

Wilkes University

News

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Recent Wilkes Graduates Successful at Finding Jobs

Wilkes-Barre -- Members of the Wilkes University Class of 1995 are doing better than their counterparts across the nation finding jobs, according to preliminary findings by the University's Career Development Center.

About half of the 400-plus students who received graduate and undergraduate degrees at commencement in late May had jobs waiting for them. That figure is well above the national average of 40 percent.

"In general, the class of 1995 is off to a bright start. Job opportunities are definitely up - it's probably the best market we've seen this decade," said Gene Domzalski, associate dean, student affairs and career services.

Domzalski will track the class of 1995 for the next six months and expects by winter that 95 percent or more of the graduates will have found a job and/or will enter graduate or professional school. The Wilkes placement rate has been above 90 percent for the past 10 years.

"Even though screening by employers is more intense and the fact that students usually don't have multiple offers, there's a healthy increase of their chances to gain employment," added Domzalski.

Wilkes engineering majors and computer science majors found the most offers. Computer science students are now working for companies including: Keane

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1ST ADD - WILKES GRADUATES FIND JOBS

Inc., Wayne: Nat West Services, Scranton: Computer Aid, Inc., Allentown and Scranton: and the U.S. Department of Justice, Washington D.C.

Engineering graduates are now at Castek Inc., Berwick; Thompson Consumer Electronics, Dunmore; Harris Semiconductor, Mountaintop; Caradon Mideast Aluminum, Mountaintop; and PennDot, Scranton.

Joseph Woodward '95, Ashland, began his job at the Ashland Water Authority a few weeks before receiving his environmental engineering degree. He got the job as superintendent of the water filtration plant by answering an ad in the newspaper and using the interviewing skills he learned at the Wilkes Career Development Center.

"When I sit down and think about it, I'm really lucky to have the job I have," said Woodward. "I like what I'm doing and I'm using a lot of what I learned in my classes, especially my management and water classes."

Megan Collins, who graduated with a bachelor of science degree in accounting, also feels fortunate to be one of three graduates to land jobs with Parente, Randolph, Orlando, Carey & Associates. The Wilkes-Barre resident says her internship with the accounting firm helped her get the position as a staff accountant.

"My internship gave me a feel for what accounting is all about. It was a great experience," said Collins. "Plus, on the last day of my internship I was offered a job."

Wilkes University Nursing Department graduates also found very good jobs in and out of the area. Outside of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Wilkes graduates found jobs including a home health/hospice nurse in Flemington, N.J., and a registered nurse for the U.S. Air Force stationed in Maryland. Locally, Wilkes nurses can be found with the Veterans Administration Medical Center, the Wyoming Valley Health Care System, Mercy Hospital in Scranton and Wilkes-Barre, Pocono Medical Center, Angel Care Healthstaff and Community Medical Center, Scranton.

Psychology, sociology and marketing majors found jobs ranging in sales, marketing, counseling, direct care, recruiting and customer service. Other jobs of

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2ND ADD - WILKES GRADUATES FIND JOBS

note include, a theater graduate securing a production manager job with the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire and a vocal major landing a role in an off-Broadway musical.

"Traditionally, students who develop a career plan early on, tend to have the most success in finding a job upon graduation," said Domzalski.

Final analysis of the class of 1995 will not be available until 1996. Preliminary reports indicate, however, that 1995 graduates of Wilkes University have had more opportunity and more success than the other classes from the 90s.

"The success of this year's class isn't surprising since our graduates find they can successfully compete with their peers across the board," said Dr. J. Michael Lennon, vice president, academic affairs. "With a Wilkes degree, graduates can enter their chosen professions with self-assurance."

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Recent Wilkes Graduates Successful at Finding Jobs

Wilkes-Barre -- Megan Collins didn't have one of the worries that some college seniors had at graduation this past May. She had a job.

