

## Employer Survey 2021

In the fall of 2021, the MLS Assessment Committee conducted an employer survey. The following tables show the results of the 2021 ECU MLS Employer survey. The table data reveals some strengths and weaknesses as viewed by employers of ECU MLS graduates.

The survey was sent to academic and public library administrators as well as school principals.

A review of the data on specific goals suggests the following issues for the committee to discuss:

- The curriculum prepares graduates the best on the objectives of:
  - #5: Organization of Information
  - #4: Collection Development
  - #3: Reference
- The curricular goals that may need to be examined for improvement the most are:
  - #1: Foundations
    - This interpretation is somewhat skewed due to the design flaw of the question.
  - #8: Research
  - #7: Management

Although objective 7 & 8 rank lower than other objectives, their scores are over 90% which is a positive indication of effectiveness.

- Only one employer indicated that they would “probably not” hire an ECU MLS graduate.

MLS Program Objective	Rank by Percent of “Prepared/Very well Prepared” Responses		Comparison with 2018 survey	Number of “inadequately” and “not at all” prepared responses		
	Rank	Percent	Percent		# of “Poor” responses	# of “not at all” responses
<b>NOTE **: (see below)</b>						
#1: Foundations	9th	81.13%	90.32%		1	0
<i>Don’t know = 16.98%</i>						
#2: Research	8th	95.12%	93.34%		2	0
#3: Reference	3rd	97.73%	93.76%		1	0
#4: Collection Development	2nd	97.78%	97.78%		1	0
#5: Organization of Information	1st	100%	89.65%		0	0
#6: Management	7th	92.68%	85.71%		2	1
#7: Technology	5th	95.55%	90.87%		2	0
#8: Information Literacy	6th	95.45%	88.46%		2	0
#9: Internship	4th	97.62%	87.09%		1	0

\*\* : Survey questions for #1 (Foundations) had a design flaw. This question included a “Don’t Know” choice, while the rest did not include this choice.

**Library by Type:**

- Academic: 16%
- Public: 20%)
- School: 56%

**Has Their Library Hired an ECU Graduate in the past 5 years:**

- |                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| • Yes, Professional Librarian | 19 or 37.25% |
| • Yes, library staff          | 6 or 11.76%  |
| • No                          | 26 or 50.98% |

**Would They Hire an ECU Graduate:**

- |                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| • Probably or Definitely Yes: | 49 or 94.23% |
| • Might or might not          | 2 or 3.85%   |
| • Probably not:               | 1 or 1.92%   |
| • Definitely not:             | 0            |

**Comparison with 2018 Employer Survey**

The 2021 survey indicates that ECU MLS graduates rank above 90% for being prepared or very well prepared for each category that represents a MLS objective. The results for Foundations must be discounted since that question had a design flaw. The results from this survey indicate marked improvement from 2018, when four of the objectives ranked below 90% in being prepared or very well prepared. The 2021 results give a favorable snapshot of employer opinions of program graduates.