

Seniors' post-grad plans vary

By Amalie Young
Higher Education Reporter

She's interviewed for a job with the CIA, but a job in international business will do just fine.

Lanessa Oliver, an international studies major, is graduating from the University next week. Most of her college years have been spent preparing for a career that will likely take her around the world.

When Oliver got a tip from the University's Career Center that the CIA was recruiting students who were well versed in a foreign language, she thought she had found her dream job. Oliver, who also has a minor in Scandinavian studies, can speak Swedish and Japanese, and she has lived in both countries.

After a brief interview with a CIA representative in Eugene earlier this year, Oliver was asked to book a flight to the Bay area. Once she arrived, she would have to call a certain telephone number for further instructions, she was told.

At first the thought of a covert career as an overseas intelligence officer sounded mysterious and alluring. But having to keep what she did for a living a secret, and the thought of "spying" on people while posing as a friendly foreigner, Oliver decided, was not very appealing.

In the end, Oliver did not attend the second interview.

"My goals for language learning didn't match the CIA's goals," she

said. "I wanted to use my skills and knowledge in a profession that I would get more out of."

Instead, Oliver plans to move to the Bay area to find a job with a firm that deals with international business and needs her language skills, but doesn't make those kind of lifestyle demands, she said.

"I want something where language is not my job, but I use it at my job," she said. According to Larry Smith, director of the University's Career Center, students who have international experience have "a clear enhancement to their technical competency."

Although it is relatively unusu-

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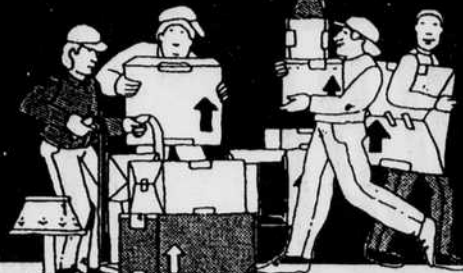
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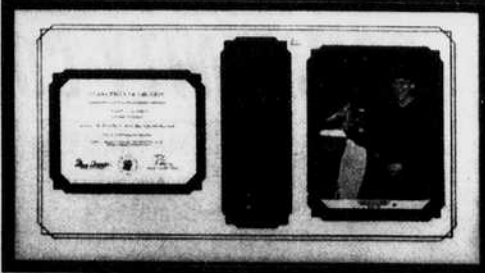
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