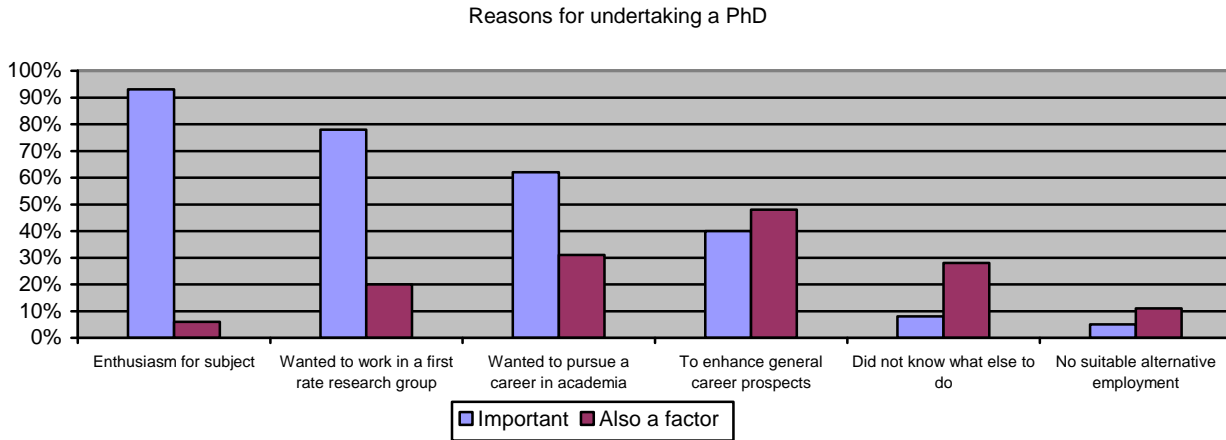
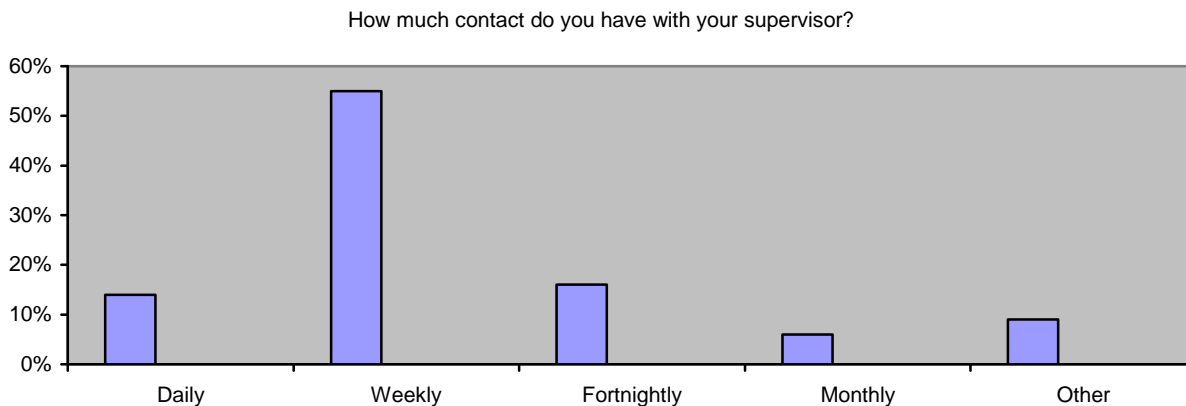


Reasons for Undertaking a PhD



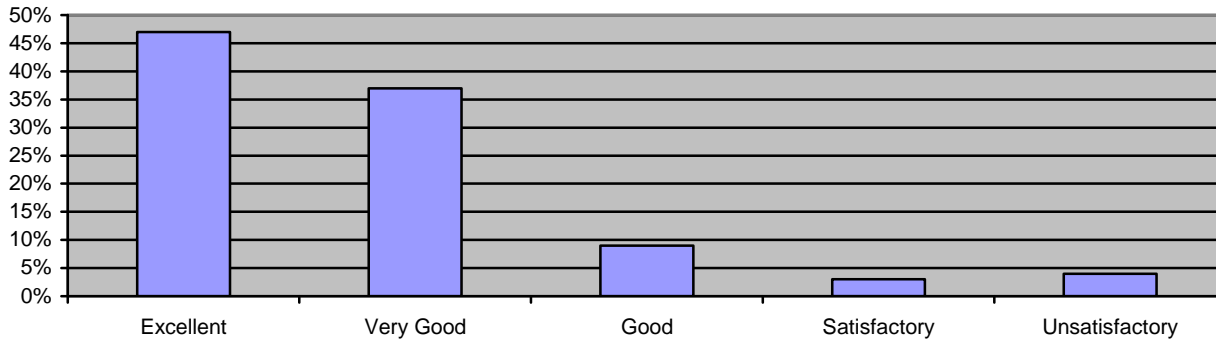
- **93% of students cited enthusiasm for the subject/research as being an important reason for undertaking a PhD.**
- **78% of students wanted to do research in a first rate research group.**
- **62% of students wished to pursue a career in academia/research.**
- **40% of students wanted to enhance general career prospects.**
- **8% did not know what else to do (i.e. had no career plans at the time).**
- **5% of students could not find any suitable alternative employment.**

