
Desired Qualification of Graduates of the Faculty of Industrial Technology

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Abstract: The purpose of this research was to study the desirable qualifications of graduates. The participants were graduated bachelor's degree from the faculty of Industrial Technology, Buriram Rajabhat University in academic year 2015-2016. The result showed that the highest satisfactions were the morality, ethics, diligence, honesty, patience, and professional skills ($\bar{Y}_5 = 4.80$). It was followed by the creative thinking and acquiring knowledge ($\bar{Y}_6 = 4.76$). Then, the satisfaction on the knowledge application to develop their local was at the least level ($\bar{Y}_4 = 4.57$). However, when the means of satisfaction of graduates for the desirable qualifications were compared as topic level, it was found that the p-value was 0.041, which was less than the statistical significance level that was set at 0.05. Therefore, the differences in each topic of desirable characteristics of graduates affected the satisfaction level of desirable characteristics of graduates of the faculty of Industrial Technology. The faculty of Industrial Technology had to develop the desirable characteristics of graduates by applying the knowledge to develop their own local. Because of this, the employers will be satisfied by the graduates' desirable characteristics who graduated in the bachelor's degree from the faculty of Industrial Technology, Buriram Rajabhat University.

Keywords: Graduates, Desirable Qualifications, Employers

1. Introduction

The faculty of Industrial Technology in Buriram Rajabhat University, Buriram Province, situated at the Northeast region of Thailand, consists of 6 departments; industrial design, construction technology, architecture technology, electronics technology, technology of ceramics and industrial management. Its mission is to produce the manpower to support the expansion of the small and medium enterprises (SME) of an industrial sector in the state policy, since the satisfactory is needed for manpower both of the local level to the national level. This Faculty is a manufacturer of graduates who graduated bachelor's degree of industrial technology to fill the needs of local community. The graduates applied their knowledge to develop society and country. However, they have a job in their fields and other fields. The learning achievement of the graduates was also measured after they graduated for one year by measuring the percentage of the graduates with unemployment. This research aimed to develop the quality of graduates set from labor markets. The employers requested

activation, responsibility, knowledge and abilities for working and the social personality from the graduates. Therefore, the researcher studied the graduates working ability and evaluated the desired qualification and characteristics for graduates' working. The result of this research was used to improve and to develop the teaching method and to improve the graduates' ability provided by universities for the labor market. The human resource management will support the public sector of economic development in the country.

It was necessary to open the curriculum of industrial technology in universities to support the policies of the country and requirements of manpower. It also had the motivation of the increasing of employment and labor needs as well [1]. Therefore, all of them have an inspiration to generate students into working with companies after graduating. In addition, the characteristics of graduates that needed by companies were having appropriate academic knowledge and morality and ethics in occupation. Nowadays, graduates also have to develop their occupational skill in order to have a good opportunity to work with companies. Moreover, the industry also developed the human resource for competing with others as it is important

for the business to grow up in a country. In addition, they have to receive the highest quality of personnel from the universities in order to work. The faculty can train the students for the best of knowledge, morality, experience, language and prepared them to get into working market after graduation. This principal of industrial technology education will be an achievement. However, the development of the students of the faculty to prepare in a various field is also extremely necessary. The characteristic of a curriculum in each qualification level ensures the effectiveness of universities in order to generate for achievement [2]-[3].

The objective of this research was to survey the desirable characteristic of graduates for employers about knowledge, morality, and language. The items were shown in below section.

2. Research Methodology

This study was a survey research which investigated the desirable characteristics of the graduates who graduated bachelor’s degree from the faculty of Industrial Technology, Buriram Rajabhat University in the academic year 2015 - 2016. The instrument of this study was questionnaire. The demographic data was used to collect information on the employees.

2.1. Population and Samples

The samples of this study were 109 companies. They had to

complete the questionnaires in order to survey the characteristics of graduates from 6 departments in each employer’s option. The results were analyzed and compared the satisfaction of the main point in work.

