



Report on ACCUTE-GSC Survey Data 2014-2015



Graduate Caucus Lunch
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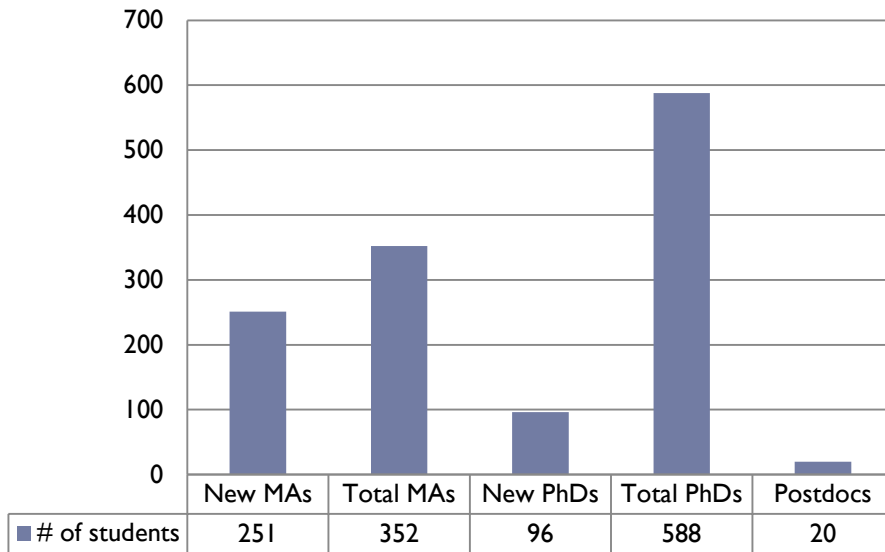
15 Schools Returned Surveys

1. University of Alberta
2. University of British Columbia Okanagan
3. Brock University
4. Carleton University
5. Dalhousie University
6. University of Guelph
7. University of Manitoba
8. McGill University
9. Memorial University
10. University of Saskatchewan
11. Simon Fraser University
12. University of Toronto
13. University of Waterloo
14. University of Western Ontario
15. York University



General Statistics

2014-15, 15 schools

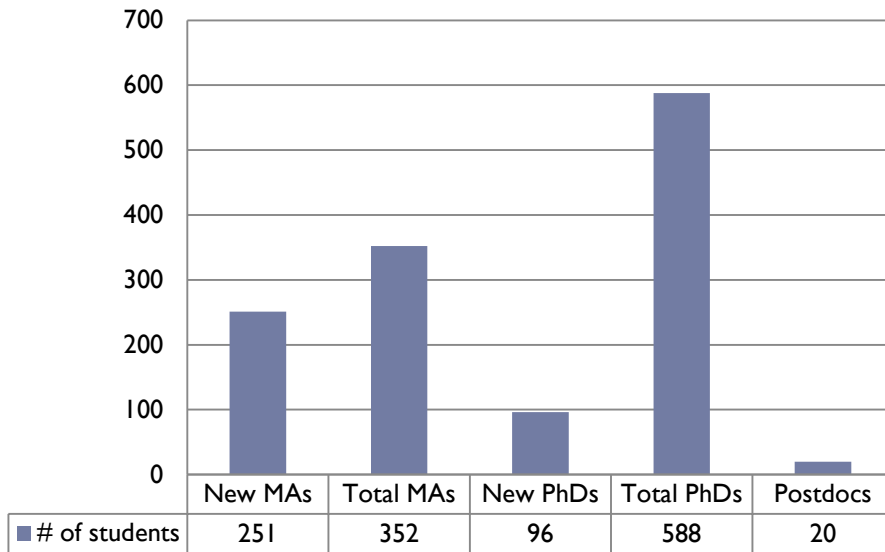


Many departments still running multi-year Master's programs.

