

2011/12 UBC Science Co-op Programs Year End Report

ANNUAL PLACEMENT

The 2011/12 academic year was a period of considerable growth. The total number of placements for this period was 1257, a 17% increase compared to the placements for the previous year. *Figure 1* shows that the placements over the past ten years have increased by over 70%.

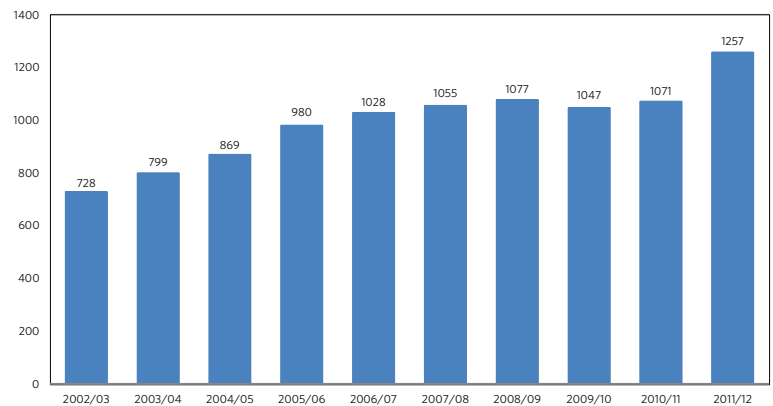


Figure 1: UBC Science Co-op Placements for the period 2002-2012.

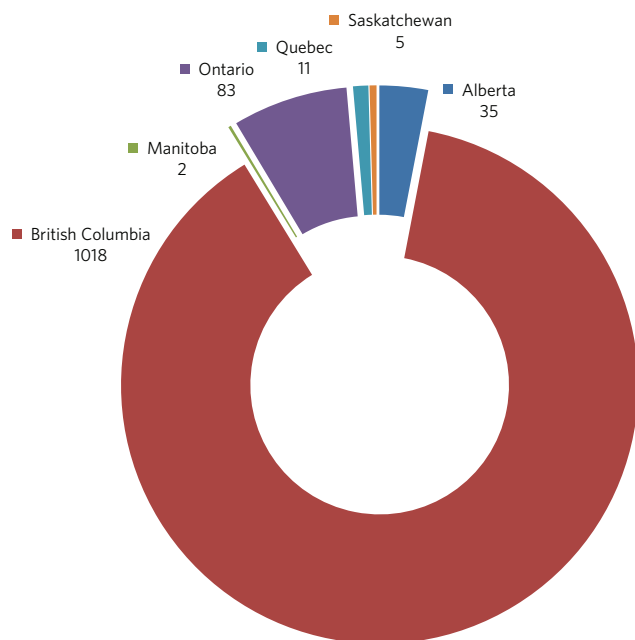
AREAS OF GROWTH – PLACEMENT BY DISCIPLINE

The number of placements increased for most disciplines with the largest growth occurring in biochemistry, biology, chemistry, computer science and engineering physics. *Figure 2* provides a comparison of placement numbers for 2010/11 and 2011/12 period. The increase in the placement numbers is a result of both the higher admission numbers as well as an increase in the number of employers posting jobs with the Science Co-op. For the 2011/12 period, a total of 3360 jobs were posted compared to 2903 jobs posted for the 2010/11 period.

Discipline	2010/11 Total	2011/12 Total	Placement Trends
ATSC	8	7	↓
BCS	28	33	↑
BIOC	103	143	↑
BIOL	98	113	↑
BIOP	10	11	↑
BIOT	32	37	↑
BPSY	2	6	↑
CHEM	50	64	↑
CMS	-	7	↑
COGS	12	26	↑
CPSC	266	304	↑
ENPH	159	184	↑
ENSC	14	9	↓
EOSC	5	7	↑
GEOB	1	2	↑
GSCI	17	19	↑
ISCI	13	18	↑
LFS	46	52	↑
MATH	19	19	---
MICB	80	84	↑
PCTH	43	37	↓
PHYL	13	18	↑
PHYS	37	34	↑
STAT	15	19	↑
STATG	-	4	↑
Total	1071	1257	↑

