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WU's Ph.D. Programs, Job Placement Hold Up Well Despite the Economy

In recent years the press has led the public to believe that most Ph.D. graduates are lucky to find jobs as cab drivers.

Dean Ralph E. Morrow of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, who does an annual survey on how WU Ph.D.'s have fared on the job market, has somewhat different views from these journalistic jeremiads.

Over the past four years, he reports, more than 90 per cent of WU Ph.D.'s either accepted or were offered well-paying jobs in business and industry, colleges and universities, government and public service.

In a survey he made this past summer, 114 of 122 Ph.D. graduates from 1973-74 had taken or been offered appointments which were reasonably commensurate with their training. Four of the eight Ph.D.'s who did not report job placement or offers were actually not in the job market because of health or other personal considerations, he said.

"I hasten to add that there have been challenges, not all for the best, on the Ph.D. scene; but the truth is that futility is far from the case, as the facts from our surveys have shown," Dean Morrow said. "There is a decided advantage to our medium-sized institution. Our departments in general can put forth more effort and imagination in placing graduates than other schools with two or three times the number of Ph.D.'s."

The nation's wobbly economy has produced the following disadvantages, Dean Morrow said: (1) The average number of job offers for an individual Ph.D. has declined considerably from the offers in the 1960's (2) The Ph.D. doesn't always get what he or she considers an ideal job (3) The general lessening of job opportunities has produced a drop in enrollment in Ph.D. programs (4) Job offers for the "Ab.D.'s" (all-but-dissertation students) have drastically declined.

One aspect of the '60's, when higher education enjoyed a steep growth trajectory, was that universities received institutional fellowships to support Ph.D.'s, such as National Science Foundation and NASA traineeships and National Defense Education Act fellowships. At one time, Dean Morrow pointed out, WU had a peak of 300 such fellowships. Now—as all universities—it has none. Federal funds for project traineeships at WU, however, have held up well for research projects in fields like psychology and biochemistry, Dean Morrow said, "WU's central administration has done a notable job in providing funds to help mitigate the shock to graduate programs which resulted from the large cuts of government support."

As far as future government support at the Ph.D. level is concerned, Dean Morrow continued, "We had expected something of a disaster this year because of an earlier governmental decision to phase out traineeships. But it didn't happen. Right now, we just don't know what to expect. Insofar as universities' commitments to graduate schools are concerned, I've never believed that we will by-pass the great strides of the '60's and return to the '50's, when graduate education was merely an appendage at most schools." Dean Morrow's advice to a student contemplating a Ph.D. is, "If you're seized by the desire to know and understand, do it."

Chemistry Ph.D. student Elizabeth Vine prepares uranium sample for experiment on the products of nuclear fission.

(Photograph by Herb Weitman)

Clarification Sought On Law Governing Student File Access

Executive Vice Chancellor Carl A. Dauten has notified WU deans and department heads to follow present University policies on disclosing information contained in student records until procedures on the new Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 are developed by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The act, introduced in the U.S. Senate by James L. Buckley (R.-N.Y.), was passed in August and will take effect Nov. 19. The law gives college and university students access to all their school records and files, including achievement, intelligence, aptitude and psychological test scores; health data; and teacher or counselor ratings or observations. It also prohibits the release of material in a college student's file without his written consent, except to officials or teachers of the school he attends or plans to attend, to certain state and federal officials, or in connection with his application for financial aid. The bill gives the same access to parents of elementary and secondary school students.

Under the new law, an educational institution has 45 days after a request for access to files to establish procedures for such access. The American Council on Education and other higher education associations have asked Congress to delay implementation of the act until HEW develops and clarifies regulations.

Mr. Dauten said that the present University policies on availability of student records, established in December, 1971, should be followed until procedures are further clarified by HEW and the University's general counsel. Mr. Dauten said that "Many records were given to us in confidence by counselors, parents and teachers and we must make certain that their rights as well as the rights of students are protected. We are keeping in close touch with developments and will draw up contingency guidelines if the legislation is not clarified within the 45-day limit."
New Social Science Institute Program Focuses on Ethnic Heritage of St. Louis

Soulard Betterment Association; Carondelet Community Betterment Federation; Carondelet Historical Society; the Girlfriends (Black social group studying Ville); Missouri Historical Society; Heritage St. Louis; International Folklore Federation, and the International Society.