Universities	New MAs	Total MAs	New PhDs	Total PhDs	Postdocs
Alberta	16	23	6	63	5
Brock	8	8	0	0	1
Carleton	12	14	5	22	0
Dalhousie	10	14	2	18	0
Guelph	11	11	2	18	1
Manitoba	4	15	4	18	1
McGill	29	52	7	32	6
Memorial	4	8	0	8	0
Saskatchewan	9	13	5	23	0
Simon Fraser	12	15	4	24	1
Toronto	49	38	17	122	1
UBC Okanagan	22	52	7	54	2
Waterloo	21	38	14	60	2
Western	16	16	13	75	0
York	28	35	10	41	0
Total	251	352	96	588	20

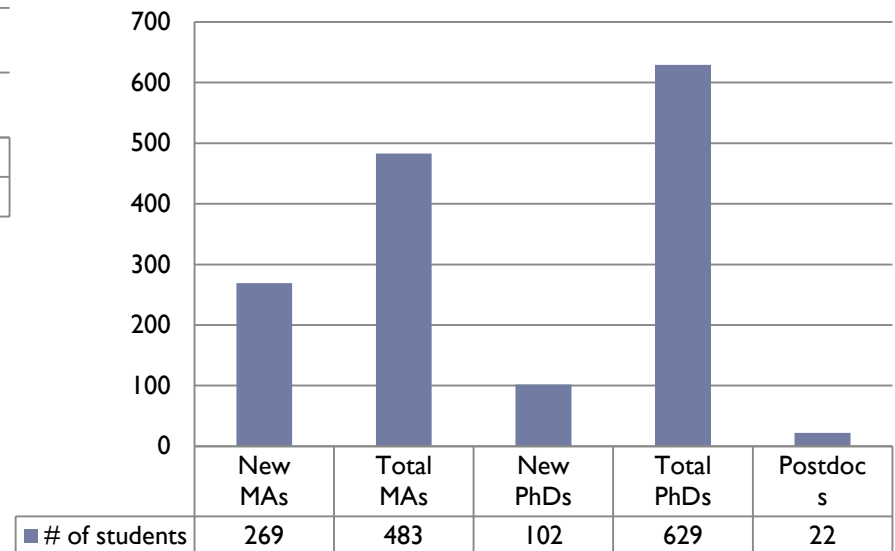
General Statistics

2014-15, 15 schools



Many departments still running multi-year Master's programs.