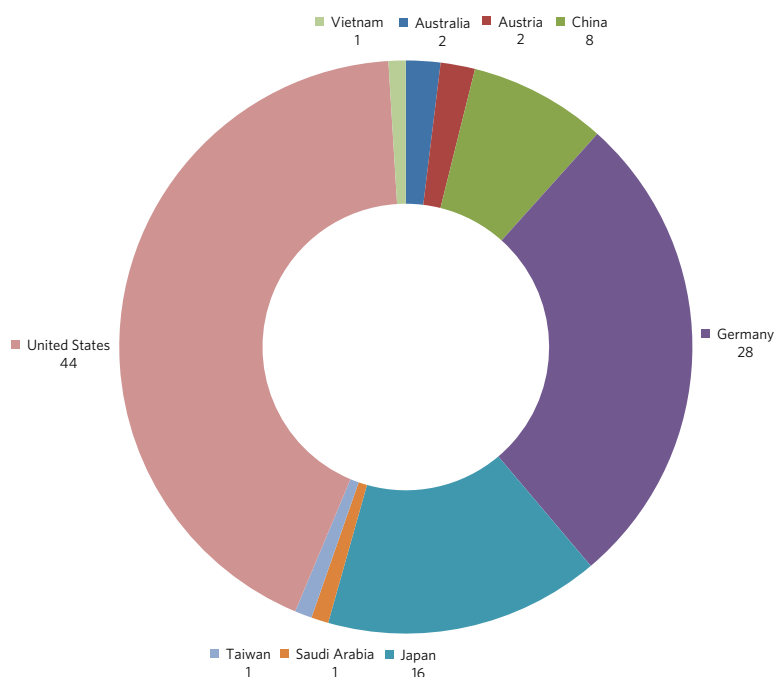
Figure 2: Placement by Discipline

PLACEMENT BY PROVINCE (NATIONAL)



Out of the 1257 placements, 91% (1154) were within Canada. For Canadian placements, 88% were within British Columbia and the remaining 12% were in Ontario, Alberta, Quebec, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

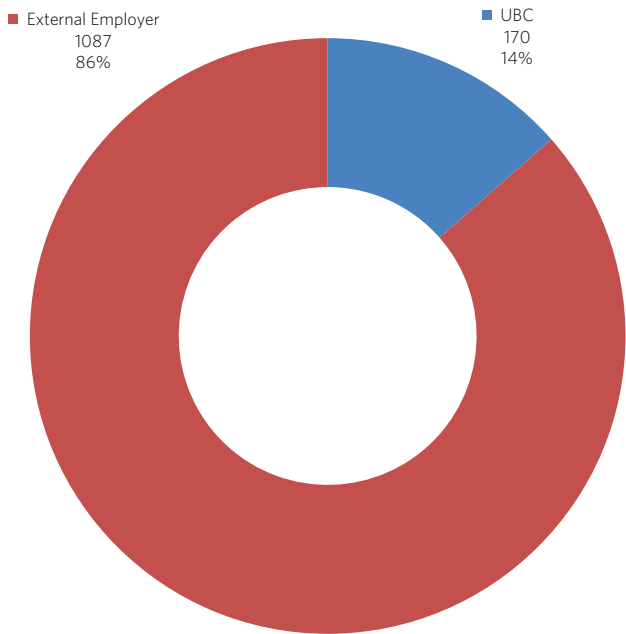
PLACEMENT BY COUNTRY (INTERNATIONAL)



For the 2011/12 period, 103 placements (9%) were international with United States (44), Germany (28), Japan (16) and China (8) being the top four destinations.

