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RETIREE

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what he will miss the most is "the direct involvement with the learning and educational process" at the University.

Over the past two decades Smith said he has helped change the Career Center from a disorderly ambition serving about 350 students to a well-oiled machine now serving about 8,000 students.

"To me, that's a huge, huge difference," he said.

Leavitt said Smith has brought national recognition to the center and that he "put it on the map." She added that the center wouldn't be the same if Smith hadn't been here to direct it.

"I think it would be a quiet, smaller, less noticed place," she said.

Smith has brought many corporate recruiters to campus and initiated numerous programs to increase the center's success. The center was one of the first nationwide to test the online job posting and campus recruitment system, NACELink, according to a Career Center press release. The system, which is now known as UO-JobLink, now easily links students to internship and job opportunities around the world.

Smith also implemented the Mentor Program, the Portfolio Program and the University Professional Distinctions Program. The latter is a certificate program that adds skill and experience-enhancing courses to a student's major, according to the release.

Smith said the distinctions program is one of his greatest accomplishments. He said students don't always learn how to apply their knowledge in the classroom, and it's important for faculty to better develop students' analytical and communication skills.

"It's those abilities that employers are looking for," he said.

Tambi Boyle, who graduated from the University last year, said Smith guided her toward her dreams.

"I was kind of unsure what I wanted to do, but I had ideas," she said describing her first years of college. "Larry helped me cultivate those ideas."

She is now working on her master's degree in math at Portland State University, and plans to teach middle school or high school when she's finished.

"That's exactly where I wanted to be," she said. "And Larry helped me get there."

While Smith will no longer be around to counsel job-seeking students, he offered one last bit of advice. He said students should not wait until the last minute to begin hunting for jobs.

"Face your dragon a little bit sooner," he said.

Contact the higher education/
student life/student affairs reporter
at chelseaduncan@dailyemerald.com.

CAMPUS BUZZ

Tuesday

Art Exhibit entitled "Pacific Northwest Annual," today-June 29, EMU Adell McMillan Gallery, 7:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.

Knight Library 24/7 Program, 8 a.m. today-6 p.m. June 11.

Human Resources Workshop entitled "New Employee Orientation," EMU Walnut Room, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Preregistration required.

Green Garter Band performance, Beall Concert Hall, 8 p.m.

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Oregon Daily Emerald

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