THE DAILY CLIPS

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The Greenville Convention Center was crowded on Tuesday afternoon during East Carolina University’s Spring Career Fair. About 2,500 students attended the event, officials said.

Greg Eans/The Daily Reflector

Anthony Shuford, left, talks with Jacqui Pressinger, a regional admissions officer for The Culinary Institute of America, on Tuesday.

Greg Eans/The Daily Reflector

**East Carolina students flock to spring career fair**

By Ginger Livingston
The Daily Reflector
Tuesday, February 23, 2010

The job market remains competitive for college seniors nearing graduation, but they found opportunities Tuesday at East Carolina University’s Spring Career Fair. About 2,500 students met with job recruiters and human resource directors from 142 school systems, businesses and other organizations, said Jim McAtee, interim director of the Career Center. Fifty-seven recruiters represented school systems from North Carolina and Virginia. The other organizations represented groups ranging from banks, to construction companies to the Central Intelligence Agency.

“I am pleased to say (participation of organizations) is up slightly from last year, given the economic situation,” McAtee said.

While some businesses at the event weren’t hiring, they wanted their names before ECU graduates so they would have a talent pool to draw from, he said. Others were looking for internship candidates.

“We’re glad we are maintaining those numbers. I think it’s a good sign for the economy and a good sign for ECU graduates,” McAtee said.

A recruiter for Wake County Schools had more than a dozen students lined up to submit applications, including Amanda Huber, who is majoring in high school history education.
“It’s a good county to be in,” said Huber, whose mother, Lisa, is a former Pitt County teacher and works for the Department of Public Instruction. “The students are wonderful, and teachers have a great support system.”
Wake County also offers a significant local salary supplement on top of the standard pay issued by the state.
Across the room, Carolyn Bazemore, human resources administrator with Bertie County Schools, had to compete with recruiters from the Orange County school system, another popular choice for future teachers.
However, Bazemore said she had more math majors, a typically difficult group to recruit, collect application information from her than in previous years.
“They were very professional, very composed and easy to talk to,” Bazemore said. “They seemed more focused.”
McAtee said he noticed job-seekers were putting forth more effort to project a professional image.
Tuesday’s event was marketing major Javon Starnes’ third job fair this school year.
Starnes said the job search competition is heating up. A month ago, prospective employers were acknowledging his inquiries within a day or two of interviewing with them.
“I thought this is going to be easier than I thought, but now the competition is on the rise,” he said.
Starnes said he wants to enter advertising or marketing but is ready for any entry-level position and planned to talk with the Target Corp. and PPD, a contract research organization specializing in pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical devices.
“A lot of people say you have to start off in sales, which I don’t want to do, but if I have to, I will because I have experience,” he said.
McAtee said counselors at the Career Center are encouraging students to talk with employers outside of their majors because employers are looking for diverse educational backgrounds.
Ryan Soles, a construction management major, said he hopes to convince potential employers his degree will be useful in any area of management.
“It’s tough (in the construction field) to compete with people who’ve been laid off and have experience,” he said. Talking with various construction firms, Soles emphasized his résumé, his willingness to work hard and his people skills.
And if nothing’s out there after his May graduation? Soles said he’ll go back to sanding hardwood floors.

Contact Ginger Livingston at glivingston@reflector.com and (252) 329-9570.
Festival celebrates new music
The Daily Reflector
Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Not all great composers are dead European men who wore powdered wigs. East Carolina University’s NewMusic@ECU Festival proves that. The School of Music will celebrate 10 years of bringing new music to eastern North Carolina today through Sunday. This year’s festival features six concerts as well as master classes with visiting composers and performers.

Since the first festival in 2001, the NewMusic Festival has presented more than 300 compositions that have never been heard in this region, including 61 world-premiere performances.

The Grammy-nominated Imani Winds quintet will be in concert at 8 p.m. Thursday in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall. The quintet will showcase its dynamic playing with a culturally poignant program of genre-blurring collaborations. With two members who are composers and a deep commitment to commissioning new work, the group is enriching the traditional wind quintet repertoire while meaningfully bridging European, American, African and Latin American traditions.

The 2010 NewMusic@ECU Festival Orchestral Composition Competition winner “Genius Loci” by Ingrid Stoummlzel will be performed at 3 p.m. Sunday by the ECU Symphony Orchestra during the festival’s closing concert.

