

ESCAPE gives 'people skill' training

By MARY FORAN
Of the Emerald

The term has already begun, but there's still time to "escape" into practical experience through the University's ESCAPE field

studies program.

ESCAPE Director Kelly Nakao says there are no drastic changes in the program this year, except for a slight change of emphasis.

ESCAPE, Every Student Caring About Personalized Education, is not a SEARCH course, Nakao

stresses, but is similar in concept to the University Year for Action program, which gives students field experiences in social service agencies. UYA, however, might no longer be available for students after this year because of University budget problems.

ESCAPE's community services division has positions for persons interested in working with the physically or mentally handicapped in recreation or sports activities, says Nakao. Corrections, multi-service agencies and nursing homes are some of the other areas which need volunteers.

Openings are available in all areas of the elementary section of ESCAPE's public school division, especially in after-school activity programs, which last year included classes from cooking to juggling.

Faculty advisor Judy Sanders agrees, adding the program stresses "testing out the notion of being a teacher." Students interested in tutoring or counseling can use ESCAPE to gain basic communication and leadership skills, Sanders says.

Even the staff agrees the focus of the program has shifted from the simple need for volunteers to an emphasis on providing stu-

dents with more advanced training in "people skills."

Marilyn Krueger, a Graduate Teaching Fellow in ESCAPE's community services division, says the program not only provides students with an opportunity to gain credits (One for every three hours of work), but it also gives them essential practical experience and leadership training.

Training in problem-solving and organizational skills takes place in Monday and Wednesday evening seminars, one for ESCAPE tutor coordinators and one for the volunteers.

Elementary and secondary schools in the 4J and Springfield districts need volunteers in math, science, recreation and physical education, and art and music. Additionally, special education positions working with "mainstreamed" handicapped students who need extra attention in non-specialized classrooms, are offered.

Program still SEARCHing

Natural Diet for Humans, The Plants Around Us included

SEARCH, a student-funded, student-run program specializing in alternative education, has offered some additions to its fall program, according to Director Nancy Pearson.

"Lots of positions are still open for students if they get in a bind for classes," says Pearson, who took over the leadership of SEARCH just this fall.

"Most of the SEARCH courses are listed in the time schedule under the sponsoring academic department," says Pearson. "But, some of our classes were not submitted to the time schedule

before publication. The time schedule is very early, and some of our teachers were unable to meet it."

A total of five classes have been added to the SEARCH selection this term, according to Pearson. They include Prospective SEARCH Leaders, a seminar class that prepares students to teach other SEARCH classes, and Natural Diet for Humans, which deals with vegetarianism and health foods. Other titles include Whales and People, The Plants Around Us and Introduction to Finnish.

EMU Board meets to choose officers

The election of new officers and a debate over room allocations dominated activity in the EMU Board's first meeting of the new school year, held Tuesday in the EMU Forum.

Six positions within the board's jurisdiction were filled. Dusty Rhodes was re-elected as chairer of the board, while Barb Selby became the vice-chairer. Chair positions for the house, food service and budget committees were filled by Amy Tobias, Tom Christ and Kevin Chambers, respectively. Barry Pilip was elected chairer of a committee which will study possible renovations for the Fishbowl. All six candidates ran unopposed.

No decision was made in the prime area of debate — the Office of Student Advocacy's request for more suitable office space. OSA Director Don Chalmers cited a lack of client-attorney confidentiality in the present office, which is located in the EMU basement.

Chalmers' plan involves moving the OSA offices to the third floor of the EMU, into offices now housing the Iranian, Arab and Ethiopian Student Unions. Arab Union members reacted unfavorably to the idea.

"We were moved two years ago," said one member of the Arab Union, "then were told we would not be moved again. But we were moved, and now it is proposed that we be moved again."

Chairer Rhodes had suggested that the Arabs be moved into the 2nd floor piano practice room and

the Iranians into another room located in the basement. Iranian Union member Ahmad Mobarez protested on the grounds that these rooms were too small for his group's activities. Arguments then arose over the relative size of the rooms involved, provoking a recess for a "walking tour" of the EMU. Action on the matter was postponed.

In other action, the board unanimously passed a bylaw amendment that expanded the scope of its food service committee to include all five revenue-producing areas of the EMU: the Fishbowl, the Skylight Room, the Food Service itself, the Main Desk and the Print Shop.

The board also voted to allocate office space, by a 7-4 vote, to the Food-op, a student-run group funded by the Incidental Fee Committee. Because EMU regulations require that such programs receive IFC funding in order to receive office space, the IFC allocated \$1 to the group.

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