A scene from “The Lost Colony,” a silent film from 1921 that is being clearly seen for the first time in decades since an old version emerged during a storage-room cleanup recently. The film has been digitized, and historians are getting a fresh look at a 90-year-old interpretation of the famous story. (The Roanoke Island Historical Association)

1921 silent film, "The Lost Colony," is restored
By Erin James, The Virginian-Pilot
© April 3, 2011

MANTEO, N.C.–The story is familiar enough: Strangers in a strange land, motivated onward by hopeful possibility, must fight to survive - then ultimately disappear, their fate indefinitely unknown.

America's oldest unsolved mystery has taken the stage nearly every year since 1937, thriving on its popularity to become the nation's longest-running outdoor drama.

But before "The Lost Colony" the musical, there was "The Lost Colony" the silent film.
Ninety years after its first showing on Roanoke Island, a 16 mm version of the 46-minute film emerged recently from the clutter of a dusty storage room. Thanks to advancements in technology, the film has been digitally preserved and historians are getting a fresh look at a 1921 interpretation of the Lost Colony story.

The film also serves as a fascinating glimpse into the world of early 20th-century islanders, said Larry Tise, a historian and distinguished professor at East Carolina University.

"It has really enabled us to go back and capture this incredible moment," Tise said.

Although at least one known copy had survived through the decades, it belongs to a private collection, Tise said. The version belonging to the Roanoke Island Historical Association went missing years ago. Staff found the old movie reel hidden in a box during a thorough cleanup recently, said Shannon Manno, marketing director for "The Lost Colony."

Everything of potential value was forwarded to historians, who realized the significance of the find, Manno said.

Also in that box were two unique audiotapes from the 1970s, which feature scene-by-scene narrations of a woman who steered the production from concept to reality. As a female superintendent of the Dare County school system, Mabel Evans was a pioneer of her time, Tise said.

"She was of a generation of women who got educated and decided to take over and learn things," Tise said. "It's a story of making this movie and recruiting all of the locals, most of whom had never seen a movie."

Production began in September 1921, and the film was shot in 10 days. Locals, cast as Indians or colonists, filled all of the roles. The movie premiered the next month in Manteo, followed by a showing in Elizabeth City.

The film proceeds chronologically from the first English expeditions that landed on the Outer Banks in 1584 to John White's return in 1590 to find the colony had vanished. Also, Tise said, at the beginning of the movie is a scene featuring Sir Walter Raleigh "dreaming about the ocean."
Intended as an educational tool for schoolchildren, the production was funded entirely by the state of North Carolina.

Racist overtones aside, the film is clearly intended to reflect historical accuracy - at least what was considered historically accurate in 1921, Tise said.

"It has sort of an assumption that it's all right to kill Indians," Tise said. "I would say that, given the unbelievable racism of that period, it's actually very enlightened."

Tise said he became interested in the film's role in Outer Banks history after seeing a version about 10 years ago. The copy was of poor quality, but it was enough to intrigue Tise, who continued to research.

He later wrote an article about "The Lost Colony" film, which was published for several years in the theatrical production's program.

There are no immediate plans to show the film publicly, Manno said.

Erin James, (252) 441-1711, erin.james@pilotonline.com
The ECU School of Communication CommCrew held their spring reception at Emerge Gallery with guest speaker Margaret O'Connor. O'Connor gave a lecture on working with the team of photographers, who won two Pulitzer Prices for their 9/11 coverage with New York Times. Saturday, April 2, 2011. (Aileen Devlin/The Daily Reflector)

ECU alumna shares 9/11 memories
By Jackie Drake
The Daily Reflector
Monday, April 4, 2011

The world was forever changed when terrorists attacked the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, including media outlets that reported the shocking news as well as the stories of survival.

“Many things have changed in the last 10 years,” retired New York Times visual journalist Margaret O'Connor told a gathering at Emerge Art Gallery in downtown Greenville on Saturday night.

As the nation struggled with new security concerns in the aftermath of the attacks, the field of journalism grappled with the rise of the Internet that allowed anyone to spread news. Industry insiders wondered if flashy videos would kill traditional print photojournalism.

“And now we question whether journalism itself is dead,” O'Connor said. “But the rise of citizen journalism — it's a more fair thing. Instead of all the power in the hands of one editor, it's much more democratic.”

A 1971 graduate of East Carolina University, O'Connor was the featured speaker at the fifth spring reception for CommCrew, the alumni and community organization supporting ECU’s school of communication.
O'Connor retired in 2008 as the director of news design after 24 years with the Times. She was photo director at the time of the Sept. 11 attacks.

“I think it revived photojournalism,” she said. “We weren't the only ones making amazing pictures that day. Everybody in town brought us their photos that day — tourists, amateurs. ... We looked at everything. Every department came and helped.”

The picture chosen for the front page of the Times for the next day, a shot of both towers burning with the Brooklyn Bridge in the foreground, was submitted by a professional photographer, though not an employee of the Times.

“The still image catches a moment in a way video cannot,” O'Connor said. “The still image has survived all this, and it's alive and well, not so much on newsprint, but in new and exciting ways.”

O'Connor ran a slideshow of Times photos that went on to win Pulitzer Prizes in 2002 for breaking news and feature photography.

“It's been almost 10 years, and I still had a huge emotional reaction to seeing those photos,” one woman in the audience said.

A native of Virginia, O'Connor came to ECU as an art major. She found her way into the newspaper industry by accident, thinking she was interviewing for a magazine when in fact her first job turned out to be with the San Francisco Examiner.

“It's been wonderful to reconnect (with ECU) the past couple of years,” O'Connor said. She also serves on the board for the ECU Women's Roundable alumnae organization. Linda Kean, director of the School of Communication, said O'Connor's presentation served as a catalyst for further conversations about the future of journalism.

“I think there's a lot of opportunity in the future for communication students,” Kean said. “Ours is a multi-platform program where they can learn all the skills associated with journalism — print, video, Web page copy — so they can pursue a variety of positions.”

One school of communication alumna was recognized for her impact in the community. Olivia Collier, Class of 2002 and 2004, received CommCrew's Distinguished Alumna Award. Collier serves as chief of local and regional affairs for the N.C. Department of Commerce.

“She has a real passion for work with a public purpose,” Mary Schulken, outgoing CommCrew president and also director of public affairs for ECU, said. “She has helped disadvantaged communities and given back to her university community.”

Contact Jackie Drake at jdrake@reflector.com or 252-329-9567.
ECU's Matt Milner hits a sled during the Pirates' spring football practice on Friday. (Justin Falls/The Daily Reflector)

Milner balancing football, biochemistry

By Nathan Summers
The Daily Reflector
Saturday, April 2, 2011

Matt Milner was a late arrival at East Carolina's spring football practice sessions each of the last two Mondays. He'll be late again next week, too.

