

# Aggielife



BRANDON BOLLUM/THE BATTALION

## Job Squad

The Career Center, housed on the second floor of Koldus, helps students find internships and full-time employment.

• *The TAMU Career Center helps students find employment during college as well as after graduation.*

BY TRAVIS IRBY  
The Battalion

The goal of most students entering A&M is to land a reasonable job and earn a livable wage. The University offers more than an education when it comes to gaining employment.

The center offers the means to obtain full-time employment, internships or summer jobs.

The Career Center gives students, both graduate and undergraduate, the chance to disseminate résumés, set up interviews and gain work experience.

Terri Morrison, assistant director of the Career Center, said the center is unique.

"It is the largest college career center in the country," Morrison said.

The center, located on the second floor of Koldus, offers a Career Resource Library, career advising and workshops on everything from cover letter writing to salary negotiations.

One of the newer features available to students is the on-line registration system. For a fee of \$35 per semester a student can register their résumés on-line. In addition, one can have access to interview schedules and an on-line job database.

Morrison said this service allows students a certain amount of ease in their job search.

"They can fill out the résumé on-line and change as needed, all over the Internet," Morrison said. "Any company can access the résumé."

Job-hungry students can still use the career center the old-fashioned way. They can let their feet do the work.

All a prospective worker needs to do is walk in or make an appointment.

Setting up interviews is one of the Career Center's most important features.

Last year over 1,100 employers conducted 32,000 individual interviews.

Morrison said the center has so many interviews that some of them had to be moved from the usual location of the Koldus building.

"We had so many interviews that we started conducting interviews in the sky boxes at Kyle Field," Morrison said.

Morrison said some students who interviewed with several companies and were extended several job offers had trouble choosing a right fit.

"Sometimes students would have many offers to choose from," Morrison said. "But they didn't know which one to pick."

While many students take advantage of the Career Center, many do not.

Morrison said this could be attributed to some misconceptions about the services offered.

"A lot of people think the Career Center only has employers in the business and engineering fields," Morrison said. "We encourage all majors to use the center, as employers from all disciplines come in offering jobs."

Still, finding a job is not something one needs to put off until their last semester in school. The Career Center encourages students to use its services even before they start looking for work.

## SERVICES

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"A consultation is where the student is not ready for a mediator, but they want coaching to handle the situation on their own," she said.

Mediation is when all parties are brought together with a mediator or team of mediators whose expertise match the situation at hand.

Harris said even the smallest of situations can be brought to mediation services and the earlier the better.

"Students can be embroiled in a conflict for months, and sometimes three hours in mediation can help relieve a lot of stress," she said. "The process is very time effective."

Harris said the service is shifting focus this year to educating groups on mediation strategies.

"We're always willing to talk to groups or any opportunity to teach proactive conflict resolution," she said. "By doing that (speaking to groups), they'll know when it's appropriate to use service. Hopefully, we'll reach more students that way."

Judicial services enforces student rules and helps students who find themselves victims of harassment, hazing, assault or theft.

University rules students must abide by are printed every year.

Judicial services is handled by two coordinators; Kim Novak is the coordinator for Greek organizations, athletes, faculty, corps and student organizations; Shaun Travers coordinates judicial services for residence life.

Kim Novak said if a student violates a University rule, they are issued a letter of charges and a hearing date from SCRS.

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— René Harris  
Coordinator of Negotiation and Mediation Services

Students then have an opportunity to come in prior to their hearing and discuss their charges, or the student can just show up at their hearing.

Residence life violations could end up before the judicial board, a board of their peers. Otherwise, the hearing is taken care of administratively, one on one.

Travers said it is inevitable students will make mistakes.

"Most students here will make mistakes, and most will lead to a

violation of policy," he said. "The focus is education. We want students to learn from their mistakes."

Judicial hearings last minutes to one hour, and range from a simple warning to suspension from the University.

Travers said he views the harshest of punishment as educational experience.

"If you're at the level of suspension, it doesn't mean that you've given up on yourself. Maybe the student needs some time off. Sometimes a student's behavior is a sad way of telling them, 'I've made the right choice.'"

Novak said for students victims of harassment and theft, judicial services offers students options.

"SCRS is in the opinion of the student," she said. "Students can come to us with a situation, and we'll help them see what their options are."

Travers said victims of that violate student policies contacted by SCRS to find out what student wants to become a part of the judicial process.

Novak said she wants students and parents to know SCRS ways willing to help.

"SCRS tries to communicate that as you find yourself in a situation as a parent or student, you don't know who to ask, you call, and we'll find a way to ask," she said. "We'll be there that's not our job."

## HEALTH CENTER

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Student opinions concerning the health services are continuously monitored by compliment and complaint forms located throughout Beutel and by a random sampling of 30 students every fall and spring semesters.

This random sampling evaluates each specific health care provider.

To further the focus on students, the Health Center Student Advisory Board, which is coordinated through Student Government Association and appointed every year during the fall, helps develop stu-

dent surveys and administer them.

Isdale said the student board is consulted to fix specific problems brought up by the student body.

"Anything we don't know the heartbeat of, we take to the advisory board and get the feedback of the student," she said.

But with all the changes made to date, Isdale said she continues to strive for a health center where the students feel they can rely on for quality care, and that will only come about by addressing the concerns of the students.

"If [the students] don't like what we're doing, we'll change it. I'm not inflexible," Isdale said. "I'm not stone, and I'm not inflexible."

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