THE DAILY CLIPS

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Program to help some ECU students learn English
By JOSH HUMPHRIES
The Daily Reflector
Sunday, March 21, 2010
A new intensive English-language program will make the transition to East Carolina University smoother for international students.
The East Carolina University Language Academy is expected to begin with summer classes in June. The academy will allow international students who are not proficient in English to fulfill the language requirement for admission to the university, said Debbie O’Neal, interim director of the East Carolina University Language Academy.
“The students will have complete access to the university campus,” O’Neal said. “We’ll try to have them with matriculating international students. Oral conversation classes will focus on learning to communicate in everyday conversation. Plus there may be some field trips based on the needs and wants of the students.”
O’Neal said the academy will help ECU increase its enrollment numbers for international students, part of the strategic long-range plan for the university and for the University of North Carolina system.
She said a large number of international students meet academic requirements to attend American universities but can’t fulfill language requirements. Those students often choose schools where they can get English proficiency before enrolling in the university.
“In the past if we have sent them to other language academies, they don’t come back to ECU,” she said.
UNC Charlotte, UNC-Pembroke and UNC-Wilmington all have language academies and N.C. State has a summer program.
O’Neal said that she hopes most of the academy’s students will be interested in attending ECU, but it’s not a requirement.
Some students may have graduated college in their native country and are in the United States because of their spouses’ job or other reasons.
The program is currently on hold because immigration status for international students does not include programs like the academy. The academy will have to get special permission, like similar programs, from the Department of Homeland Security, but officials are confident that it will be approved in time to begin classes this summer.

Contact Josh Humphries at jhumphries@reflector.com or (252) 329-9565.
Wedding is just what the doctor ordered
By Kim Grizzard
The Daily Reflector
Friday, March 19, 2010
On what would have been Jamandé and Geniene Jones’ wedding day, family and friends will
gather today in the couple’s home to watch a video of their exotic wedding ceremony held last
month in an African village.
Zambia would not likely be voted among the top 10 locations in the world for a destination
wedding. But for the Joneses, both students at East Carolina University’s Brody School of
Medicine, it was just what the doctor ordered.
Jamandé, 32, and Geniene, 29, exchanged vows on a lawn overlooking the Zambezi River at the
beginning of a monthlong medical mission trip committed to helping orphaned children in
Mwandi village. Following a one-day honeymoon, the couple began work alongside other
students. Some delivered babies in the village; others tested the nearly 250 children at a nearby
orphanage for HIV.
“I’m very fond of Africa, so I really wanted to get married there,” said Geniene, who spent a year
doing mission work in southern Africa after completing her undergraduate degree. “It was a
blessing that it worked out that way.”
The couple, who met in medical school, originally planned to wed in nearby Bath on the first day
of spring. But when they signed on with a handful of other medical students to accompany their
pediatrics professor to Zambia, Dr. Tom Irons planted the seeds for a different idea.
“I said something like, ’Wouldn’t it be great if you could get married in Mwandi?’” said Irons,
who serves as director of ECU’s Generalist Physician Program and associate vice chancellor for
regional health services. “As I recall, I said that I was sure I could get the local pastor to perform
the wedding and that the mission guest house lawn would be a beautiful setting.”
The couple decided to follow the doctor’s advice, with one exception. They wanted Irons to
perform the ceremony.
Irons, an ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church for more than 25 years, had conducted a
number of funerals, but never a wedding. He presided over the couple’s private civil wedding the
day before they departed for Africa and was assisted by a Zambian pastor for the religious
ceremony on Feb. 7.
Irons’ wife, Carol, helped cut wildflowers to make bouquets for the bride and the matron of
honors, a fellow medical student. Other members of the medical mission team took pictures and
video of the couple with their families. Jamandé’s parents and Geniene’s mother and godmother
made the trip to Zambia to attend the ceremony.
What would have been a small affair for a few family members and friends became a celebration for the entire village after a local pastor invited his congregation to the Sunday afternoon ceremony.