That's just how it is when you try to mix college football with college biochemistry. Milner will hardly be scolded for his tardiness. In fact, his marathon days in the classroom, his impeccable grades and his job as a starting defensive end on the Pirate football team combine to make Milner someone to idolize in the world of college sports, not someone to punish.

One of the only things Milner appears unsure about is exactly how to define his current course of study, and that's because it's complex and subject to broaden even further by the time the sophomore from Raleigh is finished.

“I think it's a biochem major, and I was talking to one of my general chemistry professors and he was saying that I can get a degree in chemistry as well if I just take one more class, so maybe I'll end up doing that,” said Milner, who as a redshirt freshman played in all 13 games for the Pirates, including 10 starts, and finished eighth overall with 47 tackles and tied for the team lead with three sacks.

But perhaps most impressive has been Milner's academic exploits during the same period of time. He was named to the Conference USA All-Academic Team after accruing a 4.0 GPA during the fall 2010 semester.

This semester, he's hardly taking it easy.

“IT's tough. We wake up and have 6 a.m. workouts, right into an 8 o'clock class,” Milner said. “Mondays are my worst days because I've got class all day. You've got to stay on track. As soon as my head hits the pillow that night, I'm asleep.”
The walking definition of student-athlete, Milner has given himself every reason to brag, but coming from a steady line of college football players — his father played at Allegheny and his grandfather at Delaware — has very likely helped to keep him grounded.

Plus, Milner is quick to point out that intelligence is only part of the equation. “I try to set a good example but, hey, anybody can do it,” he said. “If you put in the time, anybody can achieve whatever they want to.”

Milner is a vital part of the Pirates' defensive transition from a traditional 4-3 front seven to a 3-4, and said he's packed on some pounds in the offseason to handle the new assignment.

“It's a little bit more inside work, and I've been trying to put on some more weight,” Milner said. “I've put on probably 15 pounds since the end of last season so I can go against those 6-foot-6, 315-pound tackles.”

The former team captain and class president at Cardinal Gibbons High School, Milner proved to be every bit the fast learner on the field that he was in the classroom. Memorable moments from his rookie season included a 50-yard fumble return at Rice, a personal-best five solo tackles against SMU and a game-ending sack in ECU’s furious comeback win at Southern Miss.

While some might be daunted by the Pirates' new defensive scheme, Milner possesses a remarkable ability to simplify. “It's almost easier,” he said. “It's almost like more of a shared responsibility where everybody has their specific job. As long as everybody does what they're supposed to do, we create a wall and they can't get through it.”

Contact Nathan Summers at nsummers@reflector.com or (252)329-9595.
Engravings that are more than 400 years old are the focus of a new exhibit at the J.Y. Joyner Library at East Carolina University. “Native Carolinians, 1585: The Theodor de Bry Engravings of John White Watercolors” will open Monday.

The Native Collections exhibit will feature 22 engravings created by Theodor de Bry and that appeared in the English, Latin, and German 1590 editions of Thomas Harriot's “A Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia.” The engravings were based on watercolor paintings, created around 1585, by John White, who later became governor of the 1587 colony on Roanoke Island.

Harriot's “A Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia” was the first published account of native North Carolinians and the plant and animal life in the coastal area of North Carolina. It is still considered the cornerstone of North American natural history.

White worked with Harriot throughout the region to make a visual record that complemented Harriot's written account of the environment and its inhabitants. ECU’s College of Arts and Sciences is named for Harriot, a scientist who accompanied Sir Walter Raleigh's 1587 colony to Roanoke Island to conduct experiments.

The engravings are on loan from Michael N. Joyner of Cary. In 2009, Joyner acquired his first de Bry engraving of the “Virginia Indians,” which are based on the original
watercolors of White. He has now compiled a complete collection of de Bry engravings from “A Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia."

“We are grateful to Michael Joyner for sharing his prints and books for this exhibit,” said Maury York, assistant director for Special Collections at Joyner Library. “Through his exceptional generosity, the students at East Carolina University and the people of eastern North Carolina will have a rare opportunity to view important images of Native Americans as they were seen by Europeans during the lifetime of Sir Walter Raleigh.”

Also on display will be a large print of “The Invincible Armada Defeated” of the English defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 and prints depicting Sir Walter Raleigh and Queen Elizabeth I of England. In addition, the exhibit will include Raleigh's “Historie of the World” and an early biography of him.

The collection will be on display through May 15 in the Verona Joyner Langford North Carolina Collection, located on the third floor of the library. Joyner said he hopes making these images of native Algonquian Indians from coastal North Carolina available through this exhibit will inspire a new generation of Americans to rediscover the early history of the state and English exploration and interaction with the native people of the Outer Banks and surrounding coastal communities.

Dr. Larry Boyer, Dean of Academic Library and Learning Resources, said he was thrilled that the library is able to offer the engravings for exhibit.

“For many years, John White's images of native Carolinians have been familiar to almost every school child in America, but to be able to see and ponder these contemporary de Bry prints is certainly an extraordinary treat. We are truly grateful to Mr. Joyner for his generosity in agreeing to have them displayed here in Joyner Library for all of us at ECU as well as our Eastern North Carolina neighbors to enjoy. This, perhaps, is a once in a lifetime opportunity not to be missed.”

For more information contact Dawn Wainwright, Joyner Library marketing director, at 328-4090.

Former terror expert to discuss security
A former CIA counter-terrorism chief and a security analyst for two television networks are among experts who will be at East Carolina University on Thursday for a statewide meeting on campus safety.

Bob Grenier, former White House Liaison for the CIA, is the keynote speaker at the North Carolina Higher Education Safety Webinar and Symposium, scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday at the ECU Heart Institute Auditorium. Grenier's talk is scheduled from 11:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will cover emerging challenges universities face in safety and security.
The meeting will kick off at 9 a.m. with a panel featuring Bill Stanton, security analyst for NBC and ABC news; Marisa Randazzo, psychologist and threat management expert; and Darby Dickerson dean of the Stetson University School of Law.

The trio will discuss the impact for college campuses of recent attacks in Tucson, along with identity theft, residence hall security, date rape and sexual assault. The discussion will also include practical ways to change the mindset and demeanor of students about safety.

**Hamstring Hustle 5K race set for April 16**

Runners and walkers can lace up their shoes April 16 for the 17th annual Hamstring Hustle 5K Run/Walk.

The race, presented by the Medical Student Council at Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, starts at 10 a.m. beside Moe's Southwestern Grill on Red Banks Road. A portion of the proceeds from the race will benefit the ECU Pediatric Healthy Weight Research and Treatment Center, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping children achieve a healthy weight and improve their nutrition.

