

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

WSSU'S Career Services Dept.

■ Helps Students Prepare For The Future

By Tonya Woods
Editor

Once upon a time a young man named Sam graduated from college and tried to get a job. But because Sam did not have a decent resume, any job skills, or any ideas about what companies look for in employees, he was unemployed unhappily ever after.

Fortunately, with the help of Winston-Salem State University's Career Services Department, no WSSU student should end up like Sam. Located in the Student Affairs Building, the Career Services Department is designed to prepare students for life after graduation.

For 13 years the Career Services Department has provided career exploration activities, career counseling, seminars featuring business representatives, field trips,

resume and interviewing techniques workshops and credentials service. Not only does the Career Services Department provide career preparation services it also offers graduate school information and procedures to gain admittance into graduate schools.

To ensure all Career Service programs are serving WSSU students, Mrs. Sandy Sosnick serves as the director of the Career Services Department. As a concerned staff member, she has expressed the need for students to come to the Career Services Department for any and all kinds of career counseling.

"One of the biggest problems I see is students coming in too late or not coming in at all," said Sosnick. "We want students to come here and see what's offered. From there we will prepare them for a career of their choice."

WSSU students are never pushed into a type of career. Each person is treated as an individual and the Career Services Department will attempt to place students in a career that meets their needs, educational

background and skills. Students are advised to register with Career Services during their junior year. Once registered it is the student's responsibility to keep their folders updated. Senior education majors are strongly encouraged to have a file in the Career Services Department to secure their chances of employment upon graduation.

The Career Services Department works year round at finding jobs for students and sometimes WSSU alumnus. Information about career fair is sent to small businesses, companies, and large corporations. These companies respond by sending information concerning available jobs and recruiters to interview WSSU students. The numerous career fairs sponsored by the Career Services Department are prime times for students to get job referrals, intern and co-op information and to start on their careers. The Department also sponsors Health Fairs and a Teacher's Fair which present more specialized career opportunities.

The community also plays a role



Sandra Sosnick

in providing career opportunities for WSSU students. The NAACP, the Youth Motivation Task Force, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, and the National Urban League are some of the organizations that provide assistance to the department. The Youth Motivation Task Force Program allows many WSSU alumnus to return to campus to visit classes to discuss and share first hand experiences with students about the working world. Without a doubt the Career Services Department of WSSU is taking care of WSSU Rams by preparing them for life after graduation.

KWANZAA - An African Holiday Celebration

By Nhy Smith
Staff Writer

CHRISTMAS. Yes, the Christmas season is here and this year the holiday seems to be more commercialized than ever.

Stores and business across America will make billions of dollars. Is this what Christmas is all about? You can answer this question for yourself.

So on the other hand, Black Americans should be aware of an African holiday celebration.

Black Americans need to relate to Africa more often, was the plan of Dr. Maulana Karenga.

In 1965 Watts, California had a number of revolts happen much like the ones after the Rodney King verdict. Karenga wanted to do something to help bring hope back into the community. He created

KWANZAA. KWANZAA is celebrated over seven days. Several items are needed to be used in each of days activities. Some of the items needed include: a MKEK, a KINARA, a MUHINDI and a UMOJA.

The MKEK is a straw mat with the colors of red, black and green for a table that is low to the floor. A KINARA is candle holder for seven candles. There should be 3 green candles for a prosperous future, 3 red candles for the struggle and one black candle for Black unity. MUHINDI- two ears of corn that represent the children in the family, male and female. UMOJA cup (looks like a black wine glass) to honor the ancestors through libation; which, means liquid poured out as in honor of a deity.

KWANZAA is Swahili for the first fruits of labor. KWANZAA

recognizes the Black family and community with it's seven principles called Nguzo Saba. Each of the principles represent the seven days of December 26 through January 1st.

UMOJA (unity) - Strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.

Kujichagulia(Self-determination)- Define our name for ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves.

UJIMA(Collective work and responsibility)-build and maintain our community together and make our sisters' and brothers' problems our problems and solve them together.

UJAMAA(Cooperative economics)-build, maintain our stores, shops and other businesses and profit from them together.

NIA(Purpose)-Make our collective vocation the building of

our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited.

KUUMBA(Creativity)-Find new ways to prosper together as a people.

IMANI(Faith)-Believe with our heart in our people, parents, teachers leaders, practice righteousness and we will have victory over our struggle.

KWANZAA is not a commercialized holiday. Material things are not a factor in celebrating the spirit of KWANZAA. The gifts that are often used are fruits and books on knowledge of self.

On December 31st., from 7 to 10 p.m., the East Winston Branch Library will sponsor a Kwanzaa celebration at WSSU's Diggs Gallery.

For more information on the pan-Africanist Dr. Maulana Karenga read the December issue of ESSENCE magazine.