2015-16, 18 schools

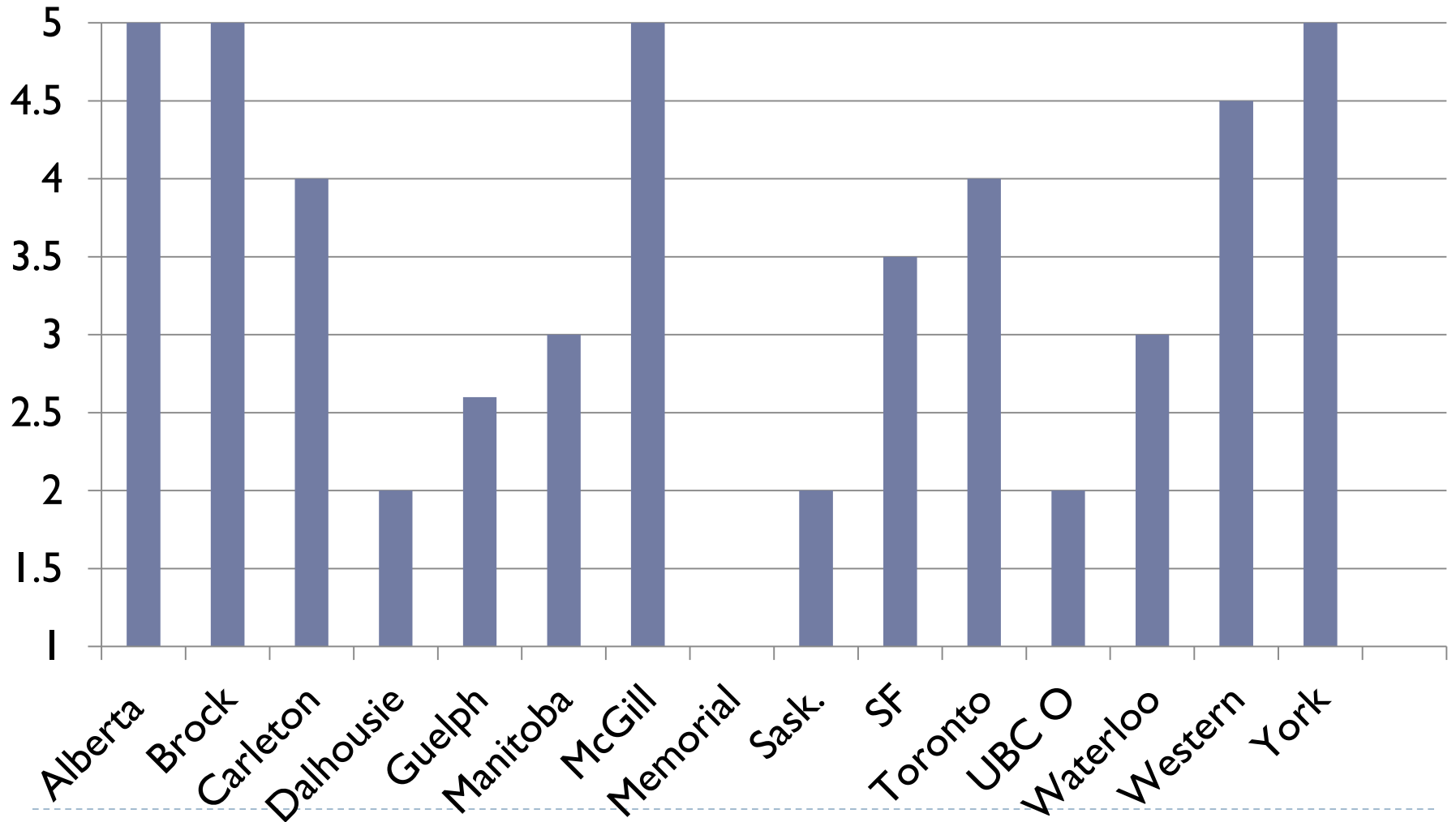


Program Requirements

- ▶ **Master's program options:**
 - ▶ Coursework: 11/15
 - ▶ Thesis: 14/15
- ▶ **Comprehensive exams are still the norm.**
 - ▶ Only one school reported a PhD program with alternative forms of assessment for candidacy.
- ▶ **Language requirements:**
 - ▶ MA: 6/15 require some sort of proficiency in a second language
 - ▶ PhD: 13/14, 1 N/A



Overall Professionalization Satisfaction



Professionalization Satisfaction

- ▶ a) Department offer a course that includes professionalization as a main component?
 - 9 schools reported YES
 - 6 schools reported NO
- b) Department offer occasional professionalization workshops or training?
 - 14 schools reported YES
 - 1 school reported NO
- c) The faculty of graduate studies or some other body at your institution offer occasional professionalization workshops or training?
 - 15 schools reported YES
- e) Graduate placement officer?
 - 8 schools reported YES
 - 7 schools reported NO



Professionalization Satisfaction

f) Grad students are made aware that the department is hiring someone?

12 schools reported YES

2 schools reported NO

1 N/A

g) Grad students are encouraged to be involved in the hiring process (e.g. to attend presentations/meetings, to submit comments to faculty, etc.)?

12 schools reported YES

2 schools reported NO

1 N/A

h) Grad students are involved in the hiring decision (i.e. given a vote)?

