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Want a Tech Job? No Need to Study in Silicon Valley- *by Sarah Grant*

Technology has started to catch up to banking and consulting as one of the top industries for business school graduates, and it's not just about Silicon Valley schools producing tech-hungry MBAs. A handful of B-schools in unlikely regions graduated more students into technology jobs in 2014 than into any other sector, according to data the schools provided to Bloomberg for our 2015 business school rankings.

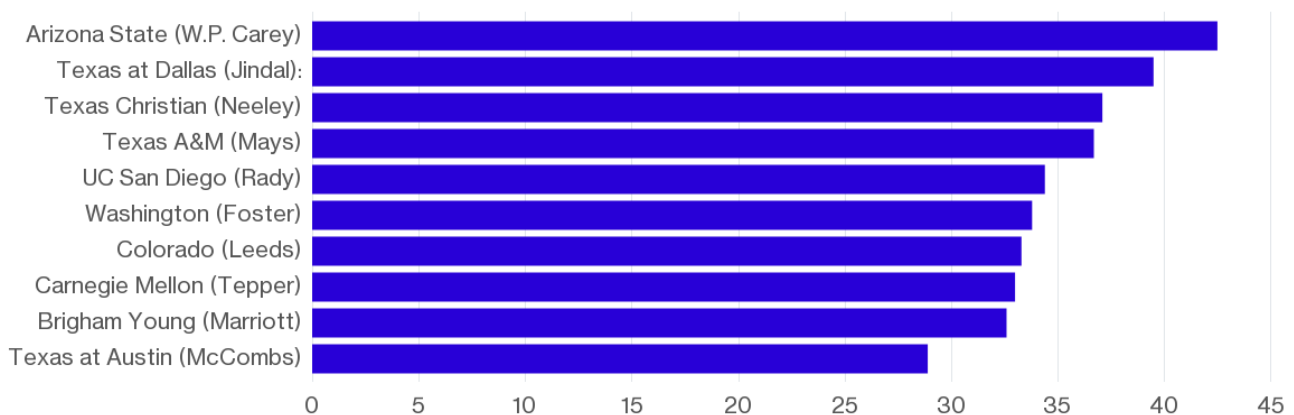
A few schools in Utah, Texas, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Colorado, and Southern California graduated a higher share of MBAs who went into tech than did Stanford's Graduate School of Business. Stanford still sent a higher proportion of students into the industry, at 19 percent, than the 16 percent proportion across all the full-time MBA programs we ranked.

More than ever, prospective students are asking how specific MBA programs will position them for a job at a specific tech company, said Daniel Poston, assistant dean at the University of Washington's Foster School of Business (ranked 20th), which sent more than a third of its students into tech last year. "They'll say, 'Microsoft is my dream. What will it take for me to get to Microsoft?'" said Poston.

It's hardly surprising that tech giants would be a draw for MBAs. Google and Apple pay MBAs salaries that rival the pay at top consulting firms such as McKinsey, topped off with youthful workplaces and flexible corporate atmospheres.

Heartland Hot Spots

MBA Programs Outside of Silicon Valley That Send Most of Their Grads Into Tech



Data reported by schools, for the class of 2014

The Dallas Morning News

November 4, 2015

Four Texas colleges with better tech job placement than Stanford, Harvard- Paul O'Donnell

Bloomberg is out with its 2015 business school rankings and it shows that technology is catching up to banking and consulting as one of the top industries for B-school graduates.

And it's not just Silicon Valley schools producing tech-hungry MBAs. A handful of schools in unlikely regions graduated more of their students into technology jobs in 2014 than any other industry, according to data the schools provided to Bloomberg.

Four Texas colleges — University of Texas at Dallas, **Texas Christian University**, Texas A&M and the University of Texas at Austin — all **graduated a higher share of MBAs who went into tech than Stanford's Graduate School of Business. All four schools placed 28 percent or more of their grads in tech jobs, compared with Stanford's 19 percent.** (See chart below).

According to Bloomberg, prospective students are asking MBA programs how they will position them for a job at a specific tech company.

