

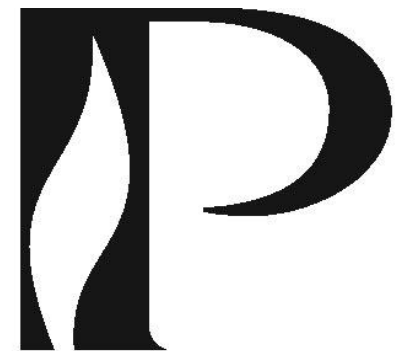


THINK JUSTICE



Stakes Is High!

**Fall 2010 Parents' Orientation
Philander Smith College**



T H I N K J U S T I C E

THE CHRONICLE

of Higher Education®

May 7, 2010 • \$3.75
Volume LVI, Number 34

<http://chronicle.com>

'Hip-Hop Prez' Rejuvenates a College, Using a Personal Touch

BY KATHRYN MASTERSON

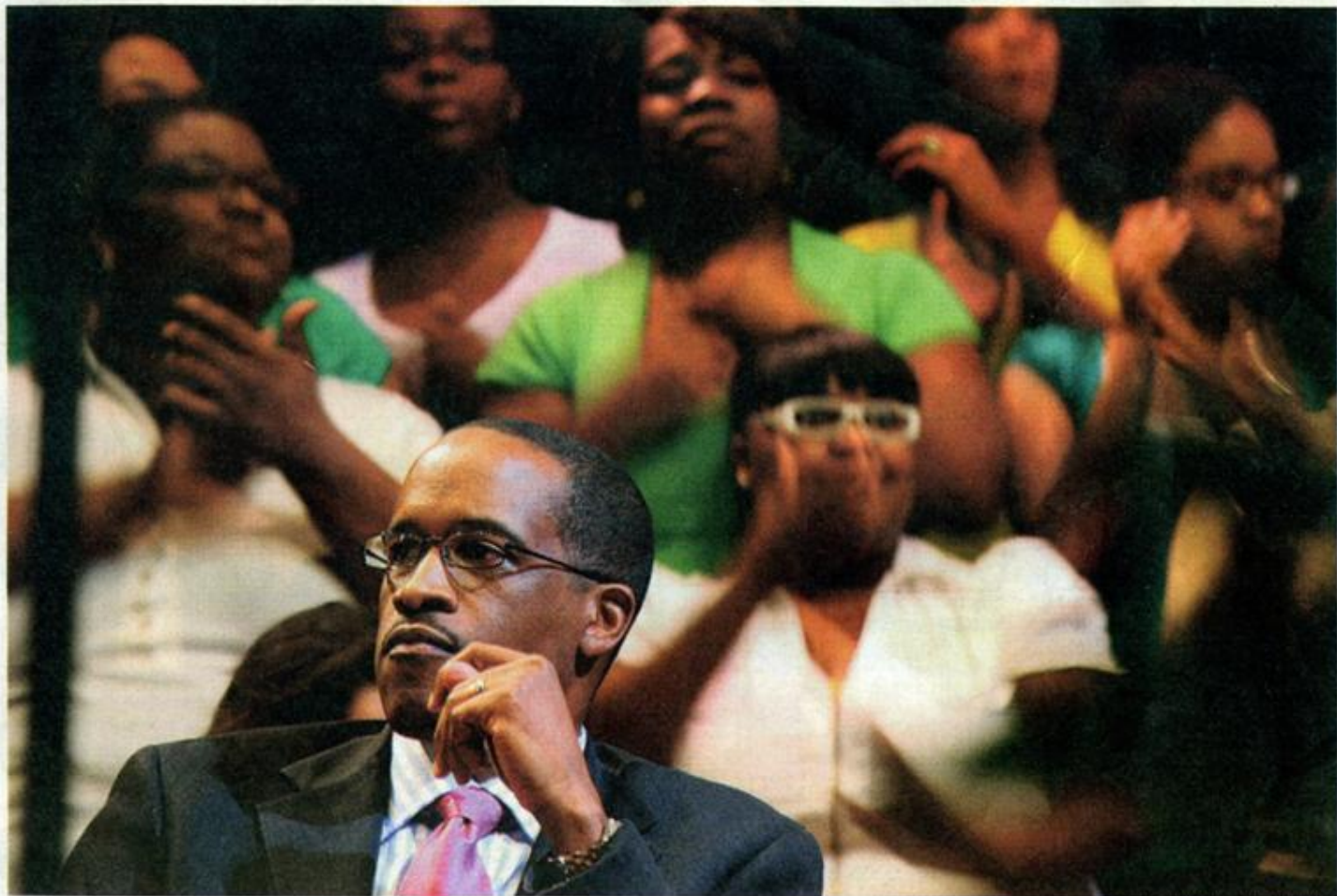
LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

WALTER M. KIMBROUGH isn't shy about giving out his cellphone number. A dozen or more times a day, students text the president of Philander Smith College. They e-mail him and drop by his office. When student-government leaders need a ride to a conference in New Orleans, 445 miles away, he drives the rented van.