The race will wind through the Lynndale neighborhood and is a USA Track and Field-certified course/sanctioned event. Registration before April 9 is $20 for all participants and includes a T-shirt. Registration after April 9 is $25. Registration is available online at http://www.active.com; search for “hamstring hustle.” Late registration begins at 8:30 a.m. the day of the event at the race site.

Participants should be at the race site no later than 9:15 a.m. the day of the race. Awards will be presented to the overall male and female winners and to the top three males and females in each age group: 12 and under, 13-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60 and over. Prizes include a free half-day charter boat fishing trip, a day at Merle Norman Spa and free rounds of golf at local courses. Email race organizers at hamstringhustle@gmail.com for more information.

**Pirate Alumni Road Race is April 16**

The 4th Annual Pirate Alumni Road Race and Fun Run to support ECU student scholarships will begin at 9 a.m. on April 16 at University Book Exchange on Cotanche Street.

The annual 5K road race and one-mile fun run is organized by the East Carolina Alumni Association and is being presented this year by Blue Cross-Blue Shield of North Carolina and Occasions Party & Tent Rentals.

The event is open to the public; the entry fee is $25. Race day registration will be held from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.
The road race, which has been measured to certification standards, begins at University Book Exchange and travels down Fifth Street adjacent to ECU's main campus.

The fun run will begin a few minutes after the start of the road race and follows a portion of the same course. Race packets, including a complimentary race T-shirt, can be picked up at the starting point between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. on race day or at U.B.E. on April 15 from noon to 6 p.m.

Awards will be given to the first three male finishers overall, to the first three female finishers overall, and the top three male and female finishers in eight age groups. This year, a new team division has been added to include student organizations. The top three teams overall will be awarded $300, $200 and $100, respectively.

Register online or download a registration form at www.PirateAlumni.com/2011roadrace or call the East Carolina Alumni Association at ECU-GRAD or 800-ECU-GRAD.

**Porn and pop culture topic of lecture**

Gail Dines, professor of sociology and women's studies and chair of the American Studies Department at Wheelock College, will discuss her new research during the lecture, “Supersexed: Sex, Identity, and Intimacy in a Porn Culture” at 4 p.m. on Wednesday in Hendrix Theatre, Mendenhall Student Center.

Dines' new book, “Pornland: How Porn has Hijacked our Sexuality,” examines how men and women's lives, sexuality and relationships are shaped by the porn culture. An activist scholar, Dines began her activism on the topic by volunteering at a rape crisis center in Tel Aviv and starting a Haifa-based feminist movement, Woman to Woman, in her living room at age 22. She has been interviewed on the topic by multiple national media outlets.

The lecture is being presented by the David Julian and Virginia Suther Whichard Distinguished Professorship in the Humanities and is co-sponsored by the Women's Studies Program and the Victim's Advocate Office.

For more information about the lecture, contact Dr. Marieke Van Willigen, director of the Women's Studies program at ECU, 328-6092.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Tuesday:** The Brody School of Medicine Lecture in Medical Jurisprudence to honor Horton H. Rountree and Edward E. Hollowell: “Hostage To His Own Cure: Insights into American Medicine from What Wasn't in the Health Care Reform Bill,” presented by Richard P. Church, partner K&L Gates, LLP, Research Triangle Park, 12:30 p.m., Brody 2West-40A. For more information, call 744-2797.

**Tuesday:** Screening of “Prodigal Sons” as part of the Southern Circuit tour of Independent Filmmakers, 8 p.m., Speight Auditorium in the Jenkins Fine Arts Center. Free for ECU students; $5 for others. Call 328-5386 for more information.

See www.ecu.edu/cs-ecu/calendar.cfm for times, places and more information on these events and other ECU upcoming activities.
Members of the Andrew Kirby family embrace after the conclusion of closing arguments during the James Richardson murder trial at the Pitt County Courthouse on Friday afternoon. (Rhett Butler/The Daily Reflector)

**Jury restarts Richardson deliberations**
By Michael Abramowitz
The Daily Reflector
Monday, April 4, 2011

**Monday, April 4 update 9 08 a.m.:** The jury returned to deliberations at 9 a.m. Monday in the capital trial of James Earl Richardson, accused of murdering Landon Blackley and Andrew Kirby outside The Other Place nightclub June 30, 2009.

Presiding Superior Court Judge W. Russell Duke immediately excused the jury of 10 women and two men to the deliberation room to resume their duties.

He then called the three alternate jurors, two white men and one black man, into the courtroom to update them on the status of the deliberations. He excused them to their continue their regular outside lives, admonishing them not to discuss the case with anyone or expose themselves to media accounts of the trial.

**Previous story**
The 10-woman, two-man jury in the James Richardson capital murder trial is expected be restart deliberations in the case this morning.

The panel deliberated about four hours Friday night after nine days of testimony and closing arguments that began on Friday. Near the end of the deliberation the panel asked Judge. W. Russell Duke for more instruction on "reasonable doubt" and what to do about a "hung jury."

Duke dismissed the panel a short time later to resume their deliberation today. Check back later for details.
The jury in James Richardson's capital murder asked for instruction on the possibility of a "hung jury" Friday night before it recessed for the weekend.

After about four hours of deliberation that also included a request that Judge W. Russell Duke explain "reasonable doubt," the panel of 10 women and two men was excused at 7 p.m.

Duke brought jury members into the courtroom after receiving a note with the two questions. He explained that the prosecution's case must leave no reasonable doubt that Richardson is guilty of first-degree murder in the June 30, 2009, deaths of Andrew Kirby and Landon Blackley.

The pair was killed in a drive-by shooting outside The Other Place nightclub in downtown Greenville. Richardson, 33, a former J.H. Rose High School athlete and professional basketball player, could face the death penalty if convicted.

“A reasonable doubt is not a mere possible doubt,” Duke said. “It is a fair doubt, based on reason and common sense, and growing out of some of the evidence, or lack of evidence, in the case.”

Duke returned the panel to the jury room, then a second note came asking about a recess.

Deliberations began about 4 p.m. Friday, following nine days of testimony and closing arguments that started Friday morning.

The panel also requested photos and watched a video of a white vehicle recorded on Fifth Street after the shootings, asking for freeze frames to see how many people were in the vehicle.

After closing arguments, Duke instructed the jury it must find Richardson guilty or not guilty of first-degree murder. A verdict cannot be rendered on a lesser charge. Richardson would be freed if a not-guilty verdict is returned. A second round of testimony will be held in the event of a guilty verdict, and the jury must then recommend life in prison or death.

To find Richardson guilty of first-degree murder, the jury must believe the evidence showed he intended, with malice, to kill the victims; that his actions were the real cause of the death, without which the death would not have occurred; that he intended by his actions to kill and acted with premeditation and fixed purpose, the judge said, reading from state statutes.

