Internships to play bigger role at UNC

Popular posts can benefit students

BY WHITNEY KISLING

You take the classes, you learn the jargon, you get the degree and you're good to go.

That's how entering the real world after college graduation

But now, more and more students use their time in college to gain real-world work experience in their fields through internships. They say those jobs provide a way to learn career skills and a way to enter into life after college.

And at UNC, the positions are increasingly becoming part of the average undergraduate's

experience.
"I thought of this as a starting place to gain experience," said junior Mike Masterson, who is interning with Chapel Hill-based University Directories. "I'd never

had office experience."
At UNC, internships can be compensated through stipends - or through academic credit that either does or does not count

toward a degree.

Academic credit usually is awarded only for unpaid internships. Any internship through the College of Arts and Sciences must be unpaid to receive credit, though professional schools can have different standards, said Kenneth Janken, director of the Office of Experiential Education and professor of Afro-American

And now, getting an internship can help you get your diploma. The class of 2010 will be required to meet an "experiential education" requirement that can be fulfilled through an internship, study abroad, service-learning or

In light of those new requirements, some departments are revisiting their internship programs. The Department of Public Policy, for example, recently withdrew from its Web site a statement that both unpaid and paid internships qualify for credit.

Jay Eubank, director of

career services for UNC's School of Journalism and Mass Communication, said the majority of students he works with in finding internships do not want the academic supplement because they have enough hours

to graduate. "I don't encourage it a whole lot because a lot of students don't need it," he said.

He also said faculty members in his department prefer that students earn academic credit through the department's classes, rather than relying on credit from

Still, in the past few years, companies have increasingly requested that their interns receive academic credit instead of money, Eubank said.

"The bottom line is they prefer not to pay an intern," he said, noting that unpaid internships appeal to a smaller pool of applicants — those students who can afford to work for free. "It probably limits who employers are going to get to

Said Janken, "This is one of the things that I'm most uncomfortable with. To me, it seems that there's an exploitation of student

Many students agree that the academic credit doesn't outweigh the lack of a paycheck:
"I have to live during the sum-

mer, so ... I'm not going to take an unpaid internship," senior Jimmy

Eubank suggested that if students must take an unpaid internship, they should work only part time - and find a second job that

If students have additional income, they are more likely willing to work for less.

I could have probably found a higher paying job or internship, but it was worth it to have this experience," said junior Matt Wagner, who is able to intern for the town of Hillsborough this summer because he has additional income.

Helping students navigate

Internships

You can find internships on academic department Web sites,

at careers.unc.edu and at internship fairs, or you can create your own internship with a business or nonprofit.

Types of compensation Most departments only offer academic credit for paid internships, but many "unpaid" internships award stipends.

Getting academic credit Students can get credit for internships of at least 100 hours with approval from their major department and the director of the Office of Experimental

these sometimes tricky waters will be the Office of Experiential Education, which was created in January. As its first major task, the office will test Carolina's new "experiential education" program — and, therefore, get more involved than before in students'

Janken said he is comfortable with observing the program in action before deciding if he should make any changes.

The 411 on academic credit

To apply for academic credit for an internship — whether it's for major credit, general degree credit or non-degree credit — students typically must fill out a form that outlines their expectations of the experience a few weeks before the preceding semester ends.

The student must work for at least 100 hours and have a GPA of 2.0 or more.

At the end of the internship. the director of the department that will award credit evaluates the student's reflection and the site supervisor's assessment of the performance.

Contact the University Editor

UNC sets a date for 'Meet the Heels' event

Hoops stars shine in summer league

STAFF AND WIRE REPORT

The 2006 University of North Carolina football team will host "Meet the Heels" on Aug. 12 from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. at Kenan Stadium. Coach John Bunting and the entire Tar Heel squad will sign autographs and pose for pictures with fans beginning at 7 p.m.

Woody Durham, now in his 36th year as the "Voice of the Tar Heels," will introduce the team beginning at 6:45 p.m.

— followed by pictures and autographs with the 2006 Tar Heels

Concession stands and restroom facilities will be open on Kenan Stadium's south-side concourse. Free parking is available in the Boshamer, Stadium Drive, Craige Deck and Smith Center lots.

In case of rain, Meet the Heels will take place on the third-floor concourse in the west end zone.

Tar Heels light it up

Former UNC basketball standout Sean May — grounded for most of his rookie season in the NBA due to injury - broke out for the Charlotte Bobcats in NBA summer-league

May, who led Carolina to a national championship in 2005, averaged 18.6 points and 5.2 rebounds over five games in the Orlando summer league as the Bobcats went 3-2 and tied for the league's best record. He was named to the Orlando All-League team — as was Bobcats rookie Adam Morrison, who posted 24.6 points per game in the league.

Other Tar Heels also have seen success in summer-league play.

David Noel, a second-team All-ACC performer in the 2005-06 season, scored 26 points for his squad in a July 15 game against the

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Washington Wizards in the SoCal Summer Pro League.

Jawad Williams, the starting power forward for the 2004-05 national championship team, had three games in which he scored in double figures for the Los Angeles Clippers in the Las Vegas Summer

Marvin Williams, the sixth man on that title team, has averaged more than 20 points per game for the Atlanta Hawks in the Rocky Mountain Revie, signaling that good things are to come for the No. 2 overall pick in the 2005 NBA Draft.

Jackie Manuel, the Tar Heels' defensive stopper on their national title run, put up close to 5 points per game in limited playing time for the Chicago Bulls in the Orlando Pro Summer League.

The other Carolina alumni in summer-league play included Raymond Felton, who had 9 points in 18 minutes in his one game for the Bobcats, and Joseph Forte.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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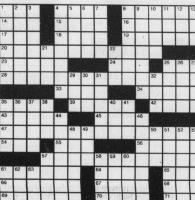
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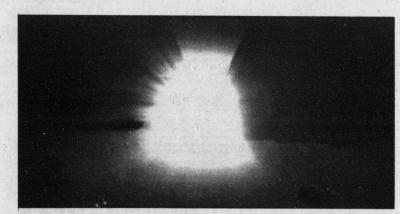
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