

Survey: Engineering Graduates and Students Worried About Future Challenges



by Engr. Vivekasugha a/l Gunaalan

YOUNG ENGINEERS SECTION, IEM

THE survey was done among the engineering students and also graduates to obtain their views on their experiences and thoughts upon reaching the turning point of their engineering studies, graduation. Facebook was used as the main platform to obtain the students' and graduates' views on the issue to enable diversification and to reach more audiences. Besides that, Facebook also enabled the survey to be done to students and graduates around the country, including in East Malaysia. Total duration of survey was two (2) weeks. For the record, there are 8,445 graduates and 8,960 students registered with The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM).

A total of 115 students and graduates responded to questions posted via personal Facebook wall, Facebook student groups, and also through other engineering groups in Facebook. The pie chart below shows the breakdown of the results obtained from the survey done.

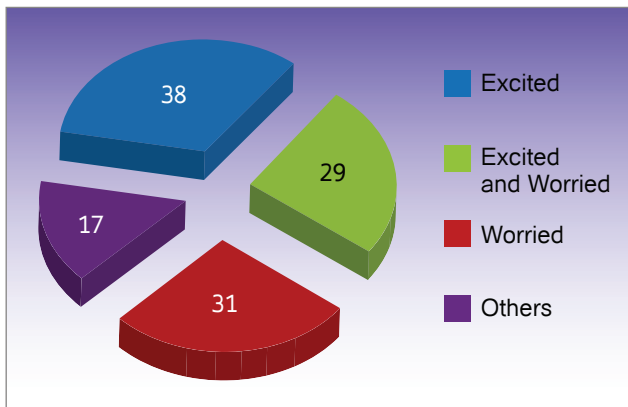


Figure 1: Results from the survey conducted

From the result obtained, a total of 38 respondents answered to be excited upon graduation, 31 respondents chose to be worried, 29 respondents claimed that they were having mixed feelings of excited and also worried at the same time and finally 17 chose a response other than the given options.

Many graduates were excited to leave the university and explore the engineering career that has been the dream of these engineering students. Many of the respondents were also worried on the challenges, remuneration, the "freshie engineer" label, and on getting an engineering job after graduating. Some had mixed feelings of being excited and also worried at the same time. Others had their own answer to their feelings upon graduating.

Some of the specific comments received are reproduced below:

"Excited because it's the end to read through the whole engineering books to understand the concept. Practical job gives the better experience I guess. I was also worried because still a freshie, who still lack of knowledge and experience compared to others."

Engr. Ahmad Azhar – Skudai, Johor

"I was very nervous at the point of graduation, since I had to get married back then!"

Engr. Mohd. Latiff bin Mohd Pazil – Universiti Teknikal Melaka (UTeM), Melaka

"I know I was worried because of the nature of electricity. Never underestimate the power of electricity."

Engr. Rishi Ganesh – Universiti Malaya (UM), Kuala Lumpur

"I knew I definitely needed a long vacation after all those years studying in the university."

Engr. Thiagan Paramasivan – Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN), Bangi

"At first I was very excited because no more exams, or so I thought. Then worried because not sure how fast a freshie without experience can obtain a job. Later, sad when found out that graduate engineers are not paid well. Now, I am happy to be a consultant."

Engr. Amri bin Ithnin

"I was very excited initially, but became sad soon when I realised that I have to start working."

Engr. Mohd. Rhaiz – Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN), Bangi

"I feel like jumping as high as I can at the point of graduation."

Sdri. Nur Hanim Hassan – Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Shah Alam

"I feel like a hero, by graduating!"

Sdr. Tengku Tie – Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Dungun

"Excited, but need to focus on preparing myself to enter the 'real' engineering world."

Sdr. Thomas Ngo Wei Kuok – Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Sabah

"Excited to graduate, but it's not so fancy when the status of 'student' changes to 'jobless', which frightens me very much."

Sdr. Venod Thevar – Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN), Bangi

It was concluded that, the graduates have different views on their peak of studies, graduation, but most of them share similar sentiments in terms of needing to focus on building up their engineering careers, after completion of between of 4 to 5 years of studies in the university. ■

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

MALAYSIA TORAY SCIENCE FOUNDATION (MTSF) AWARDS 2012

The **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH GRANT AWARD** is to recognise Malaysian scientists with outstanding achievements in their fields of research, and to provide financial assistance to deserving young Malaysian scientists in support of their basic research in their related fields and who have been recommended by a representative of the scientific institution or university. All submissions should be made direct to MTSF **by/before 31 May 2012**. For further details, please contact:

Malaysia Toray Science Foundation
 c/o Penfabric Sdn Berhad
 Prai Free Industrial Zone 1
 13600 Prai, Penang
 Tel: (04) 3854151/3908157 Fax: (04) 3908260
 E-mail: mtsf@toray.com.my Website: www.mtsf.org

1SUDOKU Centerpiece "1"

by Mr. Lim Teck Guan

Fill in the remaining 80 squares with single digits 1-9 such that there is no repeat of the digit in every Row, Column and Block. The number at the top left hand corner of the dotted cage indicates the total for the digits that the cage encompasses.

For tips on solving, visit www.1sudoku.com.my
 © Twin Tree Publishing

(Solution is on page 34 of this issue.)

12		12		15		9	
7		16		17		13	16
10				15			3
8	13	13			21		
		19		1	19	8	13
8			17				
	8			13		13	13
12			24			9	
10				11		7	



MACKENZIE INDUSTRIES

PROVIDE STEAM SOLUTION FOR TOMORROW'S INDUSTRY ENERGY NEEDS

Our strengths:-

- Provide customised specifications
- High efficient steam solution
- Sustainable energy generation

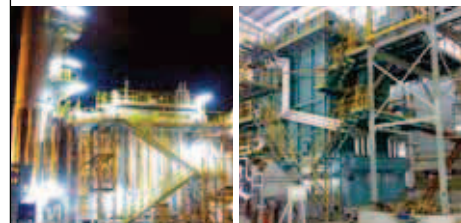


We specialise in the engineering design, manufacturing and supply of...

- Biomass Boiler
- Heat Recovery Steam Generator (HRSG)
- High Pressure Boiler
- Oil/Gas Fired Packaged Boiler

with auxiliary equipment to enhance boiler performance and efficiency

- Grate : Vibrating, Reciprocating
- Boiler Feedwater Economiser
- Air Preheater



Mackenzie Industries Sdn Bhd

Visit us at www.mackenzieind.com
 Tel : +603 5123 0018
 Fax : +603 5123 0028
 E-mail : sales.mackenzie@mackenzieind.com

A Member of Wah Seong Corporation Bhd