“You may believe all, none, or parts of the witness testimony. You have to determine the weight and importance of individual evidence,” Duke told the jurors.

Final arguments concluded with District Attorney Clark Everett asking the jury to deliver a guilty verdict.
“You have to send a message this day that justice was served, that the person that did this was convicted,” Everett said.
“Everyone will know this jury did the right thing. I trust you to do the right thing.”

Everett said there is no evidence to show that Richardson is not guilty. “You have to guess that he's not guilty,” he said.
Everett talked about Ronell Peterson, who loaned Richardson his BMW.

“He called Richardson off the hook looking for his car. Richardson did not respond until July 3. Why not?” Everett asked.
The prosecutor pointed out that his close friends, Cario Arrington and Latoya Boyd, were with him all night and had the most to lose by coming forward to testify for the state against Richardson.

“They did not want to come here and do that, but they showed courage,” Everett said.
The defense attacked Arrington's credibility, saying he was arrested on drug charges and was served in his bond and sentencing by testifying against Richardson.

Despite strong connections to Richardson, Boyd, an East Carolina University graduate student, supported Arrington's story, Everett said.
Everett gave his argument before photographs of the victims, Andrew Kirby and Landon Blackley, placed there earlier by Robb.

“After the trial, these photos will be put away in box. You might be the last one to see them ... they'll be known as the kids killed on Fifth Street from now on.”

Defense attorney Jeff Cutler told jurors the prosecution showed evidence of particular facts, but never answered the question, “Who is the shooter? Who committed the crime?”
He repeatedly characterized Everett's case as “theory.” Cutler contrasted the testimony of state witness Vidal Thorpe that he walked out The Other Place after hearing three shots fired with bar employees' testimony that people were forced back in the door and fell to the floor in a pile.

“This was a senseless, random act of violence. There has been no evidence that James Richardson is a violent or mean man,” Cutler told the jury. “When you see the lack of credible evidence, I am sure you will return the only right verdict: Not guilty.”

Defense attorney Thomas Moore said Everett “told you at the very beginning, in his opening statement, he was going to draw a road map for you to this crime. He did draw a map. The problem is the road is filled with pot holes.”

Assistant District Attorney Kimberly Robb asked jurors to remember the two victims.
“This case is about two boys who deserve to live and have the joy of having a family and raising children,” Robb said.

Contact Michael Abramowitz at mabramowitz@reflector.com and 252-329-9571.
All smiles, Tyler Moore, 2, and Mason Sawyer, 3, ride the Go-Gator roller coaster together during the 23rd annual Farmville Dogwood Festival in downtown Farmville Friday, April 23, 2010. (Justin Falls/The Daily Reflector)

Events celebrate pirates, shad, dogwood
By Kathryn Kennedy
The Daily Reflector
Sunday, April 3, 2011

Performing pirates, football and food and dancing under Dogwoods. It's all coming to Pitt County this April as organizers cross their fingers and hope to keep the proverbial showers at bay.

PirateFest is the first of four festivals scheduled this month, taking over downtown from Fifth Street to the Tar River this coming weekend. Celebrations kick off Friday evening with a concert in the parking lot at Fourth and Evans streets. Two other live music stages will be set up Saturday, along with a “grog garden” and, of course, plenty of pirates.

Professional pirate entertainers will set the tone for the Parade of Pirates, which ends with a pirate costume contest. The Art & Treasure Isle features crafts for sale while children can check out the Pirate Encampment's inflatable ship and fossil dig. PirateFest has also absorbed the city's international festival at the Town Common — now called “International Ports O'Call” — and Green Fest will tack on booths of their own along First Street.

The Jolly Trolley will transport festival-goers around the area, including a stop at East Carolina University where potential pirates will be touring the campus Saturday.

From people playing pirates to Pirates playing football, the 28th annual Purple/Gold Pigskin Pigout begins the following weekend on April 15. They cap the field of whole-hog cooking competitors at 40 and Tom McClellen, assistant director of athletics for media relations, said they reach that quota quickly every year.
Contestants can fire up their grills beginning at noon on April 15, and sports fans can take part in a golf tournament at Brook Valley or catch the evening baseball game against University of Central Florida.

Judging begins early April 16, accompanied by drive-through access for hungry locals and visitors, a musical performance, a team meet-and-greet, and kids' games. There will be a little less sparkle this year, as fireworks won't be permitted due to ongoing construction on the Olympic sports complex. The carnival will also be absent because the grassy area where it was once held doesn't exist any more, McClellen said.

The action culminates in the spring football game at 2:30 p.m. April 16, and winds down the morning of April 17 with another baseball game in the series against the UCF. There will be additional competition off the field. The 41st annual Grifton Shad Festival is scheduled for that same weekend, though preview events start April 12.

Storytelling contests, carnival rides, craft sales, music and dance performances, and awards for the biggest catch will be featured as always. Visitors can get in the shad spirit by paddling on Contentnea Creek, sampling fish stew or competing in the shad toss competition which closes out events April 17.

Easter offers a break from the action, but another festival is slated for the last week of the month.

The 24th annual Farmville Dogwood Festival will close out the month. Musicians, artisans, cooks and kid entertainers will surround carnival rides at the Farmville town common April 29 through May 1. Approximately 15,000 turn out in the town each year.

All these events are in addition to a busy month of sporting events and conferences throughout the county, said Greenville-Pitt Convention and Visitors Bureau Director Debbie Vargas. It leaves visitors with the impression that Greenville is a happening place, she said, and increases community pride.

She added that the N.C. Division of Tourism estimates people visiting a community for events like these spend $68 per day, not counting lodging.

“If you're having thousands of people come in during the spring ... that can really add up,” Vargas said. Festivals can also stimulate local spending, she added, as people are more likely to leave yard work at home and go enjoy activities with friends and family.

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East Carolina University professors Dr. Rosina Chia and Dr. Elmer Poe presented the keynote address during the recent Global Education Spring Symposium at Edgecombe Community College.

**Global understanding critical to future, experts say**

Contributed to the Telegram

Global education experts from East Carolina University and Sandhills Community College shared the benefits of foreign exchange programs during the Global Education Spring Symposium at Edgecombe Community College on March 24-25.

Dr. Rosina Chia, associate vice chancellor for global academic initiatives, and Dr. Elmer Poe, associate vice chancellor for academic outreach, delivered the symposium keynote address in Keihin Auditorium on March 24.

They spoke about the Global Understanding Project at ECU, a project they began in 2004 following a conversation about the importance of exposing students to foreign cultures.

