

Job outlook brightens for business grad

Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of nine articles on the job outlook for the 1976 graduate. Thursday's article will study the situation for health, physical education and recreation majors.

By MARTHA BLISS
Of the Emerald

Accounting. All sources point to it as numero uno in the business job market.

"It's the surest bet," says Charles Kittleson, external affairs director of the University's business school. He considers the accounting graduate a "meat and potatoes kind of person everyone can use. The field has a professional recognition and establishment that gives you a claim on a job right away."

Even at the bachelor's level, accounting is a real feather in one's cap — a feature growing less and less common nowadays. According to the 1976 issue of *The Endicott Report*, a survey of 225 well-known business and industrial concerns, the bachelor's degree holder in accounting can expect an average monthly starting salary of \$1,012.

Accounting graduates with master's degrees, of course, have even higher starting salary averages: \$1,242 per month.

Kittleson stresses one caution, however, with the accounting job market. "It's only for people who are excellent," he says, emphasizing the word "excellent."

Even in the overall business job outlook, the picture remains comfortably bright. Donald McCarty, director of the University's Career Planning and Placement Service (CPPS), ranks business along with engineering and computer science as the top three job markets today.

The decision between remaining at the bachelor's level and going for a Master's of Business Administration (MBA) degree can be a toss-up. Although entry-level salaries are higher at the MBA level, Kittleson says that top people with bachelor's degrees can have just as good luck as MBA holders. He explains that many companies don't want to pay the premium salaries required for MBA graduates, and therefore hire bachelor's degree holders at lower initial rates. Consequently, expectations of the MBA graduate can be "frustrating."

In national corporations, however, the MBA is essential. The MBA program is geared precisely toward large-corporation management, which is what most of its graduates receive job offers

for. Since few national corporations base their headquarters in Oregon, Kittleson says the MBA graduate must be open to work outside the state. Although Oregon contains many branches of corporations, he says the head-quarter offices are usually in the East and perform most of the hiring.

James Reinmuth, University as-



sociate professor of quantitative methods, is more optimistic on the business job outlook in Oregon. Although he admits Oregon job offers are somewhat

scarce, he says those who are active enough in the market "never have trouble getting them." He says, in fact, that 4,000 of the 7,000 business students who have graduated from the University's business school since it was first founded are employed in Lane County.

Jon Aaberg, an MBA student in forest industries management, for example, says he landed a full-time position with Champion International in Eugene just last month. He says he also knows of several other MBA students who received similar offers throughout the Willamette Valley.

Overall, women candidates in the business field are experiencing a favorable job market. The number of women in the business school has shot up rapidly in recent years, and this success has carried over into employment.

Kittleson explains that many corporations are currently "playing catch up" in their female hiring to comply with their equal opportunity employment plans.

He also says female students tend to be "academically superior" although they often also experience more social problems once on the job. In relating to the traditionally male environment in corporations, females tend to be either too aggressive or too submissive.

Commission fights sexism

By CANDACE DEMPSEY
For the Emerald

"I've had my difficulties with sexism, all of which have awakened my primal rage," a woman told the Eugene Human Rights Commission on Women Monday.

Like the other women who testified about the difficulties they face in acquiring skilled and unskilled jobs, she asked not to be identified. And like them, she shifted her back to the television camera so her face couldn't be photographed.

"We don't want to jeopardize our jobs," she explained.

Commission member Sarah Lichtenstein said the meeting's purpose was to share job experiences and find ways to help women obtain apprenticeships and other training opportunities usually reserved for men.

The commission plans to compile an information network of apprenticeship openings and a list of women interested in jobs traditionally reserved for men like truck driving, welding and carpentry, she said.

According to commission member Jane Farrand, only six of 693 active apprentices and 10 of 240 industrial trainees in Eugene are female.

Women are excluded from these training programs, Farrand said, because they can't get the pre-apprenticeship, on-the-job training they need to qualify.

Of the 20 women who testified, only a few had

jobs. Those who were employed said they found working on all-male crews a lonely and unpleasant experience.

"The hardest thing about these jobs is not that women can't do them, the skills aren't that hard. It's the things the men say, the way they laugh at you when you make a mistake — that's the hardest part," a maintenance worker said.

Most said they had to cope with sexual innuendos and advances while on the job.

"But the unpleasantness is worth it because the jobs pay so well. Secretaries and nurse's aides have unpleasant jobs too, but the pay scale is very low," another woman said.

A woman who recently applied for a carpentry apprenticeship with the Department of Labor described that experience:

"They asked me how I would feel knowing that they were paying me to shovel fifty cents worth of gravel while someone else could shovel a dollar's worth in the same amount of time.

"I told them I'd have the same problem as a man who was also five foot three."

A carpenter, part of a two-woman construction firm, said women have much more physical strength than they think they do.

"Men exaggerate how heavy things are," she contended. "I think laziness increases with size."

"I once lifted the entire side of the house with 15 other women," an unemployed construction worker said. "It was a wonderful experience."

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