2.2. Research Framework and Variables

The researcher studied the desirable characteristics of graduates as shown in Figure 1. This research instrument was questionnaire adapted from the survey of employability in workplace. It was divided into 3 sections. Section A consisted of the demographic questions. Section B was included the fields of theirs studies in departments. Section C consisted of the questions which measured the employers’ satisfaction. The elaborations were as followed [4]-[7].

Section A: The Departments of Graduated.

Section B: General Information of Respondents.

Section C: The Needs of Desirable Characteristics of Graduates;

- Abilities in academic and professional skills.
- Use of language, foreign language, and information technology.
- Understanding and realization of the value of local.
- Application of knowledge to develop their own local.
- Having morality, ethics, diligence, honesty, patience, and professional skills.
- Having creative thinking and acquiring knowledge.

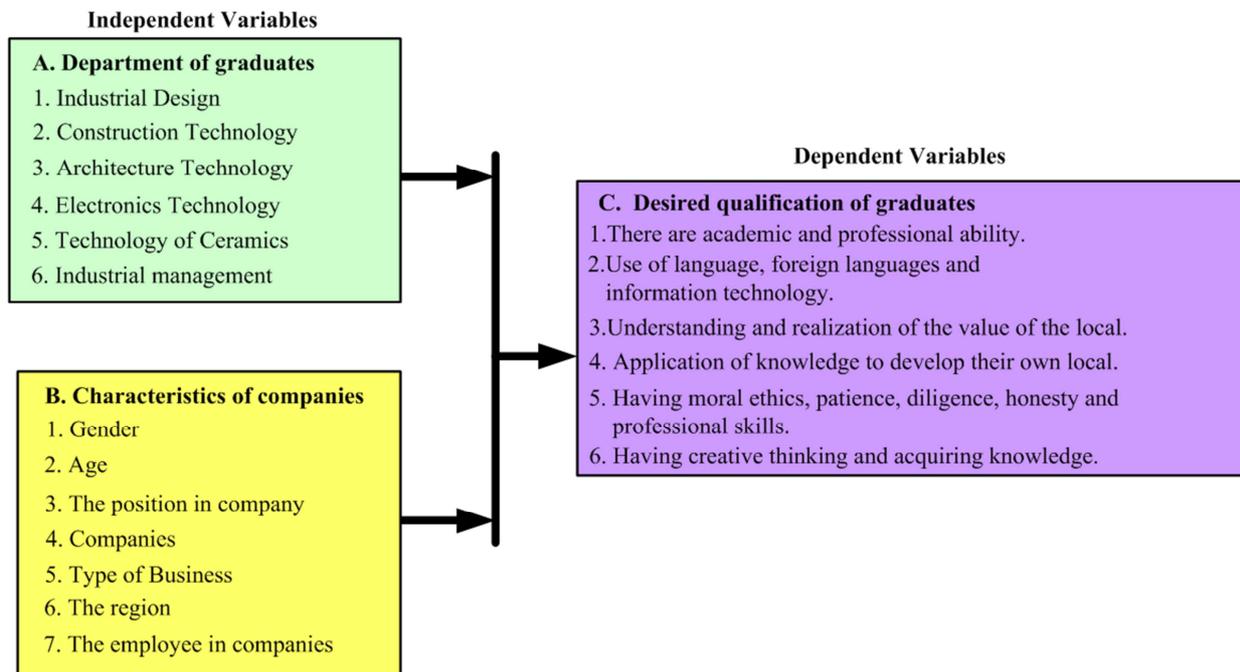


Figure 1. Research framework.

2.3. Instrument Used in the Data Collection

The research instrument was questionnaire which was adapted from psychosocial working condition questionnaires of [8]-[9] which were used for assessing characteristics of graduates. There are 4 processes of data analysis;

2.3.1. Questionnaire Design

To investigate the completeness and relevancy of the answers in the questionnaire.

2.3.2. Rating Scale of Questionnaire

The questionnaires measured with 5 level rating scale, as 5

= very much satisfaction to 1 = least satisfaction. It analyzed the graduate's characteristic needed by the companies as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. The 5 level of response scale.

