

Internships still available

The Office of Experiential Education has placed more than 150 students in internships this far in 1984, with positions still available.

Millie Katz, program coordinator, said openings remain for qualified juniors and seniors in various fields including government, the arts, public relations and business.

Students do not have to major in the field covered by the internship, Katz said.

A typical internship usually lasts for one semester, but can extend to two or three, Katz said. During the internship, the student works 12 to 16 hours per week. About 20 percent of the interns do earn a wage; others are volunteers.

Money is far from the most valuable reward, Katz said. Personal skills are sharpened and learning opportunities are broadened, she said.

Also, students can explore career possibilities, helping them choose which work settings they prefer, she said.

Interested students should go to the Office of Experiential Education, 1218 Oldfather Hall, and complete an application. The students then receive a list of job descriptions. After making a choice, students contact the organizations offering the internship. The companies interview the applicants, Katz said.

"The student has to feel that this particular experience will be useful," she said, "and the organization has to feel the student can do the work. Both parties must be satisfied."

Rosemary Schmitt, director of the Nebraska Commission on the Status of Women, said her organization has worked with political science, journalism and English majors. Acceptance of each applicant is predetermined, she said.

"I usually write up a little description of the projects there are to do," Melle said. "When they go over the list, they choose what they want to do. We then decide if they can do it and if they want to do it."

Specific duties at the commission are divided into two major maintenance and projects. Every intern has done a project since the commission became involved in the program in 1980, Melle said. Interns at the commission do not receive wages for their work, she said.

The Nebraska Department of Revenue also offers internships. Tim Young, personnel director, said the number of interns varies within the nine functional divisions of the department.

"It's loosely structured," Young said. "Each supervisor designs projects around their division's needs."

Presently, many of the interns are helping in the audit division, he said.

Young said he is not sure about specifics, but some students may be putting together audit packets. Others may be doing research into corporate relationships.

"They get a better appreciation for what we're doing," he said.

Both Young and Melle said they are pleased with the internship program.

"It's a good idea," Melle said. "It would be a crime to lose it if it goes for cuts."

"I've seen a lot of the hardest workers I've seen," Melle said. "I feel that I, as a personnel manager, have gained a healthier respect for the internship program."

Young said the department has hired one former intern and is considering hiring more. Seneca Smith, an accounting major, had had an intern at the Department of Revenue in December 1983. When she gave up her job, Young said she had no major complaints about her experience.

"I had a great boss," she said. "I got a good idea of what goes on."

Interested students should apply for the internship as soon as possible.

"If you're interested, please call me if you're in the right area," Melle said. "I'll be right here."

For more information, call 485-1218.

Whittier to be prepared for use

By Margon Brouillette

Although UNL has no definite plans for the use of the recently-purchased Whittier Junior High, it has taken steps to prepare the building for use when the need arises.

Dr. John Goebel, vice chancellor for business and finance, said the university is now looking at a long list of alternative uses for the building. Goebel declined to say what those uses might be. However, he said the main goal is to find self-supporting projects.

UNL is making sure the building is prepared for new occupants.

Harley Schrader, director of UNL's Physical Plant, said the building needs "a lot of work" to be usable because of vandalism and other damages.

When the Lincoln School Board owned the building Schrader said, the plant replaced windows broken by vandals. Since the university bought the

building, the exterior locks have been changed to provide tighter security. Outdoor lights have been replaced to reduce vandalism while the building remains empty. According to Schrader, these measures have helped considerably. UNL also hired a contractor to replace the roof, which leaks. The NU Foundation funds

the project.

Although vandalism caused damage at Whittier, other damages occurred when the school was vacated. The Lincoln School System used many materials from the building. Lockers were stripped from the walls, leaving gaping holes; plumbing and light fixtures were removed and ceiling tiles

were taken out.

Until definite uses for the building are found, it will be used as a warehouse for equipment storage during the renovation of Bessey Hall. University stores also will be moved to Whittier when the west stadium is vacated to build a new training and study hall for the athletes.

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