

Decided or undecided—help available in Hanes

By BERNADINE WARD
Features Editor

If you are uncertain about where your skills, interests, and job opportunities lie, you should visit Career Planning and Placement (CP&P) on the second floor of Hanes Hall. Even if you are certain about your career objectives, CP&P staff urges you to come anyway.

CP&P is a division of Student Affairs and has been under the directorship of Joe Galloway since 1948. According to Galloway, "The gist of the program is that we publicize and you must come to us." The program has quite an impressive lot to advertise.

The following were listed as objectives in the program's annual report for the 1976-'77 academic year: (1) CAREER PLANNING—to help students make career decisions by identifying interests and skills and ways to relate them to the working world; (2) INSTRUCTION—to teach students effective approaches to jobseeking; (3) OUTREACH—to maintain an active outreach approach through broad publicity and flexible programs that serve students individually and in groups at many campus locations; (4) EMPLOYER

it would be a safe bet that an extremely small amount are Black. This is ironic because according to Galloway, "Companies want more minorities to register for interviews." But, even if a company were specifically interested in minorities," law prohibits CP&P from setting up activities according to race."

Personnel of CP&P conduct workshops on preparing for interviews, writing resumes, and setting up referral services. In addition, workshops are held so that students who are uncertain of what their skills and interests are, can discover these facts. Information about this career program is available from a variety of sources, including newspapers, flyers and posters.

Galloway also encourages faculty members to inform students about CP&P. "Faculty members," he stated, "can be an asset to students by urging them to begin thinking about careers early and not wait until spring semester of their senior year. Instead, they should become involved their freshman year."

Students who seek career guidance early in their undergraduate years usually participate in the "Pre-career Experience Program (P.E.P.), the



The Resource Room: just one of the many services provided by Career Planning and Placement. Staff photo by James Parker.

"I think it would be kinda rough trying to find a job on your own. It's really convenient because companies go to see you rather than your having to seek them out."

LIASON—to stimulate employer recruitment and to utilize their knowledge of work fields to promote career development and placement for our students; (5) RESOURCES—to provide accessible printed and audio materials to support the objectives listed above."

During the period of this report 4,716 students and alumni participated in the CP&P program. There is no data about the percentage of participants according to race, but

career seminar series and a new mini-course called Centering-Venturing." Students work at internships, temporary jobs, and in volunteer situations under P.E.P. This enables them to determine what field they would like to work in; in some instances it determines majors as well.

Meeting with student leaders and organizations is another method used to explain its services. Last year, meetings were held with Minority

Advisors, junior transfers, Resident Advisors, orientation counselors, and Student Bar Association leaders. Faculty groups and classes were also contacted.

Galloway believes that "Groups are responsible for arranging meetings with CP&P. We have put out notices letting groups know that this service is available."

Minority students are sometimes contacted about job opportunities through the office of Special Projects. Dean Harold Wallace of the Special Projects explained this process. "Career registry sends letters to minority seniors and to some juniors. They are to drop by and let us know of their plans by filling out forms which we file."

Dean Wallace encourages students to register with CP&P and adds that his office "supplements what Career Planning and Placement does."

"We have received," he emphasized, "excellent cooperation with Joe Galloway and his staff. They send minority information to us. Sometimes I put together a list of students and tell companies that they should notify us in advance to guarantee a sizeable audience. Some companies write me directly."

Workshops and seminars are designed to prepare students for perhaps the most important step in job hunting—the interview. As Galloway put it, "The real benefit (of CP&P) will be to stimulate people. We don't place anybody, we facilitate placement through our service. In the final analysis, the student must sell himself in the in-

terview. We facilitate getting students ready and in the right frame of mind for the interview."

Seniors Precious Plummer and Lynne Marvin have gone through services of CP&P and are being interviewed. Precious first went to the program in August, and believes that it has helped her. "I think it would be kinda rough trying to find a job on your own. It's really convenient because companies go to see you rather than your having to seek them out."

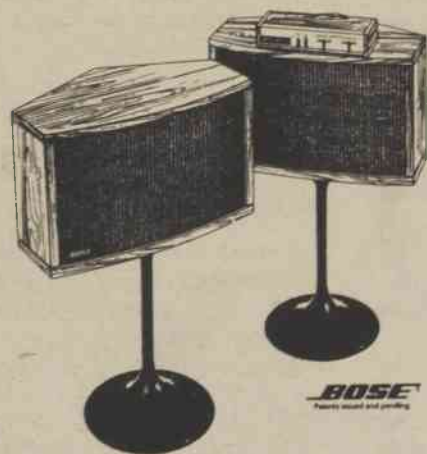
Business major Lynne Marvin was referred to Career Planning and Placement two years ago. "Last year," she said. "I mainly went to seminars about how to do resumes and interviews and I talked to representatives from companies. They were basically trying to give you insight about what to expect. This year I'm mainly using CP&P for referral and placement."

"The main value is getting in touch with potential employers. Everything leads up to the interview. I average up to one interview per week. The workshops have been very helpful. If I hadn't had anybody tell me what to expect I'd really have been up the creek."

Lynne advises students to do internships their freshman year, and to have resumes completed by their junior year. However, if you do wait until your senior year, Precious suggests that you begin during the fall.

"Employers," Lynne added, "tell you you have a definite edge if you have decent grades and can present yourself well. I've had one man say you have an edge over white males with the same Q.P. I guess you kind of take it for granted because everybody is still in the middle of affirmative action. But you know when you're qualified, so you just have to sort of overlook it."

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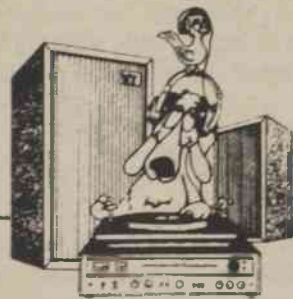
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Down Home

(Continued from page 3)

other students. Everyone—the actors and actresses, singers and dancers, fraternities and sororities, and sets crew and musicians—all worked harmoniously to produce a performance that seemed astoundingly professional. The production showed not only other students, but Black students as well, the kind of things Blacks can get involved in and produce something beautiful."