

UNIVERSITY NEWSBEAT

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Counselling Helps Students Find Direction



Dorothy Becker, Center Director

If you're confused about where your career interests lie, consider visiting the counsellors at York's Career Centre, located in N105 Ross.

The Centre annually receives over 4,000 student visits for library use and individual counselling. Unlike Manpower, it has no

allegiance to employers coming onto campus, and so can be totally geared to the individual needs of the student.

Among its many services are: individual career counselling, which is the main focus; coaching on resumé writing and creative job search techniques; a resource library with information on many careers and educational institutions; and a series of some 22 videotapes, featuring students being interviewed for a variety of career positions.

Interest inventories, which are given to students uncertain of their career direction, establish six priority areas:

- artistic
- social services
- enterprising/business
- realistic (outdoors, mechanical)
- investigative
- conventional (including office practices and banking)

Dorothy Becker, the new Director of the Career Counselling

Centre, has discovered that not only do her visitors want absolute answers, but that many invariably want to be what she is. "There's an incredible myth that there is an *it*, and that once you find *it*, that's it for the rest of your life," she says. In fact, job stability is almost perceived as a handicap today,

when so many people are experiencing career changes in mid-life.

Ms. Becker, who currently is working part-time towards her PhD in English at the University of Toronto, is herself an excellent example of a plurality of career interests. She received her BA in English from Wilfrid Laurier

University in 1967, her MSW from the University of British Columbia, and her MA in English from Dalhousie. Ms. Becker has worked in mental health at the Ontario Hospital in Penetang, in family counselling and adolescent welfare for the Children's Aid Society in Vancouver, in student counselling at the University of Western Ontario, as a social worker at a hearing and speech clinic in Halifax, and in writing and reviewing theatre for the Fourth Estate magazine in Halifax.

Among the Career Centre's plans for the future are: group sessions in job search and resume planning techniques; a proposed program for the psychology and sociology departments, and an ongoing program with the Faculty of Education, to make students aware of alternate career choices such as those in business, social service, and personnel.

Some of the Centre's best clients, reports Ms. Becker, are Fine Arts students. "They're accustomed to using their environment in a different way. The ideal is to develop the best possible patterns of action in view of what your objectives are. Fine Arts students tend to buy this way of thinking better than any other group... they are very open to creative job search techniques and come up with all sorts of ideas of what they want to do." She adds that Fine Arts students, being geared more to artistic achievement than to money, often can regard an interim job simply as a means to an end.

The Career Centre is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, though students are advised to come either early in the morning or later in the afternoon to avoid the mid-day peak rush. Staff members include director Dorothy Becker, career counsellor Jane Greene, and secretary/receptionist Jean Scofield.

CONCERT FEATURES

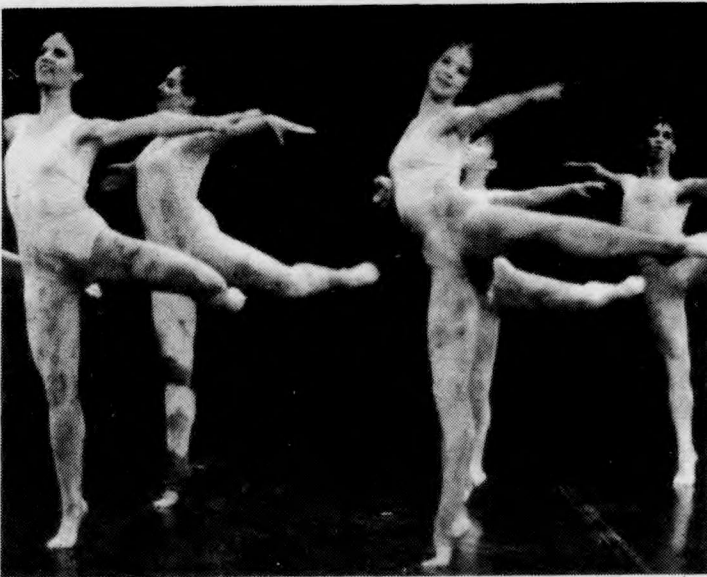
"AIR FOR THE G STRING"

York's Dance Department presents its SPRING CONCERT on March 20, 21 and 22 at 8:00 p.m. each evening with a matinee performance on Friday, March 21 at 2:00 p.m. in Burton Auditorium. Admission is \$2.50.

The Spring Concert is the Dance Department's major public event of the year, and features performance and choreography by faculty members and students.

Included in the program is the Canadian premiere of Doris Humphrey's "Air for the G String" reconstructed by the Dance Department's guest choreographer, Ernestine Stodelle. This outstanding work is in the repertoire of the Jose Limon Dance Company.

A total of ten pieces will be presented at each performance of the Spring Dance Concert.



Student ensemble performing Terrain by Peggy Baker at last year's Spring Dance concert.

Urban Studies Presents

"Communications, Computers, and Human Settlement"

As much as half of Canada's gross national product comes from people who manage information, states Jerome Durlak, coordinator of the "Communications, Computers and Human Settlements" symposium scheduled for York's Senate Chamber from March 19-21.