That level of access is at the heart of Mr. Kimbrough's recruiting pitch for the small, private institution here that he is working to rebuild after some difficult years. He challenges potential applicants to send him an e-mail message or find him on Facebook—where he has 1,670 friends—and he will respond, usually within a few hours. Then, he tells them, e-mail the presidents of other colleges they are considering, and see what happens.

That hands-on approach was just what Philander Smith needed in 2004 when Mr. Kim-

Continued on Page A17



STEPHEN B. THORNTON FOR THE CHRONICLE

"This to me is a ministry," says Walter M. Kimbrough, president of Philander Smith College, a small, private, historically black institution.

Faculty Job Interviews Move From Scholarly Meetings to Campuses

BY AUDREY WILLIAMS JUNE

■ In some cases, technology

interviews that helped the department craft its short list of candidates who

ger the places where job seekers and potential employers meet—are won-

Lingering Seniors Get a Soft Shove



College is high stakes

- **\$20,000 cost of attendance**
- **\$86,000 for 4 years (5% increase/year)**
- **Only about half of all college students graduate!**
- **Even lower for people of color.**
- **Large debt + NO Degree = A MESS!**

A vertical decorative bar on the left side of the page, composed of various colored segments including green, yellow, black, white, and brown, arranged in a repeating pattern.

ONE YEAR AGO...

PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE
NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION
2009 - 2010

SMITH









Despite All Of That...



...We Lost Some Along the Way



Why Students Leave College

■ Individual Level

- Intention- the higher the educational or occupational goals, the greater likelihood of completion
- Commitment- willingness to invest time, energy, and resources necessary to graduate



Why Students Leave (cont.)

■ Institutional Level

- Adjustment- to the social and intellectual world of college
- Incongruence- mismatch between needs, interests and preferences of student and institution
- Isolation- absence of sufficient contact between student and other members of the social and academic communities
- Difficulty- ability to meet the minimum academic standards for performance



Why Students Leave (cont.)

■ External Level

- Obligations- family, work, retaining peer groups from high school
- Finances- determined whether or not to attend, how much education to seek, and where to attend; complex variable

EXPECTATION #1



They Are Here To
Be Students First!



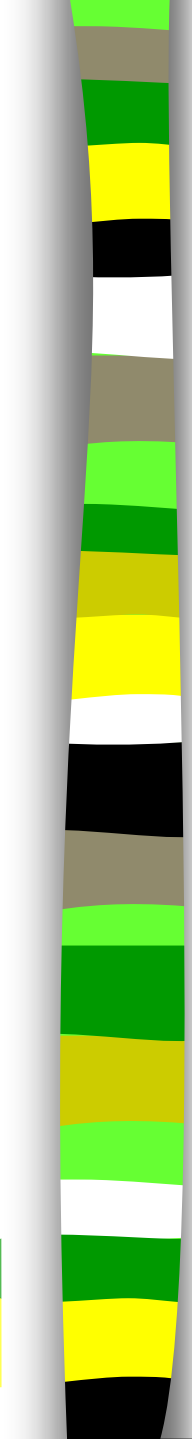
Four major reasons for academic difficulty

1. Poor time management
2. Continue to organize and study the same way they did in high school
3. Selection of courses
4. Studying alone



My Expectations of Students

- GO TO CLASS! Go to EVERY class.
- Be on time
- Be prepared for class- READ!
- Participate in class
- Dress appropriately
- Adhere to all deadlines
- Ask for help; get a MENTOR
- No excuses

