

Back to School

So, you need a job!

by Jim Middaugh

With approximately 16,000 students returning to the University of Oregon campus this fall, and with about three quarters of those students needing jobs, the town has prepared itself for the regular deluge of student applications. Job prospects are looking slightly better than in former years, and with a few tips for applying, students and the community will be able to complement each other once again.

Nancy Baily of the Job Placement Center at the U of O was able to explain why the large number of employable youth might be accommodated a little more speedily than in former years. While things had dropped to a low point about three years ago, the job market is coming back to its former level. Things are always better in the fall though, she adds, "because when the students come back, employers need students to work."

According to the Job Placement Center, business people and homeowners are a great support for student workers. "Students are perfect for part-time and evening work that other job seekers aren't interested in," Baily says.

While the number of students the service is able to place varies from month to month, Baily estimates that an average of 3,000 students will find work through the student service this fall.

Basically, the job center screens applicants to determine their interests and skills and then directs the applicants to potential employers. In order to find an adequate number of the often elusive openings, job center staff members "visit employers on a regular basis." A majority of the openings, however, are discovered when employers call the center in search of qualified help.

When asked about U of O students' financial situations, Baily replied that approximately 75 percent of the student population needs to work during school sessions and that about 99 percent work during at least one point during the year.

Several employers who were questioned about the student employment situation said tenacity is the key to finding work. "We get 10 to 15 applications a day—when we're not hiring. Obviously, we have to turn a lot of folks away. But, persistence impresses me. The turnover is phenomenal. Anyone who gets discouraged after the first rejection will never get anywhere," one local business owner said.

Other job seeking suggestions offered by local business owners were:

Decide where you're going to apply. Considering the number of businesses in Eugene, it would be exhausting to hit them all. Pick the ones that you feel best suited for and do a good job applying to them.

Pick businesses that coincide with your interests. Don't waste your time applying for a job as a cook if you've been a cab driver since the day you turned 16, or vice versa.

Dress neatly when visiting a business. Even if you normally wear bluejean cutoffs and a Budweiser T-shirt, a prospective employer will no doubt be more impressed with the new back to school outfit that your mother bought you before you left for campus.

Type up a resume and make a copy for each business you're applying to. With any luck, a resume will impress a prospective employer that you at least had the motivation to type something. And at the very least, a resume will save you the emotional trauma and the writer's cramp associated with filling out 50 identical application forms. Include the essentials about yourself, including a list of some of your past employers, a few words about your interests that might apply to the job at hand and finally, list the days and hours you are available for work. The hours you can work are important to the employer who is hiring a horde of part-time students with different school schedules.



The University Street Faire is enjoyed by returning students and Eugenians as well.

Photograph by David Stein

Give the employer a list of several references. References give an interested employer the opportunity to find out more about you.

"Just stopping in to check on my application. . . ." As any good salesperson will tell you, you can't sell anything without first talking to the buyer. A non-threatening and polite opener is an easy way

to see if any vacancies have occurred since you dropped off your resume. If nothing else, the simple fact that you have the wherewithal to return for a visit may get you a job.

If all else fails and your supply of macaroni and cheese is reaching depletion and the registrar's office has placed a hold on your fee card, apply for financial aid. The

Financial Aid Office is located in Oregon Hall, at the corner of 13th Avenue and Agate Street. Some nice employed person at the office will be able to tell you if you qualify for grants, scholarships or in a worst case situation, emergency loans.

And last, and some would say least, the Marines are looking for a few good women and men.

UO Student Groups Offering Employment and/or Work Experience

ASUO Executive	686-3724	Incidental Fee Committee	686-3749	Repertory Dancers	686-3386
Alpha Kappa Psi	747-6436	Industrial Relations Student		SEARCH	686-4305
Amazon Childcare	485-6554	Assoc.	686-5141	Solar Energy Information	
Amazon Community Tenants	485-5104	Interfraternity Council	686-3701	Center	686-3696
American Advertising		International Studies Assoc.	686-5051	Student Bar Assoc.	686-3882
Federation	686-3738	Jewish Student Union	686-4366	Student Campaign for	
American Chemical Society	686-4601	KWAX	686-4328	Disarmament	686-4248
American Civil Liberties		Latin American Support		Students Opposing Registration	686-4356
Union	345-6162	Committee	686-5116	and the Draft	
American Institute of		Legal Services/ASUO	686-4273	Student University Affairs	686-3720
Architects	686-3656	Marching Band	686-3761	Board	
American Society of Interior		MEChA	686-3508	Survival Center	686-4356
Design	343-3106	Model United Nations	686-4890	Switchboard/Rideshare	342-HELP/
Asian American Student		Muslim Students Assoc.	344-5555		345-7600
Union	686-4342	Native American Student		Tool Library/ASUO	686-3702
Asian Studies	686-4005	Union	686-3723	Undergraduate Economics	
AVENU	686-3656	Off-Campus Housing	686-3731	Assoc.	686-4661
Black Student Union	686-4379	Office of Student Advocacy	686-3722	United States Student Assoc.	686-3724
Chinese Student Union	686-4322	Oregon Computing Assoc.	342-8528	University Players/	
Circle K	345-9098	Oregon Daily Emerald	686-5511	Theatre 4:30	686-4741
Committee for Musical Arts	686-3761	Oregon Student Lobby	1-378-4966	University Song and Dance	
UO Crisis Center	686-4488	OSPIRG	686-4377	Troup	686-3387
DEPM/Graduate Student		Panhellenic	686-3888	University Theatre	686-4174
Organization	686-5171	People and the Oregon Coast	686-3798	Women in Transition	686-3824
Drug Information Center	686-5411	Political Science Student		Women in Communications,	
Druids	686-3216	Union	686-4891	Inc.	686-4099
EMU Board	686-3724	Pre-Health Sciences Center	686-4338	Women's Referral and	
ESCAPE Field Studies	686-4351	Psychology Club	342-2693	Resource	686-3327
Foreign Student		Rape Crisis Network	485-6700	YMCA—Big Sister/	
Organization	686-4387	Recreation and Intramurals	686-4113	Big Brother	686-4431
Forensics	686-4198	Recreational Folk Dance	686-4877	YWCA	686-4439
Gay and Lesbian Alliance	686-3360				

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