
Pro Rege

Volume 2 | Number 1

Article 5

September 1973

Career Opportunity Goals

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Recommended Citation

Koldenhoven, James (1973) "Career Opportunity Goals," *Pro Rege*: Vol. 2:
No. 1, 20.

Available at: https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege/vol2/iss1/5

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CAREER OPPORTUNITY GOALS

Changes in curriculum offerings were announced at the end of Dordt's past academic year. New offerings and program changes were made in time for pre-registration in May, and new students coming to Dordt College this fall will have available at least two additional choices in "career programs."

The most complete program designs are in Communications and in Secretarial Sciences. A shorter program, but also career oriented, has been prepared in Astronomy. These programs are still attached to and based on a general education core, but they have as their objective to prepare students for services or trades.

The new program in Communications leads to an A.B. degree and its major is made up of courses from several departments. Besides courses from the English and Speech Departments, a Communications major will take courses in Logic, Sociology, Journalism, and Statistics. Creative and expository writing, broadcasting, public speaking, and linguistics are central to the Communications program. Students taking this program will be preparing for careers in publishing, radio, public relations, and professional writing.

Another new program is called Secretarial Sciences. It is a two-year, terminal program, which leads to an Associate of Arts Degree. Instead of the 40 courses required for the A.B. degree, the program in Secretarial Sciences requires twenty courses. About

half of the requirements are from the general education sequence while the other half is a concentration of courses from the Business Department.

The Science Department has developed another program leading towards career opportunities. The new courses would prepare for careers in research in major observatories or institutions, teaching astronomy on the college level, serving as supporting staff members in observatories, and planetarium staff positions. The program includes a great deal of practical observation, using a privately owned observatory available to Dordt students.

Other program innovations include Individual Studies. With special qualifications, a student may apply for this program, but only after having taken ten courses and having at least a 2.50 GPA. A student entering this program must write a prospectus in which he states his rationale for taking the forty courses he has chosen. He will work under a special advisor and the Individual Studies Committee.

This 40-course sequence will be structured much like other programs. Included will be the 12-course general education sequence, a 15-course major-cognate program, and thirteen elective courses. The Individual Studies program leads to the regular A.B. degree, but allows a student to tailor his college studies to meet a specific career or profession.