

Placement office: job hunt aid

By TERRY DURAN

Battalion Staff

The search is on.

The Texas A&M Placement Center already has begun signing up students for some 17,000 interviews with potential employers. Interviews with the 780 companies participating began Sept. 14 and will continue through Nov. 25.

Placement Center Director Lou Van Pelt and Associate Director Ron Winn said Tuesday they are "understandably proud" of the Aggie job-finding service; 25 percent of all job offers in the five-state southwestern area — Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, New Mexico and Arkansas — go to Texas A&M students.

Van Pelt also pointed out a steady increase in interviews since 1973 — when the center moved to its present location on the 10th floor of Rudder Tower — from 10,290 to an expected 34,000-plus for the 1981-82 school year.

He said the Placement Center's history can be traced back to 1896 and F.E. Giesecke, who served as director while working the Texas A&M College Alumni Association.

Winn said "just about all" of the major energy, engineering, accounting, construction, retail and agricultural firms interview through the placement office.

"We have firms that spend 100 man-days a year interviewing Aggies," he said.

One company alone finally hired a total of 162 Texas A&M graduates with various degrees, he said, and another hired over 40 Aggie engineers.

Out of 58,742 engineering degrees awarded nationally in 1979-80 school year, 994 (1.69 percent) were from Texas A&M, and most of those students got jobs through the Placement Center — "not an insignificant slice of the pie," Van Pelt said.

Winn said about 65 percent of 1981 graduates used the center to find post-graduation employment.

Students can begin their interview files by going to the Placement Center and filling out a standardized information file including a resume and a form giving consent to the center to show the student's file to potential employers.

"We do insist," Winn said, "that the resumes be typed, so the student can put his or her best foot forward with the (prospective) employer."

Once a student's file is started, the placement center keeps it and makes it available to companies making "paper searches" — looking for students with the right credentials for a job. Then, sometimes, the employer will contact the student, rather than the other way around.

After establishing a file, the student brings a copy of his resume with him to each interview.

Winn said students can register with the Placement Center up to three semesters before graduation. He said students can also re-



The Texas A&M Career Planning and Placement Center schedules interviews with 780 companies looking for graduates.

gister for summer job interviews, which sometimes turn into permanent employment after graduation.

Winn said students who already have signed military contracts are not excluded from interviewing, especially those who will only be on active duty a short time before

going on reserve status.

"They (students on reserve contract) should definitely go ahead and interview," Winn said. "Some companies figure the experience will wind up giving them a better employee."

The center has a career library, where students can find out about

potential employers and prepare for interviews with specific companies.

"It's really a very simple process" to use the Placement Center, Winn said. Since the center is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, he said, "just about anybody can work their

schedule around to get in to see us.

"One of the key things," he said, "is to get everybody who's graduating to get up here. If they have a file started, it greatly enhances opportunities that they might not have even known were there."

Tenneco Oil offers you a multiple choice



At Tenneco Oil Exploration and Production, we offer graduating seniors a choice of careers. Our growth and success means a variety of job opportunities with a strong, supportive company who offers high visibility and rewards its performers with excellent benefits. We are looking for exceptionally competent individuals to compliment our team of professionals.

WE'LL BE ON CAMPUS
OCTOBER 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 1981
INTERVIEWING FOR PETROLEUM AND GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING,
SYSTEMS, GEOLOGY, LAND, TAX, AND ACCOUNTING POSITIONS
TEXAS A & M

Check with The Placement Center to schedule an interview with our representative.
 We will also be interviewing on October 16 for Accounting positions
 for our Summer Internship Program.

Tenneco Oil
Exploration and Production



We are an equal opportunity employer, m/f.

A Tenneco Company