

Merger of placement, counseling considered

By RON JOHNSON
Of the Emerald

The University is presently considering a change in student services which would combine the University Placement Service with the Office of Career Planning.

According to Robert Bowlin, dean of Student Personnel Services, the change is not definite. He said the University was only "exploring the possibility of merger." But he indicated that the proposed merger is a very likely and rather definite alternative.

The change would effectively "merge placement with counseling", and these services would be available through one office tentatively called "Career Planning and Placement Service." "Career placement," Bowlin explains, "is crucial to students. Placement has a finger on the pulse of jobs. The purpose of counseling is to fit students into a career."

The new office would emphasize career planning sooner, because in the past a placement center was primarily for seniors and graduate students. Bowlin foresees a change in placement services throughout the country in the next three or four years, and the proposed change in services would reflect this new direction.

Bowlin envisions "broader services with broader emphasis... serving more of the student body."

Because there is an apparent need for career planning at an earlier stage the new office would be reaching students much sooner than now—perhaps their freshman year or even sooner. Bowlin adds, "Career planning for lower division students does not down play the importance of placement planning."

He strongly maintains that there would be "no curtailment of services" or "no services downgraded." He reasserts "we have the skills, and it is a matter of how we apply them."

The financial crisis of the University in the past year was evidently not a factor in the proposal for a new office. Bowlin merely indicated that "HPUP

recommended more self-sufficiency."

The new office of Career Planning and Placement Services would probably have the same budget as the combined budgets of the University Placement Service and the Office of Career Planning had for the past year.

Bowlin said the budget is still an uncertain matter. There has been one position lost and one position gained. The new position of counselor for minority athletes would be funded through the new office, but a placement counselor position has been lost.

Bowlin said the State Board of Higher Education approves placement services and sets different placement fees. "If different fees are charged," he says, "then the budget would be different."

"If higher fees for alumnae are charged then we would have a better budget." But it would still be similar to the previous budgets.

The Career Planning and Placement Service would be located at the same place as the old offices—in Susan Campbell Hall. And the hours would be the same, 8 to 12 and 1 to 5, Monday through Friday.

Bowlin was enthusiastic about "the exciting possibilities for what career placement can be doing," and he expressed optimism about the success of the proposed change. He said there are many innovations that would be valuable to students and many new services that could be offered through the new office.

Knowing how to find a job, is something that can be learned—how to prepare a resume, where to look, how to begin, who to go to, Bowlin said. Lots of things can be done in groups. And he said he thinks the involvement of graduate students and the use of special equipment such as video cameras and tape recorders would greatly facilitate counseling and placement services. These are some of the ideas he said he hopes would be augmented with the creation of the new office.

Drug center gets \$1300 budget

The ASUO Senate passed several fiscal appropriations at its first summer meeting June 28. The Inter-institutional Union of Students (IUS) was granted a director's salary of \$105 per month for the summer months of July, August and September and an additional \$100 for telephone and \$230 for travel expenses. The IUS will have to come before the full senate in September in order to request a director's salary for the remaining nine months of the year.

The Drug Information Center (DIC) requested a summer budget of \$1,352. After some discussion, the request was passed in full, allowing for a salaried assistant director. The fiscal year 1972-73 is the DIC's first full year as a program.

The senate passed a proposal by the Student Community projects to pay \$500 in bills for the Aid to Dependent Children organization. The ADC is approximately \$6500 in debt.

One request not granted was that of the Draft and Military

Information Center, which requested \$350 with which to make a film about the draft to use instead of lectures in high schools.

Several executive appointment confirmations were also made at the senate meeting. Most controversial was the executive appointment of Bill Fidler as director of the International Education Center (IEC).

Members of the Foreign Student Organization (FSO) said they were dissatisfied with the

appointment procedure and a discussion ensued among senators and observers for an hour and a half with no senate confirmation.

On Monday, a resolution was made by a senate ad-hoc committee established to settle the disagreement. The committee resolved that the administration of the IEC would be handled by a committee composed of three members, one from IEC, one from FSO, and a member of the ASUO Executive.

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