

Grants, Scrutiny for Veterans Education

By: Jack Stripling – *Inside Higher Ed*

The new GI Bill is likely to bring an influx of veterans to college in 2009, but there's precious little consensus about how best to help these students succeed once they arrive on campus, according to the American Council on Education.

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College Life in Wireless Age

By: Marika Lynch– *MiamiHerald.com*

Before Gabriella Mendez even thinks about catching the bus for her 7:25 a.m. class, the University of Florida student goes online. Nothing special about that -- except Mendez is checking on the exact location of her ride to campus.

This summer, Gainesville installed GPS devices on 50 city buses that take students to and from the university. So the Miami native logs on, sees where the little red dot of a bus is on its route, and either makes a run for it or settles back into breakfast.

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New Gates Foundation Grants Will Focus on College Technology

By: Lisa Guernsey– *Wired Campus (the Chronicle of Higher Ed)*

When the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced this week that it would ramp up its grant-making to increase college graduation rates, community-college officials applauded the news. An infusion of new money? Hallelujah.

The foundation says it will look for new technology products that produce large improvements in learning and completion rates. It is also seeking to finance "student-centric" learning platforms.

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Why Some of the Best and Brightest Skip College

By: David Moltz – *Inside Higher Education*

Many college-qualified students who choose not to enroll in college may have made up their minds well before high school graduation, according to a [new study](#) from the [Institute for Higher Education Policy](#) and underwritten by the [Education Resources Institute](#). The study also finds that the steep price of college and the shrinking availability of financial aid are the primary reasons these students — and their guidance and college counselors — cite for their decision not to enroll.

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Collaborate or Die: The Future of Education

The Challenge of Developing an Institutional System that Serves that 21st Century

By: Chris Yeh – *University Business*

We are entering the age of collaboration. Web 2.0 has gone mainstream. An entire generation of students is arriving in our schools and universities, for whom Facebook is their most important source of information and communications.

Education is facing a tidal wave that threatens to overwhelm traditional pedagogical models and classroom concepts. How effective will lectures be when students learn by grazing on tens or hundreds of information feeds each day? How will they react to printed textbooks, when they believe that every document should be editable, commendable, and infinitely shareable? What is the meaning of the word "classroom" when video and mobile devices transmit the majority of knowledge?

Educators and educational institutions face their greatest challenge since the Industrial Revolution sparked the development of the public education system: Adapting a system whose foundations were laid in the 19th century to serve a 21st-century world.

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Turning Life Experience Into College Credit

By: Rachel Aviv – *The New York Times*

You've seen the ads: "Earn credit for life experience! Shorten time toward degree! Pay less!" Such promises aren't necessarily the mark of a diploma mill. Many accredited continuing education programs award "prior learning credit" for knowledge acquired from activities like political work, retail management, corporate administration, writing, even travel.

Kim J. Hartswick, academic director of the Baccalaureate for Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies, an individualized program at the [City University of New York](#), helps students deconstruct their pasts to determine what course subjects they've already mastered. (Red flag: diploma mills don't vet credit requests.) He recently counseled a student who had founded a nonprofit organization to beautify schools and hospitals. The student was given 15 credits, for proficiency in "fund-raising and development," "creative art for the classroom" and "Web page design."

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