

Humanities graduates enjoyed a 29 percent increase in job offers last year while computer science graduates faced a 28 percent decrease, according to the College Placement Council's 1986-87 Salary Survey.

The University of Oregon, along with 164 other institutions around the country, compiled the survey results for the College Placement Council, Inc. (CPC), according to Larry Smith, director of the university's Career Planning and Placement Office.

The survey includes offers extended to a statistical sampling of students graduating between Sept. 1, 1986, and Aug. 31, 1987. Approximately 175 UO students participated in this survey.

The CPC, whose headquarters are in Bethlehem, PA, is the national association of career planning, placement and recruitment officers. Its membership includes virtually all major colleges and universities and many of the Fortune 1000 corporations.

"The results of this survey stress that students must do early exploration of work opportunities in the future to insure employment success," says Smith.

The economy is shifting from a manufacturing to a service base, he explained. A service economy is conducive to business activities not involved in the production of goods. For example, medical services, merchandising and financial services are products of a service economy.

According to the survey, merchandising and service industry positions accounted for 53 percent of the jobs offered to humanities graduates. Their starting salaries averaged \$20,256, a 5 percent increase from the previous year.

"The imagery of the humanities major which emphasizes an open and educated mind," draws employers to humanities graduates, according to Smith. "The employers are looking for graduates with communication skills, an understanding of different points of view and an ability to analyze information to package it successfully for the consumer."

In contrast to the growing service economy, the salary survey reported a "tight job market" in the technical fields. For instance, computer science graduates not only faced fewer job offers but also encountered a slight drop

in starting salary from the previous year. Those graduates' starting salaries, however, remain well above that offered humanities graduates. The 1987 average starting salary for computer science graduates, \$26,364, was \$5,200 a year higher than that offered their humanities classmates.

Such a decline in job prospects during this "computer age" may seem strange, and for many computer science graduates, even terrifying. Smith, however, views it as simply part of an industrial cyclical pattern.

As technical innovation increases, the demand for employees grows. Then, as technology moves ahead of the users and their needs, hiring diminishes. Smith points out that "the company that can minimize this industrial fluctuation is the ideal employer."

The survey revealed that those who graduated with a business degree found less dramatic gains than the humanities graduates. Of the business disciplines, marketing and distribution showed the only gain in both the average salary — a 5.7 percent increase to \$20,364 — and the number of job offers — an increase of 1 percent.

The rise in marketing and distribution positions is again a reflection of the service economy that is developing in this nation, Smith said. The trend of employers looking for marketing personnel is evident by the kind of positions being offered by corporate recruiters on campus. "Right now more and more companies are looking for sales representative positions," says Smith.

The survey brought out some interesting points about women and men in the working world. Of graduates in technical disciplines, women had higher salary offers than men. However, men received more than twice as many offers. Smith attributed this fact to a shortage of women graduates in the technical fields.

Of the graduates in humanities, women received more job offers than men, but had lower average starting salaries.

Regardless of gender, Smith views job offers and starting salaries as elements based on qualification. Higher salaries come with experience in the field. Whether you are hired or not depends on leadership qualities, academic record and accomplishment patterns, he added.



Omar Shabazz (C) watches blood pressure check during free Health Screenings held at the Urban League of Portland. The screenings were done in cooperation with the American Red Cross and the Oregon Health Sciences University Long-Term Health Study Department. Photo by Richard J. Brown

Loaves & Fishes Seeks Volunteers

Loaves & Fishes/Meals-On-Wheels is starting weekend and holiday deliveries in Multnomah County beginning December 5th. Volunteer drivers are urgently needed, twenty-three for each Saturday, Sunday and Holiday.

It's a perfect opportunity for a family project or for people who can't volunteer on regular work days. A 1-1 1/2 to 2 hour commitment once a month is desired. Volunteers can also arrange to share routes.

Please call Loaves & Fishes' volunteer coordinator at 777-2424.

