

Course adequacy survey.

Both the text for the structured interview and the data record sheet are available below.

Structured interview:

Hi, I'm ...*name of interviewer*..... working with the ...*students graduating department/school*.....and bioscience departments in 3 other universities to look at how well the course you did in*students graduating department/school*..... equipped you for the job you are now doing. Can you spare me two minutes to answer some questions about the course you graduated from in ...2003....? ---(*alternatives follow*)---

--- that's great –

--- can I contact you at a better time--- when?

--- it is confidential – your name will not be recorded

--- it would really help students graduating from the course you did if we can get a recent graduate's perspective on what needs to be changed in the course

---- it wont take more than 2 minutes and would really benefit future students.

OK, First just so you are aware the information you provide will be anonymized – your name will not appear on the form on which I am writing the information from this interview. The data may then be combined with that from other universities and will be analysed to draw conclusions. OK? (*If individual universities wish to change the above wording to meet their own needs they may do so without consultation.*)

Now a few questions about your degree. What was the name of the degree you obtained A
Were you a mature student on entry to your degree?

What class did you get B

Now a few questions about your current employment – are you employed or doing further study?

IF unemployed check not in casual job or studying at all. Ask what type of job are you hoping to get? Record this information, thank them for their time and end interview.

Who are you employed by..C

When did you start this job...D

Is this job ---E

--- PhD or higher degree? In what area?

--- discipline related job? Job title? What do you actually do?

--- non-discipline related job? Job title? What do you actually do?

Is this the employment area/job type in which you are going to make your career? i.e. do you regard this job as just filling in while you find the job you want or decide the area you want to make your career in? F

Now some question about how well your course prepared you for the job you are now doing.

Can you think of three areas of the job which you are doing which your course did not prepare you for? G – (*There follow some prompts to provide some thinking time to held the interviewee focus – use then if necessary*)

- Let me try to help you see what I'm after :when you started your job what was the first thing that you found you had to do but were not prepared for?
- Think back to when you started, what did you find to be the hardest part of the job?
- On your first day, apart from not knowing where the toilets where or how to get lunch, what else gave you a problem?
- In the first week in the job what did you have to go and ask for advice about?
- What training courses did you go on at the start of this job?
- Would you say then your course was a perfect preparation for the job you are doing? Where could it have been better?

Is there anything else you found hard because you were not properly prepared?

Now for things that your course prepared you for really well. What do you do that your course really prepared you well for? Parts of the job you coped with easily Up to three things. H

Any comments you want to add? We are looking at where your course did not prepare you well for the job you are now doing. I

Thank you for your time.

Date of interview Sex of interviewee Male Female (circle)

Telephone contact number

Time of interview...

A. Name of the degree

Mature student on entry to course? Yes No (circle)

B. Class of degree

C. Are you employed, even casual work or studying a further course? Who are you employed by? (If not employed or studying record type of desired job here), thank them for their time and end interview.

..
D. When did you start this job?

E. Is this job ----

--- PhD or higher degree? In what area?

--- discipline related job? Job title? What do you actually do?

--- non-discipline related job? Job title? What do you actually do?

F. Is this the employment area/job type in which you are going to make your career? i.e. do you regard this job as just filling in while you find the job you want or decide the area you want to make your career in?

Yes career type job

No just filling in

Other response (detail)

G. Can you think of three areas of the job which you are doing which your course did not prepare you for?

Let me explain, when you started your job what was the first thing that you found you had to do but were not prepared for?

What else did you find hard because you were not properly prepared?

1.

2

3

others

Were there any training courses you needed to go on at the start of your job?

H. What do you do that your course really prepared you well for? Up to three things.

1

2

3

others

I. Any comments you want to add? We are looking at where your course did not prepare you well for the job you are now doing.

Time of end of interview.....
