

Fast-forward 6 years

The life of a NZ CSRSC 2007 attendee

Alyona Medelyan, Pingar



6 years ago @ NZ CSRSC 2007

Fast-forward ^{several} 6 years

The lives of NZ CS PostGraduates
~~The life of a NZ CSRSC 2007 attendee~~

Alyona Medelyan, Pingar

Where, how and how quickly will I find my first full-time **job**?

Shall I stay in **Academia** or go into the **Industry**?

How much will I **earn** and what will affect my salary?

Will I be **happy** with my choices?

The Kiwi CS PostGraduates Survey

3 weeks on
 SurveyMonkey

Advertised via

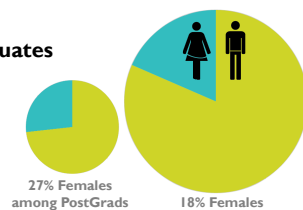
NZ CSRSC & University groups on

Alumni, Postgrad & Careers departments of



Who responded?

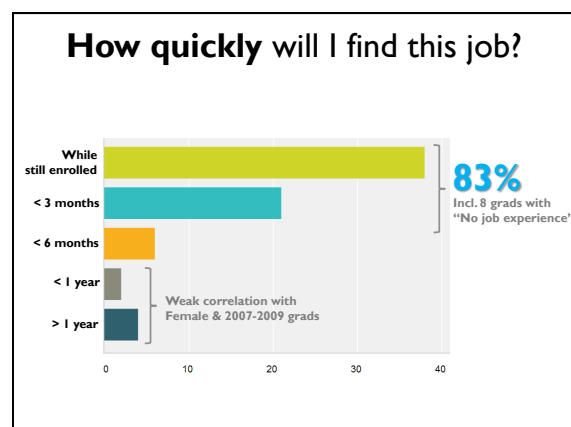
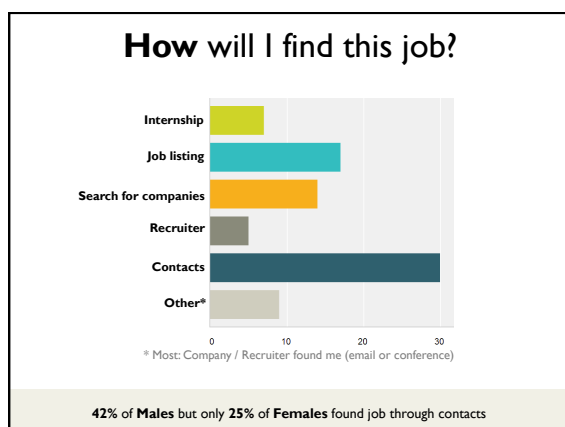
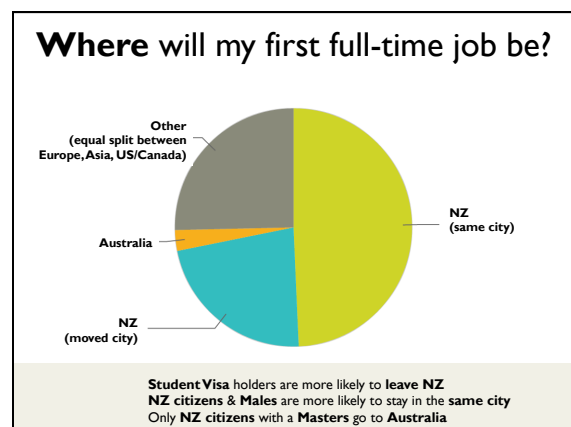
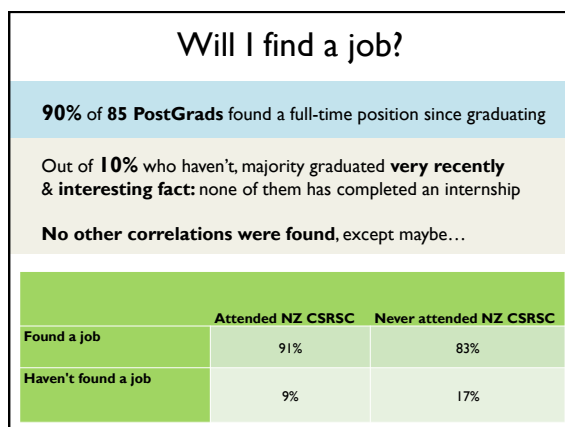
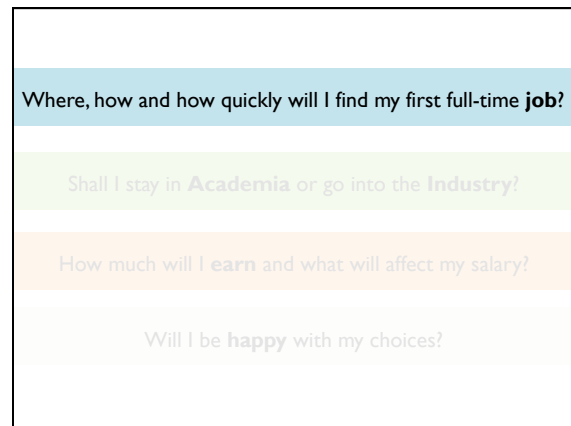
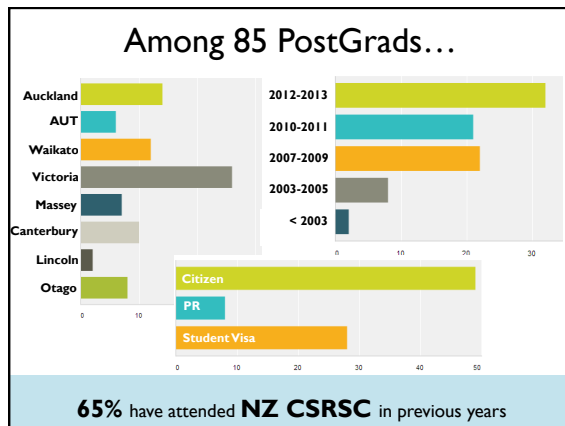
155 Kiwi CS Graduates
70 Bachelors
35 Masters
50 PhDs

