



### Future education & employment

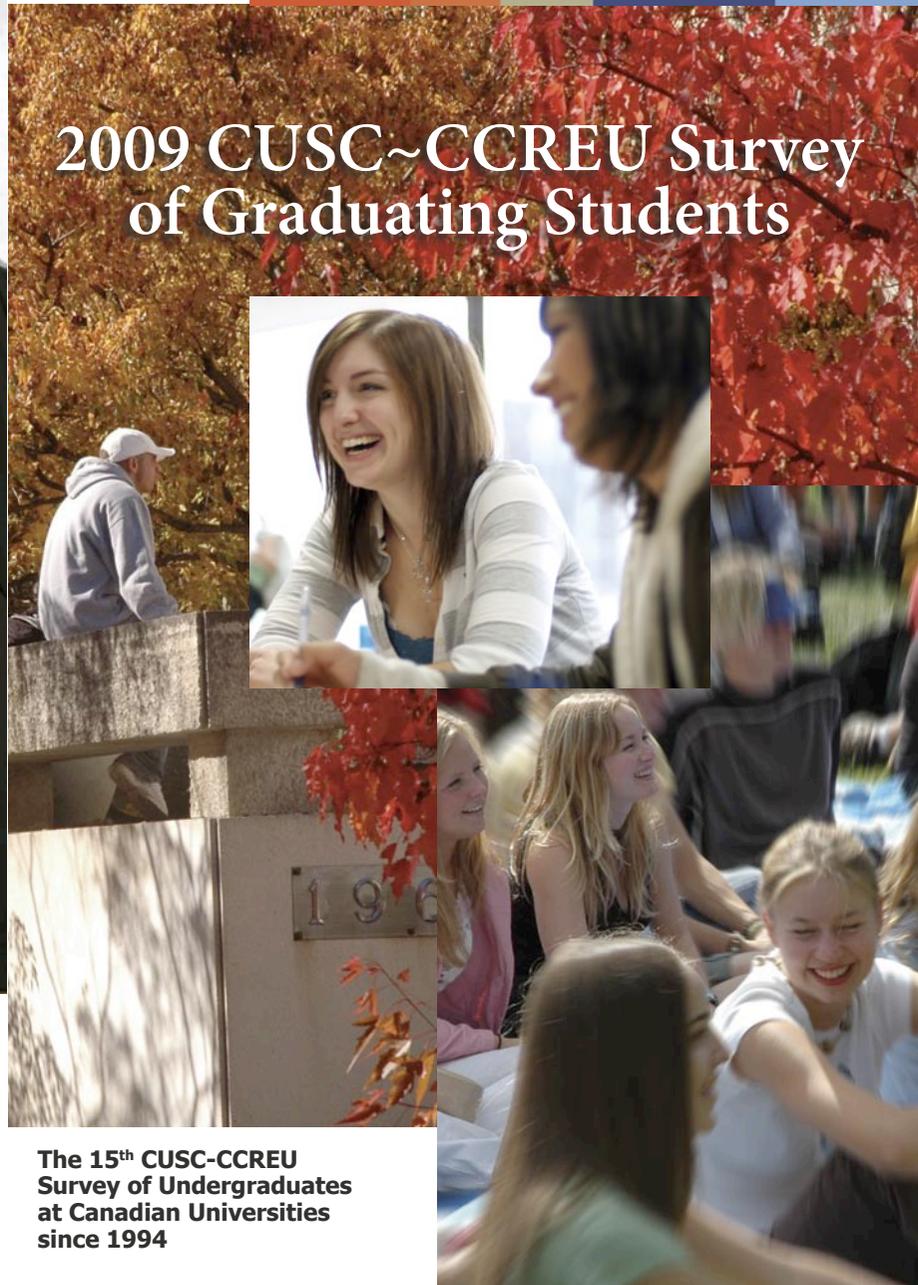
Many students have not decided what they want to do with their lives; only 6 students in 10 report having a specific career field. For many, this decision does not yet have to be made, since half of students intend to continue their education in the first year after graduating.

About 1 graduating student in 3 has arranged for full or part time employment other than a summer job, including 23% who have arranged a full time job. Slightly less than half of all students were seeking work at the time of the survey.

Of those with full time jobs, about 6 in 10 report that these jobs are permanent. Among the students who have arranged full or part time employment, half report that a degree in their area of study was required, while slightly more, about 6 students in 10, report that their degree helped them get their job. Two students in 3 report that their job is related to the knowledge and skills acquired from study at university.

On average, students with arranged jobs anticipate earning almost \$36,600 annually, although the amount is considerably lower for those with part time (about \$25,700) than full time employment (about \$40,700).

## 2009 CUSC~CCREU Survey of Graduating Students



**The 15<sup>th</sup> CUSC-CCREU  
Survey of Undergraduates  
at Canadian Universities  
since 1994**

### What students think of university facilities/services

The services that garner the highest satisfaction levels among students who use them are services for students with disabilities; library facilities; campus medical services; services for co-op programs, internships, or other program-related practical experience; and services for international students.

### Skill growth and development

Students give their universities the highest rating for contributing to their self-confidence, time management skills and identifying and solving problems.

### Student satisfaction

For the most part, students are satisfied with their university experiences.

Students indicated a couple of areas of concern.

- Many students (41%) are dissatisfied with the concern shown by their university for them as individuals, and many (43%) report that they sometimes feel they get the run-around from their university.
- Also, about one-third (32%) disagree that their university provides them with good value for their money.

The vast majority of students generally report being satisfied (90%) with the overall quality of education.

89% of students would recommend their university to others.

### Education financing and debt

The most commonly used sources of funding are parents or other family members (50%), although at least one-third of students report relying on earnings from summer or current employment; government loans or bursaries; or university scholarships, awards, or bursaries. On average, students' reported sources contribute just over \$12,000 to their current year.

Almost 6 in 10 students report having some debt from financing their education, most often from student loans. Overall, the average amount of debt per student is just under \$15,500. Among those reporting debt, the average amount per student is just below \$26,700. As well, student loans account for 56% of all reported student debt.

### Experiences at university

Students think that experiences at their university contribute to their personal growth and development. The activities that have the greatest impact are: *participating in international placements or exchanges* and *interacting with other students*.

### Profile of graduating students

The typical graduating student is a 24-year-old single female studying in English. Two-thirds of responding students are female. Most students are attending university full-time, taking a four-year degree program, studying in English, and graduating with a B+ average.

Almost one-quarter of students interrupted their studies for one or more terms during their post-secondary studies. Almost one-fifth of graduating students are first-generation students.

