

### **Alumni Surveys**

In an anonymous October 2011 survey, conducted by Northeastern University's College of Professional Studies, graduates from the Master of Science in Leadership and the Master of Science in Project Management responded to a series of questions about how the overall program helped them in their careers.

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### **What was your employment status after you earned your master's degree from the College of Professional Studies?\*\*\***

- 42% were able to get a new job after earning their degree; more than 70% of these graduates agreed or strongly agreed that the Master's they earned from CPS helped them to get their new jobs
- 62% kept their jobs in their current companies
- 16% did not have jobs or were not looking for employment at the present time

### **The knowledge and degree that I earned from the College of Professional Studies has:\*\***

- An overwhelming 93% of the graduates agreed or strongly agreed that their degree "opened up job opportunities that I wouldn't have had before I earned my degree"
- 91% agreed or strongly agreed that their degree had "improved their performance on the job"
- 93% agreed or strongly agreed that their degree had "made them feel more confident in the workplace"

*\*\*Note that these percentages include only those with a valid response. It does not include blank or "Not Applicable" responses.*

**Within the survey, graduates had the opportunity to provide additional comments on their coursework and how their degree has affected their career outlook. Below are a few of those comments:**

- “Great professors in all classes in the MS for PM. Good class size and knowledgeable teachers. Very approachable.”
- “The leadership specialty had a tremendous affect on my personal life in the sense that it brought more insight about communication skills and life planning skills. At work, I gained the ability to network, build teams effectively and think strategically. The project management study supplied me with the knowledge and ability to implementation at work that was highly regarded by my colleagues and proved me a professional in the field. It also opened a wide door of opportunities to my career.”
- “The skills I learned at CPS helped me feel on par with people in higher positions then me at work. I felt like I could speak their language. After graduating with a degree in project management I passed the Project Management Professional Exam and earned that certification. Both the degree and certification helped me get a promotion less than 6 months after I graduated.”
- “I received a job offer while in school which I would not have had the opportunity before. My new employer was impressed with the program and I was hired before I graduated. The opportunity provided a 20K increase in salary.”
- “[The] Online program was excellent. Would not have been able to complete my degree without it!”
- “I had a great experience at NEU. The instructors were helpful and knowledgeable. I found that I was better able to perform at work with this added education and now I continue to look for jobs at a higher caliber.”
- “The main benefit for me was a change in perspective and how I approach certain situations. I see more value in that than some of the hard facts that I acquired.”
- “Many of the ideas that I was exposed to in the program are being implemented now in my work organization. In addition, the intellectual stimulation, access to library resources, and debate of new ideas was very rewarding. The program has also helped me to rethink some near term and long term career goals.”
- “I had an amazing experience studying at NEU. All professors were very experienced... [The] Master’s in Project Management helped me to start my career by merging my technical skills with soft skills – this perfect mix for me. Also NEU helped me to find an internship which lead to my first professional employment. Without University support I would not be able to do it.”
- “Through the experience at NEU I was able to expand my library of decision making and analytic tools. I gained a lot of confidence in what I do and better understanding of how a business works through managing projects. All my professors were up to date with new technologies and current business practices.”