

Placement center helps out

Career Planning offers counseling about jobs, choosing majors, utilizing University resources

By Frank Shaw
Of the Emerald

Whether you're a graduating senior without a job or a freshman without an idea for a major, the Career Planning and Placement Center can help out.

"It's not just for seniors," says Larry Smith, the center's director.

Career Planning offers help in making a decision about a major and teaches students to utilize resources at the University, as well as counseling students in making career decisions, Smith says.

And one of their newest programs helps students focus their education on what they want to do when they graduate.

"It's an attempt at helping students walk through the process of identifying particular areas of competence they would like to develop while at the University," he says.

Using a hypothetical example of a journalism major interested in advertising, Smith says student should look at the University and identify the day-to-day knowledge needed in an ad agency, and then plan their activities and courses around those needs.

He suggests students read some information about their field of interest, participate in an afternoon-on-the-job and then define which University classes will most help.

Smith also suggests getting involved in extra-curricular activities connected with their intended career.

Some services Career Planning offers include individual counseling, a workshop titled "Job Outlook for the 80s" that deals with which industries are expected to grow, and an afternoon-on-the-job session.

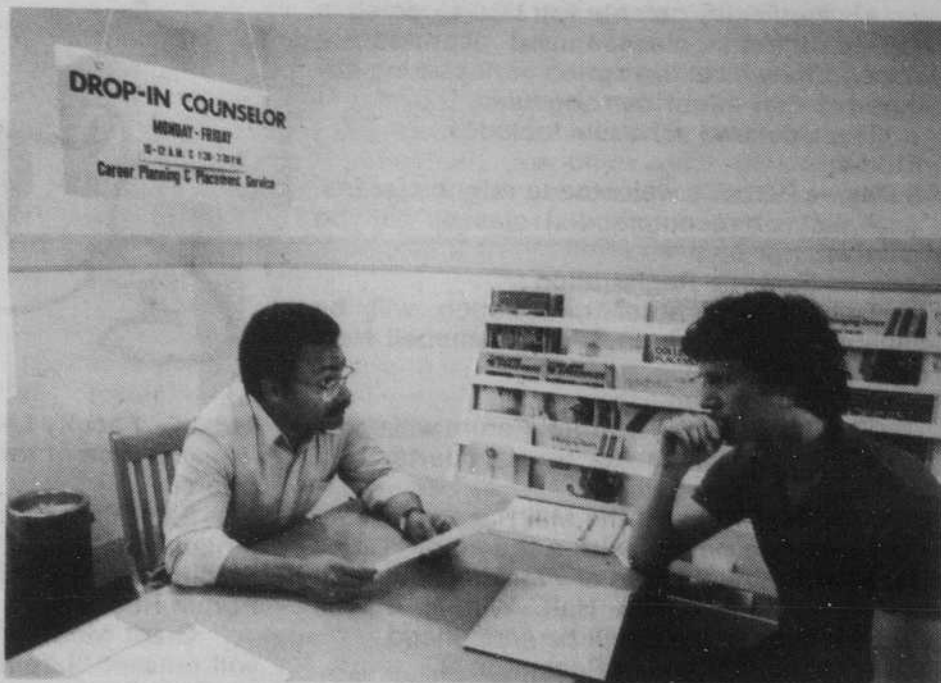
In that program students spend an afternoon visiting employers and collecting information

about individual companies.

As for the "placement" part of the center, Smith says the Career Planning and Placement Center lists 9,000 job vacancies each year, along with providing seminars, workshops and drop-in counseling for students.

He estimates 150 companies visit the University each quarter for job interviews.

The center also offers job vacancy books



Larry Smith says the drop-in counselor and the Career Planning and Placement Center are useful for all students — not just seniors.

that contain full information on available jobs and a placement seminar "Go Hire yourself an Employer" that provides assistance in job focusing, resume design, letter-writing, employer identification and interview skill development.

The center also has a company brochure file containing information concerning specific companies, and an employer directory that lists potential employers.

As a testimony to the career center's success, a survey of graduates in June of 1982 showed 80 percent were gainfully employed, 31 percent in a job highly related to their major and 15 percent in a job closely related to their major.

"That's not bad," Smith says.



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