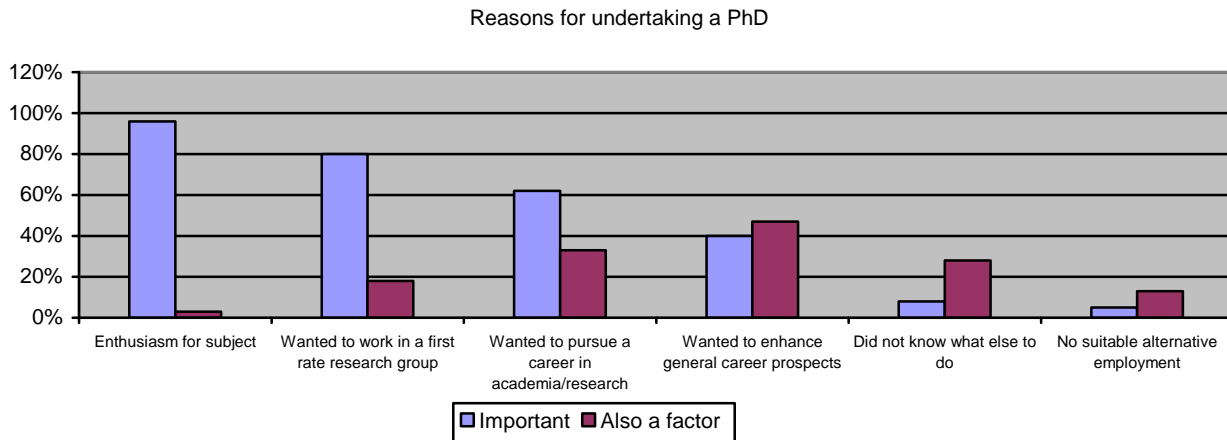
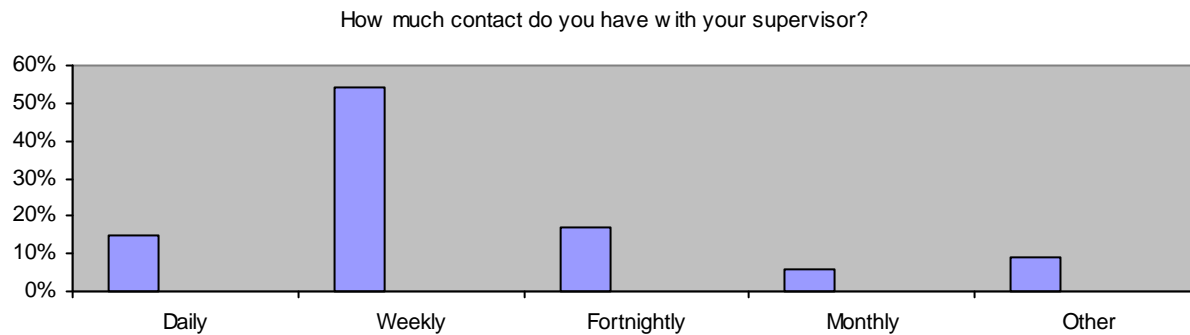


## Reasons for Undertaking a PhD



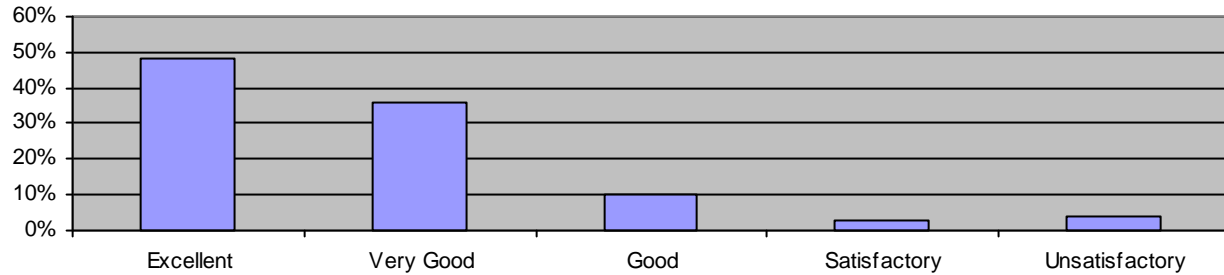
- **96% of students cited enthusiasm for the subject/research as being an important reason for undertaking a PhD.**
- **80% of students wanted to do research in a first rate research group.**
- **62% of students wished to pursue a career in academia/research.**
- **40% of students wanted to enhance general 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



