

Appendix 1 Improving the Quality of Work Placements Survey Data

Previous Work Experience (number of jobs, N=115)

	Full time			Part time			Learned something useful		
number jobs	1	2	3+	1	2	3+	1	2	3+
1-3 months	17	10	4	31	9	6	28	9	6
3-12 months	10	2	3	24	10	11	17	6	8
> 12 months	10	3	1	33	20	14	28	11	7
Total number of jobs:	91			259			188 (all FT+ 2/3 PT?)		

Importance and Frequency of Work Activities (2/4)

	Importance (N=121)			Frequency (N=122-3)		
Work activities	Medium & high (3+4)			Medium & high (3+4)		
Taking the initiative	96			74ML	86	
Development of relationships	95 100HM			70EPS	80	89ML
Problem solving	91 100HM			63ML	79	94HM
Evaluation: situations or opportunities	78EP	90 100AH		58 65HM		
Evaluating projects, reports or proposals	76EP	88 100ML		44AH	65	76HM
Group work	69ML	83		39AH	62	76HM
Troubleshooting	69ML	82 90EP		59ML	69	83EP
Presentations and/or performances	71EP	81		24AH	41	59HM
Information searches	65AH	72 88HM		68AH	76	88HM
Quality assurance	71			47AH	60	76HM
Management of people	53HM	71 85ML		15ML	27	32A/E
Research aimed at a publication or report	57AH	64 82HM		39AH	51	65HM
More sophisticated technical work	42ML	62 90EP		34AH	55	93EP
Research to develop a product or design	35ML	53 78EP		22ML	40	61EP
Entrepreneurship	35HM	48 65ML		12HM	22	30ML
Financial work	24HM		45 65ML	0 HM	19	41ML
Administration	34EP	45 62ML		35HM	55	70ML
Marketing	24E/H	34 65ML		6HM	21	41ML

Accommodation (N=124, 9% outside UK, 10% periods outside UK)

	Engineering Physical Sc.	Arts Human Sc.	Management Law	Health Medical Sc.	Total %
Digs	59	39	61	71	54
Home	24	46	25	12	30
University	17	12	11	6	13
Other	0	2	4	12	3

Student Views of the Quality of their placements so far (N=124)

	Quite good & very good, 4+5		Very good 5	
Physical environment	84	94 HMS	39 ML	45 54 HMS
Access to tools and facilities	75 ML	83 93 EPS	6 ML	45 65 HMS
Quality of relationships	80	88 HMS	36 ML	49 59 HMS
Access to appropriate expertise	64 ML	78 88 HMS	36 ML	51 61 EPS
Supervision	77	88 HMS		45 59 HMS
Induction to the job	75	82 HMS	24 AHS	31 41 HMS
Informal support	57 ML	74 88 HMS	29 ML	43 65 HMS
Challenging opportunities	70	83 EPS	32 ML	39 53 HMS
Allocation of appropriate work	54 ML	69 88 HMS	21 ML	31 37 AHS
Opportunities to be creative	60	71 HMS	22 EPS	28 35 HMS

Student views on Career Outcomes from their placements so far (N=124)

Outcomes	Quite high & very high 4+5		Very high 5	
Awareness of your strengths and potential	80		15 AHS	24 41 HMS
Awareness of what you need to achieve in your final year	78		32 ML	41 47 HMS
Quality of what you achieved in your placement	75	82 HMS	27 EPS	29 35 HMS
Awareness of the kind of work you want to do in the future	50 ML	65 76 AHS	24 EPS	30 41 HMS
Awareness of the work you do not want to do in the future	47 HMS	60 66 EPS	15 EPS	24 32 ML

Support for learning Tasks (117-8)	OK & Great 3+4	Great 4
How much have you learned from consulting other people?	90 98EPS	60ML 67 88HMS
To what extent has the choice of tasks given you enough scope for progression in <i>taking responsibility</i> for tasks?	86 94HMS	32EPS 44 69HMS
How much help have you had in learning your assigned tasks?	82 94HMS	42ML 49 71HMS
To what extent do people listen to your comments and suggestions?	81 94HMS	22AHS 31 35M/H
To what extent has the choice of tasks given you enough scope for progression in your <i>range of assigned tasks</i>	80 94HMS	30AHS 35 46HMS
To what extent has the choice of tasks given you enough scope for progression in <i>task difficulty</i> ?	62ML 77 88HMS	31ML 36 41AHS
How much have you learned from sharing tasks with others?	68EPS 76 94HMS	27ML 41 71HMS

Support for Project Work and Roles (N=119)	OK & Great 3+4	Great 4
To what extent have you been challenged by project work	65ML 76 94HMS	31ML 43 47HMS
How much responsibility have you been given in project work?	62ML 78 100HMS	27ML 44 59HMS
To what extent has participation in projects helped you to learn more about the content of the project?	88 100HMS	31ML 53 76HMS
new skills?	88	42ML 54 71HMS
how to work with other people on a focused piece of work?	77 94HMS	32ML 41 65HMS
how to handle uncertain situations?	66AHS 76 88HMS	24ML 38 47HMS
how to keep to deadlines?	68AHS 81 92ML	41EPS 45 53HMS
If you were given a responsible role, were you expected: to develop initiatives or projects	58ML 66 74AHS	33 41HMS
to monitor progress	71	26AHS 25 35HMS
to evaluate outcomes	64 71HMS	21AHS 25 29E/H
to manage people	24HMS 36 46ML	4ML 15 18AHS

How disappointed are you, if you have entered only **None** or **Some** for projects and roles?

