

REPORT - RIBA Student Destinations Survey 2012

Introduction

The RIBA Student Destinations Survey is a partnership project between the RIBA and the University of Sheffield. It is a longitudinal study to be delivered over a ten-year period. It is currently in its second year.

The project has been designed to provide an accurate picture of the employment situation for RIBA Part I graduates. At present very little is known about where RIBA Part 1 graduates eventually end up working, such as:

- What proportion of graduates stay in the profession?
- The effect of student fees on who enters architectural education?
- If graduates leave the profession, why do they leave and how useful was their education in securing work in another field?
- How prepared are graduates are to move to other parts of the world to find employment?

We need this information in order to make architectural education more needs led in the future, to improve the employability of RIBA Part 1 graduates and to gain a better understanding of what happens when graduates leave school to join the profession. Therefore, this information is crucial to the development of the profession.

Methodology

For the pilot phase in 2011, seven schools of architecture with different profiles from across the UK were invited to participate. The University of Sheffield, in collaboration with RIBA and the participating schools, created a pilot questionnaire to send out to recent Part 1 graduates. This survey was emailed as an online version via 'survey monkey' directly to graduates from their own university. In 2012 the same questionnaire was sent to graduates from the survey in 2011 (who were RIBA Part 1 graduates from 2010) and 2011 graduates in 2010 or 2011).

In 2011 the survey was open for one month and **138** graduates who had recently completed RIBA Part 1 responded. The following year, 2012, also saw the survey open for a month and **55** graduates who had recently completed RIBA Part 1 responded and **37** graduates who completed their RIBA Part 1 in 2010 (**23** of which had previously completed the survey).

There was very little difference in the responses between 2011 Graduates (S2012) and 2010 Graduates (S2011) responses. There was also little difference between the 2010/2011 Graduates (S2011/12) and 2010 Graduates (S2012) respwas v

The great majority of the respondents that were 'not working in architecture or studying but were in other forms of employment' (just over 20% of the 2010/2011 Graduates (S2011/12)) were keen to find employment in architecture with only 18% stating that they were no longer interested in architecture as a career, while 70% reported difficulties in finding employment in architecture. These responses echoed those of 2010 Graduates (S2012). These respondents were working in a variety of professions, many in the retail industry. One had moved into

influenced their care