Festival schedule
All concerts are in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall unless noted.
9 p.m. today: Chris Nappi, percussion “... & friends,” The Tipsy Teapot, 409 S. Evans St.
8 p.m. Thursday: Imani Winds. Tickets are $10-$20. Call 328-4788 or visit www.ecuarts.com.
8 p.m. Friday: Nathaniel Bartlett, marimba and 3-D, hi-definition, computer-generated sound projection.
3 p.m. Saturday: ECU NewMusic Camerata.
8 p.m. Saturday: Nathan Williams, clarinet, and Audrey Andrist, piano.
3 p.m. Sunday: East Carolina University Orchestra, Jorge Richter, conductor, Wright Auditorium.

For more information, www.ecu.edu/music/newmusicfest.

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3 p.m. Sunday: East Carolina University Orchestra, Wright Auditorium
Council to explore hiring more code officers
By Kathryn Kennedy
The Daily Reflector
Tuesday, February 23, 2010
The Greenville City Council on Monday voted to explore hiring additional code enforcement officers rather than pursue the Crime-Free Rental Housing program intended to combat crime across the city.
The program idea originally was presented by local landlord Kathy Harrington at a Sept. 10 meeting. All City Council members seemed to oppose a mandated program, but several saw merit in voluntary involvement.
Councilwoman Marion Blackburn said she liked the idea of police training for property managers and landlords and requiring property owners to designate a local representative. A crime-free lease addendum threatening eviction appealed to Councilwoman Rose Glover. The District 2 representative worried aloud, however, that some components could violate the national Fair Housing Act and attract lawsuits. Blackburn said that a lot of resources are being spent on a few bad landlords or tenants.
"That's the central issue," she said. "However we can address that, I'm open to."
Councilman Max Joyner Jr. said he'd rather have more code enforcement officers on the street. The debate shifted that way altogether when Councilman Bryant Kittrell referred to a similar program that failed in Chapel Hill. A 2004 study by students in the School of Government public administration masters program at UNC-Chapel Hill found the program did not significantly increase awareness of town codes by tenants or the ability to resolve housing problems. The study also stated that the workload involved took time away from housing code enforcement.
The program was allowed to expire in 2005.
The City Council agreed it would rather explore adding manpower to a successful entity — code enforcement — than add another level of bureaucracy.
Harrington said she's frustrated that residents and property owners know when criminal activities are going on nearby, but authorities never seem to be able to go in and stop it.
Supporters hoped the program would be a way to get criminals out of neighborhoods without having to wait for police or prosecutors to build a case.
The council has talked at meetings about keeping a more consistent, hard line with violators and said Monday that staff must crack down on those who have been fined by code enforcement but not paid.
Contact Kathryn Kennedy at kkennedy@reflector.com or (252) 329-9566
Kolasa: Doughnuts for diabetes, Fundraiser set for Saturday

