

# Occupational Growth

Occupations that require more education will generally grow faster than occupations with the lowest educational requirements. Three of the fastest growing occupations groups will be the executive, administrative, and managerial; professional specialty; and technicians and related support occupations. Not surprisingly, these occupations will require the highest levels of education and skill.

In recent years, the educational attainment of the labor force has risen dramatically. Between 1976 and 1988, the proportion of the labor force age 18 to 64 with at least one year of college increased from 32 to 42 percent, while the proportion with four years or more of college increased from 16 to 22 percent.

Some jobs will not grow or decline. Office and factory automation, changes in customer demand, and increased use of imports will cause employment to stagnate or decline in many occupations that require little formal education. Laborers, assemblers and machine operators will decline in number. Illiterate workers will find it difficult, if not impossible, to find jobs.

A job is something you may take simply because it is available when you need one. A career is a longer term decision to work within a certain area of expertise that may require special training or experience. When considering a longer term career choice, it is important to understand that it is often better to prepare for or to select a job that you will really enjoy — AND that will help you enter or prepare to enter a career that you are interested in. This increases your chances for long term career satisfaction.

Most people will change their jobs many times and their careers several times during their work lives. When you are doing this, consider factors other than simply how fast that occupational group is growing. Even in careers that are projected to have slow or no growth, opportunities will remain. But if you ARE interested in a career within an occupation that is growing quickly, that can certainly work to your long term advantage.

— Troy Privette

## Are Buckles Back In

Belt buckles have been around for a long time. Do belt buckles make a fashion statement? A few people seem to think so, as you see them walking around with huge buckles that can be seen a mile away. A few people like to wear huge buckles that display visual imagery, such as racing fans would wear a belt buckle that has their favorite race car on it. Others like to wear a

more distinguished, less discreet belt buckle. People who like animals would more than likely wear a buckle that displays an animal, such as a cow, deer, or birds.

As you walk around the campus at W.C.C., you would see each of the three examples that I have illustrated above. My findings conclude that more men prefer belt buckles than women, because they're uncomfortable and women prefer something more on the feminine side.

It seems to me that belt buckles are being resurrected from the yesterdays. Maybe they will come back in style. We'll just have to wait and see.

— Donald Keys

## Vision

I once had a dream . . . or was it? I was lost and did not know where to go. It was snowing and cold. I was very young and lacking. Lacking the knowledge of survival and the knowledge of life. I screamed for help, knowing that my very existence depended on it. Then my mother came. Hearing my distant cries for help she came to me, sobbing with relief. No, it was not a dream. It did happen, however the dream still haunts me.

Vision is not what we see when we open our eyes, but what we feel in our hearts. My mother felt not only what can be, but what will be. With her maternal urgency, she saved me, not only for myself, but for all the possibilities that existed within me.

Now here I am. Twenty-six years later, in the snowfields of White Top Mountain. I work at a remote weather station for the National Weather Service. At an elevation of almost 6,000 feet I can see forever! Nature makes me humble to the point I can almost not endure. Brutal conditions exist up here and it is snowing and cold. We take nature for granted and, in lack of knowledge, fail to feel what we see. We blink and refocus, trying to understand what we are not yet capable of. Yet I'm here. In the same snow that almost claimed my life years ago. Did I laugh in the face of adversity? Yes. Perhaps I did! What are YOU going to do!?

— J. Correll

## Day Of The Hog

Do you have a pet groundhog? If you do, it might pay to keep an eye on him, because Groundhog Day is upon us. Traditionally, Groundhog Day indicates six more weeks of winter if sunny, or an early spring if cloudy. So if your pet groundhog comes out and sees his shadow and retreats, you need to keep your electric blanket out because winter's not over. February 2 is the day to watch your groundhog because this is his day to come out and

search for his shadow.

