

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

HCOP Prepares Students for Health Careers

BY MARGARET ROSS
Staff Writer

Are you looking for a program that will help improve your academic ability and prepare you for entrance into the Allied Health field or a related major? Well, there is a program just for you.

Here at Winston-Salem State University, HCOP (Health Careers Opportunity Program) is a program designed to help students enter the Allied Health industry. The program other goals include: increasing the number students from disadvantaged backgrounds to enter and graduate from health professions and allied health professional schools. The program offers a wide range of services and activities to help students with their studies and reinforce behaviors that have been proven to yield success.

"HCOP motivated me to further my education. Through the various workshops, field trips, and academic studies, my grades have improved greatly," said Lisa Williams, a junior sociology major.

According to Katrina Covington, program's coordinator, the program has three phases. The first phase, Preliminary Education, takes place during the academic year. During this phase tutoring sessions in biology, math, communication skills and chemistry are offered; and workshops and seminars (opened to all WSSU students) are also offered. The second phase, Facilitate Entry, is an eight-week summer program. In this phase, students are given the opportunity to participate in activities that will improve their performance on admission tests and make them more competitive for admission in their major

or health profession school. The third phase Retention, helps the students that are admitted into their major complete their education. The second and third phases are open to students that intend to major in an allied health or related field.

HCOP also offers counseling services. Deborah Brien, a HCOP counselor, talks to students about individual career and academic issues. The counseling services have been proven to be quite beneficial for many HCOP students. "I was interested in other careers, but the HCOP Program helped me make a choice," said Glen Lowe, a freshman Psychology and Physical Therapy major.

HCOP is preparing for its summer program. Students majoring in Medical Technology, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Therapeutic Recreation, Biology, Chemistry, Social Welfare and Clinical Psychology will participate in the program. The program will run from May 23 - July 15.

"HCOP has a variety of resources that can be beneficial to WSSU students. Our workshops and enrichment sessions are designed to assist students in achieving their highest level of academic and interpersonal goals," said Covington.

Conflict Management, March 31; and Stress Management, April 14, are the final workshops for this semester. All workshops are held in Coltrane Hall.

The faculty and staff of HCOP include: Dr. Betty A. Alexander, program director; Katrina Covington, coordinator; and Phyllis Attucks, secretary. Interested students are encouraged to stop by 109 Coltrane Hall for more information about the program.



Katrina Covington, program coordinator, Glen Lowe and Lisa Williams.

Hagg Turns Life Around

BY TONYA BREWER
Staff Writer

Where are all our black men? Did you know that 70 per cent of our black men are in prison? Did you also know that after parole, 40 per cent of our black men are re-incarcerated, according to *Time* magazine.

What happens to the 30 per cent that are determined to survive? Most of them seek employment hoping to start a new life. Many of them go back to school to further their education. Maracco Addule Hagg is one of these men.

Hagg was once on death row for first-degree murder and armed robbery. His sentence was reduced to life in prison and later reduced to 16 years; which he has already served. Now Haag is a graduating

senior at Winston-Salem State University, majoring in Psychology, and maintaining a 3.5 GPA. It took Haag only three years to complete his requirements compared to the average student taking four to five years, according to Institutional Reports.

"As a young child growing up, I had to learn things the hard way. School was not important to me. Playing sports was the only thing on my mind. Back then, to play sports, I only needed a D average. I had that exactly. I was mixed up with the wrong crowd and always stayed into trouble."

According to Hagg, prison life is not a life at all. "While being on death row, I realized that nothing mattered to anyone.

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