The program now boasts student and faculty exchange partnerships with 33 educational institutions in 23 foreign countries, including Egypt, Brazil, Pakistan, Poland and Iraq.
“Our number one goal is to reduce misunderstanding” about foreign cultures, Dr. Poe explained. “We live in an interconnected world, and what happens in one part of the world happens in all of the world.”

Central to the project is the global understanding course, which pairs 16 ECU students with 16 students at a partner institution. Using video conferencing and other low-tech tools, the students work on class projects together, building friendships in the process.

“Knowledge itself does not change attitudes,” said Dr. Chia. “You have to engage the heart to do that. When students learn from other students, their hearts are touched.

“Our mission is to help students understand that they are part of a global solution,” added Dr. Poe. “We can’t build our future unless everyone builds their future.”

On Friday morning, Dr. Bill Croft of Sandhills Community College shared his experiences with Sandhills’ exchange program in Albania.

Sandhills Community College’s exchange program with the Technical University of Vlore in Albania began in 2005. Croft is a professor of respiratory therapy and chair of the health sciences department at Sandhills. He has been to Albania twice.

“We not only want to exchange faculty, we want to make real change,” he said. In Albania, “they have doctors and nurses, and that’s it, no physical therapists or respiratory therapists or other health care professionals. We don’t realize how good we have it in America.”

When Dr. Croft retires from Sandhills, he plans to return to Albania to help develop an asthma program. “Their asthma care is non-existent,” he said. “Children are dying from asthma, and that’s not necessary.”

The two-day Global Education Spring Symposium was sponsored by the Diversity and Global Connections Committee to bring cultural awareness to the college and local community.

Additional sessions on globalization topics were held Friday, with sessions on global education topics such as using the Internet and social media in the classroom, incorporating world travel into classroom experience and the impact of distance education.

An ECC student panel also shared their experiences of serving overseas in the military.
I can still see the road ahead of me begin to curve to my left, but by the time we got there — it was too late. The 1961 Chevrolet Corvair was beginning to spin out and panic was setting in.

I was 16 years old, a painfully brand new driver out for a short joyride in the country with a friend. I'm glad he was there. That's because while he and I were about the same age he had been driving his old '54 Studebaker on country roads under the guidance of his dad for quite some time. His experience behind the wheel suddenly became critical for both of us that afternoon.

I had been down this road before, but only as a passenger and not behind the wheel. We were going about 45 mph, the speed limit, when that curve appeared dead ahead. But I had not anticipated it, and we were in it before I could decide what to do.

That's when my friend's driving instincts kicked in. He quickly reached out and grabbed the steering wheel while stretching his leg over so he could put his foot on the brake.

With some deft steering combined with just the right pressure on the brake, he managed to keep the car in a controlled spin. It turned completely around in the road and came to a stop facing in the opposite direction.

We sat there for a few seconds looking at each other, realizing that we had just survived one of life's critical moments. Any less of a reaction from him or a wrong one from me and the car could easily have flipped over or slid violently off the highway into the trees that lined the road. In those days, we probably weren't wearing seatbelts.

I have thought about that afternoon many times since then.

In a recent article for the N.C. Medical Journal, Greenville physician Herb Garrison notes statistics showing how teens have accidents at a higher rate than any other group. He and the article's co-author Jennifer Smith recommend that the state increase the minimum driving age to 17.

“It is unclear whether maturity or experience is the key factor, but research confirms that older new drivers have fewer crashes,” their article states. I've believed that since I was 16.
Our community in recent days has been a witness to the sadness such crashes can bring. The deaths of a 22-year-old Greenville man on a Fifth Street curve and a 24-year-old East Carolina University graduate student on a nearby highway both involved questions about maturity and experience.

My lack of both of these had put my friend and I in jeopardy that long ago afternoon, just as it does every day for fledgling drivers. And while recent statistics are encouraging about the total number of highway deaths today compared to past years, all of us nonetheless face a daunting highway. While cars are safer, there are many more of them and distractions have multiplied.

As I have watched three children go through the rite of passage of getting a driver's license, I have told the story of my near catastrophic accident and the value of experience more than once. It's a frightening story, but one that ended well.

Had those we have lost in this way had an experienced hand along with them, as I did, maybe things would have been different.

Al Clark is executive editor of The Daily Reflector. Contact him at aclark@reflector.com or at 252-329-9560.
Two emergency physicians have joined the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and its group medical practice, ECU Physicians.

Dr. Kraigher O'Keefe joined ECU as a clinical assistant professor. He has a pair of bachelor's degrees from the University of California-Berkeley and a medical degree from the University of California-San Diego. He completed residency training in emergency medicine at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Nathan Nehus joined ECU as a clinical assistant professor. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Nevada-Reno and a medical degree from Ross University School of Medicine in the West Indies. He completed residency training in emergency medicine and internal medicine at ECU. Nehus and O'Keefe see patients in the emergency department at Pitt County Memorial Hospital.

A psychiatrist has joined the Brody School of Medicine and its group medical practice, ECU Physicians.
Dr. Thomas Penders joined the Department of Psychiatric Medicine as an associate professor. Penders has a medical degree from Hahnemann Medical School in Philadelphia and completed residency training in psychiatry at Boston Veterans Hospital and Dartmouth Medical School.

Before joining ECU, Penders served as president of the medical staff organization and medical director of psychiatry at Beaufort County Hospital and Pungo District Hospital. In Greenville, he will serve as medical director of inpatient psychiatric services at Pitt County Memorial Hospital.

Penders is board-certified in psychiatry and neurology. His clinical and research interests are translating research advances to practice and integrating psychiatric concepts with primary care medicine.
State shifting more higher ed costs to students
BY ERIC FERRERI AND JAY PRICE - Staff Writers
North Carolina's constitution demands an affordable public university, a core principle that for two centuries has helped poor young people from the Coastal Plains, small mill towns and mountain hollows grab the bottom rung of the economic ladder and start climbing.

But in recent years, as the student share of the cost keeps rising and taxpayers' contribution gradually decreases, the state has quietly, steadily drifted toward a different funding model for higher education. And that slow slide is prompting some alarms.

"If you look at the amount of tuition increase we've already seen, the budget cuts we've already had, and these next cuts, we're really talking about a different philosophical approach to higher education," said UNC system President Tom Ross. "We shouldn't go down a road like that without significant debate, because it has huge implications for the future of the state and the health of its economy."

In 1990, the state provided 81 percent of the money used to teach undergraduate students in the UNC system, according to system data. By last year, that share had fallen to 63.8 percent.

Meanwhile, tuition has risen steadily - up about 175 percent since 2000. At N.C. State University, for example, in-state undergrads paid $1,861 in tuition in 2000-2001; this year, they're paying $5,153. A year ago, the cost of public higher education went up twice, first in the UNC system's regular process, and then again in late summer after the legislature signed off on it as a stopgap measure to help plug a massive budget hole.

