

# Grab bag



**Suggestions welcome:**  
Do you have an item for the Grab Bag? Send it to Olivia Crosby, PSB 2135, 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE., Washington, DC 20212. Fax: (202) 691-5745. E-mail: [ooqinfo@bls.gov](mailto:ooqinfo@bls.gov).

## Planning a business career

Thinking about studying business? You're not alone.

Business continues to be the most commonly anticipated major among first-year college students, according to a study by the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). Two associations—Future Business Leaders of America—Phi Beta Lambda, Inc. and DECA, Inc.—can help to prepare enterprising students in high school and college. Future Business Leaders assists students who have an interest in business and business-related fields. DECA caters to students and teachers of marketing, management, and entrepreneurship. Both offer leadership training, networking opportunities, and competitions, scholarships, and awards.

To find out if these associations have chapters at your school, check with an administrator or business teacher or contact the organizations directly: Future Business Leaders of America—Phi Beta Lambda, 1912 Association Dr., Reston, VA 20191-1591; toll free 1 (800) FBLA-WIN (325-2946); [www.fbla-pbl.org](http://www.fbla-pbl.org). DECA Inc., 1908 Association Dr., Reston, VA 20191; (703) 860-5000; [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org).

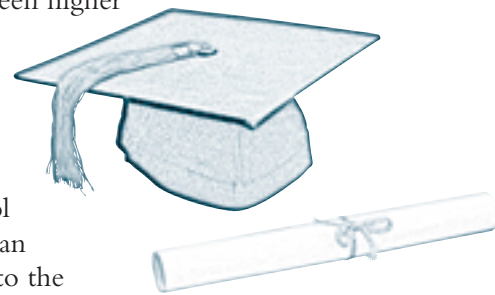
The UCLA study, “American Freshman: National Norms for Fall, 2002,” is sponsored by the American Council on Education and the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies at UCLA as part of a longitudinal study that began in fall 1966. For more information, see the press release at [www.gseis.ucla.edu/heri/02\\_press\\_release.pdf](http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/heri/02_press_release.pdf) or contact **UCLA GSE&IS**, Moore Hall, Box 951521, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90095-1521; (310) 825-1925.



## Most 2002 grads went directly to college

Nearly two-thirds of high school students who graduated in the spring of 2002 headed back to school—postsecondary school, that is—in the fall. A greater proportion of female than of male graduates (68 and 62 percent, respectively) set off for college campuses and thus continued a recent trend: college attendance rates for young women have been higher than those for young men nearly every year since the late 1980s.

These and other data about high school graduates come from an October supplement to the Current Population Survey. For more information, request the “College Enrollment and Work Activity of 2002 High School Graduates” news release, available from the **Bureau of Labor Statistics**, 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE., Washington, DC 20212-0001; (202) 691-5200. The news release is also online via links at [www.bls.gov/news.release/hsgec.toc.htm](http://www.bls.gov/news.release/hsgec.toc.htm).



## Joint effort serves youths with disabilities

Ten organizations have joined forces to assist the workforce-development community with issues affecting the employment of young people with disabilities. The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth comprises organizations that have expertise in disability, education, employment, and workforce-development issues.

The collaborative, which is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy, strives to ensure that young people with disabilities have full access to high-quality services in integrated settings. To accomplish this mission, the collaborative focuses on supporting State and local



## Research funding gets batty

If you have an affinity for night creatures, Bat Conservation International offers a scholarship opportunity you might want to swoop down on.

The nonprofit organization sponsors research by college students who have an interest in bat-conservation issues. Its scholarship program makes individual awards, primarily for graduate student research, of \$1,000 to \$2,500. Recipients are selected through a process of peer review.

To apply, students must complete a form and submit a research proposal, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation from academic or conservation biology professionals. Materials must be received by December 15, the standing deadline for scholarships awarded for the following year, but students are encouraged to submit their applications well before then.

For more information, contact Bat Conservation International, Scholarship Program, PO Box 162603, Austin, TX 78716; (512) 327-9721; [www.batcon.org](http://www.batcon.org) (on the menu at the left on the homepage, click on "Get Involved," then "Scholarships").

policies that promote full access, strengthening services provided by the workforce development system, and increasing the awareness, knowledge, skills, and abilities of those responsible for providing direct services. Collaborative members include the Center for Workforce Development at the Institute for Educational Leadership, the National Association of Workforce Boards, and the Learn, Earn and Work Project at the National Conference of State Legislatures.

For more information, contact NCWD/Youth, c/o Institute for Educational Leadership, 1001 Connecticut Ave. NW., Suite 310, Washington, DC 20036; toll free 1 (877) 871-0744; [www.ncwd-youth.info](http://www.ncwd-youth.info).

## Making the tuition burden less taxing

Undergraduates who study accounting may be able to improve their own balance sheets. The National Society of Accountants, the National Association of Black Accountants, and the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting offer scholarships to qualified undergraduates, as follows.

- ◆ The National Society of Accountants awards about 40 scholarships each year to selected undergraduate accounting majors who maintain a B average or higher. Individual awards for students entering their second year are generally about \$500, and those for prospective third- and fourth-year students are about \$1,000. Interested students should submit an application, recommendations, and an official college transcript (first-year students also need a high school transcript) by March 10, 2004. For more information, contact the NSA Scholarship Foundation, 1010 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314-1574; 1 (800) 966-6679 (toll free) or (703) 549-6400; [www.nsacct.org](http://www.nsacct.org).
- ◆ The National Association of Black Accountants, Inc., annually awards to ethnic minorities more than 40 scholarships nationwide. Amounts range from \$500 to \$6,000. Applicants must be enrolled full-time in either an undergraduate accounting, finance, or business program or a graduate accountancy program. Applicants must meet minimum GPA requirements (3.3 for most scholarships, 2.5 for some) and be members of the association. Membership dues are \$20 for undergraduates and \$120 for graduate students. An application, official transcript, student-aid report, resume, and personal biography must be postmarked by December 31, the standing deadline for scholarships awarded for the following year. For more information, or to obtain an application, contact the National Association of Black Accountants, Inc., 7249-A Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD 20770; (301) 474-NABA (6222); [www.nabainc.org](http://www.nabainc.org).
- ◆ The Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting offers scholarships to full-time undergraduate and graduate students of Hispanic descent who are majoring in accounting, finance, or a related field. Last year's awards were for \$1,250 or more and required that applicants have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Information about next year's awards will be available in February 2004. For more information, contact the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting, 510 W. Sixth St., Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90014; (213) 243-0004; [www.alpfa.org](http://www.alpfa.org).

