

Large numbers of students turn out for job-search

By Lauren Varga

Despite the fact that the U.S. has seen one of the largest deficits to date, employers are still looking for applicants and find promising future employees on the Rider campus.

Yesterday companies came to Rider's Career Day in search of students who qualified for internships and full-time employment.

"The recruiters said that they were very pleased with the large numbers of students who turned out," said Joyce Tyler, director of career services.

Many students, like sophomore communication major Janine Vasconcelos, are apprehensive about obtaining the right job upon graduation.

"I'm afraid of not being able

to find a job that I want," said Vasconcelos. "There are always jobs, working at McDonald's is a job. But I am worried about what will happen especially in this economy."

Potential employers that came to Rider did not seem to regard the economy as an obstacle for students.

"There is always a constant need for hiring," said Sharon Brenner a representative from IZOD Van-Heusen.

According to Anita Sanfiorenzo of IZOD Van-Heusen there is a lot of growth potential within our country and the company she represents because there are a lot of positions that [prospective employees] can grow into.

However, jobs aren't going to be given to students just because they have a degree or numerous degrees. Employers are looking for applicants with experience.

"[Applicants] have to have some kind of internship," said Kim Ruoff a member of Derivatives Portfolio Management, L.C.C. Recruiting Team. "It's very competitive out there. Students are competing against everybody for entry-



Photo by AlViedo

Senior Melissa Borotto gets information about job opportunities from one of the company representatives that attended Career Day looking for potential interns and employees.

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- Joyce Tyler

level positions, so unless they've had some kind of internship while they've been in school they're going to be behind the ball."

Career Services does a lot to ensure that students have the opportunity to obtain at least one internship during their years at Rider.

"MonsterTrak is available

for Rider students to use in search of internships," said Tyler. "Students can register online and post their resume on the site."

Tyler said the only thing that students need to register on MonsterTrak is the password, which is rubridges, and the last 4 digits of the students' Social Security number.

"Students should view the Career Fair as a network for them," said Tyler. "Use this as a time for learning and a time to market yourself."

The next Career Day will be held on Thursday, March 31, according to Tyler.

Law and Justice Award recipient promotes fair courtrooms

By Stephanie Mostaccio

Public defender, legal commentator and writer David Feige pushed for restoration of justice in the courtroom as he was presented with Rider University's annual Law and Justice Distinguished Achievement Award.

During the event on Oct. 28 in the Fireside Lounge of the Bart Luedeke Center, Feige spoke for his passion about continuing his work in criminal justice as well as bringing justice back into the courtrooms. He said he hopes that others will join him in this effort.

"I urge each and every one of you to make this reality a better one in your own way," he

said.

Feige was chosen to receive this award by the Law and Justice Committee for his efforts to ensure that the justice system works effectively for everyone.

However, before being presented with this award, he gave an acceptance address in which he discussed how social science is used in the courtroom based on his own experiences. During the speech, he focused on how he and his law intern worked diligently to have the Double Blind Procedure used in eyewitness identification. Unlike the original identification process, this one calls for a second police officer who is unaware of the actual suspect to also be in the room with the witness.

"Eyewitness identification

is prone to misidentification," he said.

Until recently, Feige, who has been a public defender for 15 years, has served as the Trial Chief of a public defender office in the Bronx known as The Bronx Defenders. He is a member of the National Criminal Defense College, and has taught at law schools and public defender offices across the country as well. Feige has also written for *The New York Times*, often appears on Court TV, and can be heard speaking about criminal justice on National Public Radio. He is currently working on a book titled *Indefensible*.

Feige believes that this procedure will greatly decrease the number of eyewitness misiden-

tifications because the officer who is unaware of the actual suspect cannot influence the eyewitness' decision.

"You seemed to hesitate at number two," said Feige. "Why don't you take another look at him?"

However, it took months of persistence to finally persuade the courts to adopt the Double Blind procedure. Feige encountered a myriad of failed attempts, which always followed the words "motion denied." He also encountered many judges who said that sending an innocent person to prison is not their problem. He feels this is because it is difficult to go against the criminal justice system.

"It takes extraordinary cour-

age to do anything about anything in this juncture," he said.

Nevertheless, Feige said he believes that this battle was necessary in order to ensure that eyewitness identification is just.

"Justice has little to do with success. It has to do with struggle," he said. "We are left to struggle to do what is right when no one else listens."

This particular struggle ended for the state of New Jersey a few years ago when the N.J. Attorney General, Andrew Farmer, adopted the Double Blind Procedure, making New Jersey the first state to do so.

'CULTURE'

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"It really was an attention-getter," said Morales. "It's hard to get students to come out, so we thought by bringing the kids in it would give us an opportunity for people to see what's going on in our area."

LASO is trying to do a lot of public relations in order to get a more diverse mixture of students to Hispanic Heritage Month events. The marketing blitz has included everything from balloons to television ads

and posters. Members have reached out to professors in an effort to convince them to offer extra credit for attending events.

"We're trying to link the ties between the faculty and our organization," said Morales. "There has to be a motive for college students to go to events like lectures or speakers."

Other events planned to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month include an ice skating trip on Nov. 12 and dance lessons on Nov. 16. On Nov. 18, poet Bobby Gonzalez will illustrate the cultural connections between Native Americans,

African-Americans, and Latin Americans.

Another focus of LASO is to get all students, including non-Hispanic students, to come to their events. They feel there is a belief that the organization is only for Latino students to be part of.

"We are made up of so many different cultures that everyone, in essence, could be Latino if they went back far enough in their family line," said Morales. "We want people to realize that we're open to all types of members, not just the minority students."

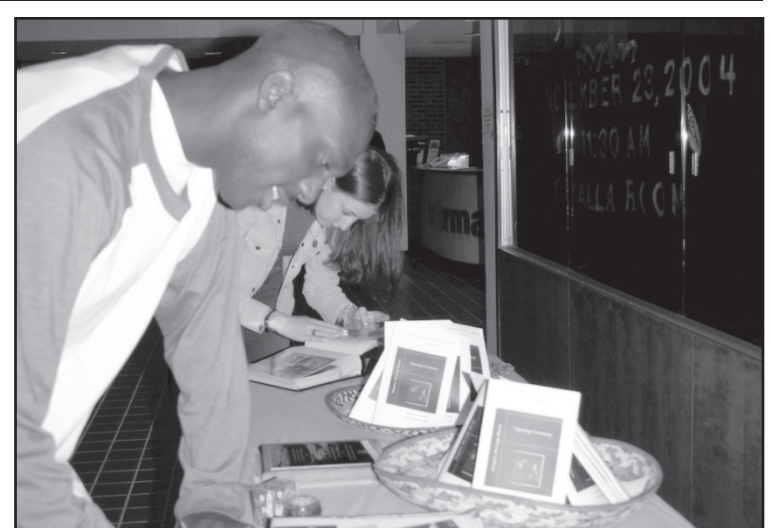


Photo by Allen Huang

Ayo Owodunni looked at the LASO scrapbook before going into the celebration on Tuesday, Nov. 2.