Spring is an exciting time of year; nature comes back to life and, for the most part, so do You and I. Beauty expresses itself in an exploitation of visual imagery. New life abounds and everybody seems to have more energy than ever. This is when most college students start to wind down the year and gear up for the summer. We at W.C.C. would like to wish you an exciting springtime and prosperous school year.

— Troy Privette

## Announcement

Business Computer Programming proudly announces a new course.

Course Number: CSC 0209

Course Name: Introduction to C

Arrival Time: Spring Quarter '93

Course Description: This course is designed to introduce computer programming in the C language with an emphasis on C programming principles. The student will develop top-down, structured programming techniques by coding, compiling, and debugging application programs. Topics include the installation of the C compiler, the C Editor, C syntax, testing and debugging C programs, arithmetic operations, comparison concepts, loops, directives, functions, arrays, pointers, structures, unions, bitfields, and file processing. Instructions include illustrations in a step-by-step sequence for analyzing and coding C. Students will interpret and analyze diagnostic messages to determine why a program canceled. Students will interpret and analyze their program's processing steps to determine why the program is incorrect. Emphasis is placed on the program development process which consists of obtaining/designing program specifications, planning the program using planning tools, coding and keying the program, compiling the program, testing and debugging the program, and documenting the program. Students will, through lecture and programming projects, develop their logical thinking skills to solve business programming problems in C code. Students will be required to follow the program development process in step-by-step sequence to analyze and solve various business programming problems in C on a microcomputer system. Students may be expected to respond to short essay test questions.

## The Race

What is the race? The mad dash to the finish line with the hopes of finishing well enough ahead to call it respectable? Maybe. But where in life does the race end? Why do we use this terminology to describe color? Do we run to become black or white? Does prejudice exist because it's human nature, or because we are ignorant of

our insecurities and fears? I suppose the latter is the case. We walk through life, mask in hand, painting pretty pictures for everyone but ourselves to see. Who gave us the right to be opinionated about each other? So many questions, so few answers.

I never felt that we were primarily put on this earth to see through one another, but to see one another through! We are a needy animal! If a helping hand is help out in times of crisis, would we slap it away because it is a hand of opposite color? I think not. Why is it then we can preach a good sermon but not practice wherein we speak? To make merry and be jovial with people of different color, then to get with people of our own race and befoul their very existence! Two of my best friends are a married couple of a different race. They threw aside the ignorance of society because they felt what was in their hearts. They represent what is good for mankind. Have we so lost touch with ourselves that we hide behind hatred and racial prejudice! If only we had mirrors that reflected what we did not want to see, then maybe we would open our eyes!

— Joe Correll

## Attention

### Sophomore, Vocational Students Application for Graduation

Sophomore and vocational students are asked to apply for graduation during the registration period for Spring Quarter. The procedure includes:

1. Working with your advisor and a counselor in Student Development to complete your registration for Spring Quarter and reviewing your record to evaluate your progress toward graduation.
2. Ordering degree/diploma, cap and gown from the College Bookstore.
3. Paying the graduation fee.

## Registration

Early Spring Registration for students will be held Monday, Feb. 15 through Friday, Feb. 19 in Thompson Hall during the following hours:  
Mon., Feb. 15 - 9 am - 9 pm night  
Tues., Feb. 16 - 9 am - 9 pm night  
Wed., Feb. 17 - 9 am - 4 pm  
Thurs., Feb. 18 - 9 am - 4 pm  
Fri., Feb. 19 9 am - 4 pm

Spring registration for classes taught in Alleghany and Ashe Counties will be held at the Alleghany Campus and Ashe Campus on February 15 through March 2. A special full service registration (meet with advisors, pay tuition and fees) in Alleghany and Ashe will be held at the campus location and time indicated below:

Ashe, Wed., Feb. 17 - 3:30 - 7 pm  
Alleghany, Thurs. Feb. 18 -

3:30 - 7 pm

**Registration is not complete until tuition and fees have been paid in the Business Office.**