



# Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey

**Chris Park**

[Lancaster University, Higher Education Academy]

**Gosia Kulej**

[Higher Education Academy]

# What is PTES?

## § Questionnaire survey: taught postgraduate students

- Collect student view on their experiences

- § NOT a student satisfaction survey

- Build on success of PRES; same online approach/methodology

## § Design principles

Student-centred

Easy to use

Voluntary

Flexible

Useful

Cost-effective

Anonymous

Secure

# Developing PTES

- Objective
  - Develop an easy-to-use tool for collecting comparative information about the taught postgraduate student experience, to inform enhancement
    - Optional for HEIs to use if they wish to
    - Advice, guidance and support from HE Academy
- Development
  1. Planning: Steering Group 2007-9
  2. Pilot: July-Aug 2008; 6 HEIs
  3. Implementation: May-June 2009
  4. Review: late 2009

# Core questions

- A. Motivation
- B. Quality of teaching & learning
- C. Assessment & feedback
- D. Organisation & management
- E. Learning resources
- F. Skills & personal development
- G. Career & personal development
- H. Overall satisfaction

§ Includes many questions from NSS [for comparison]

§ Questions for particular groups:

- Campus based vs distance learners
- Student support services
- International students

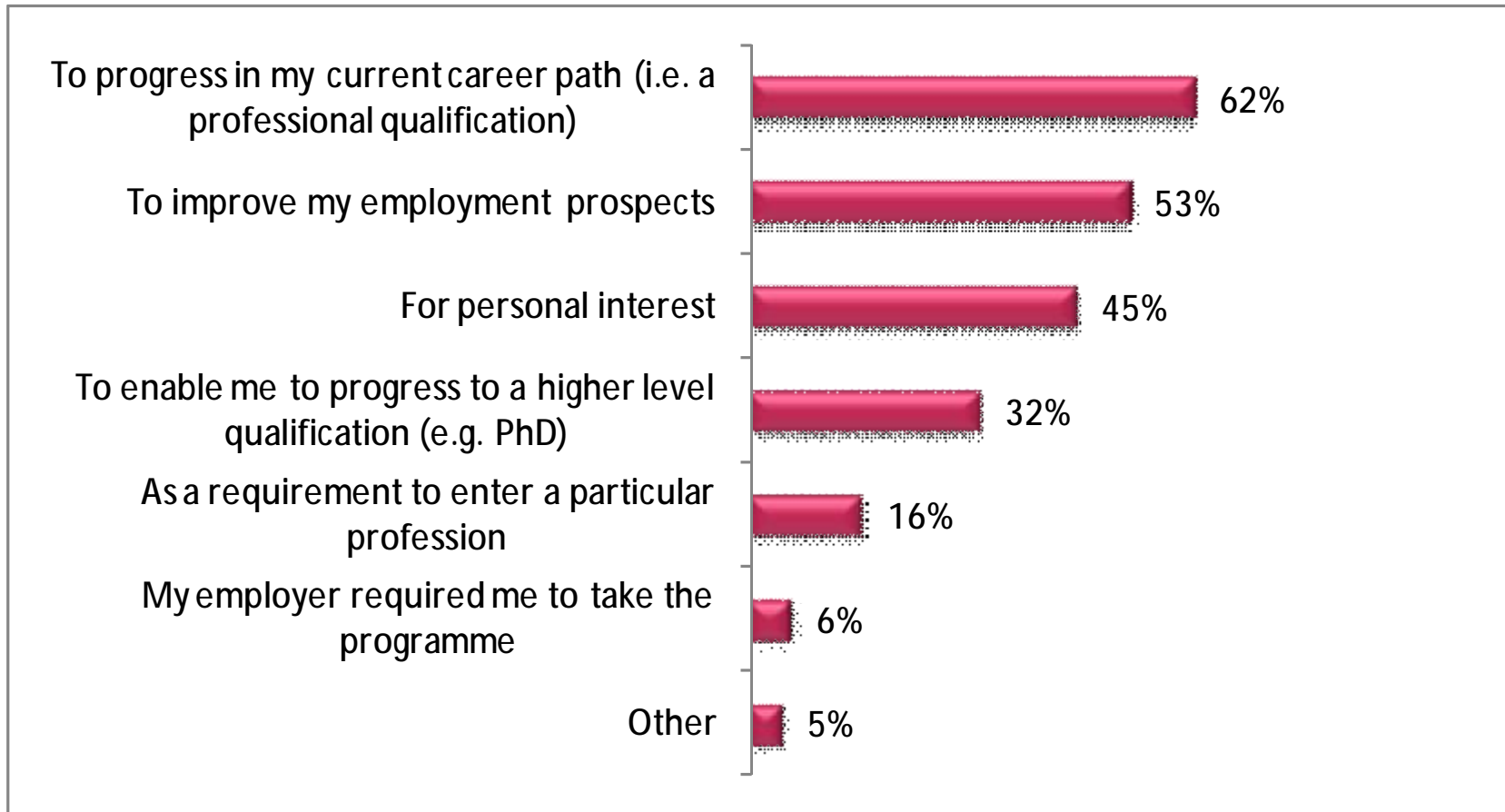
§ Demographic questions

- Degree registered for; age; gender; discipline (JACS codes); department (HEI Q); start date; full/part-time; face-to-face vs distant learner; UK/EU/non-EU fees; paid employment (yes/no, hours per week); main source of funding; highest qualification on entry