6 schools reported YES

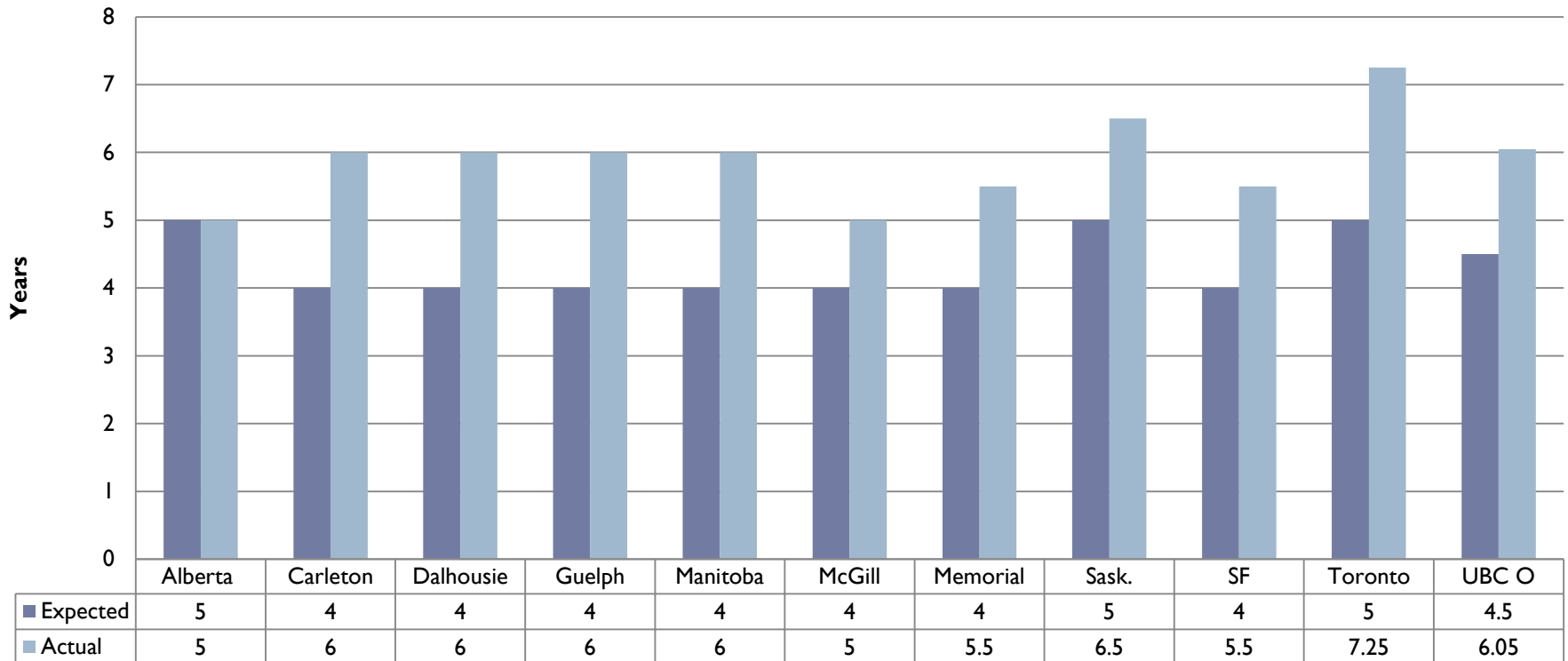
8 schools reported NO

1 N/A



Ideal v. Actual Years for PhD Completion