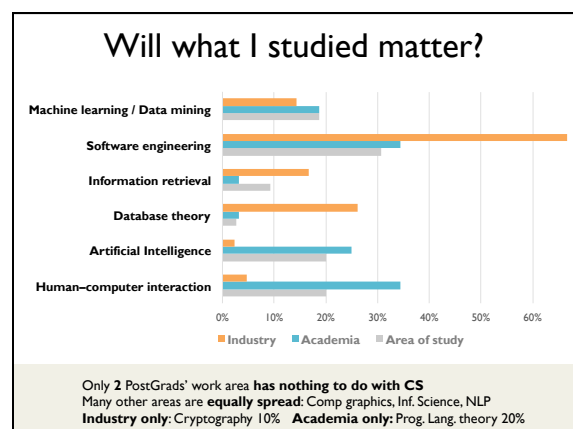
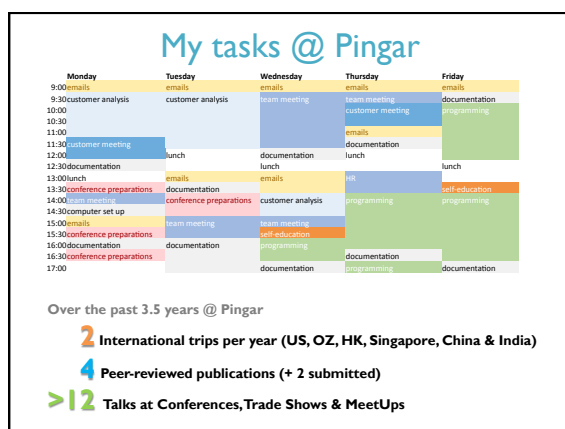
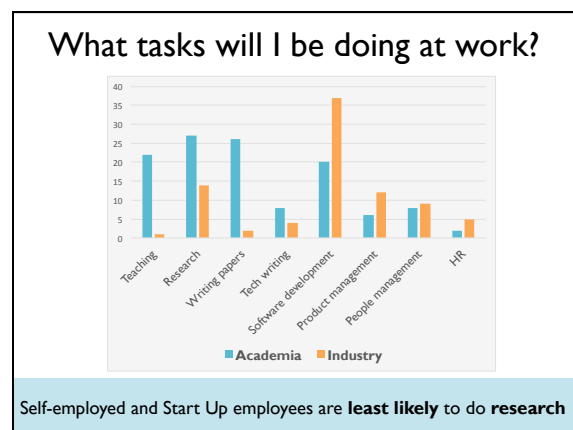
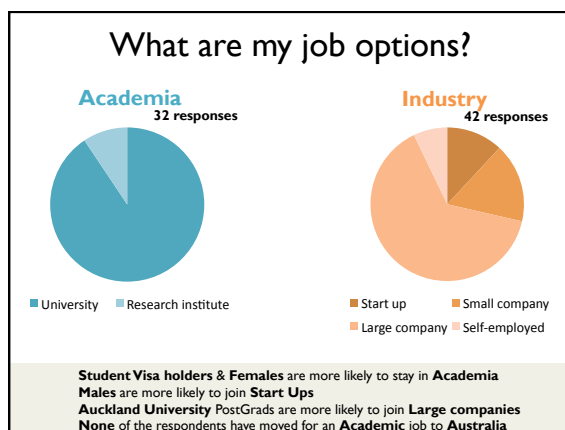
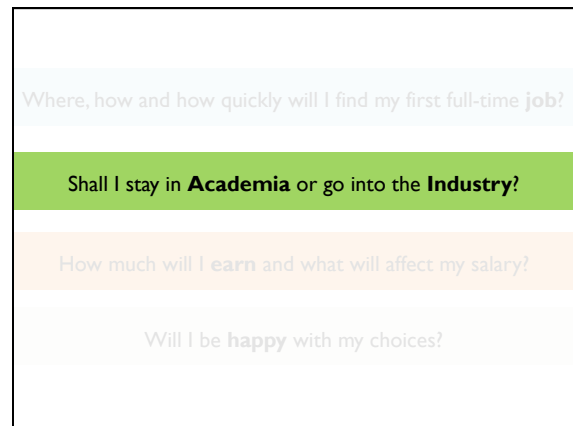