- **15% of students have daily contact with their supervisor, whilst 54% have weekly contact, 17% have fortnightly contact and 6% have monthly contact.**
  - 83% of students received help/advice from a second supervisor or other people.
  - 51% of students have the opportunity to attend group/departmental seminars several times per week, whilst 41% attend at least one per week.
  - 40% of CASE students have contact with their CASE partner on a monthly basis, 15% fortnightly and 40% weekly.

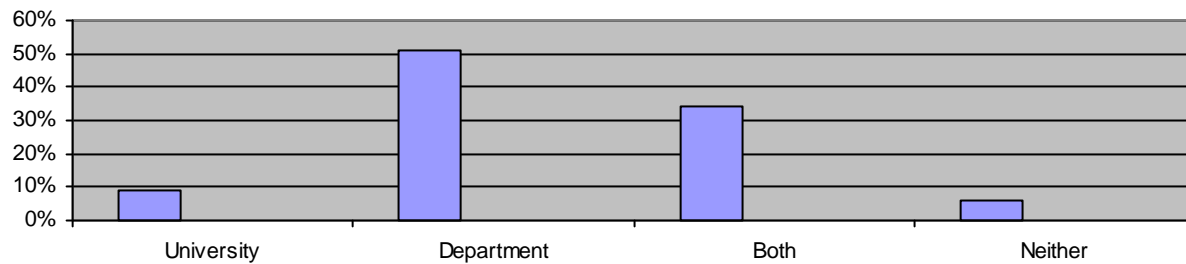
How do you rate the supervision you receive?



- **48% of students rate the supervision they receive as excellent, 36% very good, 10% good, 3% satisfactory and 4% rate the supervision received as unsatisfactory/very poor.**