WU students are conducting a series of oral interviews, the majority of them with families identified with the individual neighborhoods for three generations. They are also looking for church archives, old maps, and "treasures in basements" which reveal pertinent neighborhood information.

To document their work, the researchers are photographing significant landmarks in the individual neighborhoods. The original slides and tapes will be stored in the central data bank at WU; duplicates will be deposited in neighborhood archives to be established. A bibliography of material on the ethnic history of St. Louis is being developed in cooperation with the University’s Urban Studies librarian, Mrs. Jamie Graham.

Carolyn Toft is research director for the project. Other key personnel involved in the study are: William Harrison, Director of Urban Programs in the WU School of Continuing Education and Roger Faber of McKinley High School, who is designing the high school course.

The research is funded by a $50,000 grant from the U.S. Office of Education’s Division of International Education, which is supporting 40 similar projects throughout the country.

Evening Shuttle Bus Service

Gary Sparks, manager of Special Events at WU, has announced three additional stops to the regular evening shuttle bus runs. The additions are: the west end run, which departs Monsanto Laboratory on the hour from 6 p.m.-midnight, now includes stops at Washington and Kingsbury between Melville and Kingsland; the Northwood-Southwood run, which departs from Monsanto at 20 minutes after the hour from 6-11 p.m., now stops in front of the two high rise dorms on the way to Northwood-Southwood; and a special midnight run now departs Monsanto on request to any one of the three routes that the evening shuttle goes to. Passes for the evening shuttle cost $5 per semester and may be purchased from the cashier’s office in N. Brookings. Call 863-0100, ext. 4136 for details.

Black Arts Festival To Be Held at WU

A Black Arts Festival, sponsored by the WU Association of Black Students, will be held Nov. 10-15 on campus. The theme of this year’s festival is “Black Struggle in Reflection/Black Liberation in Projection.”

A highlight of the festival will be the PAA’s production of "No Place to Be Somebody," directed by Muthal Naidoo. This Pulitzer prize-winning black comedy will be presented in Edison Theatre at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 15-16, and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17.

Other festival events scheduled are an address by Robert Williams, professor of psychology, and a music festival, both on Monday evening, Nov. 11, and an Assembly lecture by Marcia Gillespie, co-editor of Essence Magazine, at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13 in Graham Chapel. For further information on specific times and events, call 863-0100, ext. 4913.

Committee Named to Seek Guides for Student Events

Vice Chancellor Robert L. Virgil has charged a 12-member student-faculty-staff committee to seek guidelines for student events on campus. Committee members are: Kathleen Danner, Steven Zaret, and Martin Sloan, sophomores, Rosalind Thigpen, Thomas Deutsch, and Richard Gershberg, juniors, and Nellie Anderson, senior, all of the College of Arts and Sciences; Marcel W. Muller, professor of electrical engineering; and James H. Burgess, professor of physics; and Katy Broek, Office of Campus Programming coordinator, Donna Taylor, Director of Housing and Residential Life, and Leon Ashford, Counseling Office and Office of Special Educational Services, chairman.

Mr. Virgil charged the committee “to make recommendations about general guidelines and procedural standards by which the administration acts upon student proposals for events involving significant attendance from the community.” The committee was formed after an Oct. 6 shooting incident at Wohl Center at a national fraternity dance during which five non-WU students were wounded by gunfire from an unidentified source.

Student committee members were chosen at a meeting of seven student leaders by a ranking process; faculty and staff members were appointed by Mr. Virgil. Mr. Virgil asked that the report be made by mid to late November to Assistant Vice Chancellor Paul Smith.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAW SCHOOL DEAN EDWARD T. FOOTE and law professor Ronald L. Carlson will speak at a legal education conference Nov. 8-9 at the Chase-Park Plaza Hotel. Lawyers at the conference will study the proposed new federal rules of evidence which are expected to make a substantial impact on American trials in the future.

THE WORKS AND DOCUMENTS of the late Harris Armstrong, noted St. Louis architect and alumnus of WU, will be on exhibit Nov. 13-20 in Givens Hall on campus. Mrs. Armstrong and the School of Architecture will sponsor a reception to open the exhibit from 5 to 7 p.m. on Nov. 13. Mr. Armstrong, one of the pioneers of modern architecture, practiced architecture in St. Louis from 1926-1973.