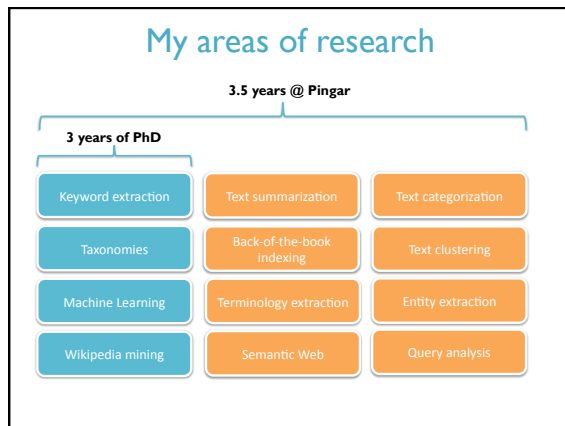
Between **5** and **40** graduates from each of the **7** NZ universities

A variety of **CS fields** were represented

AI, Comp Graphics, Database theory, Formal methods, IR, NLP, Software Engineering, Algorithms, Programming languages, Health Inf, Theoretical CS, Concurrent systems, Security & Cryptography







What will I like/dislike most about my job?

Academia

- Teaching
- Autonomy
- Flexibility
- Colleagues
- "I love working with smart people"

Admin
Bureaucracy
Fixed term contracts

Industry

- Challenging & diverse tasks
- Autonomy
- Flexibility
- Colleagues
- "I love my team"