Tuesday, February 23, 2010
Q You let me tell the story of the 2009 Greenville Krispy Kreme Run to Support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Even so, I had people say “Perhaps the organizers of this event should consider consulting a dietitian, such as Kathy Kolasa, before they decide to do it again.” So, what do you think? — A.P., Greenville
A Annette, what a hoot! I have to admit I still am not a fan of using food for rewards or incentives. Nor do I like the sale of high-fat, high-sugar foods for fundraisers. But this event is in a class of its own. These doughnuts don’t sound like a reward to me! So, you won’t catch me running 1 1/2 miles from College Hill to Krispy Kreme, chugging a dozen doughnuts (2,400 calories with 144 grams of fat) and running the 1 1/2 miles back.
The run at N.C. State University attracted almost 6,000 entrants earlier this month. I can’t imagine who would enjoy this activity, but I hope some of them will come to Greenville and help you raise funds.
So in the spirit of erasing myths and raising awareness about type 1 diabetes, I share my column again with you this year. Here is what Annette Peery, a nurse and a faculty member at the ECU College of Nursing, has to say about the event scheduled for Saturday. Go to www.donutsfordiabetes.com for more information. And they welcome your donations even if you don’t eat the doughnuts or run.
Last year’s event was a great success in many aspects. Despite the rain and cold, 78 participants and more than 50 volunteers made this event a reality in Greenville. With registration fees and donations from Krispy Kreme and others, about $3,000 was raised toward finding a cure for type 1 diabetes. The controversy and the teasing surrounding the event created opportunities to educate our community on the differences between type 1 and type 2 diabetes.
There remains a lack of understanding about type 1 diabetes, which is diagnosed in more than 15,000 children every year in the U.S. These children are not “couch potatoes” or obese and many of them have no family history of diabetes. They will not outgrow this disease. They cannot “just take a pill.” They cannot “just exercise and watch what they eat.” These children (and adults) have had their body turn against itself and destroy the cells in the pancreas designed to make insulin. The ONLY treatment for these individuals is to take insulin through injections or an insulin pump for the rest of their lives — insulin is their life support!
The initial symptoms are often the same for a person who has developed either type 1 or type 2 diabetes: excessive thirst and urination; drowsiness or lethargy; increased appetite; sudden unexplained weight loss; blurred vision, and, at the extreme, unconsciousness.
See your doctor if you have any of these symptoms.
Some of us will “splurge” on Saturday and try to eat a dozen doughnuts so those with type 1 diabetes will not have to live on life support.
Some ask me if it is OK for people — especially kids with type 1 diabetes — to eat doughnuts. If you don’t have diabetes, is it OK for you to have a doughnut? People with diabetes have the same nutritional needs as anyone else. If you eat healthy, you might have a “treat” and choose a doughnut and then balance that choice with a more healthy choice. But when someone with type 1 diabetes eats a doughnut, he/she must first check
their blood sugar, understand how many carbohydrates are in that doughnut and then take insulin to "cover" it. It is about moderation.
The Greenville event, which starts at 9 a.m. is co-sponsored by our Juvenile Diabetes Research Family team — Ben's Buddies — and the ECU Chapter of Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity. Call (252) 717-8078 for more information.

Professor Kathy Kolasa, a registered dietitian and Ph.D., works with the Family Medicine Center, Brody School of Medicine at ECU. Contact her at kolasaka@ecu.edu.
Haitian-born interpreter guides patients at UNC

CHAPEL HILL -- Lionel Giordani has been living a vicarious trauma for the past month.

A native of Haiti, he has been tapped by the N.C. Jaycee Burn Center at UNC Hospitals to interpret the gruesome experiences of three Haitians who were severely burned in the Jan. 12 earthquake and flown to North Carolina for treatment.

His work - part cultural ambassador, part medical decoder - has thrust him into the lives of the traumatized patients and helped them understand the experience of being snatched from devastation into a sophisticated medical hub with a language all its own.

"They rely on me," Giordani said. "Even if Haiti is a poor place, what happened for people to survive is helping each other. I told them, I will always be here for them."

Giordani, who speaks French and Creole, was hired through an agency UNC Hospitals works with, Accessible Languages Inc. The service meets a growing need in North Carolina, where the population is increasingly diverse.

The greatest demand is for people who speak Spanish, and UNC Hospitals has 26 Spanish interpreters on staff armed with iPods for instant translations of esoteric body parts or answers to other medical questions. Last year, the hospital had more than 65,000 requests for its Spanish interpreters.

In addition, the hospital hires contractors such as Giordani when less common language skills are needed, and uses special telephone technology to access interpretive services worldwide.

"The vocabulary is enormously complex," said Shane Rogers, director of interpreter services for UNC Hospitals. "They could be interpreting as a physician explains an orthopedic procedure, and 20 minutes later discussing a brain tumor. They have to go from discipline to discipline and have a good grasp of the medical terminology no matter who they're interpreting for."

The case of the Haitian burn patients required a special touch.

Unlike most patients, whose illnesses and traumas are suffered while they are in the state, the Haitians were plucked from the debris of the earthquake and flown by a military plane to Florida, and then to North Carolina.

The initial shock of seeing the patients was difficult for Giordani.

One man, Eriek Louis, was at a gas station when the earthquake caused an explosion. He suffered deep burns that went untreated for days.

"I had never see anybody that burned my whole, entire life," Giordani said. "My heart almost pulled
out of my body."

It was Giordani's job to ask Louis how his injuries occurred, so the UNC doctors knew what they were dealing with. In turn, Giordani had to explain to Louis what the doctors planned to do to treat the injuries.

Two patients were accompanied by a family member, but they were otherwise alone, in pain, and isolated from their culture. Giordani, who immigrated to the United States in 1967 at the age of 20, said he tries to offer a comforting voice to fill those voids. As an immigrant who learned English after he arrived in Chicago to join his father, he said he understands the worries and fears of being in a new place.