“Pretty much the whole church came out,” Jamandé said. “The choir sang; the pastor prayed. It was beautiful.”

Though Jamandé, a New Jersey native, had never set foot on African soil, he felt oddly at home this foreign land, surrounded by strangers.

“It kind of felt like a place where I’ve grown up,” he said. “I felt totally comfortable.”

Geniene didn’t mind the extra guests either, even the nearly 100 children who came to share cake.

“The people were really blessed by us getting married there because marriage is something that they don’t often do or see with the high HIV rates,” she said. “It was good that even at our wedding we could sort of bless other people.

“We’re still having a reception here on our original wedding day to celebrate with everybody here,” Geniene said. “It’s not like we’ll lose out.”
Medical students at ECU get residency assignments
Saturday, March 20, 2010
ECU News Services
More than half of the medical students graduating from East Carolina University this spring will
 go into primary care residencies.
Those are the results of the annual Match Day, celebrated Thursday amid whoops and hugs at the
Brody Medical Sciences building.
Of the 65 students participating in the match, 13 — the same number as last year — are entering
family medicine residencies. Eleven are entering some type of internal medicine residency. Nine
students are entering pediatric residency programs, and five are entering obstetrics and
gynecology. Those numbers equal 58 percent of the students participating in the match.
“I’m so thrilled,” said Crystal Bowe, who will be staying in Greenville to pursue a family
medicine residency at ECU and Pitt County Memorial Hospital.
“I could not wait for today. I dreamed about getting this envelope, and I got my first choice.”
Bowe, an Ahoskie resident and the mother of a 9-year-old son, said family medicine was the only
choice for her.
“I like treating the whole family,” she said. “I couldn’t just treat children. I wanted to treat the
parents, too.”
Before they provide direct patient care, U.S. medical school graduates normally complete a three-
to seven-year residency program accredited in a recognized medical specialty.
The class of 2010 was accepted into institutions in 18 states in 17 specialties. The Brody School
of Medicine and PCMH will be home to 15 class members. Thirty-one graduates will stay in
North Carolina.
Susan Morgan will be studying obstetrics and gynecology at Ohio State University.
“I’ve loved it here and I’m going to miss it here a lot, but I’m very excited to be going
somewhere completely different,” she said.
Before the first student’s name was called to get an envelope with the match letter, Dr. Paul R.G.
Cunningham, dean of the Brody School of Medicine, said, “You are cut from the Brody cloth.
Remember to lead,” he said.
The National Residency Match Program, a private, not-for-profit organization, provides a method
for matching applicants for residency positions in the United States with residency programs at
various teaching hospitals. Applicants and hospitals rank each other in order of preference, and a
computer matches them based upon those rankings.
According to the NRMP, the number of available residency positions this year was the highest in
match history. This year, 30,543 applicants — also a record — vied for 22,809 first-year
residency positions available. The number of students nationwide matching into family medicine
residences rose 9 percent over 2009.
Annual Youth Arts Fest set for Saturday
The sixth annual Youth Arts Festival at ECU will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday on the mall area in the center of campus. In case of rain, the festival will be held in the Jenkins Fine Arts Building.

The festival will bring to campus more than 100 visual and performing artists who will share their creative talents with children of all ages. Varied and talented musical, dance and theatrical groups also will be featured at the festival. The event is free and open the public.

During the festival, children will have the opportunity to visit with artists demonstrating activities such as wheel thrown ceramics, traditional watercolor painting, weaving, felting, paper-making, printmaking, portraiture and a myriad of other visual art media. Visual artists from the region, state, neighboring states, and the School of Art and Design at ECU are expected to participate. Children will have the opportunity to create artwork with the help of art education and other students from ECU, as well as professional artists. There will be interactive activities for children of all ages. This event coincides with the Youth Arts Month sponsored by the North Carolina Art Education Association.