THE FIRST ISSUE of the 1974-75 ACIID (A Critical Insight into Israel’s Dilemmas) Magazine, is now available in the Coop, Wohl Center, Holmes Lounge, bookstore, and outside Olin Library.

MURRAY L. WEIDENBAUM, Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor at WU, is the author of a new book, The Economics of Peacetime Defense published by Praeger of New York. Professor Weidenbaum wrote the book under the auspices of a Distinguished Writers Award from the Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University. In the book, Professor Weidenbaum declares that “If a proper balance between realistic military requirements and pressing domestic needs is not attained, the United States may well enter a time of peril.”

LOUIS SMITH, professor of education, is at Massey University in New Zealand on a Fulbright Fellowship. He is studying applications of video tape to learning situations and aesthetic education for children.

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APPOINTMENTS

TWO NEW APPOINTMENTS in the Office of Campus Programming have been announced. They are: Susan Cornillon, as associate director of campus programming, and Barry Bergey, as coordinator of student activities. Ms. Cornillon, who has completed work toward her Ph.D. in English at Bowling Green State University, will work with director Richard Neil in organizing and developing the Office of Campus Programming. The major focus of her work will be women’s programming. Ms. Cornillon, who introduced and taught women’s studies at Bowling Green, is the editor of an anthology of feminist literary criticism, Images of Women in Fiction: Feminist Perspectives. Mr. Bergey, who received his master’s degree in English from WU, will be responsible for programming in Mallinckrodt Center, with the exception of performing arts events. Mr. Bergey also serves as volunteer president of the Missouri Friends of the Folk Arts, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving traditional folk arts and skills.

NEWS BRIEFS

DR. CHRISTIAN de DUVE who recently shared the 1974 Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine, was a Rockefeller Foundation Fellow at WU in 1947-48 in the laboratory of Nobel laureate Dr. Carl Cori, Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry. Dr. de Duve holds professorships at Rockefeller University, New York City, and at the University of Louvain, Belgium. He is expected to visit the WU Medical School next year.

THREE MEMBERS of the Washington University community will be featured on the program of the Central Slavic Conference to be held on the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus Friday and Saturday, Nov. 8-9. They are Milica Banjanin, assistant professor of Russian; Max Okenfuss, assistant professor of history; and Renata Rotkowicz, assistant university librarian. Professor Banjanin and Ms. Rotkowicz will chair meetings; Professor Okenfuss will deliver a paper on “The Discovery of the Child in Russia: The Evidence of the Slavic Primer.” Delegates to the convention are expected to view the “Samizdat” (underground) exhibition of Soviet and other Iron Curtain countries publications and art on display in Olin Library, third level.

RECOGNITIONS

FLORENCE MOOG, WU professor of biology, received an honorary Doctor of Science degree Oct. 27 from LaSalle College, Philadelphia, Pa., for her contributions to the teaching field. Professor Moog has taught undergraduate and graduate students and done research on the physiological and biochemical aspects of vertebrate development for 31 years in WU’s Biology Department.

“Cluster” is one of 60 geometric acrylic paintings by Kenneth E. Hudson, dean emeritus of the WU School of Fine Arts, which will be on display Nov. 10-27 at the St. Louis Artists Guild, 227 E. Lockwood.

KENNETH E. HUDSON, dean emeritus of the School of Fine Arts, will exhibit 60 of his hard-edge, geometric, acrylic abstractions at the St. Louis Artists’ Guild from Sunday, Nov. 10 through Nov. 27. The show will cover work painted during the past five years of his retirement (1970-1974). The Guild, 227 East Lockwood in Webster Groves, is open from 1-5 p.m. on Sundays, and from noon to 4 p.m. every weekday except Tuesday. Instead of defining his geometric shapes at their boundaries as planes of a single unmodulated color—flat as a surface is flat—Dean Emeritus Hudson has sought to enrich his surfaces by giving them “textural interest.” To achieve this effect, he said, “I glaze, scumble, dry brush, stipple, spatter, spray gun, sponge, employ painting knives, and apply paint in small dots—and any other methods I can think of.” Dean Emeritus Hudson and his wife will be on hand at the Sunday afternoon opening of his show to welcome viewers.