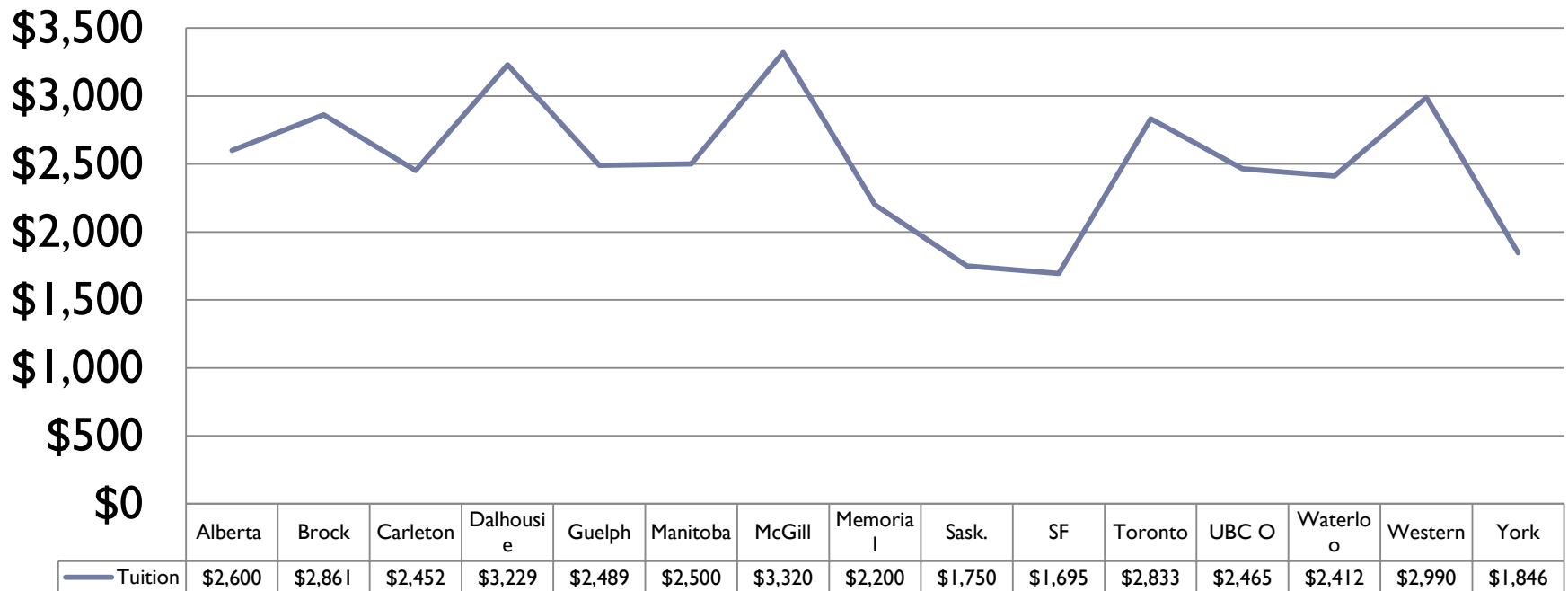
Actual and Expected PhD Completion Times



Only York and McGill report completion times of 5 years



Tuition Costs Per Term (2014-15)

