

Companies come to UNL seeking employees

BY REBECCA HYDE
Staff Reporter

Usually, graduating students have the burden of looking for jobs. But many companies now are trying ways to encourage UNL students to come to them for interviews and jobs.

One such company, Koch Industries, based in Wichita, Kan., is known for its active recruiting at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Koch had a Discovery Day last Thursday and Friday to allow 25 UNL students to meet employees, get an overview of the company and see its day-to-day operations.

Koch Industries, the second-largest private corporation in the United States, actively recruits UNL students for positions in finance, marketing, agriculture, engineering and accounting by getting involved in activities such as the Big Red Welcome, activities fairs and clubs.

Koch has hired 20 UNL graduates in the past two years and is one of the top 20 employers hiring UNL graduates, UNL's Career Services said. Others include Andersen Consulting, John Deere, Lockheed-Martin and Motorola.

Geri Cotter, assistant director of Career Services, said most companies do not recruit to the extent Koch has. Most companies will conduct on-campus interviews and select students

for a home office visit, but Koch has recruited on a much larger scale.

"Koch has worked very hard to get a presence on campus," Cotter said. "They are very innovative in their recruiting techniques."

Lockheed-Martin, a Denver-based aerospace engineering company, has a less aggressive recruiting strategy.

Howard Roe, manager of university relations, said Lockheed-Martin concentrates its recruiting efforts through Career Services. Recruiters arrange interviews through Career Services and participate in the career fair. They recruit from 65 to 70 colleges across the country.

Companies that have established name recognition don't need to do as much to create interest about their company or encourage potential employees, said Roger Peterson, a student who interviewed with Lockheed-Martin in September.

"I think that Lockheed-Martin is a well-known company in the industry, and their name speaks for itself," Peterson, a senior electrical engineering major, said.

Koch's recruiting strategy is different in that its recruiters, who work in teams, try to attract students they know.

Koch has a team of recruiters that seeks potential employees at UNL, as well as 10 other Midwestern schools including the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, Texas A&M University and the University of

Oklahoma.

Koch began recruiting at UNL about 10 years ago. The UNL recruiting team will consist exclusively of UNL graduates. Now alumni from different universities are working on the UNL team.

Koch Industries began as an oil refining company, but now includes business with refined products, chemicals, oil services, gas liquids, material and asphalt-based products, agriculture and real estate.

Koch offers many opportunities to students, said David Leach, a national technical marketing leader.

Leach said within six months to a year new employees earn major responsibilities. Koch employees operate as if they were running their own small business, with the responsibility to make decisions and take accountability for those decisions.

Career Services estimates that companies like Koch have increased their interviewing schedules at UNL by 20 percent over the last year. Career Services recommends that all seniors register in its center. The \$25 fee includes the ability to participate in on-campus interviews, inclusion in employer-requested resume referral and access to job listings on the Internet. Students seeking teaching jobs get 10 credential sets for free.

Career services has been contacted by 1,398 organizations requesting resumes so far in 1997.

Malone Center feeds holiday needs

FOOD from page 1

coat drive in which he brings dozens of coats to the Malone Center and lets the families pick out coats they may need, Dionne Parks, head of child care at the center, said.

At some shelters, families may not be eligible for aid if they are over a certain income level. But the Malone Center strives to provide for anyone who is in need, Massie said. Even though the deadline has passed, applications still can be accepted at the Malone Center through Thursday.

"You never know what someone's going through," Massie said. "You never know what their circumstances are, and

you never know if you're the person that just might make them or break them."

"I might be the last person they are coming to ask for help, and if I would say, 'Well, you should have made the deadline,' that could be the difference between the person living or dying. So, no matter what, I'll help them out," Massie said.

Because the Malone Center is dedicated to helping all people, it needs volunteers. Last year, 194 volunteers gave more than 650 hours to the program.

Volunteers will be needed Thursday through Monday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. On Thursday and Friday, the volunteers will be helping to unload trucks, sort canned goods and make up the baskets. Saturday is the distribution day, but the

center is asking for volunteers Sunday to give food to late applicants or walk-in needy. On Monday, the excess food will be taken to the needy.

On Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. the families will come in and pick up the baskets. On Sunday and Monday, volunteers will make up the remaining baskets and deliver them to the elderly.

Individuals can still donate money and/or food to the Malone Center through Thanksgiving.

"Finally, when we go home and we sit down at the table for our Thanksgiving dinner, those of us at the Malone Center know that we've done all we could, and that we've served all that we could," Massie said.

ASUN Watch

And the score is...

The following is a list of goals ASUN has set, and the progress it has made.