The ECU School of Fine Arts and Communication and the College of Fine Arts and Communication are coordinating the festival. This event is being supported with grants from Target, Pepsi, the N.C. Arts Council and the Friends of the School of Art and Design. Sponsors at ECU include the Visual Arts Committee, the Department of Recreation and Wellness, the College of Fine Arts and Communication, the School of Music, the School of Theater and Dance, the Office of Intercultural Student Affairs, Ledonia Wright Center, and the Division of Student Life. Artists interested in showcasing their talents, demonstrating the media they work in, or working with the children doing hands-on projects should contact festival coordinator Dindyl Reich at reichd@ecu.edu or 328-5749.

ECU on community service honor roll
For the fourth year in a row, ECU has been named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

“This is national recognition for the entire ECU community,” said Mike Loeffelman, volunteer coordinator for the university’s Volunteer and Service-Learning Center [VSLC]. “Students, faculty and staff were all involved in a variety of innovative service projects to support a range of diverse communities.”

The VSLC strives to engage students in activities that strengthen communities, promote an enduring commitment to civic responsibility and enhance the academic experience. More than 11,000 students are registered at the VSLC, and students performed more than 161,700 hours of service last year.

“Congratulations to East Carolina University and its students for their dedication to service and commitment to improving their local communities,” said Patrick Corvington, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service, which oversees the Honor Roll. “Our nation’s students are a critical part of the equation and vital to our efforts to tackle the most persistent challenges we face. They have achieved impactful results and demonstrated the value of putting knowledge into practice to help renew America through service.”

The 2009 Honor Roll includes six colleges and universities that are recognized as Presidential Awardees, with an additional 115 named to the Distinction List and 621 schools named as Honor Roll members. Honorees are chosen based on a series of factors, including the scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

ECU has been named to the Honor Roll each year since the recognition program began in 2006.
Awards were presented at the American Council on Education annual meeting in Phoenix in March and also will be given at the National Conference of Volunteering and Service Conference in New York in June.

**ECU Hospitality students recognized**

Two ECU hospitality management students were chosen unanimously by department faculty to participate in the “Salute to Excellence 2010” in Chicago. On May 22, Emily K. Smith, a senior from Raleigh, and Timothy S. Smith, a senior from Mount Airy, Md., will attend the gala marking the opening of the National Restaurant Association’s Restaurant and Hotel-Motel Show and Exposition in Chicago. The event honors the accomplishments of industry leaders as well as two students from each of the 100 top hospitality colleges and universities in the United States. This is the 12th year that ECU has been invited to participate.

**Upcoming events:**

Wednesday: Culture-fest, 6-9 p.m., Mendenhall Student Center Brickyard, with entertainment and food representing cultures around the world. Free.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, March 28: Aristophanes’ “Lysistrata,” an ancient Greek comedy, 8 p.m., Great Rooms, Mendenhall Student Center. A cast of 17 students will perform the play in a new translation by Peter Green, 2009 Harriot College Whichard chairman. Free and open to the public.

Saturday: East Carolina Native American Organization 18th annual powwow, noon to 6 p.m., Minges Coliseum. Free and open to the public.

See [www.ecu.edu/cs-ecu/calendar.cfm](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-ecu/calendar.cfm) for times, places and more information on ECU activities.
Manning always there for county

Sunday, March 21, 2010
For six years as chairman of the ECU task force to reduce alcohol, drugs and violence at ECU, I served on several local and regional councils and other groups. One group that was created was the Pitt Coalition on Substance Abuse. At the first meeting, I was impressed that Sheriff Mac Manning was there along with District Attorney Clark Everett and then Greenville Police Department Chief Joseph Simonowich, along with representatives from the treatment community, religious organizations and charitable organizations.
Every month, we met and talked and learned from one another and every month Manning was there. I found Manning to be deeply concerned about the citizens of Pitt County and the impact of that the abuse of alcohol and other drugs had on his constituents. He was willing to listen and to share his own perspective.
At the end of the year, we took action with grant requests submitted by the coalition and by the Sheriff’s Office and were able to win several federal grants that largely targeted underage alcohol and drugs as well as gangs.
Pitt County has been fortunate to have Sheriff Manning in office through turbulent times in terms of the economy and mental health services that have profound impact on crime. I hope that the voters will allow him to continue his work on their behalf.