His own journey led to a degree in computer science from Chicago State University, and then 27 years with AT&T in Illinois, Florida and North Carolina. Now retired from AT&T and living in Chapel Hill, Giordani has returned to school to earn teaching credentials.

And while the Haitians who are recovering at the burn center face uncertainty, Giordani said he has worked to ease fears.

"I wanted them to think they were in the right place at the right time," he said.

Creator of connections

Dr. Bruce Cairns, medical director of the burn center, said that establishing trust is especially crucial for burn treatments, because recovery depends on patients participating in difficult exercises.

"Lionel has been wonderful in allowing us to create those connections," Cairns said.

Giordani said he has grown close to the three patients and their family members over the past weeks, volunteering to help them and visiting the burn center on his own time. In most circumstances, interpreters are discouraged from forming close ties, but this situation is different.

"Given the cultural isolation and the trauma they went through," Rogers said, the special attention from Giordani has helped the Haitians mend.

For Giordani, the life-altering experience of his countrymen has changed him as well, reconnecting him to a past he left long ago.

"I'm glad to be with them," he said. "We come from the same place."

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UC San Diego freezes media funding after student TV show mocks blacks' outrage to ghetto party

ELLIO T SPAGAT

Associated Press Writer

6:47 PM PST, February 23, 2010

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The University of California, San Diego has halted funding for student media after a TV segment ridiculed black students outraged by a party mocking Black History Month.

The head of the school's student government froze funding for print media outlets last week after one, The Koala, ran a student TV episode calling black students ungrateful and using a derogatory term for blacks. He also pulled the student-run television station off the air.

Associated Students President Utsav Gupta suspended funding for about 15 of the school's 33 student-funded media outlets to avoid the impression that he was judging content. He said Koala or any other outlet may continue to publish, just without student funding.

"Some students are drawing the incorrect conclusion that this is muzzling free speech," he said in an interview. "The right to free speech does not equate to a right to funding."

In a letter posted on a new university Web site to address recent racially charged incidents on campus, Gupta said the organization "will only open (the TV station) again when we can be sure that such hateful content can never be aired again on our student funded TV station."

Gupta also pleaded for patience with other student media outlets until a committee can craft a new policy on student-funded media.

The Koala, which has a reputation for airing offensive material, made fun of reaction to an off-campus fraternity party Feb. 15 that urged partygoers to dress as ghetto stereotypes to commemorate Black History Month.
Gupta, who called the program "deeply offensive and hurtful," said the segment aired without approval from the two station managers. That's a violation of the student-run television charter, prompting him to pull the station off the air.

A group of state legislators has demanded an investigation into who was behind the party, including possible student suspensions and revocation of fraternity permits.

Tensions were running high before the TV program aired Thursday. Only about 2 percent of the school's 29,000 students are black, a historically low number that the Black Student Union highlighted last week when it presented a series of demands to administrators that aim to improve the racial climate.

School administrators said on the Web site that they are "exhaustively investigating" the string of incidents and that potential sanctions range from letters of censure to expulsion.

The Koala, which receives about $7,000 a year in student funding, also stirred up controversy in 2005 when it aired video of a student performing sex acts with an unidentified woman. Kris Gregorian, the editor-in-chief, declined to discuss the latest incident.

University administrators have taken a hands-off approach to the news outlets.

"This is students policing students," said Judy Piercey, a UCSD spokeswoman. "They are essentially having to police themselves."

On the Net:

UC San Diego, http://battlehate.ucsd.edu/

(This version corrects that station was pulled off the air, number of organizations affected to 15, not 33.)

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Non-Campus Recruiting

_Schools Pay for Video, Road Trips so Recruiters Can See Students_

By DIANA MIDDLETON

When Elatia Abate, global director of recruitment and strategy for Anheuser-Busch InBev, began scouting M.B.A. hires from the class of 2009 in earnest, she visited a handful of schools the beer maker considered to have the brightest graduates. But the schools that didn’t make Ms. Abate’s list for campus visits were still vying for her attention. If Ms. Abate couldn’t come on campus, the schools’ career counselors said, would she interview students via video?

Although Ms. Abate prefers in-person preliminary recruiting, complete with beer tasting, she does grant video interviews for out-of-the-way students with the right background. "If you have a compelling story, we’ll take a look," she says.

