competent BSCS graduates who are:
    - Dedicated to life-long learning
    - Responsive to the growing socio-economic needs of Bahrain and the region
- continuously develop and implement innovations in the university's tri-functions on instruction, research, and community engagement, through:
  - consistent consultations and collaborations with the stakeholders
  - alumni
  - parents
  - industry partners or employers