This interdisciplinary symposium is the ninth in an annual series presented by the Faculty of Arts' Urban Studies Program, and the first co-sponsored by the department of computer science. It is designed to explore the convergence of new interactive telecommunication and computer technologies, and the various impacts this convergence will have on people living in cities, rural communities, and native settlements.

Jerome Durlak is an associate professor of urban studies (Arts) and Environmental Studies who teaches York courses in "Human Communications," "Communications for the Future," and "Environmental Education." He is also part of a team that is developing a new communications program within York's social science division.

Invited to participate in the Symposium have been 90 concerned users involved with micro-computer networks, two-way and regular cable television, satellites, law, broadcasting. York faculty members, librarians, community groups such as native peoples or senior citizens, and representatives from the federal and various provincial governments will also be attending.

Giving the keynote address of "An Overview of the New Technology" will be Deputy Minister of Communications Bernard Ostry. On Thursday, March 20 the communication and information needs of northern communities, cooperatives, and native people will be discussed respectively by Chuck Feavor of the Department of Northern Saskatchewan, the Cooperative Futures Group, and the team of Lindsey Green (Inuit Taprisirit) and David Simailak,

project director of the Inukshuk Project. In addition, Peter Sindell, coordinator of the University of Montreal's Project Delta, will discuss "Cultural Activities" and Ronald Keeble, of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute's Planning Department will address the issue of "Urban and Rural Planning Information."

The new Telidon communications system will be discussed by Gerald Haslem, director of Videotex Services for Southam, Inc., and by John Synett and Maria Gioni, both of OECA. Participants will have the opportunity to experiment with York's new Telidon system and to contact other centres in Vancouver, the eastern coast of the United States and other parts of Canada through computer conferencing.

Friday will feature round table discussion, concentrating on issues such as "where present linkages should be strengthened or weakened or where new linkages should begin," and "ways and means to implement proposed linkages."

Results of the conference will be fed into other communications events happening soon: York's Prospects for Man Symposium on "Communications 2000," the Computer Culture Conference hosted by the Ontario College of Art, and the upcoming conference for Canadian Communications, the latest Learned Society.

Prof. Durlak wants to see a more horizontal communications system developed, one where all levels of society share a democratic involvement, one that is not determined exclusively by government, large interest groups, or the mass media, and one "that allows each one of us to use our creative ability to communicate."

He does not anticipate the two-day "Communications, Computers, and Human Settlement" Symposium will be able to resolve issues, but hopes that it will assist people with common concerns to form a network to work through problems in future.

For further information contact Prof. Durlak at 667-6271.

Politics of Energy and Conservation Studied

A symposium on the politics of energy and conservation is being presented at York University, on Tuesday, March 18, 1980 at 12:00 noon in the Ross Humanities Building Room N102.

The symposium, part of a nationally co-ordinated program which is taking place on practically every campus across Canada in March 1980, is being sponsored by S.E.A. (Students for Environmental Action), and the North American Jewish Student's Network. These are both independent student run organizations.

Through the symposium, the students aim to provide a forum for conservator education by illustrating the crucial importance of lessening our dependence on foreign oil, and that the way to achieve this is through increased self-reliance. Conservation and the use of renewable energy sources are sited as the two main vehicles through which to achieve this self-reliance.

Norman Rubin, of Energy Probe, will be speaking on conservation and alternative energy sources. Rob Macdonald, a professor of environmental studies at York University will be speaking on the economics of conservation; how the transition to a conservator society will boost our economy in the long run. Mordechai Abir, a visiting professor from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem who is

presently teaching at York University, will be speaking on the realities of world oil politics and the role conservation and the use of renewable energy sources play in making us less vulnerable to OPEC manipulation of our economy and politics. Dean Harry Crowe, of

Atkinson College, will be the moderator of the symposium.

On the York University campus, the symposium is being co-sponsored by the J.S.F. (Jewish Student Federation).

Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

Education Grads Get Jobs

York's Faculty of Education recently completed a survey showing that graduates of its program have excellent hiring records. Close to three-quarters of last year's 160 graduates responded. Of these, 55 percent obtained full-time teaching positions, 24 percent are teaching part-time, 14 percent have taken non-teaching jobs in such fields as management, art direction, and career counselling, while 7 percent have made other plans such as parenthood, travelling and further education.

It was found that many of the education graduates had taken positions in private schools while others were teaching as far away as Alberta, the Bahamas and Nigeria.

According to associate dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Stuart Robbins, the quality of both student and program is the reason for York's excellent hiring record. York's education students

are required to maintain honours standing, spend a minimum of three years co-registered in the York Faculty of Education, and teach in schools for a total of six months or more. They are taught cooperatively by part-time adjunct professors who are highly skilled master teachers employed by the Boards of Education as well as by university professors and full-time education staff.

The hiring record of the York grads has been very high in comparison to other teacher training programs in Ontario. York University graduates only about 160 teachers each year. "We spend time and effort on a few highly talented prospective teachers," says Professor Robbins. "This may be a contributing factor to the success experienced by many of our graduates in obtaining employment, as it has been our experience that there will always be a demand for excellent teachers."