The dual increases drove rates up as much as 18 percent on some campuses. Legislators say it was necessary. Students, for the most part, have acquiesced.

But some student leaders now say the state needs to take a broader view. "I'm afraid of this General Assembly moving tuition from a secondary source to a primary source of revenue," said Atul Bhula, a graduate student
at Appalachian State University and the sole student member of the UNC system's Board of Governors. "I think the General Assembly needs to be reminded of its constitutional mandate."

But a public university education in North Carolina is still a bargain when compared to many states, which Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger says proves North Carolinians can shoulder a heavier tuition burden.

"I think one of the things we've got to be cognizant of is the relative cost compared to the peers out there," Berger said. "If you would say that UNC-Chapel Hill is a peer with Michigan and California and Texas and Virginia, then I don't see how you can look at those comparisons and say we don't have low tuition compared to those other schools."

Though the UNC system's cuts over the last four years now total about $620 million, there still hasn't been a formal, statewide conversation about the future of university funding. As the cuts keep coming, many educators and legislators are focused on the immediate trouble rather than the bigger picture.

But there have been jarring moments. During a UNC Board of Governors committee meeting last year, a frustrated Erskine Bowles, then the system president, declared that if the university had to keep making deep cuts, it might be forced to close one of its 16 college campuses.
That got some attention.

More recently, some legislators and UNC officials have discussed a cut of as much as 30 percent of the university system budget. The upper end for budget-cut projections in recent years has been 10 to 15 percent, a bargaining position for a negotiation that usually results in a far smaller reduction.

"I don't even know how to describe what that would do, but I assure you that it would cause permanent damage to the University of North Carolina," Ross said of a 30 percent cut. "The thinking by some people apparently is that we should be like states that give very low support to our university system.

"That's certainly not been the case here, and I don't think it's in keeping with our state constitution."
A 30 percent cut would total about $810 million.

30 percent? No way
Berger, who rose to power this year after Republicans gained control of both chambers, predicts UNC's actual cut will be 15 percent or less. He called talk of a reduction of 30 percent "an outlier number" from individual members of the House rank and file.

"You have 170 members of the General Assembly, and you have for the first time in a very long time, a kind of changing of the guard, so you have folks who haven't necessarily been in positions of making decisions, and you have a lot of them," Berger said. "It doesn't surprise me that you hear a lot of things that I would call outliers."

Officially, the legislature's joint committee on education is targeting a $1.4 billion cut to all public education sectors next year. That amounts to a 12 percent reduction if divided evenly among K-12, community colleges and the UNC system.

State Sen. Jean Preston, an Emerald Isle Republican and retired school teacher leading the education budget process, said last week that the latest UNC cut projection is in the 16 to 20 percent range, but she also acknowledged that could change.

At NCSU, a 15 percent cut would slash the budget by $80 million, and university leaders have warned that layoffs would be in nearly direct proportion to the cut.

Less financial aid?
In recent years, North Carolina has done far better than many states in its spending on financial aid, but that may be in jeopardy this year. Though Gov. Bev Perdue's budget proposal would cut the UNC budget only 6 percent, it would allocate the same amount as last year for student aid: $34.8 million. The UNC system requested more than twice that.

If tuition keeps going up and student aid doesn't keep pace, some students would not be able to afford college, and many others would graduate with far more debt.
That's part of the sacrifice, said Berger, the Senate leader, who worked his way through community college, college and law school.

"I think you'll probably continue to see even more of an expectation that those students who are taking advantage of that opportunity bear some of the expense of doing that," he said. "The theory being that if you get an education that gives you career choices and opportunities down the road, you should be able to incur some debt and pay it back down the road. I think that may be what we'll see."

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**Plenty of pain**
Across the country, public universities are making hard decisions that not long ago would have been unimaginable.

The California State University system recently announced plans to enroll 10,000 fewer students across its 23 campuses next year to help with a $500 million budget cut, 18 percent of its total spending.

In Pennsylvania, Gov. Tom Corbett scored some national headlines in the higher education press with an audacious plan to cut funding for higher education in half.

"That would have profound effects," said Daniel Hurley, director of state relations and policy analysis with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. "They talked about closing several campuses in the Penn State system." Nationally, per-student state funding for higher education is at a 30-year low, Hurley said.

**A relative bargain**
Though tuition is rising at UNC campuses, North Carolina public universities remain quite affordable compared with their peers. Here's how UNC-Chapel Hill matches up with three other elite public universities on in-state tuition and fees:

UNC-CH: $6,666

University of Michigan: $11,800

University of Virginia: $10,836

University of California-Berkeley: $12,460
If you happen to find yourself on the campus of N.C. State or North Carolina Central University or any other UNC school in the next couple of weeks, take a good look around. If the Republican leadership in the General Assembly has its way with the state budget this year, the campuses could look much different when students show up at school next fall.

There are persistent rumors in the Legislative Building that budget writers are considering much deeper cuts to the university system than the 5 and 10 percent reductions that were previously predicted. University officials have said publicly they have heard that between 20 and 30 percent reductions are not out of the question.

That possibility represents the greatest threat to North Carolina's nationally recognized university system since it was consolidated in 1971.

Legislative leaders have set budget targets that would require slashing $760 million more from overall education funding than the $666 million in cuts that Gov. Beverly Perdue recommended.

Key Republican legislators said recently that they plan to do everything they can to protect public school classrooms from damaging cuts. That adds credence to the rumors about the devastating reductions to UNC. The cuts have to come from somewhere if legislative leaders continue to refuse to consider raising any new revenue or keeping the 2009 temporary tax increase on the books for two more years.
UNC President Tom Ross told the Asheville Citizen-Times this week that the massive cuts would be catastrophic and that even cuts of 15 percent would result in the elimination of tens of thousands of classes and layoffs of many adjunct faculty members, which presumably would make it difficult for students to graduate on time.

Members of the education budget subcommittee haven't publicly discussed the deeper cuts. That must be happening in the after-hours closed door budget meetings at which Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger says “reconciliations” are being made between House and Senate leaders.

But even the options for five to ten percent cuts that have been discussed in open meetings would dramatically change the university system. They would mean laying off 1,900 faculty members and other permanent employees, halting the opening of the new dental school at East Carolina, and ending state funding for the Cancer Center at UNC-Chapel Hill.

And the cuts won't be the only thing students notice. Lawmakers are considering significant tuition increases too, even though tuition has increased more 150 percent at some campuses over the last 10 years. Students deserve better from state lawmakers than having to pay more for a less quality education.

Balancing the budget on the backs of college students and university faculty members doesn't make any more sense than punishing at-risk kids by abolishing early childhood programs or slashing teacher assistants.