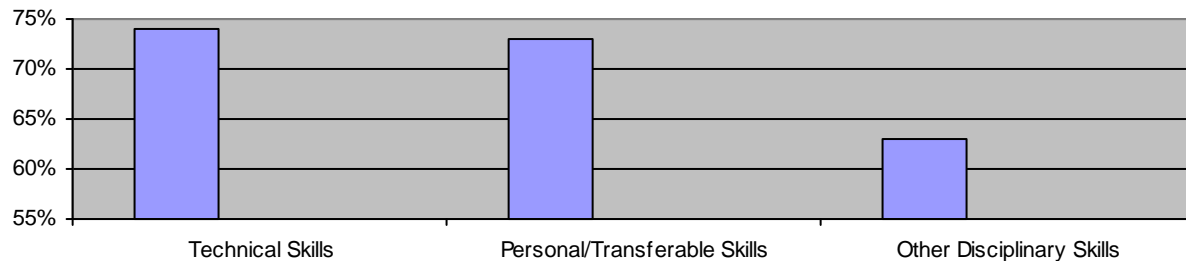
## B. Training Programme

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



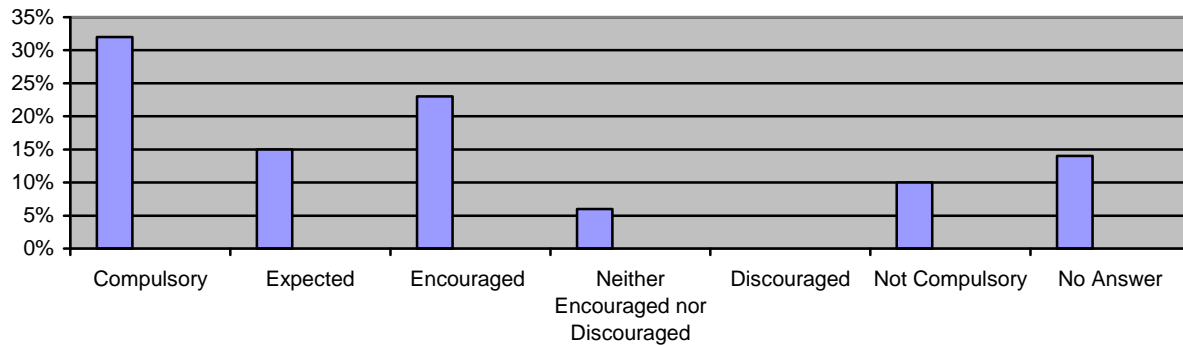
- **9% of universities, 51% of departments and 34% of both provide a formal training programme in the student's first year. 6% of students said neither the university nor the department provided this.**

Number of students who undertook training in technical, personal and other disciplinary skills training



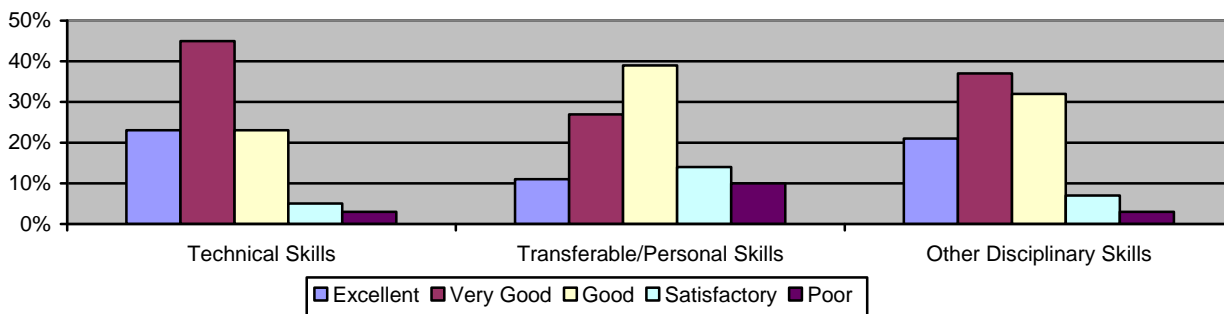
- **94% of students have undertaken training in technical, transferable/personal skills and other disciplinary/knowledge based areas. For 72% of these students, attendance was compulsory.**

Was the personal/transferable skills training compulsory?



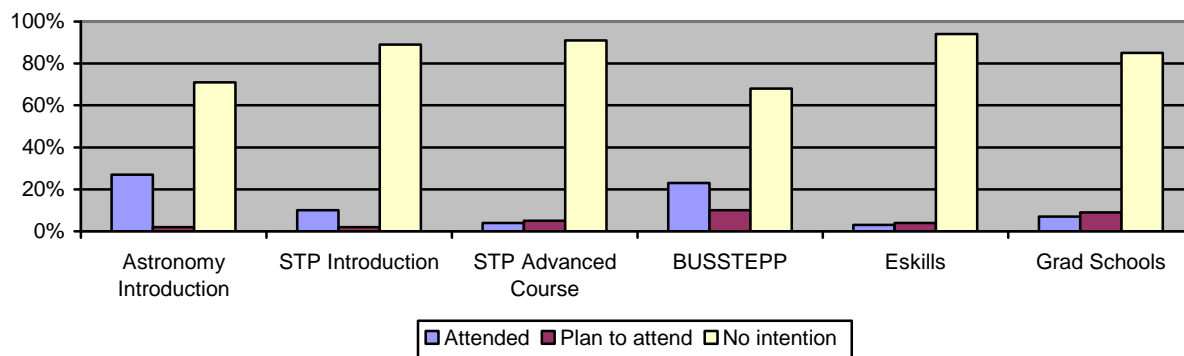
- **70% of students were encouraged to take personal/transferable skills training.**

