

Taking a closer look

Internships cater to liberal arts majors

By Denise Fuller
Of the Emerald

Long ago, people interested in becoming blacksmiths would apprentice themselves to established blacksmiths to gain practical experience. Weavers would learn to weave. Silversmiths would learn to work silver.

Now liberal arts majors can enjoy the same type of opportunities in a new internship program designed especially for them.

"What we are trying to do is let liberal arts students take a closer look at the world of work," says Debbie Chereck, a career development specialist, about the Career Development Internship Program offered through the Career Planning and Placement Center.

This term eight University students have internships in local businesses and government agencies, and six new openings are anticipated for winter term.

Charles Rynerson, a senior in economics, is working for Lane Transit District's marketing department and is responsible for making the public aware of LTD's newly installed wheelchair lifts on 75 percent of Eugene's buses.

As an intern, Rynerson writes articles for "E-Z Access," LTD's newsletter. He also is producing a slideshow illustrating how disabled individuals can use the system.

"I have to use a lot of creativity," Rynerson says. More importantly, the internship gives him experiences he can't get from classes, Rynerson says.

"My internship helps me to deal with the public, and I'm working with professionals who I would not meet at the University. Doing something like this

after having a lot of schooling helps you to synthesize what you've learned in school with what you're going to do in the working world," he says.

Rynerson's supervisor — Ed Bergeron, LTD marketing administrator — has similar thoughts.

"Internships allow (the intern) to see what it's like in an organization. A career decision is a real important one and an internship allows you to feel what it's like. You can't get all the answers in the classroom," Bergeron says.

Another intern is English major Darcel Warren, who is working with the Oregon Pacific Economic Development Corp. in public relations. Oregon Pacific is a non-profit organization which promotes Oregon.

Although she's not paid for her efforts, Warren says she still benefits from the experience.

"When you're working in an internship, you're not making a living at it and you're less worried about the buck and more concerned with what you're doing," she says. "You can see what you like as a whole on a day-to-day basis."

As an intern, Warren is researching secondary education's importance in the Southern Willamette Valley between Corvallis and Eugene. Her project is part of Oregon Pacific's promotional efforts to attract businesses, especially high-tech firms, to the area.

Before becoming interns, students must be juniors or seniors in good academic standing in the arts and sciences college. They must be able to make a minimum one-term commitment, spend eight hours per week on the job and attend weekly two-hour seminar sessions. Interns receive three credits through the Counseling Department.

Student GOP offers seminar

The Oregon College Republicans are holding a student fieldman's school this weekend, a campaign training seminar which will include information on fundraising, organization and general campaigning.

The seminar is important for people who hope to work on

political campaigns in the future, says David Ridenour, chair of the Oregon College Republican Federation.

Two fieldmen from the College Republican National Committee in Washington, D.C., will lead the seminars, and college republicans from other Oregon colleges will

also participate.

The seminar runs from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and from 9 a.m. to about 2 p.m. on Sunday. Cost for both days is \$25, which includes an information packet. The seminar will be held in Room 151 Education. For more information, call Ridenour at 726-5879.

AD CORRECTION

To Our Valued Customers:

Our ad that appeared in the Nov. 3 Oregon Daily Emerald incorrectly states the sale prices for the JVC and Sanyo video cassette recorders:

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