

# Internship Office underfunded, understaffed

By Eric Pfanner  
Staff Reporter

The new coordinator of the Internship and Cooperative Education Office said her major challenge will be closing the gap between the number of students who apply for internships and the number who are accepted.

Marcia Phelps, who replaced Millie Katz as

coordinator Jan. 3, said 900 students applied for internships in 1987. She said 700 of those were placed in jobs.

It is difficult to place this many students, she said, with an office that is "small, understaffed and underfunded."

The office employs three full-time staff people and one administrative assistant, Phelps said.

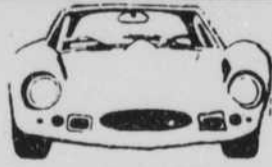
But, she said, besides needing extra funding, she does not think the internship office needs a major overhaul.

"It (the office) only needs to be streamlined and made more efficient," Phelps said.

Several grants are available to help more students find internships, she said. Phelps said she hopes the internship office will not have to start charging students for its services.

Not only can internships help a student get a job, Phelps said, but they also help confirm a student's interests.

Students should come to the Internship and Cooperative Education Office during their sophomore year to "get a focus" and learn about what kinds of internships are available, she said.



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## Nebraska professor granted English instruction fellowship

By Larry Peirce  
Senior Reporter

Larry Andrews wanted to go to England in the spring of 1990, but only for a few days.

Instead, he'll be there for 10 weeks, as visiting fellow at the University of London Institute of Education. While he's there he'll work with Michael Stubbs, a University of London professor and well-known language specialist, he said.

Andrews, a professor of curriculum and instruction and English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, wrote to Stubbs last summer and suggested they meet for "two or three days" next spring, while Andrews is on leave from UNL.

Stubbs went a few steps further and on his recommendation, Andrews was named visiting fellow, he said.

"To be invited by him is quite a surprise and quite an honor," Andrews said.



Andrews

Andrews will join a research group in March 1990 to observe classrooms in London and Central England. The group will study ways to help elementary and secondary students learn to read, write and speak better, he said.

"My teaching is going to be so invigorated by all this experience, and my own research and writing will be helped. It will be a great benefit to my students," he said. "I feel like a 12-year-old at Christmas."

Language study receives different attention in England than it does in the United States, he said.

"In this country, when we study language in classrooms, we tend to look at it as a very formal object. And when people use this... their use is either right or wrong," he said.

Andrews said Stubbs leads a trend in which language's more informal and personal uses are studied. Different meanings emerge from a variety of contexts, he said, and not just from language's single formal context.

"You and I spend most of our day in informal exchanges of language, but nobody ever examines that," he said.

The language is taught differently

## Trends benefit graduates, Routh says

By Larry Peirce  
Senior Reporter

A national trend of more job offers with higher starting salaries for college graduates applies to University of Nebraska-Lincoln 1989 graduates, said Larry Routh, director of UNL's Career Planning and Placement Office.

A study done at Michigan State University's placement office predicts a bright future for new graduates. In a survey of 739 business, industry, government and education employers shows a 3.4 percent hiring increase for graduates with bachelor degrees in 1989. It also shows a salary increase of 3 percent for new employees, which is typical, Routh said.

"I would say that the national trends apply here in the sense that national employers come here," Routh said.

Companies such as Hewlett-Packard, General Dynamics, or Texas

Instruments for example, are not going to offer UNL graduates more or less money than they would offer to graduates from Illinois or Stanford, he said. Major companies have a set salary schedule for entry-level employees, he said.

The national trend might not apply for local companies that don't recruit nationally, he said.

"They may set their salaries based on what their personal recruiting experience is," he said.

Many people think only corporations recruit at UNL, he said.

"A lot of people (from UNL) go to work for federal, state and county governments, and for non-profit organizations," he said.

Routh said he sees two trends in job availability for new graduates -- the expansion of the economy and low unemployment. Both continue to benefit college graduates, he said.

Another trend, however, could hurt employment chances within cer-

tain companies, he said.

Some employers are striving to be more efficient and more competitive, he said. By "downsizing," they reduce the number of middle-management employees, and may hire fewer new employees, he said.

Routh said one Fortune 500 company that recruits at UNL has indicated it won't be hiring as many people, even though its business is expanding, because it is going through consolidation, and will reduce the number of middle and entry-level employees.

Routh said there isn't any one career area that seems to be attracting more employers than another.

"There seems to be pretty good across-the-board hiring," he said. "I can't say that any one occupational classification is really down in comparison with previous years."

## Professor works to develop instrument

By Brad Rundquist  
Staff Reporter

A University of Nebraska-Lincoln biology professor is working to refine an instrument that could help scientists identify factors that cause genetic and hereditary diseases.

John Brumbaugh said the instrument is able to identify the sequence of components which make up human genes. If all these components could be mapped, scientists would have a data bank that would help them understand the underlying causes of some forms of cancer and

heart disease, he said.

Genes are made of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and are found on the chromosomes in human cells. DNA is composed of four bases. Brumbaugh said the instrument will map these four bases and their sequence.

The mapping is done with fluorescent dyes and a laser analyzes data from DNA samples broken down by electrophoresis, a process that uses an electric current to separate the DNA into smaller pieces.

The findings could be used for agriculture as well, Brumbaugh said. He said that disease resistant and

higher yielding crops could be developed more easily.

Brumbaugh is working with Li-Cor Inc. of Lincoln, to produce an instrument that could be marketed. Li-Cor has given UNL \$210,000 in support of the project as well as equipment and manpower, Brumbaugh said. He estimated the total cost of the project at \$1 million.

He said the Li-Cor machine will not be ready for commercial use for about a year. Applied Biosystems, DuPont and EG&G Inc., also are working on similar research, Brumbaugh said.

## police

REPORT

Beginning midnight Monday, Jan. 23

11:52 p.m. -- Two-vehicle, non-injury accident reported in the parking lot at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Holdrege streets.

4:35 p.m. -- Jewelry was reported stolen from the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority, 716 N. 16th St., \$710.

10:16 p.m. -- Burned hot dogs set off a fire alarm at Kappa Kappa Gamma, 616 N. 16th St.

## Number comparison may not be accurate

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current statistics can be accurately compared to the 1983 numbers. In the past few years, she said, the center has adopted a new system of keeping track of center usage.

Also, in the past the center sponsored a counseling service which no longer exists. The larger numbers may have resulted from that service.