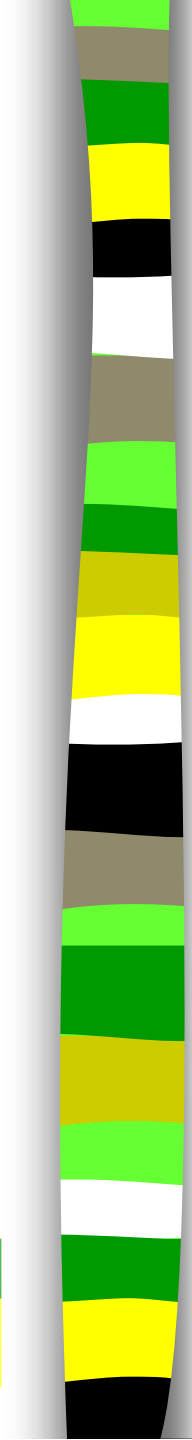


Education is the
only thing that
people are willing
to pay for and not
receive

EXPECTATION #2



**GO TO
CLASS!**



Expectation #3: Encourage them to seek help with coursework

- Encourage them to meet and interact with their professors
- They should spend roughly 2 to 3 hours studying per hour in class
- Get to know at least one professor well per year so they will have at least 4 candidates to write strong reference letters

WAIT!!!!

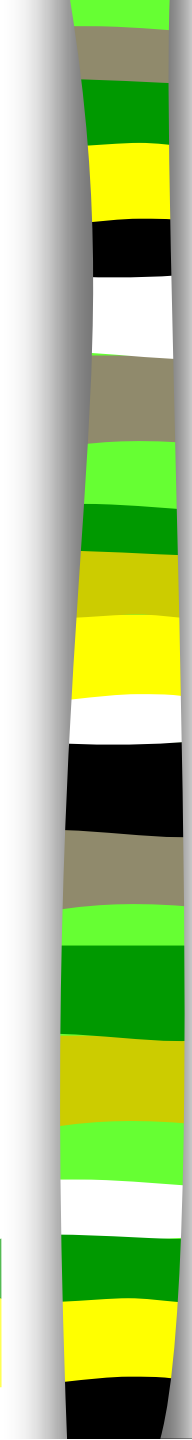


I am paying for this!
I need to control this situation!



Meet FERPA

- Federal privacy act which basically says that students are treated as adults with their educational records
- This means:
 - We don't give out class schedules
 - We don't give you their grades
 - You don't have parent/ teacher conferences
- This is all about **TRANSITIONING TO INDEPENDENCE**



“Well, Dr. Kimbrough, I know my child, and I will be HEAVILY involved in EVERYTHING that they do! NOW then, what do you have to say to that?”

Dear Mom and Dad: Can I move back home?

■ As benefits run out, many job seekers deplete savings and move back with relatives.

ALEX VEIGA
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES —

Unemployed and running out of money, Brad Hoegler is back where he never thought he'd be — home with his parents.

The 26-year-old lost his job last year as a financial consultant for Charles Schwab in Austin, Texas. His severance package dwindled within weeks. Jobs were nowhere to be found, and the few hundred dollars he collected each week in unemployment benefits didn't make ends meet.

Hoegler, who left home eight

years ago, said his only option was moving back in with his parents in Southern California.

"It puts a little crimp in my social life," Hoegler said. "But it certainly helps me, there's no two ways about

University and has sent out 135 resumes since February. She's had just four interviews so far: Two of those have yet to say yes, but they haven't said no, either.

"Those are pretty much my only prospects right now," said Hauser, who is looking for a job in health care marketing in New York.

Hauser said she might be forced to move back with her parents in Philadelphia if she doesn't have a job when the lease expires on the apartment she shares with her fiancé. His job won't start until September and the chances of getting a new apartment when both are unemployed are slim.

She said moving back home isn't "the worst possible thing. But we would obviously prefer not to do it."

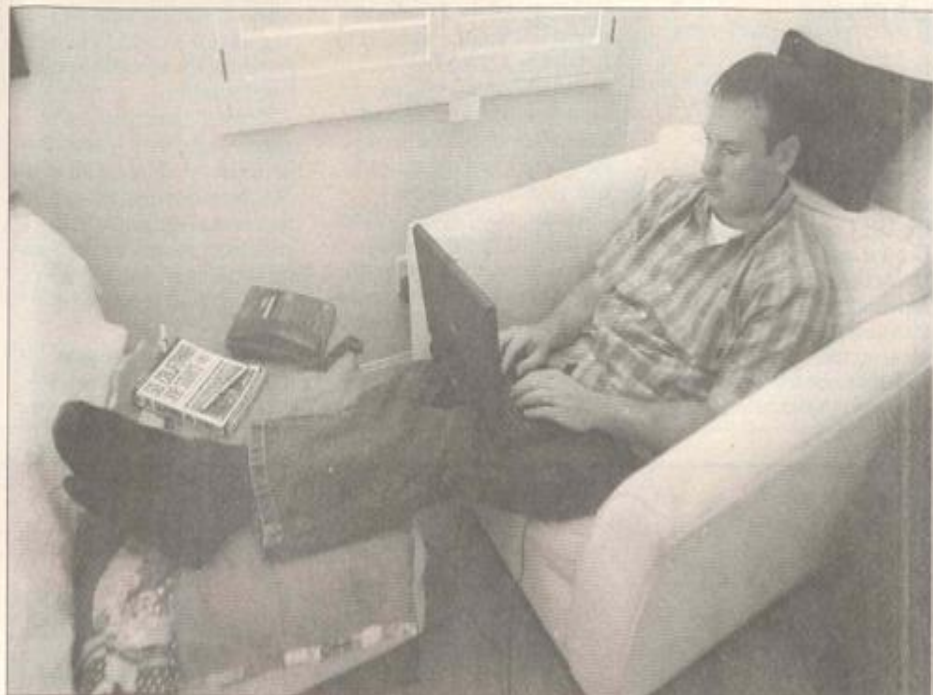
Sue Ellenburg of Easley, S.C., saved six months' worth of earnings but never expected it would take so long to find a job.

