

## Rehabilitation agency's goal

# Counseling helps blind

The Financial Aid Office is sponsoring a room in the student center for blind students to meet with counselors.

The meetings started a couple of years ago when the blind needed somewhere to meet with counselors from the Commission for the Blind, said Marion L. Jacobs, director of the Financial Aid Office.

"We set up the room to seek as many avenues as possible for extra institutional aids for the blind," he said.

Now the program has developed into monthly meetings every second Tuesday with counselor Mike Evans and 12 students.

"We at the Commission for the Blind act as a vocational rehabilitation agency and help rehabilitate the students," Evans said.

The agency can provide tuition, readers and tape recorders for the students.

"The tuition payment does depend on the students economic status," said Evans. "But that only concerns the not completely blind students. Totally blind students are tuition exempt in state schools."

The room is set up weekly and the counselor is in touch with his clients as to meeting dates. At the meetings the counselor helps students receive the financial aid for which they are entitled. Or they discuss problems they have

concerning special grants, mobility or anything else.

Not all the persons who utilize the meetings are students, said Jacob. Many are preparing for school and the commission will decide on the person's potential school ability through tests, he said.

"A person need not be totally blind to receive assistance," he added, "but many people not knowing this pass up the opportunity to receive financial aid. The possibilities for financial aid assistance are just amazing."

For more information contact the Financial Aid Office on campus or the Commission for the Blind in Denton at 382-1505.