

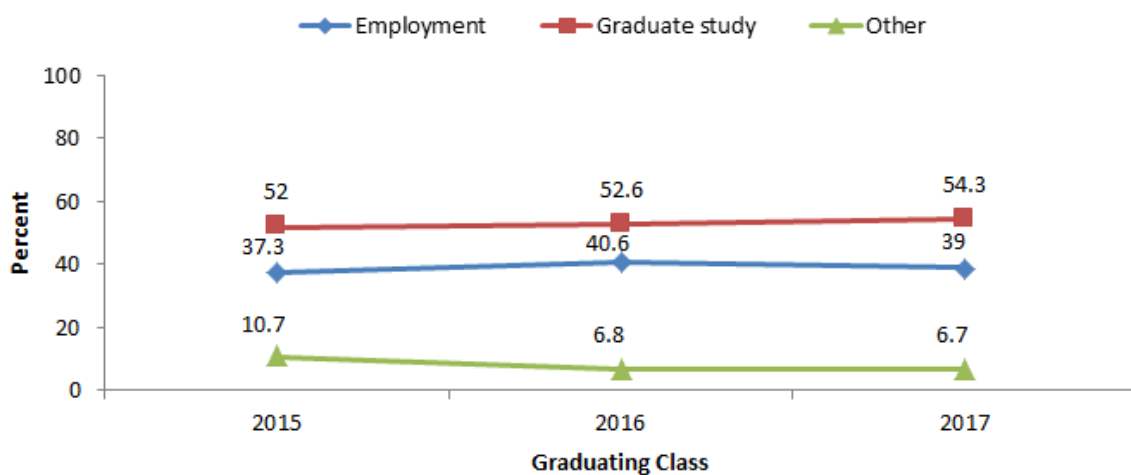
## **What Do NU Students Do after they Complete their Undergraduate Studies?**

Since 2015, NU has awarded more than 1,300 bachelor’s degrees. What happens after a student earns the degree matters to the student, NU, policy makers, and (ultimately) society. Considering that more students will complete their degree this June, Institutional Research (IR) and Career and Advising Center (CAC) have joined efforts to examine trends in post-graduation status over the last three years.

We report graduating students’ post-graduation plans, based on data from the Undergraduate Exit Survey administered by IR. We also report post-graduation status six and twelve months after graduation, based on data collected by CAC. This analysis provides basic insights on what NU undergraduate students (1) plan to do and (2) actually do after they graduate.

Figure 1 shows what graduating students planned to do after completing the degree. Results suggest that the majority of students (52%-54%) planned to pursue further education after graduation. About 40% planned to work. Students’ post-graduation plans have not changed significantly over the last three years.

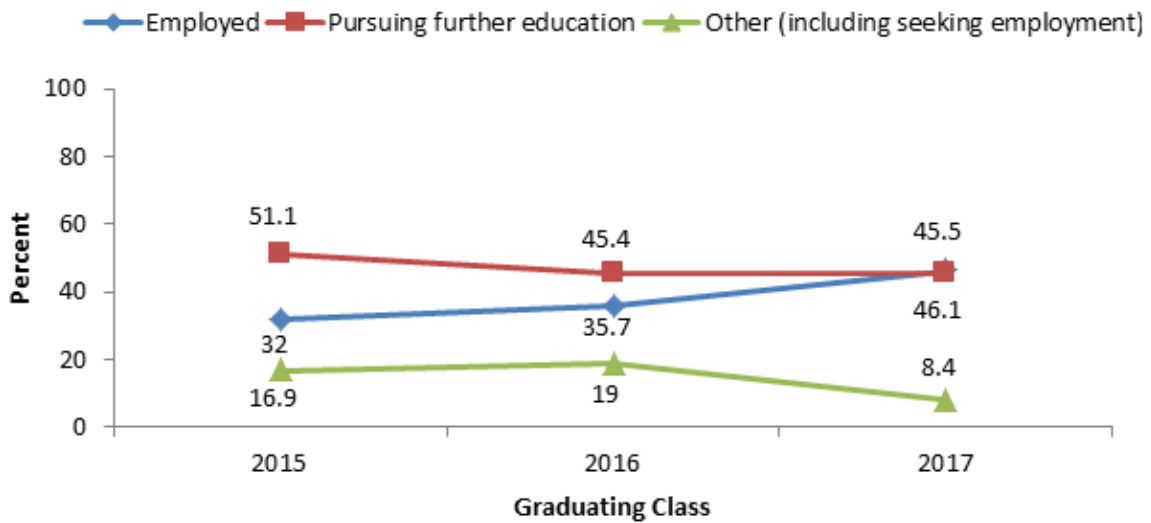
**Figure 1. Fourth-Year Undergraduate Students' Plans after Graduation**



Source: NU Undergraduate Exit Survey 2015-2017 (administered by IR)

Figure 2 shows that most graduates were indeed pursuing further education six months after completing their bachelor’s degree at NU. However, the number of students pursuing further education decreased by 11%, whereas the number of students employed increased by 44% from 2015 to 2017. Analyses of 12-month status data revealed that 42 percent of the 2015 and 2016 graduating cohorts were employed and 48% were pursuing further education 12 months after completing their bachelor’s degree at NU.

**Figure 2. Graduates' Status Six Months after Graduation**



Data source: NU Career and Advising Center

In sum, results indicate that the vast majority of NU bachelor's degree recipients (over 80%) are either employed or pursuing further education within 6 months of graduation. NU graduates have, historically, tended to prefer further education. However, most recent data suggest a substantial increase in the number of students who choose to pursue career opportunities (rather than further education).

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We invite you to write to IR ([ir@nu.edu.kz](mailto:ir@nu.edu.kz)) and (1) share your thoughts and experiences relative to the topic under discussion in this **IR-MFF** issue and/or (2) suggest a question/topic that you would like us to address in a future issue of the **IR-MFF**. A PDF version of the current IR-MFF issue is attached to this email.

The IR-MFF is published every last Friday of the month or, if the relevance and timeliness of the topic require, earlier (August through November and January through April). Analyses are *limited to 300 words or less (narrative text) and one or two graphs/tables*. If you need more detailed information (methodological or otherwise), please contact IR at [ir@nu.edu.kz](mailto:ir@nu.edu.kz).

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