Student rating of courses attended



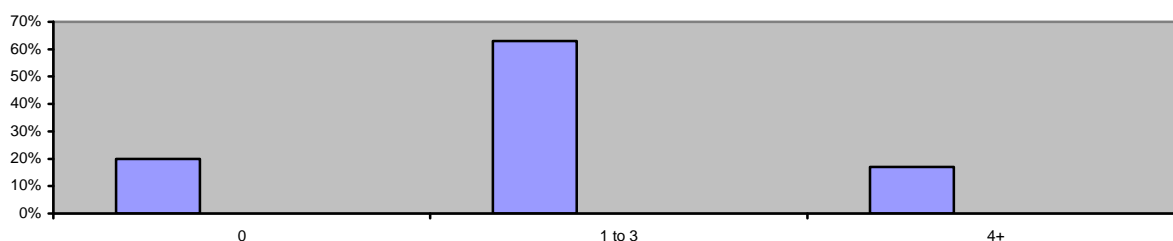
- **86% of the students rated the training given on these courses as good/excellent, 9% rated it as satisfactory, whilst 5% rated it as poor.**
  - 34% of training programme units have assessment by course work, whilst only 22% have assessment by examination.
  - 16% of students have not given a research talk within their department to date, 61% have given 1-3 talks and 23% have given in excess of 4 talks.
  - 39% of students have not given a research talk at a conference or other department to date, 40% have given 1-3 talks and 21% have given in excess of 4 talks.

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



- On average, 27% of students have attended a STFC funded course, 10% plan to attend a course, whilst 63% said they have no intention of attending.

How many conferences have you attended?

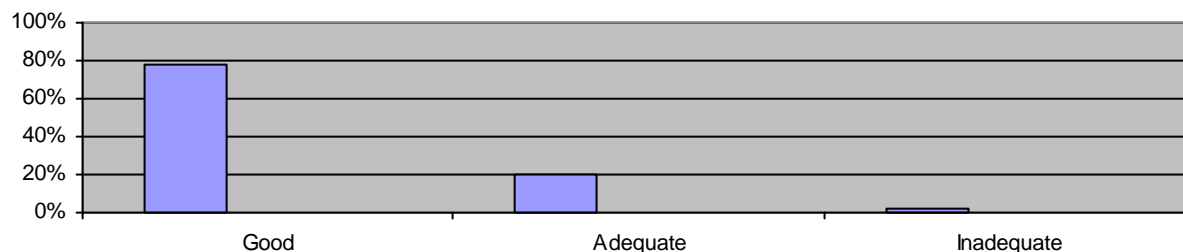


- 20% of students have not attended a conference, either within the UK or overseas, whilst 63% have attended 1-3 conferences and 17% have attended in excess of 4 conferences.
- 86% of students said their department has a nominated Postgraduate tutor.

### C. Monitoring

- 70% of students were required to produce a written report in the current year. Of these, 19% were assessed by interview with their supervisor, 65% by interview with another member of staff, whilst 16% had some other arrangement.

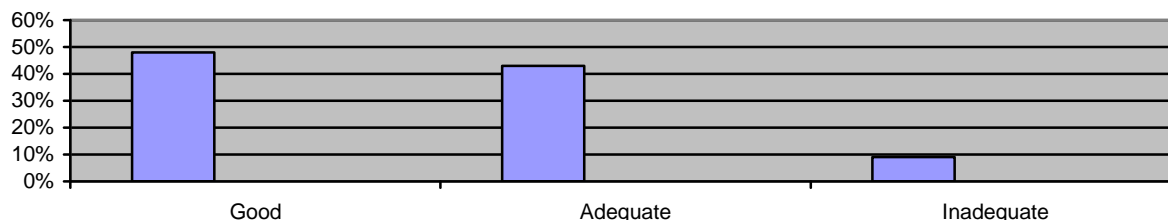
How would you rate your overall training?