BRIAN McMILLEN
Ayden
Editorial: **Pitt alliance working to effect lasting change**  
Monday, March 22, 2010

Public problems can have solutions that stem directly from government intervention or private initiative. A local business or church might identify an issue in need of action and commit itself to finding a workable resolution, betting the community as a result.

For larger and more insidious concerns — juvenile crime, for instance, or homelessness — only coordinated action by broad coalitions have hope of affecting tangible and lasting change. That is the approach of the Pitt County Impact Alliance, which needs commitment across the community to bring targeted action to persistent public ills.

The United Way of Pitt County has long been an agent for positive change across this community. Its annual fundraising efforts help all manner of organizations working to improve the lives of citizens on a daily basis, and few residents who call the county home have avoided some type of interaction with one of its member agencies.

Several years ago, the United Way altered its overall approach in an effort to address the root causes of problems rather than their symptoms. The local chapter positioned itself as a group that could bring individuals and groups together for a common cause and held a series of community meetings to solicit opinion on where to put its resources. The information collected was compelling, though the challenges faced were daunting.

This month, the United Way will return to the community for further discussion. Beginning Saturday, the organization that emerged from that first round of effort — the Pitt County Impact Alliance — will hold the first of a new series of public forums. The intent is to collect information about problems in Pitt County’s towns and smaller communities. Each hour-long session will invite citizen discourse, with an eye toward building a plan of action to bring relief to the issues that arise.

Some may look with skepticism on that effort, but they do so at their own peril. The alliance’s membership includes some formidable community institutions as Pitt County Memorial Hospital, the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce, East Carolina University and Pitt Community College, as well as many other businesses, churches, organizations and government bodies. Putting those resources to bear on public ills holds tremendous promise for lasting change.

The Pitt County Impact Alliance will not fix things overnight, nor was it meant to. Addressing these problems require time and an unwavering commitment, as well as leadership, which the United Way provides. Citizens should get involved, working to be part of the solution.
ECU coaching search continues
By Tony Castleberry
The Daily Reflector
Friday, March 19, 2010

The search for East Carolina’s new men’s basketball coach is most likely about to enter its third week.

Terry Holland, ECU’s Director of Athletics, said in an e-mail Friday that the search to find a replacement for Mack McCarthy, who resigned March 6, is still ongoing and that none of the potential candidates have been offered the job.

Bobby Lutz and Jeff Lebo, who were fired recently by Charlotte and Auburn, respectively, have both been linked with the vacant ECU position.

“We feel good about the current number of candidates, but have not been able to interview all face to face,” Holland said. “No offer has been extended at this point and (I’m) not expecting any (change) until after this weekend’s NCAA second round games.”

The day after McCarthy’s resignation, Holland told media members at an informal press conference that a new coach might not be named until after the NCAA tournament. At that time, former ECU head coach Joe Dooley, who’s in his seventh season as an assistant at Kansas, was the frontrunner to succeed McCarthy, but those negotiations ran into a dead end.

According to multiple sources, Lutz visited campus on Tuesday while Lebo was supposedly in town on Thursday. Holland said he’s still going to try to be patient during the search process, but will be ready to make a move if the right circumstances present themselves.

“It is always possible that things are forced to move faster or you may lose a good candidate,” Holland said. “We are prioritizing each candidate in anticipation of moving quickly when appropriate and/or necessary.”

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ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation announces six new board members

The East Carolina University Medical & Health Sciences Foundation announced the addition of Barbara Bremer of Greenville, Yonnie Butler of Mebane, Brenda Humieny of New Bern, Rob Jones of Greenville, Dr. Greg Nelson of Rocky Mount and Joe Tart of Dunn to its board.