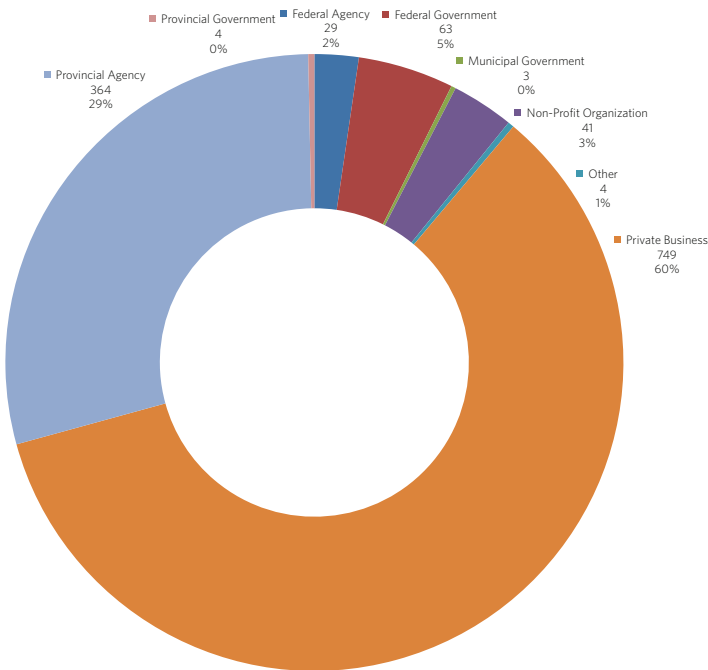
An important role of the newly initiated Max-Planck-Gesellschaft-UBC Center for Quantum Material is to provide undergraduate students with an opportunity to participate in research projects at Max-Planck Institutes. This summer ten students have begun their Co-op work terms at Max-Planck institutes in Berlin, Dresden, Halle and Stuttgart. The MPG-UBC initiative is an excellent example of providing leading edge research opportunities for our undergraduate students.

PLACEMENT BY EMPLOYER TYPE



About 86% of the placements are with external employers and 14% of the placements are within UBC.

PLACEMENT BY SECTOR



Approximately 61% of the placements are with Private Businesses, 29% with Provincial Agencies, 5% with Federal Government, 2% with Federal Agencies and the remaining 3% with various Non-Profit Organizations.

STUDENT OF THE YEAR

The recipient of the Co-op Student of the Year 2011 award is Gurpal Bisra, an Engineering Physics student.

Gurpal joined the Science Co-op in September 2007 and throughout his involvement in Co-op he has proven himself to be a bright and motivated individual, who has consistently demonstrated a very high level of professionalism, maturity and passion. Gurpal's Co-op placements were with E-One Moli Energy, University of Wurzburg (Germany) and UBC Michael Smith Laboratories, where he became a key member of the iGEM team.

Gurpal's academic performance has been very strong in a very challenging Engineering Physics Program where students are expected to take seven or eight courses each term. He is a recipient of several scholarships and awards that include the Dean's Honour list and President's Entrance Scholarship. Most recently he was awarded the iGEM Gold Medal and Best Model (iGEM 2011 Regional Jamboree: Americas), Gurpal's supervisors have described him as a team-player who works extremely hard and always puts his team first. For the iGEM 2011 Regional Jamboree he was the unanimous choice to present team's work at the competitions. His supervisor at iGEM, Dr. Joanne Fox, agrees that Gurpal's hard work and expertise was the main reason for the iGEM team's splendid success at the competition. UBC Science Co-op is extremely proud of Gurpal's achievements. This is the type of student we are exceptionally proud to have represent our university and we are pleased to have Gurpal as part of the UBC Science Co-op Programs.

Full Bio of Gurpal is available on the Co-op website at <http://www.sciencecoop.ubc.ca/students/awardwinners2011>



*"The UBC flag waves, "Place of mind."
But what is a place of mind?"*

*To me it means a place where the mind is nurtured, expanded,
and finally honed into a catalyst for change in the world.*

UBC Science Co-op was instrumental in making UBC my place of mind."

Gurpal Bisra, Recipient of Co-op Student of the Year 2011 Award