Preparation

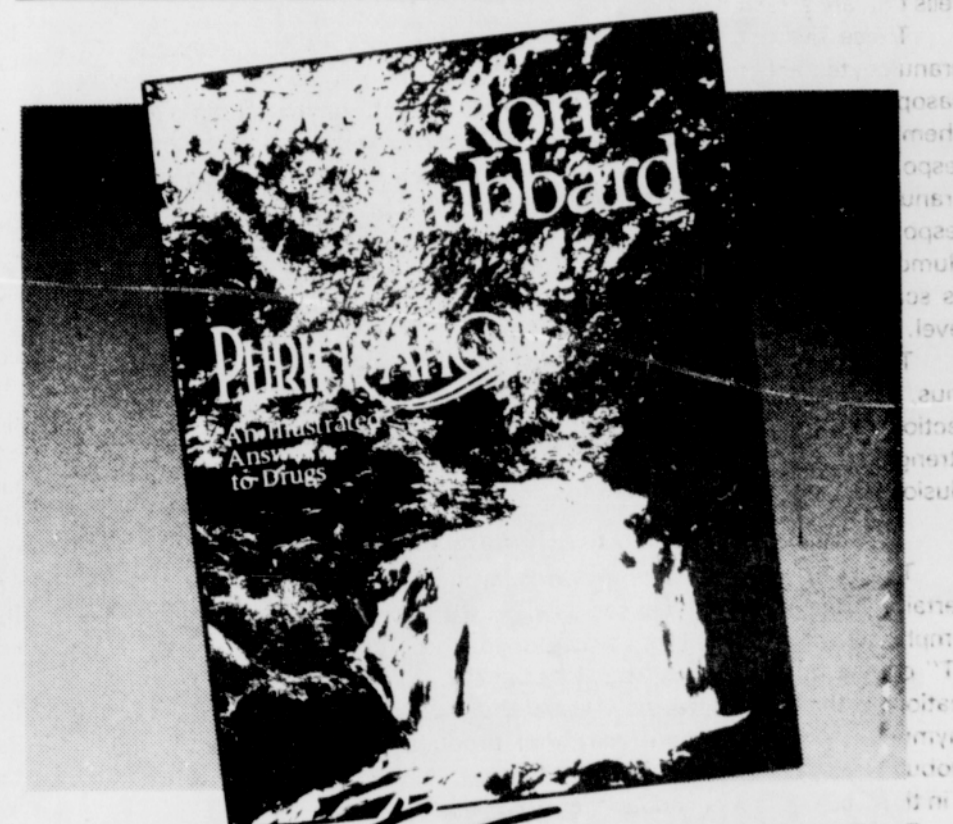
Student should attend and complete registration at one of two orientation sessions scheduled Tuesday, January 5, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, January 9, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the library of the PCC Southeast Center, 2850 S.E. 82nd Ave.

Further information is available from Gravenites at 777-6900.



Through the efforts of Rufus A. Conner, Irvington Community School Coordinator, 65 families were able to sit down to a Thanksgiving feast Thursday. Conner and a team of volunteers assembled boxes of food and distributed them in time for the holiday. The program has been in place for 6 years, thanks to donations of food. (L-R, Back Row) Conner, Jackie Portwood, Deborah Williams, Dean Schell; (L-R, Middle Row) Janice Dolan, Ester Johnson, Josie Luba, Cathy Simpson, Hazel Polk; (L-R, Front Row) Colin Lubia, Joseph Johnson. Photo by Richard J. Brown

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Channel 10 to Carry Telecourse on G.E.D. Preparation

KOAP-TV Channel 10 will carry a winter term Portland Community College telecourse to help students prepare for the General Education Development test.

Instructor Joan Gravenites said Channel 10 will air the classes from 1:30 to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday for 11 weeks, starting the week of January 4.

The GED telecourse also will be aired on T.C.I. and Rogers Cable Channel 32 and Willamette Cable Channel 29 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Mondays and 7 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays.

The course will provide lessons in reading, science, social studies, writing and mathematics prepared by Kentucky Educational Television.



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