Bremer is a retired speech-language pathologist in the public school system, Headstart programs, nursing homes and numerous community organizations. She graduated from ECU in 1983 with a master’s degree from the College of Allied Health Sciences, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Bremer’s board service includes the Family Support Network and the S. Rudolph Alexander Concert Series.

Butler is a business development director for the North Carolina Biotechnology Center. He received his undergraduate degree in biology from ECU in 1987.

Butler has held board positions with the Pharmaceutical Outsourcing Management Association, American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, the World Trade Association and the Licensing Executives Society.

Humieny is a certified financial planner specializing in retirement and estate planning. She graduated from ECU in 1979 with a bachelor of science degree in medical technology from the Department of Clinical Laboratory Science at the College of Allied Health Sciences. Her board service includes the American Red Cross, New Bern Historical Society and the First Presbyterian Church of New Bern.

Jones is president and CEO of the little bank in Greenville. He is an ECU alumnus, graduating in 1978 with a marketing degree from the College of Business.

Jones serves as a board member and finance committee member for the Kinston Community Health Center in Kinston.

Nelson is a physician at Rocky Mount Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine Center. He is a 1986 graduate of East Carolina University’s Brody School of Medicine.

Nelson serves on many boards including Boy Scouts of America, UNC Board of Visitors and the West Haven Presbyterian Church. He has also been the North Carolina Orthopaedic Association President and historian.

Tart graduated from ECU’s College of Business in 1969. He is an attorney at Joseph L. Tart Attorneys in Dunn and serves on the ECU Board of Visitors and, in 2008, was an Honor Society Inductee for Phi Kappa Phi.

The East Carolina University Medical & Health Sciences Foundation serves the College of Allied Health Sciences, Brody School of Medicine, College of Nursing, Laupus Library, Leo Jenkins Cancer Center, East Carolina Heart Institute, School of Dentistry and Metabolic Institute with financial support, scholarships, education and research.
Migrants get colleges' nod

RALEIGH -- The North Carolina legislature will have the final word - or lack of one - on whether the state's community colleges admit illegal immigrants.

The State Community College Board cast a final vote Friday to admit illegal immigrants at the 58 community college campuses. Illegal immigrants will have to pay out-of-state tuition, about $7,700 a year, and they can be removed from a class if it is full and a legal resident wants in.

The vote was the last step by the board in approving the new rule. It originally voted in favor of the change in September, and the vote Friday confirmed the decision after a public hearing in December and written comments.

Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton cast the only "no" vote among board members, as he did in September.

"It is simply not the right time to place greater demands on our community colleges," Dalton said in a prepared statement. He was at a meeting of a state committee on the census Friday and did not attend the community college meeting. An aide cast a proxy vote for him.

But the debate may not be settled. The rule now goes to the state Rules Review Commission. If the commission receives 10 written objections asking for the legislature to review the rule, then it goes to the General Assembly. The legislature then can pass a law blocking the rule. If lawmakers take no action, the rule goes into effect.

Senate Republican Leader Phil Berger of Eden said there undoubtedly will be at least 10 citizens willing to file objections, and plenty of legislators will be eager to file a bill to stop the new rule.

But Democratic leaders in the House and Senate would have to allow such a bill to come to a vote.

"That's impossible to predict today," said Schorr Johnson, spokesman for Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight. "There would have to be a bill filed and discussed once session begins [in May]."

Bill Holmes, a spokesman for House Speaker Joe Hackney, also said it is too early to offer a prediction.

Immigration reform advocates applauded the community college board vote.

Tony Asion, executive director of El Pueblo, said it was a "no brainer," given that young people will be educated at no cost to the state because out-of-state tuition exceeds community colleges' costs.

"We have no problem incarcerating somebody at a cost of $39,000 a year," Asion said, "but we don't want to educate them at no cost? That makes no sense to me."