Satisfaction	Level
Very much	5
Much	4
Moderate	3
Less	2
Least	1

2.3.3. Data Analysis

The objective of this study was to investigate the relationship of the desired qualification of graduates. The respondents were selected based on the convenience sampling, then the descriptive statistics used to analyze the data were frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, and ANOVA by using the Statistical for Social Science (SPSS) program. The statistical results were presented on the table and the employer's satisfaction was discussed. The means of satisfaction were analyzed and compared with the functions of satisfying into 5 boundary condition in [10]-[12], as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. The explanation of functions which satisfy.

Mean	Level of satisfaction
1.00-1.49	Least
1.50-2.49	Low
2.50-3.49	Moderate
3.50-4.49	Much
4.50-5.00	High

2.3.4. The Statistic Analysis

The data from the questionnaires was analyzed by using statistics as the followed;

Part 1: General information of respondents was analyzed by the frequency and percentage.

Part 2: The level of satisfaction of employers was analyzed by using the mean and standard deviation.

Part 3: The relationship of 6 items that represented the characteristics of graduates was analyzed by using the randomized complete block design (RBD) with the significance level at 0.05. If curriculums affected the level of desirable characteristics of graduates, a researcher will use the method of Duncan's multiple range test for comparing the average of satisfaction on desirable characteristics of graduates in each item and bring the results to develop the curriculums.

Part 4: The recommendation of desirable graduates' characteristics from companies.

2.4. Hypothesis Testing

$H_0: \tau_1 = \tau_2 = \tau_3 = \tau_4 = \tau_5 = \tau_6 = 0$

$H_1: \tau_i \neq 0$ the least 1 value when $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$ when the significance level at 0.05

$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = \beta_5 = \beta_6 = 0$

$H_1: \beta_j \neq 0$ the least 1 value when $j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$ when the significance level at 0.05

3. Explanation and Results

The collected data was the desirable qualifications of graduates from the faculty of Industrial Technology. The instrument used in this study was the questionnaire. The purpose of this study was to survey the desirable characteristics of graduates from employers' opinion. It identified the variables and the independent's factors of requirements from an employee in section A and section B. Then, in section C was the dependent factor. The total populations were 109 respondents who returned the questionnaire. This study measured the desired qualification of graduates from the companies.

The percentage of the graduates from the 6 departments, as shown in Table 3, included: the Department of Industrial Management (55.04%), Electronics Technology (13.76%), Construction Technology (11.00%), Industrial Design (7.33%), and the Department of Architecture Technology and Technology of Ceramics (6.42%).

Table 3. The departments of graduates.

Department of graduates	N=109	(%) Percentage
Industrial Design	8	7.33
Construction Technology	12	11.00
Architecture Technology	7	6.42
Electronics Technology	15	13.76
Technology of Ceramics	7	6.42
Industrial management	60	55.04

Table 4. The percentage of general information.

Demographic Factors	N=109	(%) Percentage
1. Gender		
Male	83	76.14
Female	26	23.85
2. Age		
31-40	59	54.12
41-50	50	45.87
3. The Position in Company		
Head Office	43	39.44
Department Manager	36	33.02
Employee	30	27.52
4. Companies		
A Private Company	93	85.32
State Enterprise	13	10.91
Government	3	2.75
5. Type of Business		
Design and Decoration.	37	33.94
Computer	32	29.35
Public Assistants	3	2.75
6. The Region		
Northeast Region	65	59.63
Central Region	31	28.44

Demographic Factors	N=109	(%) Percentage
Western Region	3	2.75
7. The Employee in Companies		
< 100	96	88.07
100-300	13	11.92

The percentage and sample size of general information represented the general information of respondents as shown

in Table 4. Most of the respondents were male (76.14%), and female (23.85%). The age of 31-40 years old (54.12%), followed by 41-50 years old (45.87%). The position in the company of respondents were the head of office (39.44%), department manager (33.02%) and employee (27.52%), respectively. Most of the respondents were in a private company (85.32%), the state enterprise (11.91%), and the government (2.75%).

Table 5. The average satisfaction of graduates.