A. Supervisory Arrangements



- **14% of students have daily contact with their supervisor, whilst 55% have weekly contact, 16% have fortnightly contact and 6% have monthly contact.**
- 85% of students received help/advice from a second supervisor or other people.
- 47% of students have the opportunity to attend group/departmental seminars several times per week, whilst 40% attend at least one per week.
- 16% of CASE students have contact with their CASE partner on a monthly basis, 4% fortnightly and 19% weekly. 62% of students said they meet with their CASE partner when necessary.

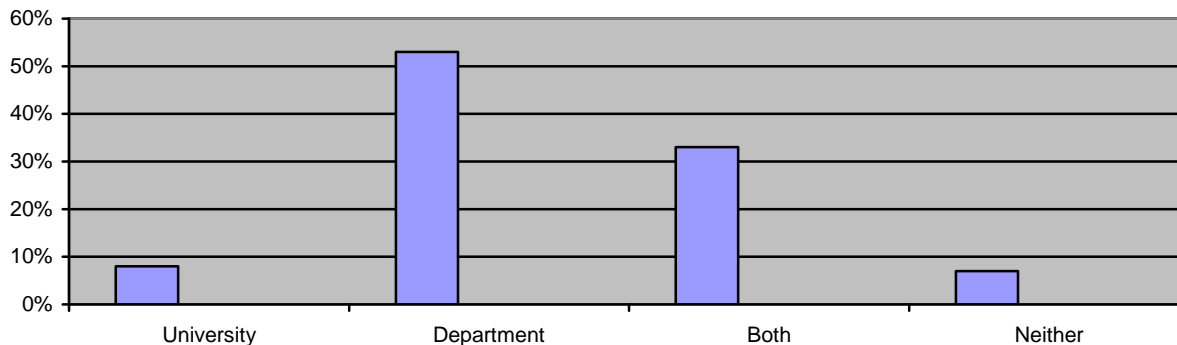
How do you rate the supervision you receive?



- **47% of students rate the supervision they receive as excellent, 34% very good, 9% good, 3% satisfactory and 4% rate the supervision received as unsatisfactory/very poor.**

B. Training Programme

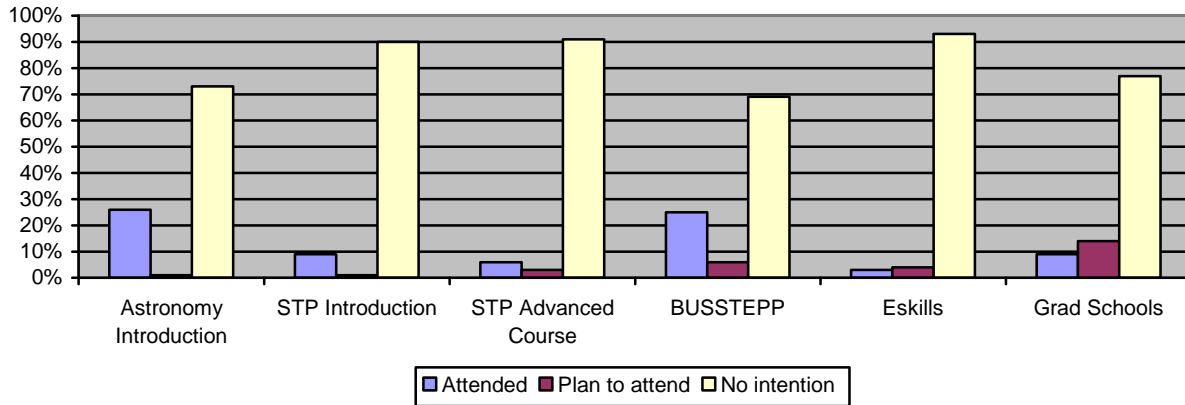
Did the University or Department provide a formal training programme in your first year?



