As researchers seek new ways to heal an injured brain, one family gets a crash course.
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Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University is Georgia’s first and only National Cancer Institute Designated Center. This means you now have access to more than 150 cancer subspecialty doctors and to the latest clinical trials only available at NCI-designated cancer centers. Emory’s physicians who treat cancer already comprise nearly 80 percent of Atlanta magazine’s “Top Docs.” Now, with our National Cancer Institute designation, Winship Cancer Institute offers you exceptional care and cutting-edge resources, treatments and information. Call us today at 1-888-WINSHIP (1-888-946-7447) to begin your journey from cancer patient to cancer survivor.

www.emoryhealthcare.org/cancer
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EM GOES AUDIO Selected Emory Magazine
articles are now available as podcasts. Just go to
the iTunes store, search for Emory Magazine, and
download to listen in the car or at the gym.

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WHY NOT TO EAT FRIED FISH

RUSHDIE ON TRUTH, MEMORY, AND MEMOIR

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Vice President and Deputy to the President
60 Ties to Japan

As the Emory community responds to the massive earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan in March, an alumna writing from Haiti last year describes the desolation there—and the determination of the people who still call Haiti home. Photo by Bryan Meltz.
Behind Every Breakthrough

If you’ve followed the firestorm over *The Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*, you know that the treatise on Chinese versus American child rearing put a lot of parents here on the defensive. In it, author Amy Chua proudly describes parenting methods that seem barbaric by American standards—making her two daughters practice piano for up to six hours a day, for instance, or rejecting a handmade birthday card because it didn’t represent her child’s best work.

Mothers across the US were predictably horrified, quick to call Chua a monster. But as a subsequent article in *Time* magazine points out, our outrage may have been a smokescreen for another, underlying emotion: the nagging fear that Chua may be on to something.

“Though Chua was born and raised in the US, her invocation of what she describes as traditional ‘Chinese parenting’ has hit hard at a national sore point: our fears about losing ground to China and other rising powers and about adequately preparing our children to survive in the global economy,” writes Annie Murphy Paul, a former senior editor at *Psychology Today* who has written books on child development.

In Paul’s analysis, I was most struck by her reference to “mastery” experiences—the exhilarating moment when you achieve something you’ve been working toward. It’s the feeling you get when you hit a perfect tennis serve, or play a difficult piece of music without missing a note, or finally “get” algebraic equations.

But that particular brand of high is one American kids experience all too rarely, according to Chua (and some psychology experts as well), because their parents are too busy gushing with praise over their every move to really push them to excel.

The key component of mastery experiences, apparently, is not so much the mastery as the effort it took to get there. As our brains develop the memory of a particular skill, they literally transform to hone the behavior so that we get better at it. But it is only through repetition and practice—practice, practice—that those pathways form, making certain actions or knowledge automatic and freeing up more of our brains for things like critical analysis, quick reaction, and that mystery we call inspiration.

“Cognitive neuroscience, in other words,” writes Paul, “confirms the wisdom of what the tiger mother knew all along.”

This issue of *Emory Magazine* highlights many mastery moments—scientific breakthroughs that subsequently proved to have far-reaching positive impact on many thousands of lives. The term *eureka* comes from the Greek for “I have found;” and the fabled “eureka moment” holds the magical shiver that we all want to feel when we think about scientific research and discovery—we imagine scientists huddled in their labs late at night, exulting over bubbling Bunsen burners as they realize they have discovered a new formula or cure.

What we don’t deeply consider—at least, I didn’t, until more recently—is the hours and days and weeks and maybe years that led up to each “eureka.” It’s easy to forget that scientific research is not actually conducted by wacky geniuses in stained white coats, but by women and men who are doing a job.

What we don’t deeply consider—at least, I didn’t, until more recently—is the hours and days and weeks and maybe years that led up to each “eureka.” It’s easy to forget that scientific research is not actually conducted by wacky geniuses in stained white coats, but by women and men who are doing a job. They show up every day at their labs or offices, switch on their computers, answer their emails, and assess the status of their research projects. They probably oversee lab assistants in the form of grad students or post-docs, may teach a class or three or four, and almost certainly are involved in generating financial support for their work, such as grants and funding both public and private. And they may have families at home, too, expecting them for dinner or a soccer game.

But it’s their particular version of the daily grind that does lead to watershed findings—like a promising new treatment for traumatic brain injury, the leading cause of death and disability in children and young adults, and a nightmare still fresh in the memories of a family *Emory Magazine* visited in its wake. Like a vaccine for a nasty strain of flu that once caused meningitis in some twenty thousand children each year. Like a first-of-its-kind drug for Alzheimer’s, or fragile X syndrome, or hemophilia, or HIV.

These transformative inventions come about through not just one, but a series of mastery moments—helped along in between by committed people, institutional resources, major funding, and the drudgery of daily tasks.