Demographic Factors	Mean	S.D.	Level of satisfaction
There are academic and professional ability.			
1. Academic knowledge	4.94	0.22	High
2. Professional ability.	4.77	0.42	
3. Knowledge in the work unit	4.84	0.15	
4. The responsibility	4.53	0.23	
5. Operating methods	4.97	0.52	
6. Application of knowledge	4.33	0.28	
	$\bar{Y}_1 = 4.73$	0.32	
Use of language, foreign languages and information technology.			
1. Using Technology	4.76	0.42	High
2. Communication	4.83	0.23	
3. Statistic	4.81	0.38	
4. Document Storage	4.45	0.50	
	$\bar{Y}_2 = 4.71$	0.38	
Understanding and realization of the value of the local.			
1. A local academic	4.47	0.50	High
2. Local benefits	4.72	0.44	
3. Local procedures	4.87	0.33	
	$\bar{Y}_3 = 4.68$	0.42	
Application of knowledge to develop their own local.			
1. Using local knowledge	4.50	0.50	High
2. The local application	4.76	0.42	
3. The local creativity	4.45	0.50	
	$\bar{Y}_4 = 4.57$	0.47	
Have moral ethics, patience, diligence, honesty and professional skills.			
1. To be a Honest	4.87	0.33	High
2. Social rules	4.98	0.13	
3. Punctual	4.56	0.49	
4. Sacrificing	4.98	0.32	
5. Industrious	4.79	0.40	
6. The responsibility	4.66	0.47	
7. The moral	4.76	0.42	
	$\bar{Y}_5 = 4.80$	0.36	
Have creative thinking and acquiring knowledge.			
1. The task sequence	4.96	0.18	High
2. Analytical thinking	4.79	0.40	
3. Learn the job	4.76	0.43	
4. The vision	4.70	0.46	
5. Problem-solving	4.61	0.48	
	$\bar{Y}_6 = 4.76$	0.39	
The total of satisfaction graduates	4.70	0.39	High

Besides, the types of respondents' business were design and decoration (33.94%), computer (29.35%) and public assistant (2.75%). The locations of respondents' business were in the northeast region (59.63%), central region (28.44%) and western region (2.75%). In addition, the sizes of the respondents' business were under 100 employees (88.07%) and more than 100-300 employees (11.92%).

In Table 5, the desirable qualifications of graduates were presented. The participants were the employers who completed the questionnaires from the workplace. It was divided into 6 items of satisfaction. The result suggested that the fifth item which consisted of the moral, the ethics, the patience, the diligence, the honesty and the professional skills were at the highest average level ($\bar{Y}_5 = 4.80$). When

considered each item, the researchers found that both sacrificing and social rules were at the highest average level (4.98), and the least average level at 4.56 was be punctual. Then, the sixth item which represented the creative thinking and acquiring knowledge continuously was at the high level ($\bar{Y}_6 = 4.76$). When the researchers considered each item, it was found that the part of task sequence was at high satisfaction level with the average of 4.96, and the problem-solving was at the lowest satisfaction level with the average of 4.61. The result also showed that the first item which consisted of the academic and professional ability of desired qualification of graduates was at high level ($\bar{Y}_1 = 4.73$). Considering each item, the part of operating methods was at high satisfaction level with the average of 4.97, and the application of knowledge was at much satisfaction level with the average of 4.33. Using language, foreign languages and information technology which were

included in the second item were at high level ($\bar{Y}_2 = 4.71$). The result of considering each item showed that the part of communication was at high satisfaction level with the average of 4.83 and the document storage was at much satisfaction level with the average of 4.45. Then, the third item which included the average of the understanding and realization of the value of the local was at high average level ($\bar{Y}_3 = 4.68$). Considering each item, the part of local procedures was at high satisfaction level with the average of 4.87 and the local academic was at much satisfaction level with the average of 4.47. Finally, the application of knowledge to develop their own local which was included in the forth item was at high average level ($\bar{Y}_4 = 4.57$). The result of each item revealed that the subject of the local application was at high satisfaction level with the average of 4.76 and the local creativity was at much satisfaction level with the average of 4.45.