The requirement for out-of-state tuition, however, won't last long, said William Gheen, president of the Americans for Legal Immigration PAC, which opposes admission for illegal immigrants.
"This is a bad vote. It's part of a much larger national agenda," Gheen said. "There's an agenda afoot here, and they intend to give [illegal immigrants] all the benefits of full American citizens."

Gheen said proponents of admitting illegal immigrants waited until after Democrats won the election for governor in November 2008 to push the issue.

In May 2008, the system became one of the first in the nation to ban illegal immigrants entirely. At the time, Scott Ralls, the community college system's president, announced that the schools would adhere to a recommendation by the office of Attorney General Roy Cooper, citing federal laws, to stop enrolling undocumented students. Cooper's office later reversed its opinion, but the board decided to halt any additional action until it could review its policy.

The review, completed in April by the consulting firm JBL Associates, found that the colleges could profit from accepting illegal immigrants if they paid out-of-state tuition.

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College dreams born on field trip

Joshua Simmons knew from the age of 4 or 5 that he was going to college and where he would go.

"Michael Jordan was my favorite basketball player, and he went to the University of North Carolina," he said. "I didn't even know anything about the academics. Then I found out it was a good school."

Simmons, 19, of Fayetteville is now a sophomore in Chapel Hill, but as early as elementary school, he said, he started studying with an eye toward college.

Not every child has Simmons' role model, drive or mother - who, he said, reinforced his natural leanings - so some need an extra push to consider college.

That's why Simmons and several UNC-CH classmates are involved in the Tar Heel Outreach Program, which brings schoolchildren to campus and gives them a taste of college life. In addition to Friday's gathering for Corinth-Holder Elementary School's entire fifth-grade class, students from Henderson Middle School will be on campus next Thursday, and students from Chatham County's high schools will participate the following week.

When I met Simmons last week, he was among about a dozen UNC-CH students making posters and plans for the program that they hope will inspire their young counterparts to go to college. Rachael Stevens, 10, didn't know where she wanted to go to college until she spent a couple of hours on campus Friday.

"Here," she said when asked where she hoped to pursue her dream of becoming a veterinarian. Even though she knew nothing of the university before she got there, she said, "I saw what they do, and I liked it."

Natalie Meier, who teaches fifth-grade reading at the Johnston County elementary school, said the outreach helps give children ideas of what they could do one day.

"Most of our kids have never been on a college campus or too far out of Johnston County," she said. "They're all excited."

The Outreach Program is made up of volunteers from UNC-Chapel Hill's Scholars Program, N.C. Fellows and the Order of the Bell Tower and was started last year by Anthony Palermo and other Bell Tower members. Their goal: to honor the memory of Eve Carson, the slain UNC-CH student body president who dedicated much of her life to educating children who were less fortunate than she. As a junior, for instance, she taught science at Chapel Hill's Graham Elementary School and was a tutor at Durham's Githens Middle School.

"Eve was really close to a lot of my students, and they started it as a tribute to her," said Kat Butler, program coordinator of Student Programs at UNC-CH.

Education is also important to Stephanie Silverman, coordinator of the UNC Scholars' Program and a
former participant in Teach for America, which serves disadvantaged schools. Silverman selected the three participating schools, one elementary school, one middle school and one high school. "I know a lot of teachers who taught in lower-economic schools ... whose kids would benefit" from the Tar Heel outreach.

It was a full day for the visitors, who were treated like VIPs, joining Carolina students for classes and lunch and enjoying some special activities.

Like many of her classmates, Paola Felipecira was digging the step show put on for them by the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, but she was also enthralled by the science experiments which, among other things, showed awestruck students the differences between solids, liquids and gases. She, too, was excited by her first visit to a college campus "because you get to learn how college life is and how the classes are."

Where does she want to go when it's time to begin her studies to become a vet or a scientist? "I want to go to UNC," she said.

