This report provides an overview of select data derived from the GCC, Inc. Annual Member Survey administered April 10-May 11, 2018.¹ Data were collected from 243 respondents via SurveyMonkey and responses were voluntary. This is the third year that the survey has been conducted and data trend analysis will only be initiated once a benchmark has been established.

Data provided in this document can be utilized by current membership in reports and presentations with proper citation and credit to the Graduate Career Consortium, Inc. Key information may be beneficial to members in developing or enhancing current resources, personnel, or budgets, for example.

Who are we?

The Graduate Career Consortium, Inc. (GCC) leads the advancement of the graduate-level career and professional development community. The GCC provides leadership and serves as an international voice for graduate-level career and professional development.

95% of GCC 2018 Annual Member Survey respondents hold an advanced degree with 62% holding a doctorate (i.e., PhD, JD, MD, or EdD). Other respondents hold advanced degrees in counseling or higher education. (34%).

The membership degree breakdown by discipline is counseling or a related field (28%), life or biomedical science (26%), humanities (22%), social science (14%), and physical science, math, or engineering (5%).

GCC members have considerable experience providing career and professional development services for doctoral candidates and postdoctoral scholars. 75% of GCC Annual Member Survey respondents reported having at least 3 years of experience in the field and 38% reported having at least 6 years of experience.

The GCC membership includes individual staff and administrators who provide or support professional and career development services for doctoral candidates and/or postdoctoral scholars. GCC members must be affiliated with one of the following types of organizations:

- Highest Research Activity or Doctoral Universities: Higher Research Activity (through the Carnegie Classification)
- Research institutes, medical schools, and other government or non-profit organizations (such as AHA, NIH, APA) that engage in or support the research endeavor
- The GCC membership also includes individual staff and administrators who provide or support professional and career development services for doctoral candidates and/or postdoctoral scholars at Canadian U15 institutions, Canadian medical schools as well as the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology based in Okinawa, Japan
The Graduate Career Consortium, Inc. membership is undergoing rapid growth. The organization operated unofficially from 1987 to 2013 through meetings at members’ institutions to share best practices and to identify national trends, as well as to engage with other university PhD career advisors. The GCC now hosts regional meetings and one annual national conference with over 200 members attending. Since April 2015 the membership grew by 69%, from 219 members in April 2015 to 371 members in 2018.

Where do we work?

As a whole, GCC members provide career and professional development to doctoral candidates and postdoctoral scholars. 90% of GCC members work at universities while another 4% work at independent research institutes or hospitals. An additional 6% work at other types of organizations, professional societies, or government agencies. 90% of members work at universities.
How do we help graduate students and postdoctoral scholars?

GCC 2018 Annual Member Survey respondents report devoting their time primarily to career services-type activities, including direct service delivery (advising or programs), managing collaborations with campus partners, conducting internal administrative work, and engaging in employer relations:

- 30% of respondents spend the majority of their time (more than 50%) on direct service delivery
- 78% report spending time managing collaborations
- 31% report spending time managing external relations and partnerships (industry partners + others)
- 67% of respondents spend less than 30% of their time on internal management and administration

How do we collaborate internally to support graduate students and postdoctoral scholars?

Members collaborate with diverse campus offices and external partners:

- 88% of respondents report collaborating with specific graduate academic divisions and colleges
- 85% with graduate academic departments
- 69% regularly partner with international student and scholar offices
- 60% report working with the PostDoc Affairs Office
- 46% report regularly partnering with an alumni office.

88% collaborate with academic units
How do we collaborate *externally* to support graduate students and postdoctoral scholars?

66% partner with employers

Within the context of developing and delivering programming, members report regularly partnering with employers, paid outside speakers, and staff and faculty at other universities:

- 66% of respondents report partnering with local employers/companies
- 50% with paid outside speakers

The benchmarking data support the strategic priorities of the GCC including national & growing international presence, innovation & best practices, professional development, sustainability, and membership engagement.