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Jobs still tight for students

by Brian Cox

Dalhousie's Canada Employment Centre is working at capacity according to Employment Centre manager Bev Young. "We're pretty badly outnumbered, we could use additional staff," Young said. Presently there are three counsellors on staff to serve the 3,000 students registered at the centre.

Student registration has doubled since the centre opened in 1968. The increase in student registration without any increase in staff has stretched the centre's resources to the limit. There is no relief in sight, said Young.

The employment centre is for the sole use of Dalhousie students and Dalhousie alumni. "The bulk of the students registered here are graduating students looking for career jobs," said Young. The centre also places students in part-time and summer jobs.

It's no secret the job market istight for students graduating from any faculty, but Young has some encouraging news for graduating students and Dal grads in particular. "Unemployment among graduating students is considerably lower than the national average," Young said.

"Dal students are competing well, and employers are pleased with the quality of students they have hired through us," she said.

Young suggests students go out and knock on doors as well as register at the employment centre when entering the job market. "Eighty to ninety percent of open job positions are not advertised," she said. Workshops in developing job hunting skills are being offered at Dal. "The workshops will prepare students for the job market," added Young.





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