That’s in stark contrast to the normally regimented M.B.A. recruiting process, in which companies descend on campus for days-long sessions devoted strictly to interviews. With fewer jobs to fill and employers reticent to boost travel budgets for on-campus recruiting, business schools are getting creative about helping students land jobs.

Business schools are doing everything from building video-equipped studios on campus for remote interviews, to teaming up with other schools to fly students to meet hiring managers. Some are even willing to pay for hotel rooms for recruiters to get them to visit. "The days of having a row of interview rooms booked solid is over," says Sunil Chopra, interim dean of Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management.

Indeed, some schools say recruiter visits are down 20% over last year. The M.B.A. Career Services Council, an association that reports on M.B.A. employment, says that 79% of recently surveyed business schools saw a decline in on-campus recruiting for full-time jobs last fall.

"I’ve had to spend more money from our budget to comp hotel rooms [for recruiters] than I have in the past," says Mark Brostoff, associate dean and career-services director at Washington University’s Olin Business School. "But we do this to accommodate companies who have hired our graduates before."

For smaller programs that lack the critical mass of graduates to attract a plethora of employers, video interviewing is one way to get more attention, says Arlene Hill, director of career services at American University’s Kogod School of Business in Washington, D.C. Last year, just 22 employers came to meet the 70-member M.B.A. class. (A school like Kellogg will typically draw over 160 employers.) "Virtual interviews provide a way for companies to pull from multiple schools without draining all their recruiting resources," says Ms. Hill.

A number of schools in less convenient locations are adopting video technology. University of Virginia’s Darden
School of Business and Cornell University's Johnson School of Business have all installed video conferencing in their career centers. The costs can range from free Skype, which just requires a simple Web cam, to sophisticated teleconferencing equipment that costs upward of $6,000.

Even larger schools like the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School have gotten on board in an effort to get their students seen by as many recruiters as possible. The schools both subscribe to InterviewStream, a Bethlehem, Penn., video-streaming firm that charges $2,500 to $4,000 a year for its service. The service allows recruiters to either interview candidates live or winnow out applicants using pre-programmed screening questions candidates have to answer by video, among other things.

InterviewStream counts more than 50 M.B.A. programs as clients, and sales have increased more than 200% in the past year, says Randy Bitting, chief executive officer and co-founder. "With this technology, [recruiters] don't have to stick to local schools," says Mr. Bitting. "They can cherry-pick without worrying about travel costs or time-zone differences."

In some cases, the companies themselves want to skip campus in favor of video interviewing—and not just for cost reasons. Ann Nowak, director of recruiting for professional programs at Liberty Mutual Group, has a handful of core schools she visits for recruiting season. With a wide pool of talent available in the tight job market, Ms. Nowak felt she should expand her range. "Sometimes I get inquiries from very strong candidates in the top 10% of their class," says Ms. Nowak of candidates for the company's 15-person corporate rotation program, which rotates employees through four different functions, including operations and strategy. "But I won't jump on a plane and go to California just to interview one or two students."

So two years ago, the Boston insurer adopted Web-based interviewing. The initiative has grown into virtual briefings and Webinars about available positions for job candidates. Ms. Nowak says the video interviews do a good job of helping her determine a match. After narrowing the pool, candidates are flown in for interviews.

Washington University is more aggressively marketing its M.B.A. students to companies with cross-country "road shows." In January, students traveled to different U.S. cities between semesters to meet with company recruiters. The students interested in technology traveled to San Jose, where Silicon Valley firms abound; those in consulting and finance went to Chicago, to firms like McKinsey & Co. and Accenture. In the past, these trips were merely informational visits. Now, they are full-on recruiting missions, complete with time for interviews.

Other schools are trying recruiting road trips. Dartmouth College's Tuck School of Business, will foot the bill for 50 students to travel from Hanover, N.H., to Boston and San Francisco to meet with companies. The first trip is scheduled for later this week in Boston, with University of Virginia (in Charlottesville, Va.) and Cornell (in Ithaca, N.Y.) sending students to the interview forum there as well. Says Rebecca Joffrey, co-director of Tuck's career-development office: "It's just another way to get [recruiters] in front of our students."

Lisa First, director of group talent in North America for airline and railroad company Gate Gourmet, is slated to interview more than a dozen students at the Boston interview forum. Ms. First, who doesn't visit the three campuses, says her company is hiring for analyst and financial planning positions. "This is a great way to develop our talent pipeline with candidates we may not have gotten to see in person," she says.

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