

International Journal of Engineering Sciences & Research Technology

(A Peer Reviewed Online Journal)

Impact Factor: 5.164



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ABSTRACT

This study determined the employability status of Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering (BSMarE) at Naval State University – Main Campus from 2010 – 2017. Specifically, it sought to answer the following: graduates' rate, employability rate of graduates in marine engineering and significant relationship between graduate's rate and employability rate. Descriptive research design is used for this study. The respondents were all graduates of BSMarE program in the college of maritime education of NSU. A random sampling method was utilized using survey questionnaire and supplemental interview as an instrument to gather the data. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) using SPSS software to test the relationship on the identified variables. Results revealed that the graduates of BSMarE obtained fifty-two (52%) percent were employed both domestic and international fleet. It means, out of one thousand six hundred sixty-four BSMarE graduates from 2010 to 2017, eight hundred sixty-five were employed. This would imply that the employability rate is higher than the target program objective of the college within ten years as stated on the operational plan

KEYWORDS: Employability status, BSMarE Graduates, NSU, Program

1. INTRODUCTION

The graduate employability is a major concern for all higher institutions in the country and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). According to Valisno (2001), the Philippines is a major supplier of seafarers worldwide. In fact, 23% of the total world supply were Filipino seafarers. It means, for 10 crews onboard in foreign vessel, two (2) of them were Filipino. With the increasing demand for qualified seafarer, employability also would increase. Some State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the country experienced burgeoning enrolment in maritime courses.

The government is very serious to regulate the said increasing of graduates for the maritime programs because of the latest reports by Maritime Safety Administration (MSA). The MSA reported that some of the Maritime Higher Education Institutions (MHEIs) in the country were not compliant with the Standards Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW, 1995) as amended 2010. Besides, the MHEIs have more graduates in the operational level, but few only practicing the said profession.

The CHED ordered and issued memorandum to all MHEIs offering maritime programs to evaluate their graduates through a tracer study. Thus, this study is conducted to determine the graduates and employability rate of the graduates in BSMarE in the College of Maritime Education at Naval State University – Main Campus from 2010 to 2017.

Objectives of the Study

This study determined the employability status of graduates of marine engineering students in the college of maritime education of Naval State University – main campus, academic year 2010 – 2017 as basis for a proposed program.

Specifically, it sought to answers the following:

1. Determine the graduates and employability rate in marine engineering students from 2010 – 2017.
2. Is there a significant relationship between graduate's rate and employability in the college of maritime education?
3. Based on the findings, what program can be proposed?

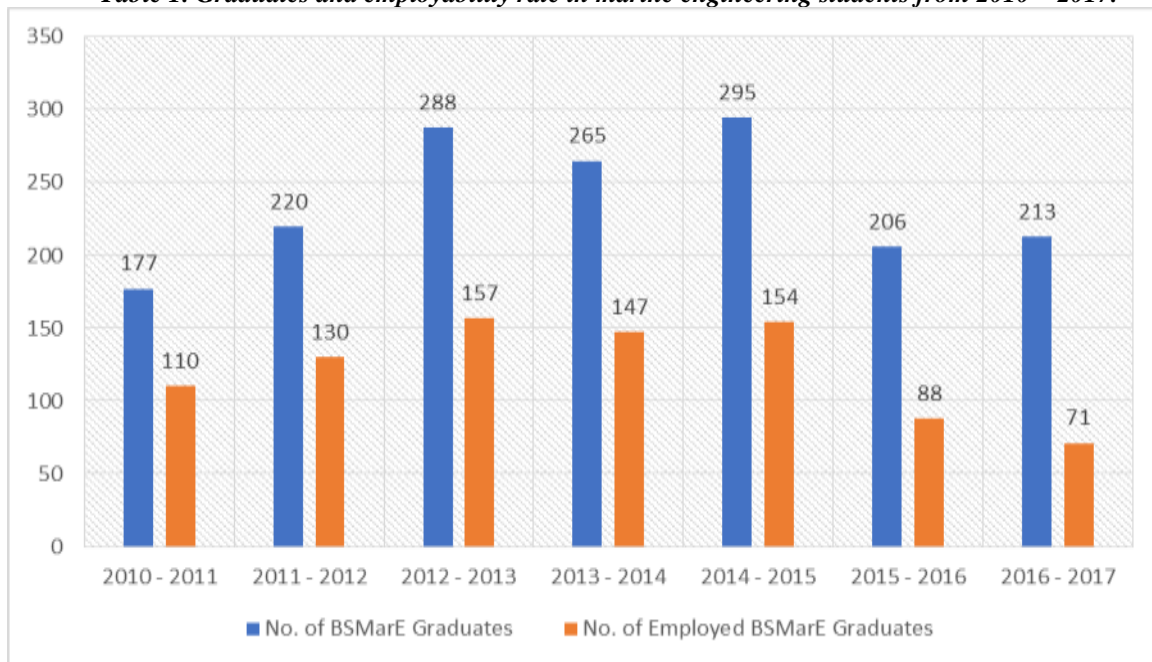
2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study employed descriptive research design using standardized questionnaire with follow up interview as the main source of collecting data. This research utilized random sampling method in which the main focused on graduates of marine engineering, academic year 2010 – 2017 at Naval State University – Main Campus. The researcher personally went to the shipboard training office to gather the data. The data will be gathered, collected, interpreted, and analyzed using exact statistical tool.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents the results and discussion of the graduates and employability rates in BSMarE from academic year 2010 to 2017.

