What do Biology Alumni do After Graduation?

Miranda Meents
Sessional Instructor, Teaching and Learning Fellow
Data Sources

LinkedIn Data
- Additional education and employment
- Biology vs Non-Biology fields

Baccalaureate Surveys
- BC Government survey
- Education and employment (2 years after graduation)
  - Biology Grads vs All UBC Grads.

![Graph showing number of respondents per year.](image)

n = 191

avg n/yr = 172
Alumni Often Seek Additional Training

LinkedIn: 72% of alumni listed some kind of additional training.

Survey: 71% of Biology alumni took further education, compared to 53% of all UBC graduates.
48% of graduates get additional training in biology.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Training</th>
<th>Biology-Related</th>
<th>Non-Biology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors (25%)</td>
<td>nursing, public health, midwifery, dietetics, forensic science, pharmacy, psychology, education</td>
<td>computer science, engineering, accounting, marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate School (25%)</td>
<td>biology, neuroscience, public health, sustainable development, environmental science, bioinformatics, occupational therapy, physical therapy</td>
<td>business administration (MBA), management, data science, law, engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Masters/PhD)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional School (15%)</td>
<td>medical school, dental school, pharmacy</td>
<td>law school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate/Diploma (15%)</td>
<td>medical lab tech, business administration, pharmacy</td>
<td>accounting, event management, human resources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Alumni Employment Outcomes

Survey: Only 55% of Biology graduates work in a field related to their program, compared to 70% for all UBC graduates.

LinkedIn: Only 58% of alumni work in a field related to Biology.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biology-Related</th>
<th>Non-Biology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>healthcare: administration, medical doctor, nurse, dentist, pharmacist, psychologist, chiropractor, midwife, dietician, occupational therapist, medical lab technologist</td>
<td>business: management, entrepreneur, marketing, analyst, assistant, project manager, sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biology research: researcher (academia, industry, government), technician</td>
<td>technology: software/web developer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>education: teacher, tutor, university administrator</td>
<td>finance: accountant, banker, financial advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>communication/outreach: artist, climate change activist, community engagement, science fair foundation, government policy</td>
<td>law/other: lawyer, engineer, service industry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are the Important Skills?

Training by UBC

Usefulness in Job

% Alumni Agree/S.Agree

Lots of Practice Available
Some Skill Practice
More Practice Needed

- Conducting Research
- Use of Mathematics
- Critical Analysis
- Learning on Your Own
- Reading and Comprehension
- Written Communication
- Problem Resolution
- Group Collaboration
- Oral Communication

50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
Take Home Message

What kinds of work do you want to do?
• More than 50% of alumni work in a field unrelated to biology.
• Nearly 30% of alumni work in healthcare-related fields.

What kinds of training do you need?
• Almost 75% of alumni get additional training.
• Consider communication skills (written and oral) and people skills (group collaboration, problem resolution)

What can you do to help build these skills now?
• Courses, workshops, volunteering, clubs, paid work
• Treat these skill-building opportunities seriously
Questions?

Miranda Meents
Sessional Instructor, Teaching and Learning Fellow