Career Center lecture series opens to college, community

By Sarah Foglesong
THE TELESCOPE

The Career Center opened its "How To" seminar series to the public for the first time in 33 years as a part of Palomar College's 60th anniversary celebrations.

Normally, the seminars are available only to Palomar students. Each seminar features one or more guest speakers, who share knowledge and expertise from their fields. Each lecture includes requirements for working in that field, salary ranges for specific jobs and daily tasks. The purpose is to provide people interested in a specific career with a chance to talk with someone in that field. Some speakers may have employment applications available for current positions.

The seminars take place Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. in the Governing Board Room on the San Marcos Campus through March 23.

"I thought it was a good thing to introduce the campus to the community," said John Disce, Career Center Director. "Maybe they don't know what we have to offer, and this will inspire them to come take classes."

Disce said in the past, students have especially enjoyed the seminars when they are interested in a specific profession.

This semester's seminar speakers include food manufacturing entrepreneur Lauren Redford, law enforcement officers from the FBI and San Diego Police Department, chiropractor Dr. Gary Lewkovich, attorney and former Judge Advocate General David Braums, salon owner and product entrepreneur Patrick Dockery, casting agency owner Tina Real and conciliator Jack McClendon.

"I think it's a good variety of guest speakers," said Eddie Tubbs, Career Center instructional support specialist. "Depending on their major, students can select different seminars."


Joseph, who was joined by loan agent Lesa Hutchins, discussed how to get into the real estate business, the requirements for becoming licensed and the day-to-day tasks in his field. He has participated in the seminar series since 1998.

"We had about 35 to 40 people," Joseph said. "They seemed very interested and asked some good questions."

Disce said athletes enjoy Lewkovich's chiropractic seminar because chiropractors can become athletic trainers. As active people, he said, athletes tend to be interested in careers like that of an athletic trainer.

Redford and Dockery will both share the challenges they faced as entrepreneurs in their fields.

Real will discuss how to break into the movie industry and how to get a Screen Actors Guild card.

"Hearing these people may inspire you," Disce said. "These guys are instant mentors. They had a goal and went for it. To have a goal is very important, and some people lose sight of that."

Disce founded the Career Center in 1972 with the purpose of helping people to discover their passions and how those passions could relate to a career. The Career Center offers services in career counseling, career assessment tests and job placement.

"Retention, goals, jobs, it all ties together," Tubbs said.

In addition to the "How To" seminar series, the Career Center has organized a Career Fair May 3.

How-To seminar schedule

Feb. 9 — Law enforcement from the FBI and San Diego Police Department will describe their careers and law enforcement support careers.

Feb. 16 — San Marcos-based chiropractor Gary Lewkovich will discuss careers in his and related fields.

March 2 — North County resident David Braums will discuss his career as an attorney in the military and in the community.

March 9 — Former Palomar student Patrick Dockery is set to discuss his career in the hair care business.

March 16 — Tina Real of Tina Real Casting Agency will discuss breaking in to the movie business.

March 23 — Conciliator and contract enforcer Jack McClendon will discuss how to survive in the fields of conciliation, mediation and negotiation.