Table 1. Graduates and employability rate in marine engineering students from 2010 – 2017.



As shown in the table 1, out of 177 graduates for the school year 2010 – 2011, 110 graduates were employed with a percentage equivalent of 62 percent. For school year 2011 – 2012, 130 graduates were employed with 59 percent employment rate. For school year 2012 – 2013, 157 graduates were employed with a percentage equivalent of 55 percent. So, for school year 2013 – 2014, 147 graduates were employed with 55 percent employment rate. School year 2014 – 2015, 154 graduates were employed with 52 percent employment rate. Then 2015 – 2016, 88 graduates were employed with a percentage equivalent of 43 percent. And soon to 2016 – 2017, 71 graduates were employed with a percentage equivalent of 33 percent.

Table 2. Employability rates of BSMarE graduates from academic year 2010 - 2017

Academic Year	No. of Graduates	No. of Employed Graduates	Employability Rates (%)
2010 – 2011	177	110	62%
2011 – 2012	220	130	59%
2012 – 2013	288	157	55%
2013 – 2014	265	147	55%
2014 – 2015	295	154	52%
2015 – 2016	206	88	43%
2016 – 2017	213	71	33%
Total	1,664	857	52%

Thus, the overall employment rate of the BSMarE graduates for the last 7 years is 52 percent as shown in Table 2. This would imply that the Department of Marine Engineering achieved their program objective to increase BSMarE graduates from 30 percent to 40 percent, however, results revealed that it is beyond of their program objective. It means that the college shipboard training office performed highly pertaining to the BSMarE graduates.

Table 3. Significant relationship between graduate's rate and employability in the college of maritime education from 2010 - 2017

Academic Year	Means	C-value	p-value	Description
Graduates' rate versus Employability rates	247.8 124.5	15.54	0.873	Very highly related

Pearson correlation analysis (Table 2) showed that BSMarE graduate rates were highly related to the employability status of the Graduates in BSMarE in the college. Since, the p-value (0.873) was higher using the 0.05 level of significant. This would indicate that when the students graduate in BSMarE program in the college, the more chances that they must be employed in the manning or shipping companies.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, fifty-two (52) percent of the total number of graduates in Bachelor of Science of Marine Engineering are employed, while forty-eight (48) percent only are unemployed from 2010 – 2017. This would imply that the program offered in the college met the standards as specified in the Standards Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW, 2010).

The Shipboard Training Office (STO) should continue to establish shipping linkages to international and local companies to cater the marine engineering graduates of Naval State University – main campus.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research will not be realized without the wholehearted support of the following: Dr. Victor C. Cañez Jr., University President; Dr. Minerva E. Sañosa of the University Research Office; and the College of Maritime Education Family headed by Capt. Alonzo B. Atok.

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