- **8% of universities, 53% of departments and 33% of both provide a formal training programme in the student's first year. 7% of students said neither the university nor the department provided this.**
- 73% of students have undertaken training in technical, transferable/personal skills and other disciplinary/knowledge based areas. For 46% of these students, attendance was compulsory. 62% of the students rated the training given on these courses as good/excellent, 7% rated it as satisfactory, whilst 4% rated it as unsatisfactory/poor.
- 45% of training programme units have assessment by course work, whilst only 20% have assessment by examination.

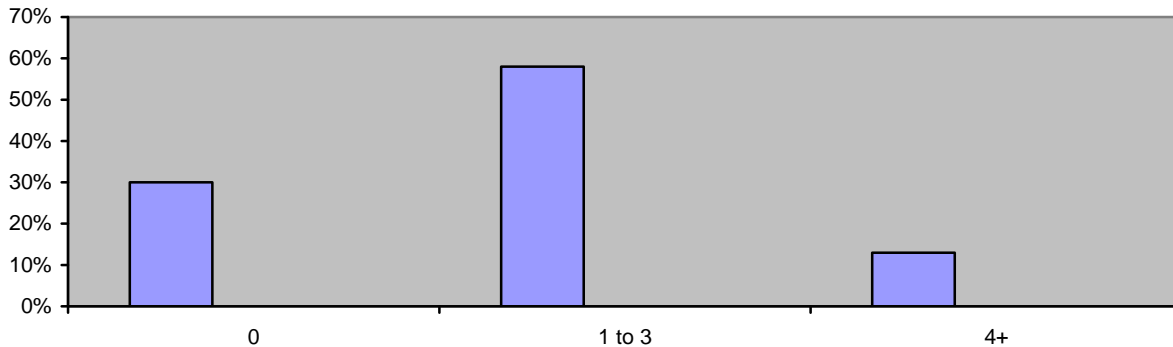
- 16% of students have not given a research talk within their department to date, 59% have given 1-3 talks and 20% have given in excess of 4 talks.
- 39% of students have not given a research talk at a conference or other department to date, 42% have given 1-3 talks and 20% have given in excess of 4 talks.

Have you attended, or do you plan to attend a STFC funded course?



- **On average, 15% of students have attended a STFC funded course, 6% plan to attend a course, whilst 79% said they have no intention of attending.**

How many conferences have you attended?

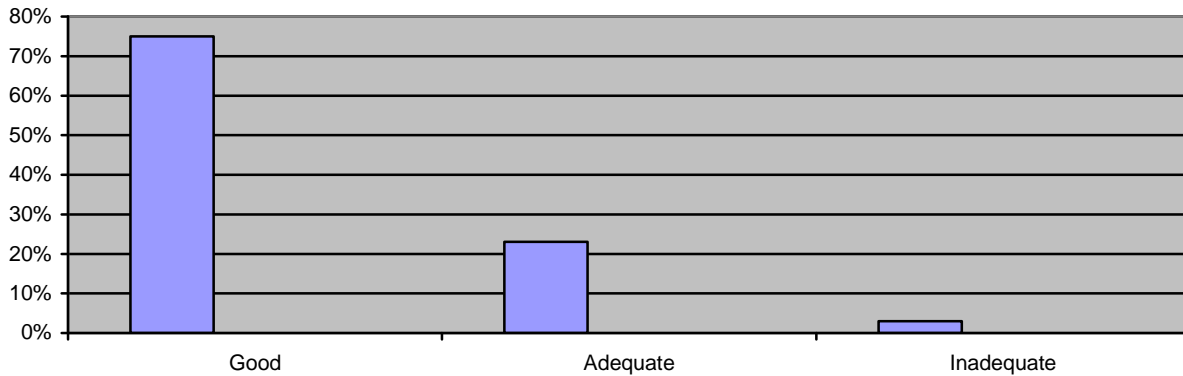


- **30% of students have not attended a conference, either within the UK or overseas, whilst 58% have attended 1-3 conferences and 13% have attended in excess of 4 conferences.**
- 88% of students said their department has a nominated Postgraduate tutor.

C. Monitoring

- 72% of students were required to produce a written report in the current year. Of these, 14% were assessed by interview with their supervisor, 47% by interview with another member of staff, whilst 13% had some other arrangement.