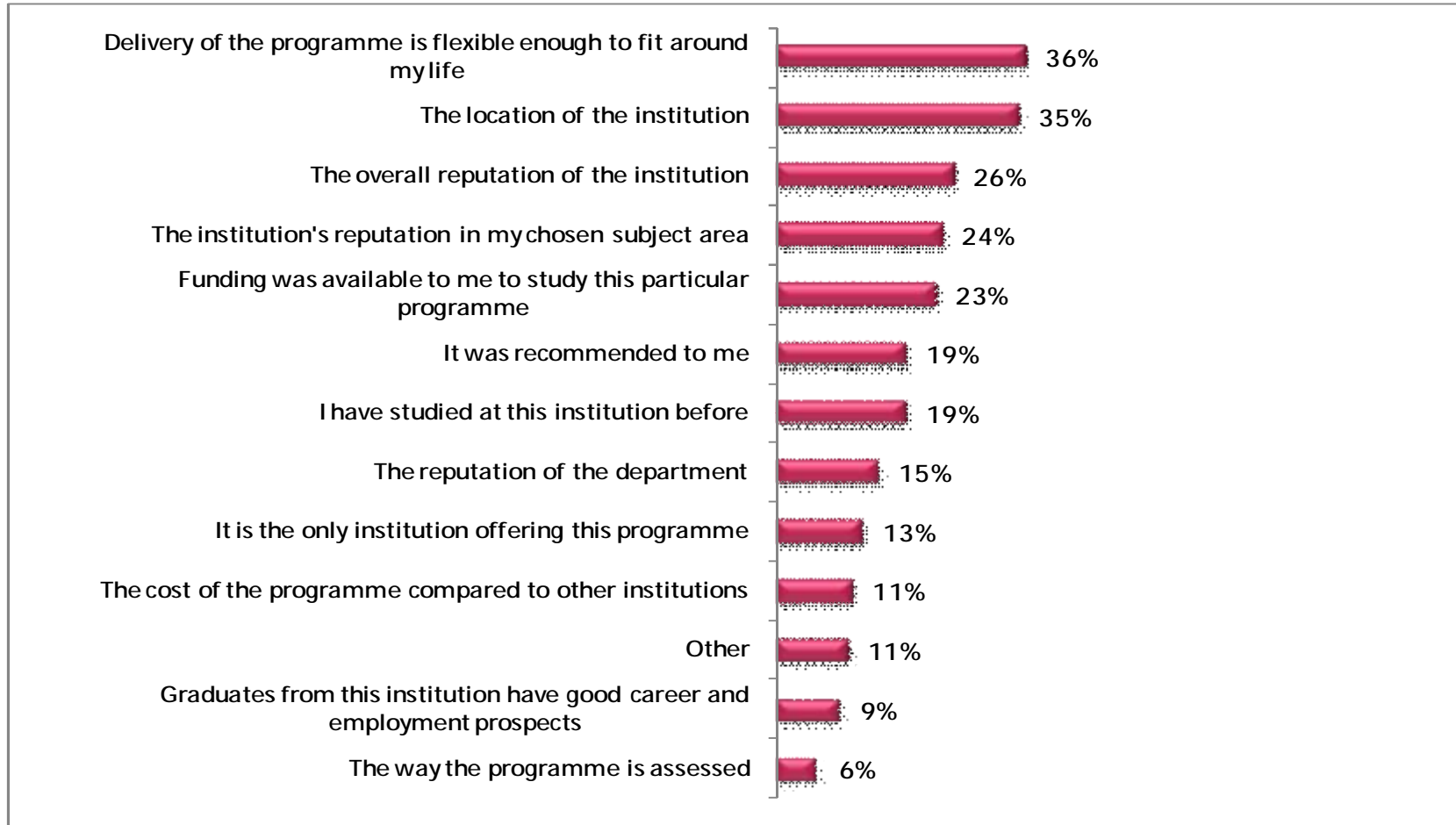


# Some results from the pilot survey

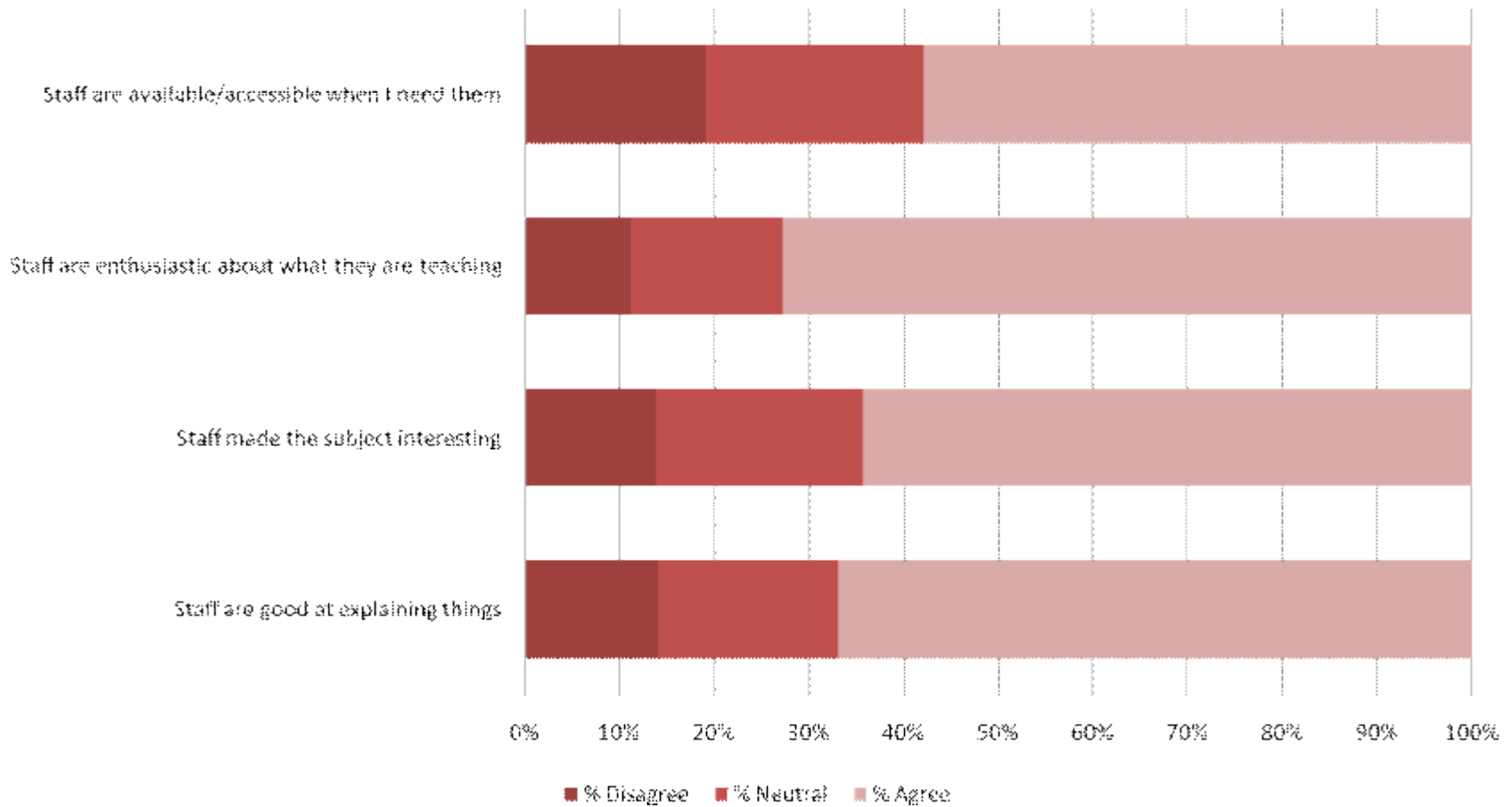
# Motivation for taking this programme



# Studying at this HEI because ...



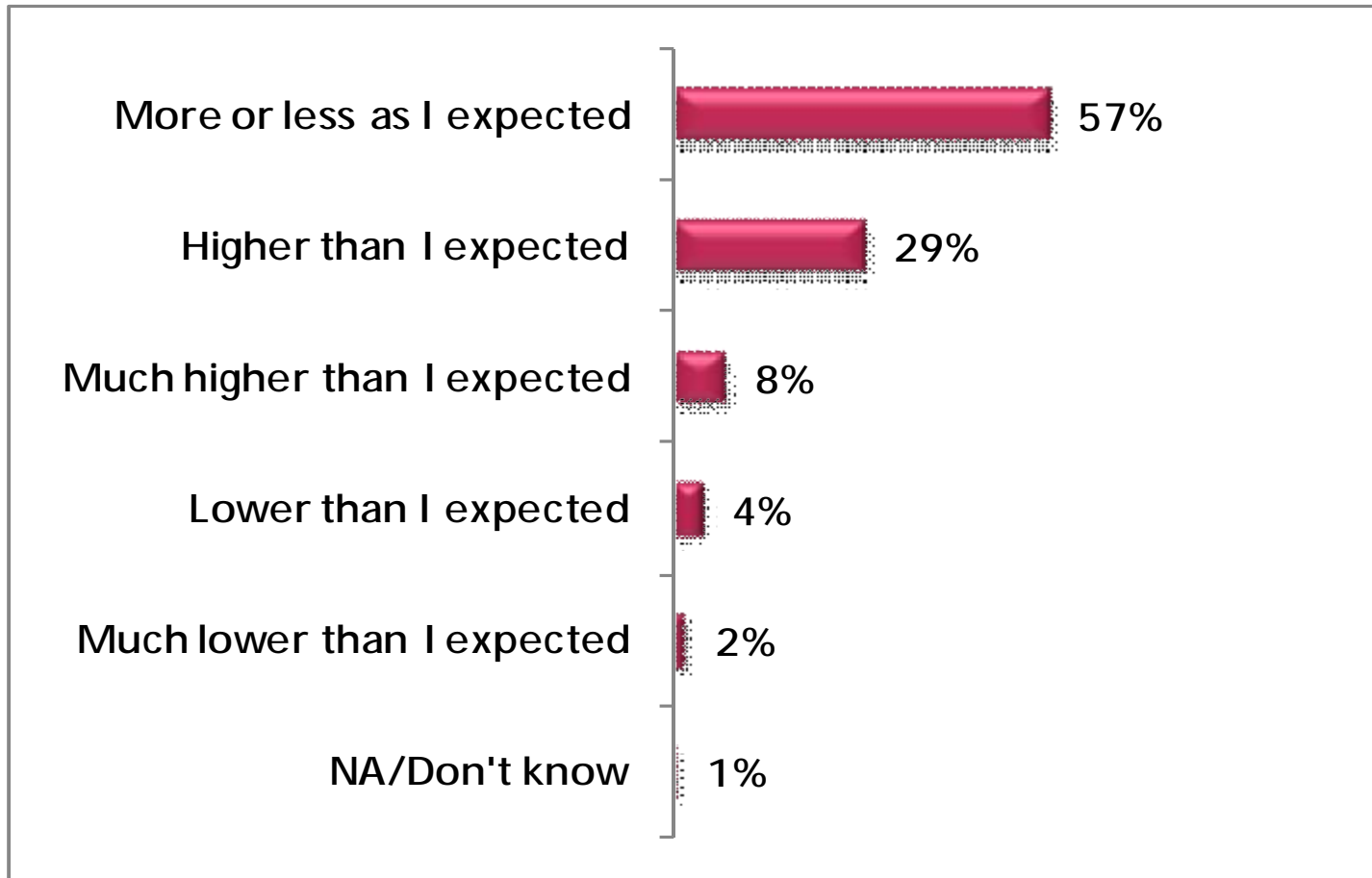
# Views about teaching staff



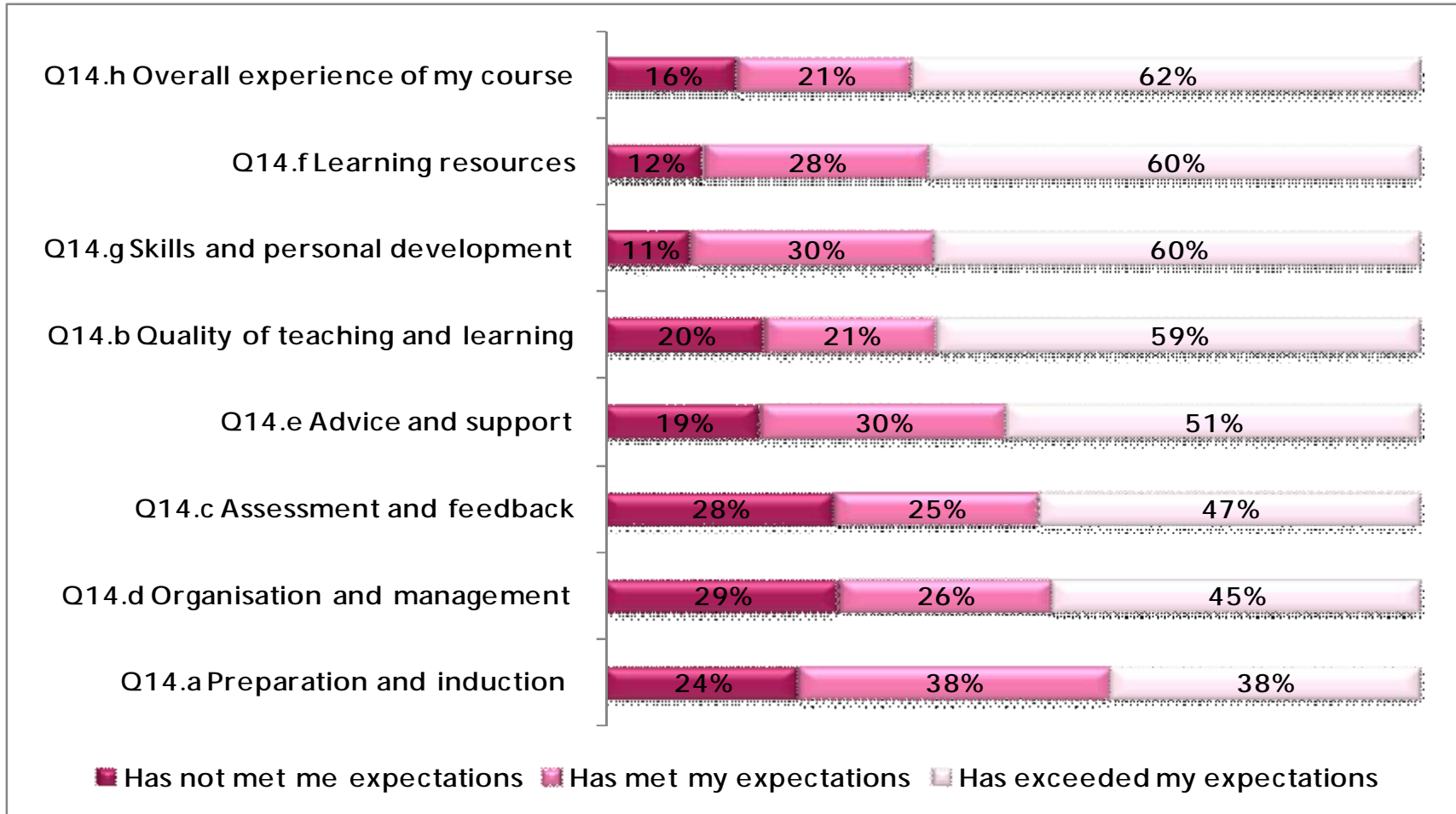
# Assessment and feedback

	Mean	SD	%Disagree	%Neutral	%Agree
Q8.a The criteria used in marking have been made clear in advance	3.64	1.202	19%	19%	63%
Q8.b Assessment arrangements and marking have been fair	3.68	1.101	15%	21%	64%
Q8.c Feedback on my work has been prompt	3.27	1.291	29%	22%	49%