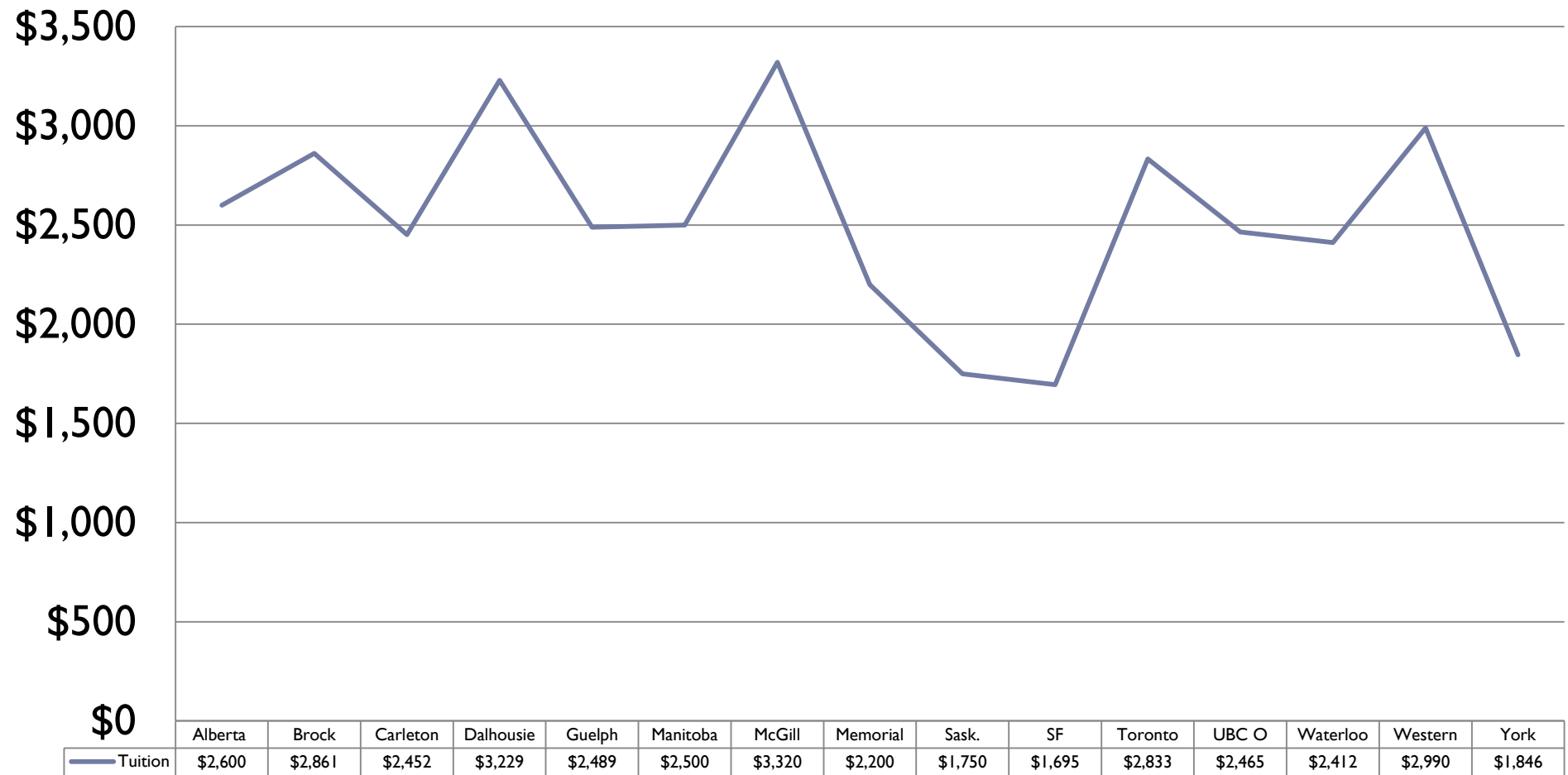


Tuition appears to be significantly higher in Ontario compared to other parts of the country.

Only 3 universities reported some form of reduced tuition during the later years of

▶ PhD candidacy.

Rate of T.A. Pay (2014-15)



Funding Concerns

- ▶ Reduced tuition for PhD candidates at only 6/14 schools.
- ▶ 4 schools reported no period of guaranteed funding for MA students, 1 school reported no guaranteed funding for PhDs also.
- ▶ 11/14 schools reported some sort of reduction to internal funding with the reception of external awards.
- ▶ 1/2 of schools Difficult to discern a pattern or standard for top-up awards.
- ▶ Although every school reported some form of travel funding, it is sometimes inadequate and usually far from complete.



Other Areas of Concern

- ▶ The sizeable gap between how long universities say it takes to complete a PhD ... **and how long it actually does.**
- ▶ 5 schools reported no guaranteed opportunity for teaching during the supposed time it takes to complete (4 years)
- ▶ Office space is often limited.
- ▶ Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Waterloo do not have TA/RA unions!



Issues with the Survey

- ▶ Need to ask for guaranteed funding amounts per year, especially since this has been an area of public concern lately.
- ▶ Revised & shortened for 2016-2017, but perhaps switch to online survey (Survey Monkey?).
- ▶ Not fully representative. Every school not surveyed is a gap in the whole picture!
- ▶ To this end, we need to secure representation in every department.



Representation to the GSC of ACCUTE

- ▶ Happy to report all 15 schools have some form of departmental grad student society.
- ▶ All 15 have elections, but not all state that the ACCUTE grad rep is elected.
 - ▶ We would like election to be the norm not the exception.

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