And it is such scientists’ hard work and perseverance and brilliance—supported by research institutions like this one—that will not only improve public health and quality of life for millions, but will help this country remain a leading force for positive change and progress and, yes, prosperity around the world.

Take that, tiger mom. —P.P.P.
I read with interest and anger the story about the Emory alum/Army colonel [Ted Westhusing, "An American Warrior"], and his service in the Iraq war. As a veteran of the Vietnam war, I was not surprised at the chicanery and folly he encountered in Iraq. That he felt his only course of action was to take his own life is profoundly sad. The story of betrayed orete is an old one. You might be interested in reading two books by Jonathan Shay, who was in charge of treating Vietnam vets with chronic PTSD at the Veterans Hospital in Boston. Thanks for a passionate and pertinent article.

John R. "Dick" Scott-Welch 78T
McMinnville, Tennessee

I wanted to thank you for the story ["An American Warrior"], as I am a veteran of the first Gulf war. While there are as many different experiences of war as there are people who go to it, I think the article captured well how war fundamentally challenges who we are, sometimes with devastating consequences. The hidden casualty of war is often the self, or an identity, and I don’t think the military or America is set up to deal with this. Anyway, a very nice piece of journalism about a topic that often gets fumbled in the media.

C. Aiden Downey
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Emory Division of Educational Studies

Thank you for sharing Ted Westhusing’s story. Although it has been five years since his death, my condolences to his family. It sounds like this world lost a great man way too early in his life.

Donna J. Schmutzler 89N 96MSN
Rogers, Arizona

Although I have met many wonderful and interesting people through my association with the University, I have never read about or met a more honorable alumnus than Ted Westhusing. Thank you for the brilliant and heartwrenching profile. When I was a student, the Secretary of the University Tom Bertrand once told me that the purpose of the university was to find truth. It’s distressing to imagine the truths that Mr. Westhusing must have uncovered to take the steps he did.

Fred Diamond 84C
Vienna, Virginia

As a classmate that knew Ted Westhusing from our days at West Point, I can state that he exemplified the traits described in the article his entire adult life and I am sure those traits were present prior to his entrance to West Point. I have shared the article with fellow West Point classmates and others in the Pentagon and we appreciate your recognition of Westhusing. To echo a statement sent to me, “A great follow-up to the ones I read after his death.”

Johnny Thomas
Temple Hill, Maryland

I read with Interest and anger the story about the Emory alum/Army colonel [Ted Westhusing, "An American Warrior"], and his service in the Iraq war. As a veteran of the Vietnam war, I was not surprised at the chicanery and folly he encountered in Iraq. That he felt his only course of action was to take his own life is profoundly sad. The story of betrayed orete is an old one. You might be interested in reading two books by Jonathan Shay, who was in charge of treating Vietnam vets with chronic PTSD at the Veterans Hospital in Boston. Thanks for a passionate and pertinent article.

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C. Aiden Downey
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Emory Division of Educational Studies

Thank you for your beautiful tribute and lament concerning the life and death of Colonel Ted Westhusing. I recently returned from a yearlong deployment in Afghanistan, where I served as a Marine intelligence officer, so the story hit where it hurts. I witnessed and experienced enough good will and admirable sacrifice on the part of my Marines to guard me from the kind of fatalistic despair that overcame your subject. Or it perhaps was only a duller moral compass that saved me. This is one question, among a litany of others, with which I’ll forever tangle.

Lyle Rubin 05C
Bloomfield, Connecticut

I really enjoyed Frans de Waal’s essay, “Evolving Empathy,” but was surprised by the accompanying illustration [see it at www.emory.edu/magazine]. The notion that modern humans emerged in a straight-line descent from an ape was rejected by anthropologists some time ago. Today’s fossil and DNA records indicate that several different species of humans arose in Africa and, in the process of migrating through the Middle East, Asia, and Europe, gave rise to even more species of humans, some of which coexisted. Evolution is an emotional issue for many people, who struggle to reconcile the evidence with their religious faith. Reinforcing common misconceptions does not help matters.

Sarah Eby-Ebersole
Atlanta

I appreciate the article concerning the Emory Medal I was so fortunate to have received. The article neglected to state that the Emory sweatshirt that I produced out of my bag at the end of the talk had a football logo on the front with the words “Emory University” embossed over it. When I turned the shirt around, “Still Undefeated” was on the back. This is what generated the laughter. I enjoy reading Emory Magazine.

William C. Warren III 53B
Atlanta

I am likely one of few making this observation; however, touting the fact that Emory received $396.5 million (74 percent of all external funding) from the federal government seems incongruous with an issue that focused primarily on ethics and morality. Does no one on the magazine staff recognize that Emory received $396.5 million (74 percent of all external funding) from the federal government? Regardless of the “worthiness of the cause,” funding provided by government necessarily means debt for future generations … debt that they must labor to repay having had no choice in the matter. To me that is both unethical and immoral.

