

Health careers assessed

Emma Pullen
Editor-in-Chief

Editor's note: The following is the first in a series of career-oriented articles. The purpose of this series is to direct Black student into meaningful careers which provide useful skills that are really necessary for our survival. We do not need another generation of Blacks with degrees running elevators, waiting on tables or pushing brooms.

A recent survey by the Black Relations Committee of the YM-YWCA revealed that Black students at UNC, in their selection of majors, are following the trend for Blacks throughout the nation.

According to the survey, "Most of the Black students are majoring in the social sciences and liberal arts and not in the natural and applied sciences where there is a greater need for personnel. In a sense, the University is perpetrating the unemployment/underemployment of Blacks with college degrees."

One area where there is a serious shortage of manpower in general, and Black manpower in particular, is in the health sciences. Mr. William Small, minority director for the School of Public Health sees the increase of Blacks health personnel as solving another problem in the Black community.

In the introduction to an article entitled "Overview of a Program to Develop Black Public Health Professionals," Small wrote, "It is unquestionable without doubt that the level of health experienced by non-white residents of the United States has been consistently lower than that experienced by white citizens. While many factors contribute to this condition, we believe that the acute shortage of non-white persons, especially black (as they constitute over two thirds of those classified as non-white) in the Health Sciences field

to be a major factor."

Small expounded further on this point during a recent interview. "We need more manpower and more health professionals in all disciplines," he said, "not just doctors, dentists and nurses. We also need public health workers, pharmacist and administration."

Small explained that the area of administration and policy making is of utmost concern. Of an estimated 400,000 health personnel in this country, 1 per cent are Black. Small says that this factor contributes to the inadequate health care of the Black community.

"We have seen well intended programs fail for want of credibility and the lack of cultural understanding. Health decisions and priorities specifically related to non-white communities are usually made without minority participation of consideration. We have witnessed good services delivered in the wrong way, provided at the wrong time, too late and most often simply too little."

For this reason, he is actively trying to recruit more students with non-science majors into the field of public health, a field which is concerned with the total health of a community — physical, mental and social.

The field of Public Health is wide and very diverse and deals more with the "preventative than the curative aspects of medicine." It includes researchers, social workers, psychologists, scientists, medical personnel, nutritionists, statisticians, and administrators.

At present North Carolina has only one school of public health, which is located on this campus. The School is a graduate program and offers a degree in ten different departments: biostatistics, environmental sciences and engineering, epidemiology, health education, health administration,

maternal and child health, mental health, parasitology and laboratory nutrition and public health nursing.

Small says that the beauty of the program is a student can stay within his own major. All that is required to enter the school is a "B" average in his major. If the student has less than this average, he must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). While in undergraduate school a prospective applicant should take four science and ten social science courses, or vice versa.

A degree in Public health from any of the ten departments will enable the student to work in many types of organizations — county, city, state or regional public health agencies, health planning councils, model cities and other community action programs.

Since September of 1970, there have been fifteen Black graduates from the UNC School of Public Health. Blacks now comprise 11 per cent of the total student population.

"This office was set up and I was hired to recruit Black students," Small said, "but I feel that the schools need to recruit Black faculty members, as well."

He added, "A long term goal of the School is to have some of the curriculum related to the needs of the Black community."



Just taking life easy—like we ought to do!

Drought strikes Nigeria Plans made for recovery

Linda Williams
Layout Editor

For the past several months, considerable attention has been focused on the devastating drought in West Africa. The Sahelian Zone, 2,000 miles of semi-desert, has a long history of climatic disasters. But the recent six-year drought is the worse in 60 years. And it has brought starvation and disease to approximately 50 million people.

Relief agencies have appealed for massive aid to Chad, Niger, Mali, Upper Volta, Mauritania and Senegal—an area classified by the United Nations as the least developed of the undeveloped world.

However, little has been said about Nigeria, much of which is also within the Sahelian Zone. "Nigeria has been seriously affected by the drought," says Duro Adegboye, UNC graduate

Renwick accepts position of Counselor

Warren Carson, Jr.
Staff Writer

H. Bentley Renwick, former Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions has been appointed as the Assistant Dean for Student Counseling in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Renwick's new position focuses on counseling students who are having academic difficulties, but he hopes that the students, and Black students especially, will come to him with a problem of any nature. "Of course I can't solve all of these problems," he said, "but through talking them out, hopefully the student can arrive at his own solution."

Though Renwick's job is for the most part undefined and left to his discretion, moves have been made to gather student input in determining what his duties should encompass. He hopes to speak with as many Black students as possible on this matter.

Reflecting upon the conditions of the campus for Blacks, Renwick is bothered by the fact that no series of actions have been taken voluntarily by the Administration to benefit Blacks. "I'd like to see the Administration do something beneficial for Blacks because they

feel that the University should do it, and not as a reaction to any pressure by HEW," he said.

In the area of Black Studies, Renwick said that the Administration must address itself to this matter immediately. "We need to stop fooling ourselves," he said. "What is called Black Studies here is not a viable curriculum." He feels that the program must be expanded, because after students take the courses, they get tired of it and the Administration perceives this as being disinterest in an overall program.

Renwick is also disappointed by the low number of Black faculty. Considering the period since last years Black Student Movement demands, only about four new Black faculty members have been hired. "This number should definitely be higher," he commented.

Renwick stressed his desire for students to come and talk with him about their problems. His office is in 301 South Building.

Brooks

discuss politics, literature, everything."

She sat upright in the sofa, furrowed her brow, and continued, "They didn't tell me that I should let my hair go natural, or rather, that I should stop making it unnatural. I came to that on my own."

Among other of Miss Brooks' teaching experiences at Northeastern Illinois State College, Columbia College in Chicago, and Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, Ill., was a workshop in poetry writing for the Rangers, a Chicago street gang. Although she looked very much the schoolmarm in a dark blue doubleknit suit, she has enjoyed giving readings in area taverns. She wants every Black man on the streets to see in her books something that he can identify with, something relevant to his existence.

HEW rejects plan

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that this would be "reverse discrimination."

Dr. Schnorrenberg reacted to this statement by saying that HEW does not allow hiring by quotas because of such charges. "The Affirmative Action Plan was conceived on the principles of good faith and affirmative action." Both Dr. Brewer and Willie Mebane felt that the charge of reverse discrimination was a euphemism for racism.

It is clear from the nature and degree of criticism levelled at its Affirmative Action Plan that UNC has addressed the concerns of racism and sexism inadequately. The excessive rhetoric of the plan

must be replaced with factual information. Logical and achievable goals and timetables must replace the arbitrary and general ones.

Blacks must organize to channel more direct input into the affirmative action advisory committee. Schools and departments must be forced to realize the value of their cooperation with the Affirmative Action Officer and his advisory committee.

Douglas Hunt, the Affirmative Action Officer, has set the middle of January as the date for the submission of UNC's revised Affirmative Action Plan.

RESEARCH

You Can not Understand the complexities of my existence except with my say so, For as All proud people from the mother land, solitude and confusion is an art mastered and taught me by fear, PAIN, and hunger MY whereabouts will not appear IN ANY PUBLICATIONS OF MAN, nor will my origin.

As they should be, these things are as mysterious as their library
DESIGNED AND FUNCTIONS AS MAN
Standing on 2 feet,
/ But only one entrance ... and no Exit!
No signs of danger is Posted
Risks of Acquiring knowledge Is left up to the RESEARCHER!
HONCHO