Even though she seemed to be enjoying her visit just as much as her classmates were, April Baker, 11, was not swayed by the human sea of Carolina blue surrounding her on the campus or the neat science experiments she saw. She is still set on going to N.C. State University.

"The Wolfpack teams are my favorites, and they have a good education program," she said resolutely.

Still, 10 years from now when she is yelling for the Pack to stomp the Heels on the basketball court, it's likely that she'll remember a beautiful spring day when she, as did so many of her current classmates, first stepped onto a college campus.

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Graduate students juggle parenthood with academic politics

By Jenna Johnson
Washington Post Staff Writer
Monday, March 22, 2010; B01

University of Maryland graduate student Anupama Kothari went into labor on a Friday afternoon two years ago. After a Caesarean section, she was a first-time mother, with a baby girl with huge brown eyes.

But there wasn't much time to settle into motherhood, bond with her daughter or follow her doctor's orders to rest. Seven days later, Kothari was back at work on her doctorate in business and helping marketing professors with their research. Her body ached in protest.

Such rapid returns from even difficult births are common at many universities, as the nation's 2.6 million graduate students often have fewer legal protections than most workers. Kothari's husband, an aerospace engineering doctoral student at U-Md., took even fewer days off. The couple's daughter spent most of her first three months with her grandmother, who flew in from India to care for her.

"I just wanted to be with my child. I just wanted to spend time with my family. But I had been working on my degree for five years. I worried that it would all go away," said Kothari, 30, president of the U-Md. Graduate Student Government. "If you get pregnant in grad school, if you decide to have a child, you have to show that you are a super-human being."

At colleges and universities across the country, many graduate students who have babies work until their due dates and return soon after giving birth. If they don't, they risk getting kicked off projects, falling out of favor with powerful faculty members and losing their student status, which is often required for visas, health insurance plans and student loan grace periods.

"Workplace balance is an issue in any workplace, but it can play a huge role in academics," said Lisa Maatz of the American Association of University Women. "They judge your research, but they also judge your collegiality."

At U-Md. in College Park, students can request a leave of absence for one or two semesters to give birth, adopt a child or deal with family issues. If the absence is approved, the students' "time-to-degree clock" is stopped for up to one academic year, but they lose their stipend pay and all student privileges. About two-thirds of the text in the university's policy handbook details the half-dozen potential risks in taking a leave.

Maryland's Graduate Student Government passed a resolution this year asking the university to establish a "childbirth or adoptions accommodation fund" that would allow graduate students to take paid leave.
for a few weeks and retain their full-time student status. Many members of the student group said they would support a small tuition increase to raise money for the fund, said Michael Scholten, 28, a physics doctoral student who wrote the resolution.

Scholten's wife had a baby last year, and he arranged with his adviser to get a week and a half off. "My adviser was generous; not all are," he said. "If the university cares about staying competitive, they should not put you in a position where you don't get paid or you go without health insurance."

Charles Caramello, dean of the graduate school, said in an e-mail that he had discussed the resolution with graduate student leaders and that school officials will continue researching what Maryland's peer institutions do.

"The resolution raises a complex issue that warrants research, analysis and careful deliberation. The issue has academic as well as resource implications," Caramello wrote.

Graduate student pregnancies also create challenges for universities. Professors must find fill-in assistants to help teach their classes, keep research projects on track and meet workload goals set by funding organizations.

A growing number of research universities have begun to add maternity and family leave policies in the past few years. The policies vary from school to school and sometimes even among departments at the same institution. Some provisions apply to mothers but not fathers, and some do not cover students who adopt children. In nearly all cases, advisers have the power to give more time or benefits. Some granting agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health, have begun to issue parental leave requirements.

Maternity leave policies are often added as part of an effort to attract more women to male-dominated fields, such as chemistry and engineering. The Stanford University graduate student handbook states: "It is important to acknowledge that a woman's prime childbearing years are the same years she is likely to be in graduate school, doing postdoctoral training, and establishing herself in a career."

