

Program offers chance to intern with Legislature

After the Nov. 6 election, there may be a new cast of characters in the state Legislature, including about 50 University students placed by the campus planning, public policy and management department.

The University's Legislative Internship Program, arranged through the planning department, is offering students the chance to work directly with a legislator or legislative committee in Salem during winter and spring terms.

"The program has worked well in the past year, and most students benefit greatly from the experience," says Carol Johansen, program director.

Many interns have received excellent job offers, and in the last two sessions about six have become legislative aides, Johansen says. The legislative work improves a student's chances of being admitted into law school later, she adds:

The internship offers practical experience in areas such as legislative research, policy analysis, constituent services and written and oral presentations of issue briefs.

All students can apply for the program and can earn undergraduate or graduate credit through their own department. Applicants must be willing to commit two terms to the internship, however, and must register for winter and spring terms at the University to receive credit.

Interns generally work on a full-time basis, but other time arrangements can be arranged, says Johansen, stressing that "the more time and availability you have to give to a committee or legislator, the more important task you will be given."

Johansen is looking for students with high energy, good communication skills and an interest in politics, she says.

Interns receive no payment for their work, but Johansen says "the experience and the contacts that are made are phenomenal."

Interested students must apply by Nov. 9. For further information or application forms, contact Johansen at the PPPM Field Placement Office in 121 Hendricks Hall, 686-3507.

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The ''Good Morning America' program focused specifically on incidents of cheating at the university level, although cheating does not make up the majority of the University cases referred for community service, Moseley says

"We don't know how big the iceberg is," he says, adding that cases of academic dishonesty are certainly more widespread than just the reported cases.

The University also employs some preventive measures, such as using smaller classrooms, more proctors and varied test forms in crowded classes.

The program, implemented in the early 1970's, does take extra effort on the part of the University, he says.

"It takes a lot of time to develop a contract, implement it, find a supervisor," Moseley says. "But it's hard to see that do anything but help in the long run.

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