Here's how major Texas colleges fared in Bloomberg's annual ranking of business schools and the top industry hiring their MBA graduates.

Overall rank	School	Top industry
19	Rice University	Energy: 31.5%
21	University of Texas at Austin	Technology: 28.9%
22	Texas A&M	Technology: 36.7%
32	SMU	Financial services: 19.8%
38	TCU	Technology: 37.1%
42	University of Texas at Dallas	Technology: 39.5%

Source: Bloomberg

The Dallas Morning News

Biz Beat Blog

November 17, 2015

Baylor and TCU make Princeton Review's list of top schools for entrepreneurship studies – Sean Lester

Students with entrepreneurial ambitions in Texas need not look any further than right in their own backyard for a college that will give them the skills needed to be the next pitch on ABC's "Shark Tank."

The Princeton Review, in conjunction with Entrepreneur Magazine, recently published its 2016 ranking of the top schools for entrepreneurship studies and three Texas schools made the list.

University of Houston's Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship was the top ranking Texas program coming in at No. 3 among undergraduate programs in the country. Baylor University's John F. Baugh Center for Entrepreneurship followed closely behind with a No. 4 ranking.

TCU's Neeley School of Business Entrepreneurship program earned a No. 20 ranking while Rice University's program ranked 6th among graduate programs.

Babson College captured the top spot on the undergraduate entrepreneurship programs ranking list for the 4th consecutive year. Harvard University finished No. 1 on the graduate entrepreneurship programs list for the 2nd consecutive year.

The 60-question survey asked schools to report on levels of their commitment to entrepreneurship studies inside and outside the classroom. More than three dozen data points were analyzed for the tally that determined the rankings.

Topics covered included: the percentage of faculty, students, and alumni actively and successfully involved in entrepreneurial endeavors, the number and reach of mentorship programs, scholarships and grants for entrepreneurial studies, and the level of support for school-sponsored business plan competitions.

The rankings were based on academics, enrollment and involvement outside the program itself. [The full methodology for the rankings can be found here.](#)



November 23, 2015

Ask The Experts: Julie Baker, Professor of Marketing in the Neeley School of Business at Texas Christian University – by *Richie Bernardo*

The savviest Black Friday shoppers can tell the good deals from the bad. And they're likely to save the most on their purchases as a result. For additional insight, we asked several experts to share some of their shopping smarts with budget-conscious consumers. Click on the experts' profiles to read their bios and responses to the following key questions:

Q. How can consumers distinguish between real Black Friday deals and marketing traps?

Baker: The only way consumers can ensure they are getting a true deal is to be familiar with what regular prices are on the items in question, and with the deals that competitors (both online and physical stores) are offering on those items.

Q. How can consumers protect themselves from overspending on Black Friday?

Baker: By educating themselves, as suggested above.

Q. What types of products are better to buy on Black Friday versus Cyber Monday?

Baker: Generally, consumers should expect better deals on some electronics (e.g. iPhones, speakers, headphones), video games and power gardening tools on Black Friday. Cyber Monday is better for products like toys, appliances and clothing. The best deals for cameras, laptops, TVs, tablets, kitchen items and tools/hardware tend to be on Thanksgiving Day. Also note that Black Friday has been expanding

over the years, and deals can be had for longer than just that Friday. In addition, Black Friday often starts on Thanksgiving. Similarly, Cyber Monday has become Cyber Week,

Q. What are some tips for maximizing bargains on Black Friday?

Baker: Know what you want, do your research to find out where the cheapest prices are, and get there early, particularly for advertised “doorbuster” items which typically sell out quickly.



November 28, 2015

3,000 bank accounts frozen in China last year – by *John Nordstrom*
(translated from Norwegian)

Chinese authorities have uncovered the country’s largest underground banking ring, involving transactions totaling 64 billion dollars, reports CNN. Several shell companies in Hong Kong have been fueled with money laundering and currency transactions, according to state media.

China has strict capital controls. Citizens can only move around \$50,000 out of the country each year. The restrictions have given rise to a shadowy world of money laundering, including casinos in southern China, that helps people send money to foreign countries.