MIT was one of the first universities to drastically revamp its maternity policy in 2004. Students once had to petition their advisers to get a medical leave. The new policy allows pregnant graduate students to take up to eight weeks without losing any pay.

In 2006, Stanford University began to give all female graduate students six weeks of paid leave, and its chemistry department allows pregnant women and new mothers to scale back their coursework or research for up to 12 weeks. Princeton University offers three months of paid leave to birth mothers, a policy it adopted in 2007.

Kothari's daughter, now 2, is shuttled between her parents' small offices on campus as they try to complete their education. The toddler naps in a playpen in the Graduate Student Government office and accompanies her mother on research trips to India.

As mother and daughter walk around campus in their matching puffy pink coats, they are often stopped by students and faculty members enamored of the outgoing toddler.

"A baby is such a rare thing on a college campus," Kothari said after one such encounter outside the student union. "No one understands."
Stanford Medical School to Expand Ethics Rules

By NATASHA SINGER

The Stanford University School of Medicine plans on Monday to introduce rules that would prohibit its volunteer teaching staff — called adjunct faculty — from giving paid speeches drafted by the makers of drugs or medical devices.

Stanford already has one of the most comprehensive policies in the country governing the interactions between academic faculty and the medical industry. The policy, enacted in 2006, is intended to limit potential industry influence on day-to-day clinical practice and medical education, according to a Stanford press release.

The policy prohibits faculty members from participating in industry speakers' bureaus in which drug and medical device makers pay a physician to give company-prepared speeches to doctors about company medical products. It also prohibits Stanford faculty members from accepting free gifts, including drug samples for patients.

And as of Monday, the 660 community physicians who volunteer their time to teach at Stanford will also have to abide by the same policy — or give up their Stanford titles.

"We welcome interactions with industry that are positive and collaborative," Dr. Philip A. Pizzo, the dean of Stanford medical school, said Saturday in a phone interview. "But where I think the line should not be crossed and where we are not going to allow our full-time or part-time faculty to engage is in marketing."

Until now, the policy has primarily governed full-time faculty members, who represent the day-to-day face of the medical school. That is because Stanford did not want to restrict the practice or income of unpaid adjunct faculty members, Dr. Pizzo said.

But Stanford decided to rethink its policy last November, he said, after The New York Times
published an article about an adjunct faculty member who had earned almost $75,000 in six months last year as a speaker for the drug maker Eli Lilly. Lilly now publishes a quarterly database that lists the fees paid to individual physicians for speaking and consulting work on behalf of the company.

“I never imagined that someone in community practice would be earning as much from an industrial source,” Dr. Pizzo said.

Stanford grew concerned that the school’s reputation might be tarnished because of confusion over academic titles, he said. Members of the public, for example, might not understand the difference between a full professor, who was required to abide by the school policy, and an adjunct professor, who was not required to follow the policy but still carried a Stanford title, he said.

Now, those adjunct faculty members who want to enjoy the benefit of a Stanford title will have to adhere to the same policy on conflicts of interest as regular faculty members do.

Dr. Pizzo predicted that some adjunct faculty who earn substantial sums as industry speakers or who use free drug samples in their practices might choose to separate from Stanford instead.

“I think this is going to be a difficult debate going forward,” he said. “I think this is an individual choice.”

Stanford is not the only university reconsidering how it interacts with the pharmaceutical and health care industries.

In January, after teaching hospitals associated with the Harvard Medical School began prohibiting their staff physicians from participating in drug company speakers’ bureaus, a prominent allergy and asthma specialist named Dr. Lawrence M. DuBuske resigned from his job at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, The Boston Globe reported.

Even so, Dr. Pizzo of Stanford said, the leading academic medical centers must set a new standard for engaging the public trust in medicine.

“Witness the gradual deterioration in how physicians have been perceived,” Dr. Pizzo said. “We have to get back on the high road and avoid the negative interactions in which industry engages physicians in marketing products.”