- 1. Continue commitment to diversity issues through sponsored events and increased communication with the campus community.**
—Human Rights Committee Chairwoman Sara Russell said her committee was looking into the diversity education offered to incoming students. She said many students come to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln unexposed to diversity, and her committee was exploring ways to help new students better deal with diversity. She said the diversity education would not only help students while at UNL, but also when they graduate. "That's life," Russell said, "life is diverse." Russell said her committee, the Student Impact Team and Speaker of the Senate Viet Hoang were also considering follow-up projects to supplement the forum held last week after Coretta Scott King's speech. She said the committee was also working with Rob Holburn, a representative from the Residence Hall Association, to improve conditions for Handicapped students in a parking lot across from the Cather and Pound residence halls. Russell said the parking lot has handicapped parking spaces, but there is no way for handicapped people to leave the parking lot because of a "steep gradient" and stairs. She said people on the students with disabilities subcommittee would also examine City and East Campuses, to evaluate handicapped accessibility. Russell said the sexual orientation subcommittee would also be re-opened for membership because the committee only has two members. She said without increased membership, the committee would have a hard time getting anything done.
- 2. Improve interaction among campus student governing bodies: ASUN, the Residence Hall Association, Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council.**
—ASUN President Curt Ruwe said senators from ASUN and RHA solicited donations from NU football fans walking to the game this weekend, with proceeds going to the Huskers Helping the Homeless program. Ruwe said the groups raised \$1,500 for the program that helps soup kitchens in Nebraska.
- 3. Work for the implementation of a parking class.**
—Ruwe said ASUN did not attend Tuesday's Parking Advisory Board meeting because senators wanted to continue work with Tad McDowell, director of Parking Services, to organize a proposal they can present they can present to the parking board at a later date. Ruwe said "small" increases in parking permits, or the implementation of an appeals fee, could offset the possible loss of revenue Parking Services would incur because of the class.
- 4. Address pedestrian safety concerns in the 14th and Vine streets area.**
—Ruwe said Kim Todd, assistant to the chancellor for community affairs and campus planning, will present the Antelope Valley plan to ASUN Dec. 3. The plan would dramatically change the flow of traffic around campus, essentially eliminating many pedestrian safety concerns. Ruwe said the senate would vote on a proposal showing support for the plan at the Dec. 3 meeting. He said Government Liaison Committee Chairman John Weichmann is continuing to follow up on the meeting ASUN had with city officials where they discussed improving crosswalk safety.
- 5. Work to seek more student input in the student fee allocation process.**
—Ruwe said Scott Francis, newly appointed ASUN public relations representative, would attend the Allies meeting Tuesday to inform them about the fees allocation process. He said Francis would visit other meetings as well.
- 6. Lobby for the university to continue research to develop a fall break policy.**
—Ruwe said the University of Nebraska Calendar Committee's decision not to make a decision regarding the fall break and Martin Luther King Jr. holiday could have been because of ASUN's extensive lobbying and surveying. He said the results of 500 surveys, in which 90 percent of students supported both holidays, were presented to the committee. Petitions including 1,008 student signatures requesting the observance of the King break were also presented. He said ASUN and SIT would continue to work to "gather student input" and devise ways the university can feasibly institute these breaks.
- 7. Work toward a regent's bylaw change to allow student organizations to apply for funds from the University Program Council once every two years rather than once every four.**
—This bylaw has been approved by the NU Board of Regents.
- 8. Research advising policies on campus and gather student input in order to look for ways that advising can best serve student needs.**
—Academic Committee Chairman Erik Hoegemeyer and his committee are in the final stages of their advising project, Ruwe said. He said the committee would collect data from advising surveys, and turn the data into a "useful product." He said they would work through Thanksgiving break to produce a "statistical analysis" of data.
- 9. More efficiently inform students of services that ASUN provides and what it accomplishes for students.**
—Ruwe said Francis and Steve Cullen of the Advertising Club were continuing work on an advertising campaign promoting ASUN. He said the campaign would specifically target two groups of people ASUN typically has a "hard time reaching"—younger residence hall students, and off-campus students. Ruwe said the newly redesigned ASUN Web page should make its debut by Thanksgiving.
- 10. Successfully create a more integrated campus community through the implementation of the Student Impact Team and the University Leadership Community.**
—Ruwe said the GLC would meet Sunday at 8 p.m. in the Nebraska Union. He said the topic of the meeting would be the re-introduction of the Cornhusker yearbook, which was discontinued in the 1970's. He said another topic may be announced. SIT met Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Nebraska Union. Ruwe said SIT Chairwoman Carrie Pierce and her group were "really making things happen in the student government."

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