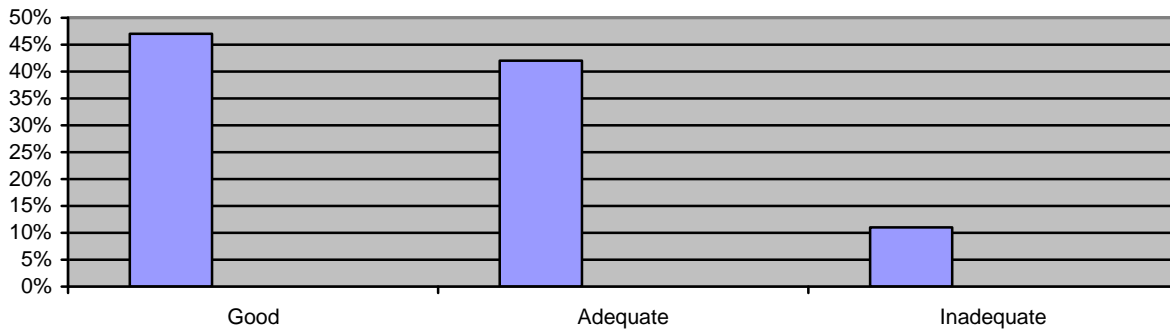
How would you rate your overall training?



- 75% of students rate their overall training as good, whilst 23% rate it as adequate and 3% rate their overall training as inadequate.**

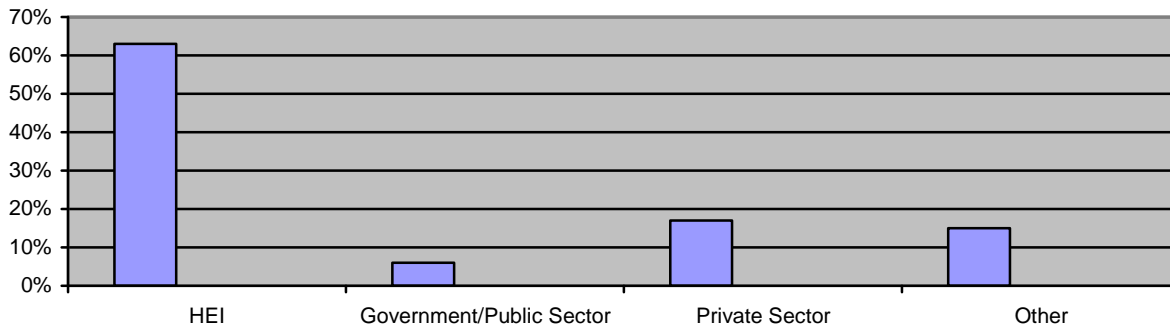
D. Future Career

How would you rate the career guidance available to you during your studentship?



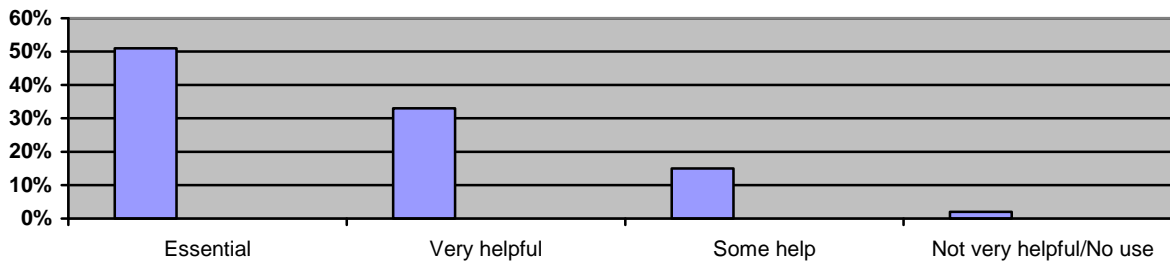
- 47% of students rated the career guidance available to them during the studentship as good, 42% rated it as adequate and 11% rated it inadequate.**

What type of organisation would you like to work for?



- **63% of students said they would wish to work in an HEI, 6% would wish to work in Government/public sector, 17% would wish to work in the private sector and 15% said something else or they did not know.**

To what extent do you think your PhD will help you get a job?



- **51% of students thought their PhD would prove essential for obtaining a job, 33% thought it would be very helpful, 15% thought it would be of some help and 2% thought it would be of little/no use.**