Ellenburg went to work part-time as a cashier at Wal-Mart eight months after losing her job as a human resources manager for a textile firm. She took the \$80-a-week job to help supplement the \$213 a week she receives in unemployment aid.

She already has burned through most of her savings to help pay her \$790-a-month mortgage and has cut her expenses, including eliminating health insurance. She found new homes for her two dogs and cat because she can no longer afford to care for them.

Ellenburg lives alone and figures she has another six to eight months before her savings are depleted. If she loses her home, an aunt in the area has offered to take her in.

"It's not working," she said of her dwindling savings. "There's no way that I can live on this."



The Associated Press

Brad Hoegler checks out job postings on the Internet at his parent's home in Redondo Beach, Calif. The 26-year-old Hoegler, who lost his job last year with Charles Schwab in Austin, Texas, was forced to move back in with his parents.

“
I gave up everything. I'm basically down to buying food and gas. Initially, I thought I could get another job fairly easily. I've never seen it this bad.

Red, White and Blue
SUMMER
Frigidaire
BLOWOUT SALE

Choose from a Frigidaire Stainless Steel Gas or Electric Range, plus a Frigidaire...

Energy utility rebates or Energy Star rebates may be available. See retailer for details.



Expectation #4: Work LESS THAN 20 hours per week

- One of the worst things our students do is work more than 20 hours
- It translates into a longer time to graduate, which means they end up spending more on school than they need to or have to.
- For others, they get caught up in working and never graduate.

Instead of a JOB....



... get an INTERNSHIP

August 10, 2004

The New York Times
nytimes.com

Crucial Unpaid Internships Increasingly Separate the Haves From the Have-Nots

By JENNIFER 8. LEE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 - Susan Lim, a 20-year-old Georgetown University student, is working 89 hours a week this summer: two part-time jobs and an unpaid internship offered through the Public Policy and International Affairs Program.

The focus on internships as a tool for professional success has never been greater, according to Mark Oldman, co-author of "The Internship Bible" and co-founder of Vault Inc., a career counseling company.

About 80 percent of graduating college seniors now have done a paid or unpaid internship, according to surveys by Vault, compared with about 60 percent a decade ago.



Expectation #5: Stay In Touch, But...

- Don't overdo it. The culprit may be something known as a CELL PHONE, also known as the "High Tech Umbilical Cord"
- Initiate conversations about classes, activities, and friends
- Make it OK for friends to come home to visit
- To check up on them, do so at varying times (and locations)



Expectation #6: Promote Involvement

- Especially through residence halls and extracurricular activities
- 80% of students choose an out of class situation as the event that changed them profoundly
- Encourage students to join a campus organization or group that will give them social and personal support
- **Attend campus events!**

Expectation #7



**Avoid The
First or Third Rule**





Uncomfortable Conversations

- Talk with your son/daughter about sex
- **“The vows of abstinence break far more often than a latex condom”**
 - Former Surgeon General and PSC Alumna
Dr. Joycelyn Elders

Expectation #8



Know Common



Common Sense

- College presents challenges- have to make good decisions
- Can't change 18 years in 18 weeks!

Expectation #9



**Become
Socially Conscious**



PSC Mission

- To graduate **academically accomplished** students, grounded as **advocates for social justice**, determined to **change the world** for the better.

Expectation #10



I Need To Know Them



Freshman Lunch Program

- Make an appointment with 2 or 3 friends to go to lunch with me
- We talk about life at PSC, as well as allow them to make a connection
- Last year went with 34% of entire freshman class
 - Still need to see more men



THINK JUSTICE