Table 6. The summation of desired qualification of graduates consisted of 6 departments.

Demographic Factors	Department of						Mean
	Industrial Design	Construction Technology	Architecture Technology	Electronics Technology	Technology of Ceramics	Industrial Management	
1. There are academic and professional ability.	4.70	4.83	4.72	4.69	4.75	4.72	4.73
2. Use of language, foreign languages and information technology.	4.71	4.70	4.69	4.71	4.72	4.76	4.71
3. Understanding and realization of the value of the local.	4.57	4.69	4.71	4.47	4.79	4.85	4.68
4. Application of knowledge to develop their own local.	4.75	4.77	4.40	4.47	4.51	4.54	4.57
5. Having moral ethics, patience, diligence, honesty and professional skills.	4.81	4.89	4.86	4.76	4.83	4.69	4.80
6. Having creative thinking and acquiring knowledge continuously.	4.85	4.78	4.79	4.81	4.64	4.74	4.76
Mean	4.73	4.75	4.69	4.65	4.70	4.71	-

The result revealed that the employers satisfied with the graduates at high level (4.70). Moreover, according to Table 6, the Department of Construction Technology received the highest satisfaction level at the average of 4.75, followed by the Industrial Design (4.73), the Industrial Management (4.71), the Technology Ceramics (4.70), Architecture Technology (4.69), and the Electronic Department of Technology (4.65), respectively.

The graduates of the Department of Architecture Technology had the application of the knowledge to develop their own local at much satisfied level (4.40) which was considered to be at minimum level while the Department of Construction Technology had the moral, the ethics, the patience, the diligence, the honesty and the professional skills at the maximum level of high satisfaction level (4.89). However, it can be summarized that the employers satisfied with the desired qualification as shown in Table 6.

4. Discussion

This section examined the relationship between the 6 items which represented the desired characteristics of graduates and the fields of each department that were different in the satisfaction of desired qualifications of graduates in each course. The researchers used Randomize Complete Block Design (RBD) in testing; and if the desired qualifications of

graduates were at different level, the researchers used a method of Duncan’s multiple range test to compare the satisfaction level in each item.

4.1. The Results of the Hypothesis Test

This study used Two-way ANOVA to analyze the variance response versus fields as shown in Table 7 [13]-[14].

Table 7. The Block-Design Tests.

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	P
Treatment	5	0.007347	0.0014694	0.11	0.989
Block	5	0.185381	0.0370761	2.76	0.041
Error	25	0.336369	0.0134548	-	-
Total	35	0.529097	-	-	-

$S = 0.1160$ R-Sq = 36.43% R-Sq (adj) = 11.00%

The p-value was = 0.041, which was less than the significance level at 0.05, therefore, the Ho was rejected. This means there was differences among the desirable characteristics of graduates in each item which affected the satisfaction with the significance level of 0.05.

4.2. Duncan's Multiple Range Testing

Duncan testing was used to compare the means value of multiple variables, where, in each set, means have been found

knowledge in development their community, which the employers will be satisfied.

5. Conclusion

The responders in this study indicated satisfaction with the adequacy of the industrial programs. There were problems with the industrial education and preparation for work in industrial technology. However, it can be concluded that the desirable characteristics of graduates in the Faculty of Industrial Technology should be developed in the item 4 from Table 5, as it received the minimum level in the application of the knowledge, the document storage, the local academic and the local creativity, respectively. However, in item 4, they have to apply knowledge to develop their own community which the employers will be satisfied. Moreover, they should have some experiences in their studies settings in the field of industry, which may have assisted them in clearer understanding in order to prepare themselves for the reality of the workplace. In addition, the satisfaction level, according to the graduates' report, was at the lowest level in the Department of Architecture Technology in item 4. As a consequence, the lecturers of the department need to integrate the learning requirements from employers with theory and skill development in the university environments and a training of human resources. Hence, the graduates will finally be supported to receive the advantages on the quality of learning and employers' satisfaction.

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