KENNETH A. SHEPSLE, associate professor of political science, is spending this academic year on the Stanford University campus where he is a national fellow of the Hoover Institution. He is continuing his research on legislative coalitions.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7
4 p.m. Department of Chemistry Seminar, “Extinct Isotopes,” by Robert M. Walker, McDonnell Professor, WU Laboratory for Space Physics, 313 Millikan Laboratory.
4:15 p.m. Thrusys General Meeting, open to all WU students interested in working on student-run theatrical performances. Drama Studio, Mallinckrodt Center.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8
4 p.m. Christian Science Lecture, “Grow We Must,” Harvey Wood, lecturer. 303-304 Mallinckrodt.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9
8 a.m. Air Force Officer Qualifying Test. 4200 Forest Park Ave. Call Capt. Steven Walker, 652-1022, for details.
8:30 a.m. School of Continuing Education & Alumni Association Seminar, “Pre-paid Group Practice: A Choice in Health Care Delivery,” Dr. Lawrence Kahn and Phillip Haas, WU Medical Care Group, 4570 Audubon Ave., Medical Care Group, Reservations $3. Call 863-0100, ext. 4261 for details.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10
12 noon-5 p.m. WU Feminist Coalition Symposium on Rape Prevention, “RAPE SpeakOUTrage.” Women’s Bldg. Call Kathy Birk, 227-5922, for details.
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11
4 p.m. Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences Plant Biology Program Seminar, “The Evolution of Oxygen in Photosynthesis,” Dr. Besel Kok, Martin Marietta Laboratories, Baltimore, Md. 213 Rebeck.
4 p.m. Department of Psychology Colloquium, “Objectivity: A Neglected Dimension in Personality Development,” Augusto Blasi, Dept. of Psychology, Boston University, 102 East.
4 p.m. Civil & Mechanical Engineering & Systems Science Mathematics Lecture, “Finite Element Displacement Models for the Plate Reading Problem,” Prof. Ridgway Scott, University of Chicago, 100 Cipples II.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12
8:30 a.m. School of Architecture Lecture, “Mountain, Water, the Sun and Man: Sensitivity for Environment in Asian Architecture Traditions,” Nelson Wu, Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor, WU. Steinberg Hall.
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
11 a.m. Assembly Series Lecture by Marcia Gillespie, editor, Essence Magazine. Graham Chapel.
2:15 p.m. Department of Chemical Engineering Seminar, “Thermodynamics of Fluids and Fluid Mixtures,” Prof. K. C. Chao, Purdue, 100 Cipples II.
MUSIC
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10
8 p.m. Department of Music Harpsichord
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12
7:30 & 9:30 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, “The Blue Angel”. Brown Hall. Admission $1 for each film.
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
7:30 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, “Lucia”. Brown Hall. Admission $1.
SPORTS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9
1:30 p.m. Football, Battling Bears vs. Millikin University at Decatur, Ill.
2 p.m. Soccer, WU vs. University of Missouri-Rolla, Francis Field.
NCAA Division III Cross Country Championships at Wheaton, Ill. Call WU Athletic Department, 863-0100, ext. 4291, for details.
Multiple Choice Retorts
For Zany Phone Queries
Many WU offices—not to mention the switchboard—receive now and again what may be called in polite terms, Strange Questions.
Lucy Lake, secretary in the Biology Department, has the best approach to such calls—a sense of humor. The following sampling of questions, believe it or not, were actually received by her department. Her multiple choice answers were devised for internal consumption in the noble cause of preserving all secretaries’ sanity:
“Do watermelons float? I’m having a beer and watermelon party and I want to float the melons in a pond.”
You should:
- Tell him to tie a rope around one and drop it in the pond.
- Tell him to invite a scuba diver to the party.
- Tell him to invite a friend with a retriever.
- “My turtle laid an egg. What should I do with it?” You should:
  - Tell her to sit on it.
  - Tell her to tell the turtle to sit on it.
  - Tell her to eat it for breakfast.
  - Transfer the call to Dr. Sexton.
- “My swimming pool has been attacked by purple martins. They think it’s a bird bath. How can I get rid of them?” You should:
  - Tell her to build them their own birdbath.
  - Tell her to build another swimming pool.
  - Get a lot of salt.
  - Build a scarecrow that floats.
- “My son brought home a fetal pig and wants to preserve it. What should I do?” You should:
  - Put it in the freezer.
  - Put your son in the freezer.
  - Cuck whoever gave your son the pig in the freezer.
  - Save it for Thanksgiving.