	Eng Phys Sc	Art Hum	Man Law	Health Med Sc	Total %
Not at all	75	79	43	77	70
Quite a bit	22	14	52	23	26
Very much	3	7	5	0	4

<i>Most influential people</i>	PersonA	PersonB	PersonC	PersonD	PersonE	Total
Your supervisor	61	12	4	1	1	79
Your manager	20	34	9	4	1	68
Another senior person	4	27	28	0	1	60
Recent graduate	5	9	14	5	1	34
Experienced worker at graduate level	3	7	8	10	4	32
Experienced worker not at graduate level	2	4	11	5	4	26
Another student on placement	4	5	6	2	3	20
Less experienced worker in support role	2	0	2	1	2	7
Client or customer	0	0	0	3	4	7

Help from individual Influential Person's A, B & C (positive or negative). Data used is the sum of the two highest percentages of a 7 point scale. The column heads show the number of responses. D had responses from 22-27, E had responses from 15-17	A 85- 95	B 77- 89	C 63- 72
Helped you to accomplish your tasks	75	45	44
Helped you to understand situations	82	33	47
Helped you with collaborative working	63	52	50
Helped you with joint problem-solving	53	52	51
Guiding/introducing you to people who could be helpful	67	48	46
Guiding you on how to handle people	43	51	33
Guiding you on accessing relevant information	60	51	46
Encouraging you to take initiatives	60	38	35
Gave you tasks that offered learning opportunities	66	42	43
Gave you, or included you in, challenging project work	56	39	41
Gave you challenging roles that required initiative	55	44	33
Helped you to choose your work	40	61	28
Helped you to prioritise your work	41	58	29
Gave you constructive feedback on some of your work	74	43	41
Gave you constructive feedback on your work in general	69	47	32
Gave you constructive feedback on your mistakes or work below par	52	57	27
Gave you constructive feedback on your strengths and weaknesses	47	63	27

Number in each column for each interval of 10%

	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-82
Person A	0	0	4	4	6	3
Person B	0	3	6	6	2	
Person C	4	4	7	2		

Personal Initiatives (N=101)	No need	Not tried	Yes, no success	Yes - success		
Have you asked if you could visit other sections, sites or departments?	23	20	11	39AHS	46	67HMS
Have you asked to work with a different person or group?	35	24	9	16EPS	33	46AHS
Have you asked to move to a different section or	50	28	11	2AHS	11	

department?					
Have you asked anyone about the different kinds of work in your organisation?	13	7	3	77	93HMS
Have you asked to do different kinds of work?	21	23	13	30ML	44 60HMS
Have you asked anyone to introduce you to someone you would like to meet?	23	33	6	14EPS	39
Have you asked for new tasks in your current load?	13	13	9	50ML	65
Have you asked to work on a particular project?	23	24	9	29EPS	45 61AHS
Have you asked to be given more responsibility?	25	28	6	27HMS	42 54AHS
Have you persuaded others to back any of your initiatives?	24	25	8	33HMS	43
Have you overtly asked people for feedback on your work?	3	27	4	52ML	66 79AHS

Preparation before your placement	None	Little	Quite good	Very good		
Opportunities to meet students who have just returned						
From placements in your own subject/ department	21	30	31	5ML	18	27HMS
From organisations to which you might apply for a placement	27	32	29	0ML	12	27HMS
From particular parts of those organisations	40	32	26		8	20HMS
Choice of placements						
Understanding the advantages of placements for your future career, specifically or generally	2	10	49	22AHS	39	51EPS
Help in deciding what kinds of placement would best meet your needs	6	28	44	14ML	21	40HMS
Help in finding a placement	6	26	27	26AHS	40	53H/E
Support at department, faculty or university level						
General briefings on placements	2	17	60	9ML	21	33HMS
Seminars focused on the nature and quality of placement learning	7	27	51	5ML	14	27HMS
The work of the careers' service	23	24	40	5ML	12	20HMS
Advice from administrative staff	15	32	41	0ML	12	22EPS
Support during your placement year so far						
Through visiting tutors	6	27	38	18ML	29	37EPS
Through contacts with other staff	28	30	28	7ML	14	33HMS
Through discussing your placement report(s)	25	34	28	7ML	13	20HMS
Making good use of your placement experience in future job applications	19	20	27	14AHS	34	53HMS