

University

Requirements change for J-school admission

By Stephanie Holland
Emerald Reporter

The University's School of Journalism will change its admission requirements beginning fall term of 1990 to better accommodate its students. Associate Dean Karl Nestvold said Monday.

"We're not increasing the requirements to get in, we're just going to a different system to getting people in," he said.

The new system will add a quota to limit the number of students admitted to the school.

Currently, the school admits almost every student who completes 90 credits, has a University GPA of at least 2.50, passes the Language Skills Diagnostic Test and passes the four lower-division core courses with at least a 2.50 GPA.

In addition, Nestvold said the school has initiated a new rule that requires students to have 15 graded University credits.

Next fall, students who satisfy these requirements will not be automatically accepted into the school, he said. They must apply and be accepted before they may enter the school to take courses necessary to fulfill graduation requirements.

"We're working on a system to select the best applicants into our school if we do not have room to handle all those that apply," Nestvold said.

Students who apply and who have fulfilled the basic requirements while maintaining a 2.50 GPA will be accepted into the school.

If the quota is smaller than the number of students applying for admittance, the journalism faculty will choose stu-

dents with the highest GPAs, he said.

If the quota is larger than the number of students applying, students with GPAs below 2.50 will be accepted.

The quota, which will vary each term depending on the number of available professors, is necessary to limit overcrowding in the school, said Greg Kerber, assistant dean of student services.

"We're pretty much overwhelmed with students over here," he said. "We want to make sure we keep accommodating the students we do accept."

Pre-registration and enforcement of major status for certain courses have helped ensure that seniors, graduate students and others who need mandatory classes receive them first.

These restrictions are still not enough to control the problem, Kerber said. Enforcing the quota to limit the number of students admitted to major status each term will help.

The journalism school's faculty decided to adopt the quota restriction last year when rules were being changed as the University considered switching to the semester system, Nestvold said.

Each term, the school accommodates about 1,000 students, from freshman pre-majors to graduate students, he said.

"Journalism is a popular major," Kerber said. "It attracts bright students."

Many people who enjoy writing choose journalism as a profession because, in addition to providing an outlet for writing, it gives writers opportunities to make changes in society, Nestvold said.

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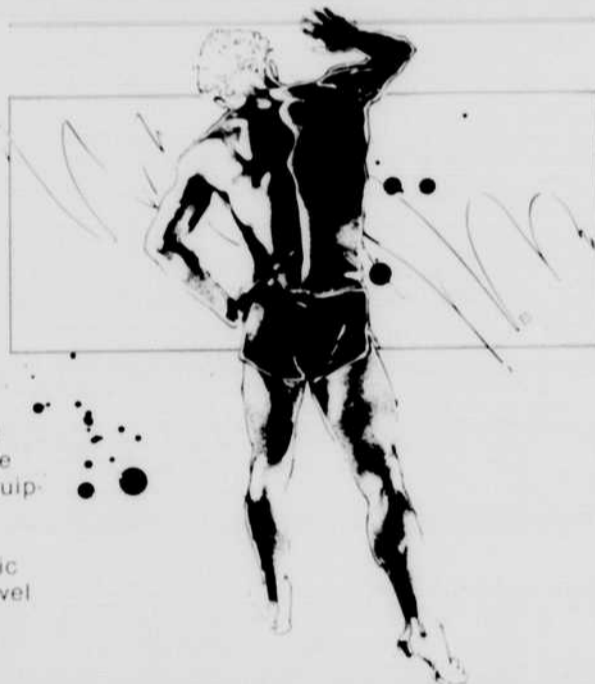
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