"I'm really relieved I don't have to go through the hassle of finding a job," says Collins, a 1995 graduate of Wilkes University. "I'm proof that there are jobs out there."

Collins, who graduated with a bachelor of science degree in accounting, feels fortunate to be one of three graduates to land jobs with Parente, Randolph, Orlando, Carey & Associates. She says her internship with the accounting firm helped her get the position as a staff accountant.

"My internship gave me a feel for what accounting is all about. It was a great experience," said Collins, Wilkes-Barre. "Plus, on the last day of my internship I was offered a job."

Overall, members of the Wilkes University Class of 1995 are doing better than their counterparts across the nation finding jobs, according to preliminary findings by Wilkes University's Career Development Center.

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Wilkes engineering majors and computer science majors found the most offers. Computer science students are now working for companies including: Keane Inc., Wayne; Nat West Services, Scranton; Computer Aid, Inc., Allentown and Scranton; and the U.S. Department of Justice, Washington D.C.

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PHOTO:

Seated at the table is Suzanne Fletcher, C.P.A., human resources coordinator, Parente, Randolph, Orlando, Carey & Associates.

Standing is Megan Collins '95, Wilkes-Barre.

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Norman Mailer to Deliver Keynote Address at Wilkes University's Spring Commencement

Wilkes-Barre -- Norman Mailer, one of the United States' most distinguished writers, will return to Wilkes University to deliver the keynote address at the University's annual spring commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 27, at 2 p.m., in Ralston Field, Edwardsville.

Also, Wilkes University President Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth will confer an honorary doctor of humane letters degree to Mailer during the graduation ceremony. Mailer first visited Wilkes University in November 1992 and gave a public reading.

Mailer's return to Wilkes University will come less than two weeks after the release of his latest work, Oswald's Tale: An American Mystery. The novel, published by Random House, contains the first detailed account of Lee Harvey Oswald in Russia from KGB sources. In addition, Mailer's biography of the young Picasso, Pablo and Fernande: A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, is scheduled for release this fall.

Mailer established his reputation as a major American writer with his first novel, The Naked and the Dead, which remained on the best-seller list for 63 weeks after publication in 1948 and was a finalist for the Gutenberg Award. Among his best known books are The Deer Park (1955), An American Dream (1965), Why Are We

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1ST ADD - NORMAN MAILER TO SPEAK AT WILKES GRADUATION

in Vietnam? (1967), nominee for the National Book Award, and The Executioner's Song, which won the Pulitzer Prize in fiction in 1979.

After co-founding and naming the Village Voice in 1955, Mailer adapted his novelistic skills to journalistic essays and reporting. His mastery of the non-fiction narrative was recognized when The Armies of the Night (1968) won both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. It was followed by several other best-selling, non-fiction narratives, including Of a Fire on the Moon (1970) and Marilyn: A Novel Biography (1973). In addition, over the past 40 years Mailer has written regularly for *Esquire*, *Dissent*, *Paris Review* and many other periodicals.

Mailer's more recent novels include Ancient Evenings (1983), Tough Guys Don't Dance (1984) and Harlot's Ghost (1991).

Mailer's sundry awards include the Emerson-Thoreau Medal from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; the Gold Medal from the National Arts Club; and the Signet Society Medal for Achievement in the Arts from Harvard University. In addition, Mailer was New York's first state author (1991-1993), is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and served as president of American P.E.N., an international organization of novelists, poets, essayists and editors.

Geoffrey C. Ward, principal writer of the PBS series "Baseball," will also receive an honorary doctor of humane letters at the ceremony. A New York City resident, he is the author of numerous books, including The Civil War: An Illustrated History; Baseball: An Illustrated History; and A First Class Temperament: The Emergence of Franklin Roosevelt.

More than 400 graduate and undergraduate students will receive their degrees at Wilkes's annual commencement exercises. In case of inclement weather, commencement will be held in the Henry Gymnasium of the Arnaud C. Marts Sports and Conference Center, 274 S. Franklin Street.