GAMECOCK

Grad school becomes new trend

By JACK DUNN

Staff Writer

On Monday of this week, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences sponsored a workshop entitled "Is Graduate School Right for You?"

This is a question many juniors and seniors should be thinking about before graduation to prepare themselves for the career they wish to seek.

Professors from the different colleges and departments on campus as well as representatives from some regional schools attended what was a solid two hours of practical advice about graduate school and the selection of career goals.

If you decide to go to graduate school, you better be sure it's not because you don't know what else to do or that you're afraid of entering the job market.

According to Ray Davis, Assistant Director of Career Planning, you must investigate your own reasons for choosing grad school, analyze your strengths and weaknesses as they pertain to your career goals, and set up a timetable that will lead you to fulfill all the requirements, both academically and in the paperwork, for your particular graduate program.

Work experience can be a determining factor in being accepted into graduate school.

"We encourage work experience among prospective applicants, but we also look at the whole package, involvement in activities and someone who has career goals and objectives in mind," said Ellen Moore, director of the graduate program at the College of Business.

Ray Davis, along with discussing preparation for applying to a grad school, outlined some advantages and misconceptions about choosing to enter a graduate program.

As for the advantages, graduate school is necessary for your particular career goal. Also, a master's or doctorate degree would increase both your chances at fulfilling your career goal and provide a greater economic benefit.

A common misconception is that undergraduates can't get good jobs.

While this may be true, entry level jobs can lead to quick advancement, whereby a company may decide to pay for graduate training.

Another misconception is that graduate school can help you choose a field. Graduate school is where people go for specialized education in a particular field. If you haven't chosen a field yet, and you go to graduate school, you may find yourself locked into a program that you're not interested in.

A final misconception is that it is expected after college. This is not true. While it would be advisable for a student committed to a particular field to go ahead to graduate school, it is not always the case with others who want to try out the job market.

An interesting aspect at the workshop was the differences between undergraduate and graduate study. The obvious difference is in the smaller ratio of students per teacher. Also, graduate courses are more focused and intensified in the subject matter.

"There is a different relationship between the students and faculty at the graduate level. Relationships are more easily formed as a grad student may takeover a class for a professor, or aid in research, becoming an active participant in his education," said Dr. Albert Lyles, representing Winthrop College's 37 graduate programs.

In closing, Ellen Moore offered some final advice. "You owe it to yourself to talk to prospective students and faculty members of the institutions you are thinking of choosing," she said.

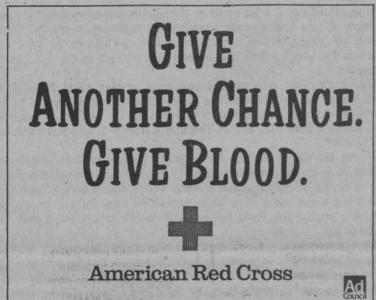
"All of them are different, and vary in structure and the requirements they adhere to. Apply at least a year in advance even if you don't have test scores yet, to make sure you are eligible for graduate assistantships and other student aid programs."

Career Planning is offering a number of workshops throughout the semester dealing with job searchs and ways of gaining work experience. For more information, contact the Career Center on the 6th floor of the BA Building, at 777-7280. If you have any other questions, contact your college or obtain a copy of The Graduate Bulletin at the Graduate School, 901 Sumter St., at 777-4243.

IVA	Music Awards		
Video of the Year Breakthrough Video Best Direction	R.E.M.	Viewer's Choice	Queensryche "Silent Lucidity"
Best Art Direction Best Group Editing	"Losing My Religion"	Best Long Form Video	Madonna "Immaculate Collection"
Best Female Video	Janet Jackson "Love Will Never Do Without You"	Best New Artist	Jesus Jones "Right Here, Right Now"
Best Male Video	Chris Issak "Wicked Game"	Best Metal/Hard Rock Video	Aerosmith "The Other Side"
Best Dance Video Best Choreography	C&C Music Factory "Gonna Make You Sweat (Everybody Dance Now)	Best Rap Video	LL Cool J "Mama Said Knock You Out (The Hard Way)"



homas Pendarvis (left), a third year law student, and Matt Hubell practice kickboxing on P.E. Field D last Thursday.



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BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS OR PHYSICAL ILLNESS