Commute & Parking
Management / Politics
Deadlines

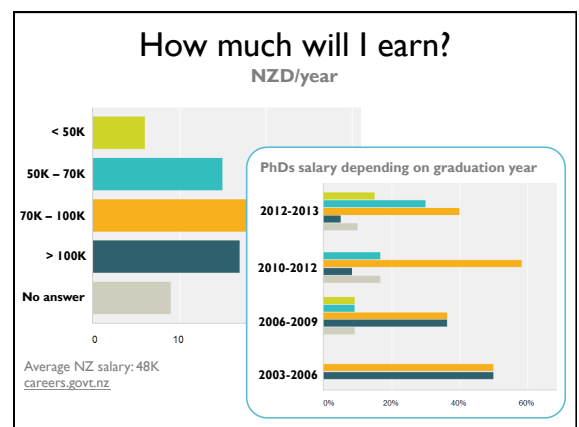
Most respondents stated that they "enjoy their job on most days"

Where, how and how quickly will I find my first full-time job?

Shall I stay in **Academia** or go into the **Industry**?

How much will I **earn** and what will affect my salary?

Will I be **happy** with my choices?



The Battle of Salaries

Except in Academia

Masters PhD

Kiwi !Kiwi

Equal for jobs in NZ Universities

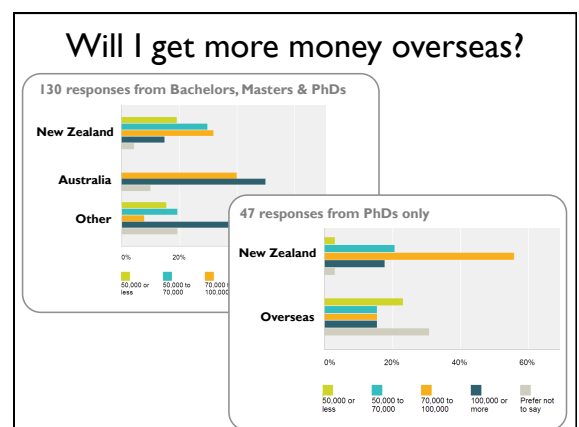
In Academia, it's worse!

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

MASSEY UNIVERSITY

THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO



Where, how and how quickly will I find my first full-time job?

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Will money bring happiness?

Academia
16 Male PostGrads

Industry
27 Male PostGrads

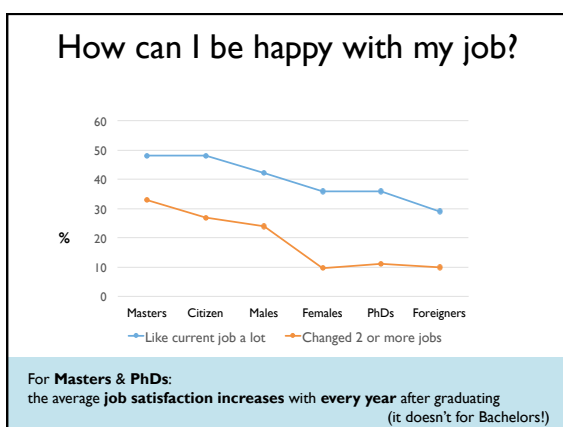
>100K

Twice as many PostGrads earn over 100K in Industry

I like my job a lot

I like my job a lot

But: The level of happiness is the same!



Where, how and how quickly will **you** find **your** job?

Will **you** stay in **Academia** or go into the **Industry**?

How much will **you** **earn** and what will affect **your** salary?

Will **you** be **happy** with my choices?

Advice to CS Kiwi PostGrads

Academia

- Make sure you have a good supervisor... ditch if not
- Apply for things (internships, scholarships)
- Do what's fun
- Publish
- Complete PhD on time
- Network

Industry

- Get work experience while studying / take a break between degrees
- Learn Software Dev skills and processes
- Broaden your knowledge
- Leave NZ (asap)
- Consider companies in other industries that need CS
- Network

What do the richest & happiest PostGrads say?

;) Enjoy life!
It is amazing how things work out...
But you do need to **work hard**, and
take **opportunities** when they arise
(notice them in order to take them).
Be curious.

Don't isolate yourself during your research. As
difficult as it can sometimes be, make continuous
efforts to **engage with others**...Bounce ideas
off people. **Write early**, write often. Actively
seek out feedback... And find time to relax.

Get full survey data on
medelyan.com/survey