In the course of the past year, the authorities have, according to state media:

- Frozen 3000 bank accounts
- Issued warrants for 56 people
- Closed 37 unlicensed financial institutions allegedly laundering money
- Reviewed over 1.3 million suspicious transactions

“It is easy to look at aggregates and recognize there is a problem. Almost everyone in China has done something informally,” said professor Garry Bruton at the Neeley School of Business at Texas Christian University to E24. Bruton is an expert on China and the informal part of the Chinese economy. He believes that it is difficult to draw a boundary between the legal and the illegal part of the Chinese economy. China is the world’s second largest economy.

The informal economy in China consists of all economic activity that is not registered, or that is not fully registered. **Corruption is a big problem in China, said Bruton.**

Chinese people are investing more and more in foreign countries. **Bruton stressed that a large percentage of the money that is brought out from China comes from honest earnings, and not from corruption or fraud.** **“Many entrepreneurs will take the risk and give their families a safer future. Since the authorities are so strong in China, they don’t know what will happen to their money in China. Therefore, they want to move money abroad and invest it there,”** said Bruton to E24. He thinks that it is a rational decision.

In the summer when Chinese authorities intervened in the stock market, investors were locked away and did not sell out of the stock market. Stock exchanges fell sharply and panic ensued on the Chinese stock exchanges. Western exchanges were also affected.

China’s currency system is complex. It is difficult for outsiders to get an idea of what is actually going on.

Bruton has written a chapter called “Informal Firms in China: What Do We Know and Where Does the Research Go” in “Management, Society, and the Informal Economy.” The chapter states that China is characterized by strong management from authorities on many levels, with a focus on State-owned companies. The result is that the informal economy in China to a great extent is ignored by the authorities, despite the fact that it employs up to 60 percent of the workforce in some urban areas.

“The informal economy constitutes a large part of the Chinese economy. It has a big impact on the official economy in China,” said Bruton to E24. **“In the United States, the informal economy is only 9-10 percent. But in most emerging markets it makes up 20-65 percent. The size of China’s informal economy is somewhere between the extremes.”**

While Bruton pointed out that he has not studied the illegal part of the informal economy in China, he said that if you go to a native market in China, there may be 200 outlets there, and none of them are registered. All are part of the informal economy.

He believes that there is a misconception that the Chinese Government has total control. They are trying to keep track, but with 1.3 billion people there is an organized chaos. When Mao reigned, the State had almost total control. But as they unleashed the market in 1978, they lost control gradually. That decision was the starting shot for what would turn out to be a country’s fastest economic growth ever. Over the past 30 years, the “Middle Kingdom” had an average growth of 10 percent a year. In comparison, Norway has been between 2 and 3 percent.

“Chinese officials say that they will move to a more market-driven economy, but at the same time they will have control because they fear that a free market will be disruptive,” said Bruton.

Chinese privately-owned companies have trouble getting loans in the banks. **Bruton pointed out that most banks are State-owned and give priority to lending to state industries. It has led to the companies seeking loans on the grey market.**

Now that the growth in the Chinese economy is slowing, many companies have problems paying the loans. And a large share of the informal loans are not very legal. In the first half of the year Chinese bankers increased loans with 35.7 percent due to lower economic growth and problems for industrial companies.

“But when the loans are not officially registered, there is no system to handle companies with payment problems, so that those who have lent out money could levy the money through official channels,” said Bruton.

He illustrated the chaotic situation with this example: When Alibaba announced that they launched the banking operations, the company had not first applied for approval from the authorities. **“But the banking business set up by Alibaba grew quickly, and in the end the authorities came on the pitch and made the rules, but it was only in the aftermath,”** said Bruton. **But that business was informal until the rules for an internet bank were established.**

Bruton has been in Finland and Norway, and he believes that we in the Nordic countries have a view on taxes and rules that in many ways is the same line of thinking in the United States. In China, on the other hand, there is a different way of thinking.

“In China, there is a culture that so long as you don’t get caught, or as long as someone in your circle doesn’t disagree, it is fine,” he said. He pointed out that the tax rules are complex in China, and there is a culture that if you can avoid them, do so.