If legislative leaders are serious about making jobs their priority this session, they to rethink their inclination to decimate the university system, one of the state's most important economic engines.

Budget times may tough but the choice is not between saving public school teachers and protecting the core functions of the universities. Both are vital to the state's future.

The real choice is between protecting both education at all levels and human services for people who need them or blindly following a right-wing ideology and absurd anti-tax pledge that allow no room for compromise.

There's still time for legislative leaders to come to their senses, but it needs to happen pretty soon.

Chris Fitzsimon is the founder and director of N.C. Policy Watch, a progressive public policy think tank that is a special project of the N.C. Justice Center.
Academic credits may bring UNC master's nearer
BY ERIC FERRERI - Staff Writer
CHAPEL HILL New students who arrive at UNC-Chapel Hill in coming years with boatloads of advanced placement credits may get more than just a bachelor's degree after four years on campus.

They may leave with a master's degree, too.

That's the thinking behind one component of a new academic plan under development: It would offer high-achieving undergrads an accelerated path to a graduate degree.

"We want students who come here with a different velocity to be able to move faster," said Sue Estroff, a medical school professor who co-chairs the academic planning process. "For those students with the drive and ability, leaving in four years with a master's is a better bargain than with a bachelor's."

There are few details yet for the plan, which likely wouldn't begin for several years. It might differ from department to department and school to school, and it might suit some disciplines better than others.

But in principle, it would accelerate the undergraduate experience for the increasing number of freshmen who arrive with stellar credentials. Students would need a minimum number of AP credits and likely would have to take summer courses to participate.

Estroff thinks plenty of students would be up for the challenge. Each year, the incoming freshman class rates better than the previous one.

Better test scores. Higher grade point averages. High school valedictorians all over the place.

For the admitted class that will enter the university this fall, the average student took seven or eight AP classes in high school, according to data presented to university trustees last week.
Chancellor Holden Thorp, himself a high school whiz kid in Fayetteville in the 1980s, told trustees that he took three such courses.

A student who took seven AP classes doesn't necessarily have seven class credits. To do so, he or she also must pass the AP exam at the end of the year.

But many students arrive with at least four or five AP credits, enough to erase at least a semester of college work, said Stephen Farmer, UNC-CH's director of undergraduate admissions.

**Appeal may be limited**

Students would have to commit to a master's degree track early in the college career, so the idea wouldn't appeal to everyone, Farmer cautioned. But ambitious, goal-oriented students - for whom the customary track now includes a double- or even triple-major - might go for it, he said.

"We have really talented people, and we don't want to stand in their way," he said. "The prospect of doing more than one thing in four years will appeal to some students."

Across the nation, institutions are tailoring programs to fit academic demands and financial restraints.

For more than a decade, N.C. State University has offered an accelerated bachelor's/master's program for students with advanced placement credits. It allows students closing in on a bachelor's degree to apply as many as 12 AP credits toward a master's, trimming the credits required from 30 to 18 in most cases.

Though some NCSU students manage to graduate in four years with a master's degree, in the most popular such program - engineering - students on the accelerated path get a master's in five years. That saves a semester or two, depending on the program.

About 100 of the graduate school's 6,000 students are enrolled in the program at any point, said Duane Larick, dean of NCSU's graduate school. It's rigorous; students must maintain a 3.5 grade point average to gain entry.
"We only do this for students doing really well academically," he said. "They're ahead of the pace, and we wanted to give them a reward for being ahead of the pace."

'A good fit' for UNC
Last year, Mount Olive College in Wayne County announced plans for a three-year bachelor's degree for ambitious students. For this small, private institution, the program was a response to a sour economy: Shaving a year off the undergraduate experience would save students $22,000.

Like the UNC-CH master's degree idea, a three-year bachelor's program isn't for everyone, but at Mount Olive, officials have said there's at least some number of students with enough AP credits, desire and flexibility to make it happen.

Duke University doesn't offer a four-year master's program, but does allow new students to apply two AP credits toward an undergraduate degree.

The program would make sense at UNC-CH because of the caliber of student it attracts, said Daniel Hurley, director of state relations and policy analysis with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

And if advertised properly, it could be valuable recruiting tool, he said.

"It's a good fit for that institution," Hurley said. "They should market it down to the ninth and 10th grades. It's another incentive to take rigorous courses in high school."

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Pay of State University Presidents Holds Steady Despite Cuts

By JACQUES STEINBERG

In a year in which state universities often absorbed sharp budget cuts and raised tuition, the salaries of the presidents of those institutions largely held steady, according to a survey by The Chronicle of Higher Education released Sunday night.

The median total compensation for the leaders of 185 of the nation’s largest state research universities during the 2009-10 academic year was $440,487, a figure that includes base pay and bonuses, as well as deferred compensation and money set aside for retirement, the Chronicle said. Overall, that figure represented an increase of about 1 percent over the previous year.

In tallying questionnaires completed by the universities, the Chronicle counted 59 of the 185 presidents, or nearly a third, as earning more than $500,000 in total compensation. Of the 10 highest-paid — including E.
Gordon Gee of Ohio State ($1.8 million), and Francisco G. Cigarroa of the University of Texas ($813,892) — none earned less than $725,000.

In an indication that the highest-paid university leaders risked the wrath of taxpayers and students, several turned down at least a portion of their pay. Mr. Gee, whose base salary is listed as $802,000, donated nearly $300,000 in bonus payments to “scholarship funds and other university efforts,” as he did the prior year, according to the Chronicle. Gary D. Forsee, president of the University of Missouri system, whose base salary was $400,000, declined a performance bonus of $100,000. (He has since left office.)

Other presidents had pay cuts, including those in the University of California system, whose salaries were reduced 10 percent under furloughs initiated by Mark G. Yudof, president of the university system.

The full study can be found at chronicle.com/presidentialpay.
Op-Ed Contributor

Unpaid Interns, Complicit Colleges

By ROSS PERLIN

ON college campuses, the annual race for summer internships, many of them unpaid, is well under way. But instead of steering students toward the best opportunities and encouraging them to value their work, many institutions of higher learning are complicit in helping companies skirt a nebulous area of labor law.

Colleges and universities have become cheerleaders and enablers of the unpaid internship boom, failing to inform young people of their rights or protect them from the miserly calculus of employers. In hundreds of interviews with interns over the past three years, I found dejected students resigned to working unpaid for summers, semesters and even entire academic years — and, increasingly, to paying for the privilege.

For the students, the problems are less philosophical and legal than practical. In 2007, for instance, Will Batson, a Colgate University student from Augusta, Ga., and a son of two public-interest lawyers, worked as an unpaid, full-time summer intern for WNBC and had to scramble for shelter in New York City.