Q8.d I received feedback in time to allow me to improve for my next assignment	3.29	1.327	29%	21%	49%
Q8.e I have received detailed comment (written or oral) on my work	3.48	1.255	24%	19%	57%
Q8.f Feedback on my work has helped me clarify things I did not understand	3.39	1.226	24%	24%	52%

# Workload on the programme



# Overall satisfaction



# Benefits to HEI

## § Access to effective tool (survey and analysis)

- Robust methodology; tried and tested
- Simple to use
  - For students to take part
  - For HEIs to access and analyse results
  - Download data as EXCEL/SPSS for statistical analysis
- Relatively cheap for the HEI
  - Site licence for use of BOS; annual fee
  - HEI can use BOS for multiple surveys for one annual fee

## § Consistent with similar surveys based on BOS

- Eg PRES, CROS

## § Protect institutional interest

- Institutional results belong to the HEI
  - HEI cannot view results from other individual HEIs
  - Agencies (eg HEA, QAA, HEFCE) not able to see or compare results for individual HEIs

## § Opportunity to benchmark

- HEI can only view their own results, the aggregate results, and overall results from their benchmarking group
- HEIs can share results by mutual consent

## § Opportunity to collect institution-specific information

- Specific questions, free-text boxes

# Who does what?

Academy	HE Institution	BOS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide core questionnaire</li><li>• Coordinate (the same start/end dates, monthly bulletins)</li><li>• Collaborative agreement</li><li>• Advice on data analysis</li><li>• Collect feedback</li><li>• Sector wide report (anonymised dataset)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Purchase BOS licence</li><li>• Launch PTES (additional questions)</li><li>• Collect data (emails)</li><li>• Analyse data</li><li>• Institutional report</li><li>• Response to survey results</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide technical support and guidance</li><li>• <a href="http://www.survey.bris.ac.uk">www.survey.bris.ac.uk</a></li></ul>

# PTES 2009 - timeline

- § Registration: 24 Feb to 20 March
- § Survey: 20 April to 26 June
- § PTES Officers meeting: July
- § Report published: October

# Further information

§ For further information about **PTES**, or if you would like to sign up for **PTES 2009**, please contact:

- Gosia Kulej, Project Co-ordinator
- Email: [Malgorzata.Kulej@heacademy.ac.uk](mailto:Malgorzata.Kulej@heacademy.ac.uk)
- Phone: 01904717500 ext 2210

§ **PTES** website –

<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/ourwork/research/surveys/ptes>