

FEATURE

Career Workshops Provide Useful Insight

by Risa Glick
Collegian Editor

The majority of Behrend College students came here with the intention of acquiring the education and preparation necessary for the professional career of which they are pursuing.

The Career and Placement Center, located on the second floor of the Administration Building, is equipped with reference materials to aid you in the search of a career.

Mary Beth Peterson, Assistant to the Dean of Student Affairs, is in charge of Career Planning, Placement and Financial Aid for Behrend College students. Through the efforts and professional aid that Peterson provides for students, "You are given the opportunity," says Peterson, "to become aware of your interests and goals and to obtain knowledge of how to match these to various occupations. I believe in teaching someone how to find a job, and not finding it for

them," she says. "How to actively pursue - this is important throughout life to know how to do that," Peterson commented.

Peterson conducts Career and Placement Workshops on Wednesdays from noon until 12:50 p.m. in the Reed Seminar Room. "The purpose of these workshops," asserts Peterson, "is to educate as many students as possible on the techniques of choosing a major, matching jobs to majors, and job hunting."

Peterson commented that, "Generally, 25 workshops are given each year and last year we had over 400 students in total attendance. Sometimes a student attends every workshop," she says, "it's like taking a course in Career Planning."

The first workshop, *How to Choose a Major*, was held in Sept. and was followed by *Get to Know the Career and Placement Office*, and *Cocurricular Activities and Your Future Goal*. The month concluded with a

workshop on *Matching Jobs to Majors*.



Mary Beth Peterson is in charge of Career Planning, Placement, and Financial Aid.

Peterson conducted four workshops this month consisting

of, *Getting Into Graduate School*, *Careers in Business*, *How to Create a Resume*, and *How to Conduct a Local Job Search*, which according to Peterson, "Is for people who want to stay in the area upon graduation. We talk about the resources that are available and how to look locally," she says.

Peterson will present three workshops in Nov. *How to Conduct an Out-of-Town Job Search* will be presented on Nov. 7 followed by *Preparing for Your First Job Interview* on Nov. 14. "This workshop is important," states Peterson, "because job interviewing takes a lot of practice and we try to practice and prepare people so that their first interview will be one of their best."

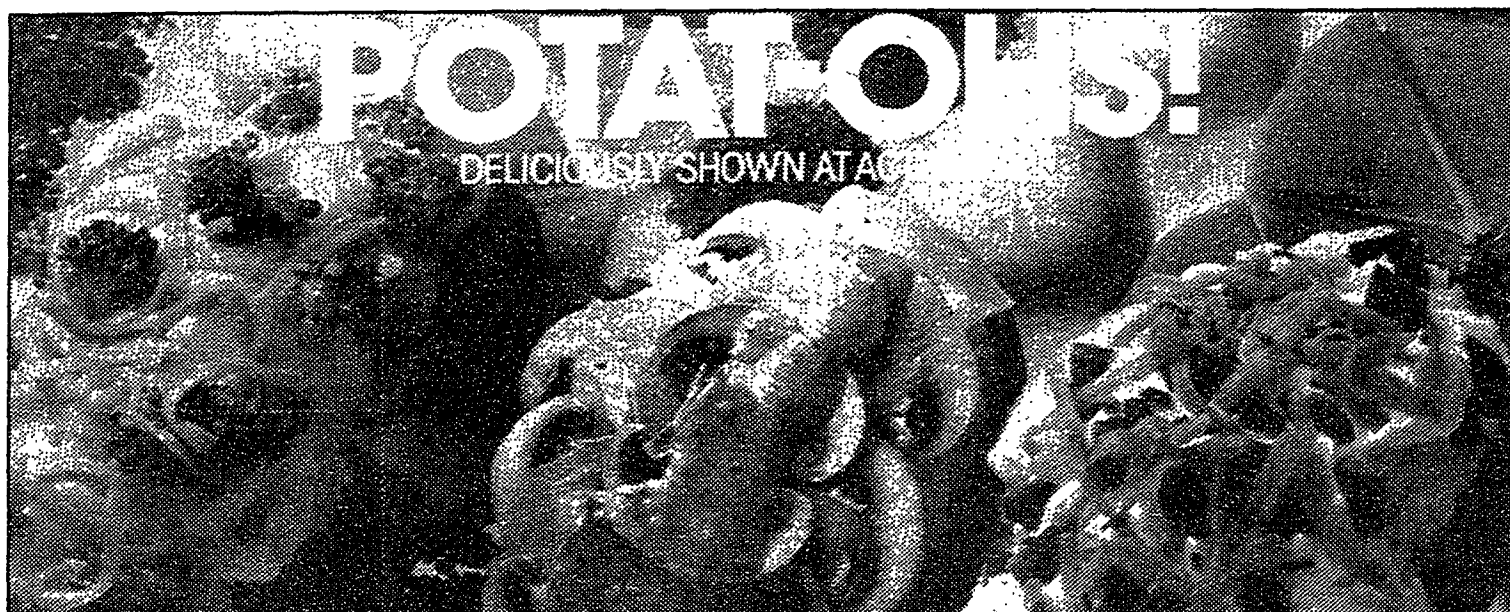
Career in Science will be presented on Nov. 28. This workshop will probably consist of a panel of alumni in science fields, discussing their current occupations.

The last workshop to be con-

ducted this semester will take place on Dec. 5. "This workshop, entitled *How to Look for a Summer Job*," says Peterson, "is presented in December to enable students to get a jump on others and plan early."

Some of these workshops will be presented again next summer. Peterson, who came to Behrend four years ago, places great emphasis on these workshops and says that, "They can be advantageous to every student."

Peterson says her interests have always been in the area of Career Planning and Placement. She received a B.A. in Psychology from Edinboro State University and she earned an M.E.d in counseling from Slippery Rock University. She worked for two years as Assistant Director of Admissions at Villa Maria College before coming to Behrend in 1980. "I hope to meet as many students as I can through the Career and Placement Office and Workshops," says Peterson.



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