

Engineering Graduates' Employability in the Eyes of Stakeholders: Based on the Survey to 6 Universities and 20 Enterprises in China

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Abstract : By surveying 536 engineering graduates and 232 employers of 6 research-based universities and 20 enterprises in China, this research aims to reveal the perceptions and expectations of engineering curriculum and graduates' employability by stakeholders. Variation was seen by university and sometimes by engineering major. Overall, however, the satisfaction with courses that promote employability is not high by graduates, and there is a gap between employers' satisfaction and their expectation. Importantly, students' satisfaction degree of the curricula enhancing employability and employers' satisfaction degree of graduates' employability are significantly lower than employers' expectation value. Therefore, engineering curriculum reform must take the stakeholders' demand into account and integrate employability into curricula. These findings provide the empirical basis for the curriculum reform of the National Excellent Engineers Education Program (NE3P) in China.

Keywords : engineering education, employability of graduates, stakeholders, survey

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