- **78% of students rate their overall training as good, whilst 20% rate it as adequate and 2% rate their overall training as inadequate.**

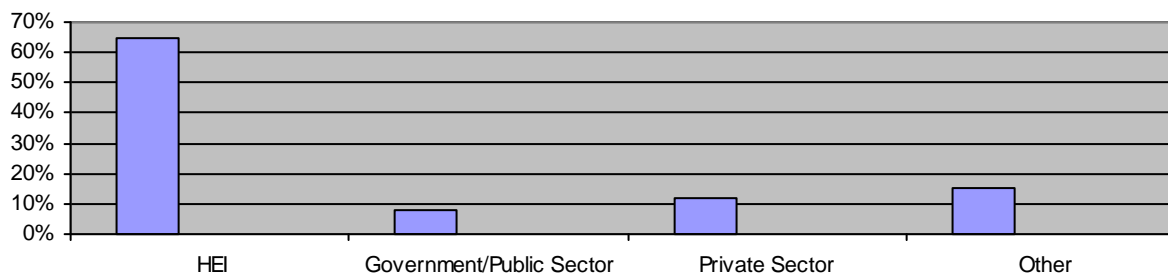
#### D. Future Career

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



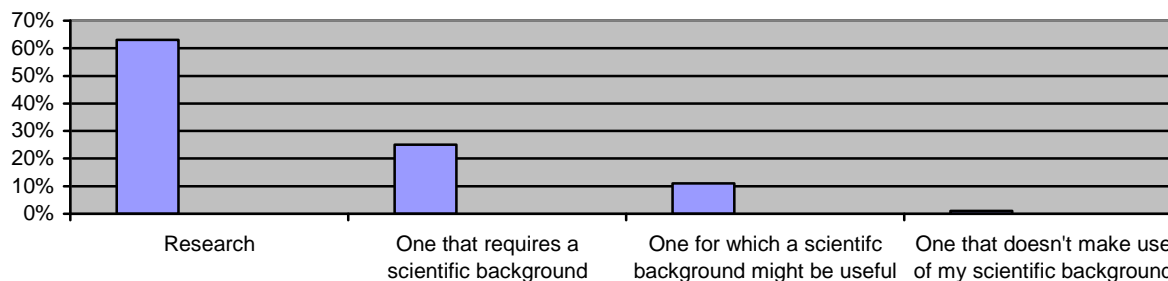
- **48% of students rated the career guidance available to them during the studentship as good, 43% rated it as adequate and 9% rated it inadequate.**

What type of organisation would you like to work for?



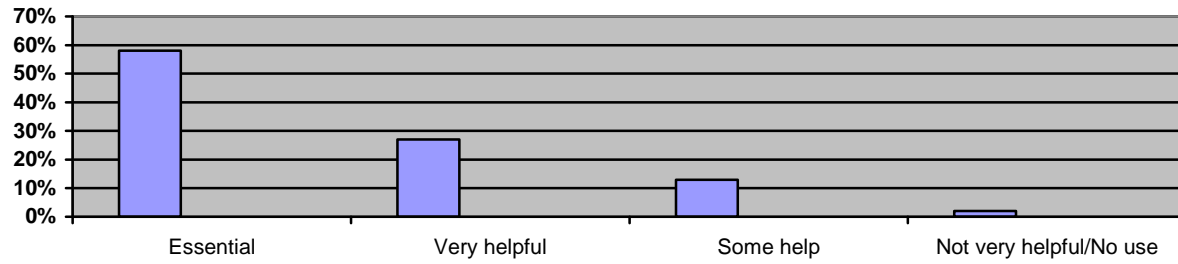
- **65% of students said they would wish to work in an HEI, 8% would wish to work in Government/public sector, 12% would wish to work in the private sector and 15% said something else or they did not know.**

What sort of role do you intend to work in?



- **63% of students said they intend to work in a research role, 25% said they intend to work in a role that requires a scientific background, 11% one that a scientific background would be useful and just 1% don't want to work in a role that requires a scientific background at all.**

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



- **58% of students thought their PhD would prove essential for obtaining a job, 27% thought it would be very helpful, 13% thought it would be of some help and 2% thought it would be of little/no use.**