

1983

Career Preparation Introduction

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Recommended Citation

Visions Editors (1983) "Career Preparation Introduction," *Visions in Leisure and Business*: Vol. 2 : Iss. 3 , Article 18.
Available at: <https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/visions/vol2/iss3/18>

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Career Preparation

INTRODUCTION

At present, there are many models for career preparation in Commercial Recreation. In the past, the primary training route was through an apprenticeship system. There were as many ideas about preparation as organizations and employers. There has been, and will continue to be, an increased demand for better qualified professionals. Some type of formal preparation, as well as a structural work experience, is needed to change the system. We need to build on the apprenticeship training style and develop a preparation approach that will produce a standard product that meets the needs of all organizations and types of employers. This suggests that we examine the term "Commercial Recreation" and develop a conceptual framework that deals with the diversity of needs in the industry. Jack Samuels, in his 1982 article, "Non-Traditional Careers for the Recreation and Leisure Services Professional," pointed out the diversity of the employment settings. What are some of the more important issues in preparation and how do they translate into curriculum development?