“It definitely hurt my confidence,” Mr. Batson told me. He recalled crashing on more than 20 floors and couches, being constantly short on cash and fearing he would have to quit and go home. His father, he said, felt like a failure for not being able to help him rent an apartment.

What makes WNBC — whose parent company, General Electric, is valued at more than $200 billion — think it can get away with this? In Mr. Batson’s case, a letter from Colgate, certifying that he was receiving credit for doing the internship. (Now 24, he gave up on journalism and is at a technology start-up. NBC calls its internship program “an important recruiting tool.”)

The uncritical internship fever on college campuses — not to mention the exploitation of graduate student instructors, adjunct faculty members and support staff — is symptomatic of a broader malaise. Far from being the liberal, pro-labor bastions of popular image, universities are often blind to the realities of work in contemporary America.
In politics, film, fashion, journalism and book publishing, unpaid internships are seen as a way to break in. (The New York Times has paid and unpaid interns.) But the phenomenon goes beyond fields seen as glamorous.

Three-quarters of the 10 million students enrolled in America’s four-year colleges and universities will work as interns at least once before graduating, according to the College Employment Research Institute. Between one-third and half will get no compensation for their efforts, a study by the research firm Intern Bridge found. Unpaid interns also lack protection from laws prohibiting racial discrimination and sexual harassment.

The United States Department of Labor says an intern at a for-profit company may work without pay only when the program is similar to that offered in a vocational school, benefits the student, does not displace a regular employee and does not entitle the student to a job; in addition, the employer must derive “no immediate advantage” from the student’s work and both sides must agree that the student is not entitled to wages.

Employers and their lawyers appear to believe that unpaid interns who get academic credit meet those criteria, but the law seems murky; the Labor Department has said that “academic credit alone does not guarantee that the employer is in compliance.”

Fearing a crackdown by regulators, some colleges are asking the government, in essence, to look the other way. In a letter last year, 13 university presidents told the Labor Department, “While we share your concerns about the potential for exploitation, our institutions take great pains to ensure students are placed in secure and productive environments that further their education.”

Far from resisting the exploitation of their students, colleges have made academic credit a commodity. Just look at Menlo College, a business-focused college in northern California, which sold credits to a business called Dream Careers. Menlo grossed $50,000 from the arrangement in 2008, while Dream Careers sold Menlo-accredited internships for as much as $9,500.

To meet the credit requirement of their employers, some interns have essentially had to pay to work for free: shelling out $2,700 to the University of Pennsylvania in the case of an intern at NBC Universal and $1,600 to New York University by an intern at “The Daily Show,” to cite two examples from news reports.

Charging students tuition to work in unpaid positions might be justifiable in some cases — if the college plays a central role in securing the internship and making it a substantive academic experience. But more often, internships are a cheap way
for universities to provide credit — cheaper than paying for faculty members, classrooms and equipment.

A survey of more than 700 colleges by the National Association of Colleges and Employers found that 95 percent allowed the posting of unpaid internships in campus career centers and on college Web sites. And of those colleges, only 30 percent required that their students obtain academic credit for those unpaid internships; the rest, evidently, were willing to overlook potential violations of labor law.

Campus career centers report being swamped; advisers I spoke to flatly denied being able to “monitor and reassess” all placements or even postings, as the 13 university presidents claim to do — their ability to visit students’ workplaces, for instance, is almost nil. They described feeling caught between the demands of employers and interns, and scrambling to make accommodations: issuing vague letters of support for interns to show employers; offering sketchy “internship transcript notations” or “internship certificates”; and even handing out “0.0 credit” — a mysterious work-around by which credit both is and isn’t issued.

Is there a better way? Cooperative education, in which students alternate between tightly integrated classroom time and paid work experience, represents a humane and pragmatic model.

Colleges shouldn’t publicize unpaid internships at for-profit companies. They should discourage internship requirements for graduation — common practice in communications, psychology, social work and criminology. They should stop charging students to work without pay — and ensure that the currency of academic credit, already cheapened by internships, doesn’t lose all its value.

To be sure, the unpaid internship is only part of a phenomenon that includes the growing numbers of temps, freelancers, adjuncts, self-employed “entrepreneurs” and other low-wage or precariously employed workers who live gig by gig. The academy should critique, not amplify, those trends.

While higher education has tried to stand for fairness in the past few decades through affirmative action and financial aid, the internship boom gives the well-to-do a foot in the door while consigning the less well-off to dead-end temporary jobs. Colleges have turned internships into a prerequisite for the professional world but have neither ensured equal access to these opportunities, nor insisted on fair wages for honest work.

Ross Perlin, a researcher at the Himalayan Languages Project, is the author of the forthcoming “Intern Nation: How to Earn Nothing and Learn Little in the Brave New Economy.”
Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. is urging the nation’s schools and colleges to do more to prevent sexual violence, saying campus sex crimes often go unreported because victims fear that universities will not discipline offenders.

Mr. Biden travels to the University of New Hampshire on Monday to discuss new Education Department instructions, issued on Monday, to public school districts, colleges and universities about their responsibilities under civil rights laws to prevent sexual violence.

“Sexual violence can happen to anyone, and it happens at the best colleges,” Mr. Biden said in a statement. “Very few report the crime to law enforcement because when they do, universities often fail to discipline the offender, leaving him free to do it again.”

Mr. Biden’s New Hampshire visit is part of a broader effort by the Obama administration to draw attention to sexual violence and ways to prevent it, officials said.

“There is a terrible and alarming trend in the country of sexual violence,” said Russlyn H. Ali, assistant secretary of education who heads the Office of Civil Rights.

She cited a private, Internet-based survey of undergraduate women in 2007 at two public universities in which 19 percent of respondents reported that they had been victims of attempted or actual sexual assault while at college. The Justice Department financed the surveys.

On Thursday, Ms. Ali’s office announced that in mid-March it received a 26-page complaint against Yale, filed by 16 students and alumni, and would investigate. The complaint says that a sexually hostile environment exists on the Yale campus and that the university has not responded effectively.

The Yale Daily News on Friday cited a 2008 incident in which fraternity pledges were photographed holding a sign referring to Yale women in
sexually degrading language. That and other episodes were indications of a worsening sexual climate at Yale, several of those who signed the complaint to the department’s Office of Civil Rights told the student newspaper.

A spokesman said Yale takes all allegations of sexual misconduct “extremely seriously” and would cooperate with any investigation.

The Education Department’s new guidance came in the form of a 19-page letter to all educational institutions that receive federal money.

It says that once a school or university “knows or reasonably should know of possible sexual violence,” it must act to end the violence, protect those who have reported it and investigate to find out what happened.

Mr. Biden picked the university in Durham, N.H., to make his remarks, officials said, because it has exemplary sexual violence prevention programs.