

Campus News

Bridging the Gap

Health careers program helps students reach their academic goals

Nicole Spruill
Reporter

"Bridging the Gap for Students."

This saying has appeared on flyers across campus, yet many students ask, "What exactly is HCOP and who is the program designed for?"

The Health Careers Opportunity Program is a federally funded program for all WSSU students who intend to major in an allied health profession.

"The HCOP program is here to help students achieve academic endeavors," said Annetta McIntosh, coordinator of HCOP. This program is also designed to help students improve their college survival skills and work with them through counseling.

Students who are majoring in an allied science benefit a great deal from HCOP.

"HCOP gives a lot of support as far as the business world. This program gives you a foot in the door with different contacts that might be able to help you in the future," said Kelli Manns, WSSU graduate. Graduate students still show their support of HCOP and they also come back for advice and help.

Many HCOP advisers are like



HCOP student William Sturdivant meets with U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno at an HCOP convention.

parents to students. They come to them for help and support in certain situations. Getting into such programs as Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Nursing is considered hard work and that is where the advisers step in.

"If you are going into these majors you must have the right attitude and the proper guidance," said Dr. Betty Alexander, the director of HCOP.

This program is a nurturing network for students. Many students consider themselves lucky to be a part of HCOP.

"HCOP teaches you a lot of responsibility. It taught me how

to be responsible, decisive, and it gave me hands-on experience in my field. It also prepared me for the upcoming challenges I would have to face in my career," said LaSonya Harrington, a junior.

HCOP also provides an eight-week summer program that trains students to better themselves for their professional career. To qualify for this summer program students must have participated in the preliminary education program. Sophomores must be preparing to enter the allied health program, juniors and seniors should be preparing to enter professional schools. This program is designed for 30 stu-

dents during the summer. In order to be accepted you must fill out an application and provide references. During the program students take different courses to help them better understand their major. Students learn to be more competitive, they learn how to write statements for professional programs, and they are given tutorials and enrichment programs in different classes.

The Retention Program is also offered by HCOP. This program is for students who have been accepted into the program. HCOP advisers encourage them to become involved with the program.

"We would like to make sure that once the student has been accepted into that allied science program, they will graduate from the program," Alexander said.

HCOP has had several students graduate from WSSU and they have proceeded to enter medical school.

"The program has proven to be productive considering we have produced some productive citizens," McIntosh said.

HCOP is now extending a hand to all the students on campus. They are in the process of opening the Academic Enrichment and Computer Center which will offer tutorial programs for students who need help.

If you are interested in joining HCOP contact Alexander at 750-2650.

McCain and Gore win New Hampshire polls

Quemella Holland
News Editor

The New Hampshire primary elections occurred on Feb. 1 with John McCain winning over George Bush and Al Gore beating Bill Bradley. New Hampshire has always been useless for picking winners than chastening losers.

There are seven major Republican and Democratic candidates, however, 22 others have joined the race. Both contests are close ones. Democrat Al Gore has the major advantage because of his win in Iowa.

John McCain, a former Republican senator from Arizona, had an edge over national front-runner George W. Bush (R), followed by Steve Forbes (R), Alan Keyes (R), and Gary Bauer (R). Bush lost

ground with many conservatives, while Forbes has gained ground with social conservatives and Keyes has gained ground with fiscal conservatives.

Bush felt that his compassionate conservative vision would help him win and his ability to win has been said to be his most important quality.

McCain relied on his military credentials. McCain served in the Navy as a pilot and he was also a prisoner of war after the war ended. He feels that he is the "adult" in the crowd and that it gave him the edge over Bush. McCain's did not campaign in the Iowa.

The democratic race is a close one. Bill Bradley has stressed the importance of health care. Gore took 60 percent of votes in Iowa

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Students and community honor King's legacy

Kimberley Hunter
Reporter

Annual celebrations to commemorate the birthday of one the nation's most influential leaders, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., were held Jan. 17.

Along with community activities that honored the legacy of King, Winston-Salem State students took the time to keep King's dream alive. Banner, poster and oratorical contests were some of the activities that students participated in.

Members of Campus Activity Board and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. sponsored a "Little King Celebration" and Unity March on Jan. 19, for the children in the early childhood center. CAB also sponsored a Unity March on Jan. 20 to honor King as well.

King was known for being a man of action and a man who desired to see a change in America. King also began the Civil Rights Movement.

The Civil Rights movement was a monumental event in the history of America.

It revealed the perseverance of a race of people who demanded equality with nonviolence.

King's words of encouragement empowered a race of people to fight a battle that would change America.

WSSU students expressed their feelings about the change.

"I feel that an activist should never be content, but race relations have gotten better since the 60s. I feel that there are other areas that could be improved to uplift the African-American race," said Verdaro Draughn, a

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