Sandy Poole Vest 90MBA
Teton Springs

Just a quick note to say I liked your article, “The Devil You Know.” I thought it was fair and balanced, to use a silly tagline, but true. It helps us to step back sometimes and think about these things. I’ve been working in the technology field for most of my life, and I’ve had a real love-hate relationship with it for most of that time.

Marv Peck
University Technology Services, Emory

I just finished reading this article online and it was the most touching thing I have read in quite some time. Having just recently resigned from a prestigious, lucrative position over the same type of ethical issues, I expect it probably touched me more than most.

Charlie Ferguson 71OX 76M
Lagrange
Emory ranks as “best value” private college

The Princeton Review has named Emory a 2011 Best Value College for private schools. The annual rankings of the fifty best value private schools and fifty best value public institutions were published in USA Today. Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine also named Emory a best value for 2010–2011, ranking the University fifteenth overall of 100 top private schools.

Bloomberg BusinessWeek ranks Goizueta undergraduate program third

In the annual ranking of undergraduate business programs compiled by Bloomberg BusinessWeek, Goizueta’s BBA program was ranked No. 3 in the nation, with high marks in student satisfaction (fourth) and recruiter satisfaction (second). This is the highest ranking the program has received from the publication; in 2010 it was ranked seventh.

of Note

The New Math

FRESH THEORIES REVEAL THE ANCIENT NATURE OF NUMBERS

FOR CENTURIES, SOME OF THE GREATEST NAMES IN math have tried to make sense of partition numbers, the basis for adding and counting.

Many mathematicians added major pieces to the puzzle, but all of them fell short of a full theory to explain partitions. Instead, their work raised more questions about this fundamental area of math.

Emory mathematician Ken Ono is unveiling new theories that answer these old questions. Ono and his research team have discovered that partition numbers behave like fractals—rough geometric shapes made up of repeating patterns that appear the same when viewed at any size or magnification. They have unlocked the divisibility properties of partitions and developed a mathematical theory for “seeing” their infinitely repeating superstructure. And they have devised the first finite formula to calculate the partitions of any number.

“Our work brings completely new ideas to the problems,” Ono says. “We prove that partition numbers are ‘fractal’ for every prime. These numbers, in a way we make precise, are self-similar in a shocking way. Our ‘zooming’ procedure resolves several open conjectures, and it will change how mathematicians study partitions.”

The work was funded by the American Institute of Mathematics (AIM) and the National Science Foundation. Last year, AIM assembled the world’s leading experts on partitions, including Ono, to attack some of the remaining big questions in the field. Ono, who is a chaired professor at both Emory and the University of Wisconsin–Madison, led a team consisting of Jan Bruinier, from the Technical University of Darmstadt in Germany; Amanda Folsom, from Yale; and Zach Kent, a postdoctoral fellow at Emory.

“Ken Ono has achieved absolutely breathtaking breakthroughs in the theory of partitions,” says George Andrews, professor at Pennsylvania State University and president of the American Mathematical Society. “He proved divisibility properties of the basic partition function that are astounding. He went on to provide a superstructure that no one anticipated just a few years ago. He is a phenomenon.”

On the surface, partition numbers seem like mathematical child’s play. A partition of a number is a sequence of positive integers that add up to that number. For example, 4 = 3+1 = 2+2 = 2+1+1 = 1+1+1+1. So we say there are five partitions of the number four.

It sounds simple, and yet the partition numbers grow at an incredible rate. The amount of partitions for the number ten is forty-two. For the number one hundred, the partitions explode to more than 190,000,000.

“Partition numbers are a crazy sequence of integers which race rapidly off to infinity,” Ono says. “This provocative sequence evokes wonder, and has long fascinated mathematicians.”

But until the breakthroughs by Ono’s team, no one was able to unlock the secret of the complex pattern underlying this rapid growth.

The work of eighteenth-century mathematician Leonhard Euler led to the first recursive technique for computing the partition values of numbers. The method was slow, however, and impractical for large numbers. For the next
PARTITION NUMBERS

HISTORY:
The term “fractal” was invented in 1980 by Benoit Mandelbrot to describe what seem like irregularities in the geometry of natural forms. The more a viewer zooms into “rough” natural forms, the clearer it becomes that they actually consist of repeating patterns.

DISCOVERY:
Partition numbers behave like fractals. The sequences are all eventually periodic, and they repeat themselves over and over at precise intervals. Also, a finite, algebraic formula can be used to instantly calculate the partitions of any number.

150 years, the method was only successfully implemented to compute the first 200 partition numbers.

“In the mathematical universe, that’s like not being able to see farther than Mars,” Ono says.

In the early twentieth century, Srinivasa Ramanujan and G. H. Hardy invented the circle method, which yielded the first good approximation of the partitions for numbers beyond 200. “This is like Galileo inventing the telescope, allowing you to see beyond what the naked eye can see, even though the view may be dim,” Ono says.

Ramanujan also noted some strange patterns in partition numbers. In 1919 he wrote: “There appear to be corresponding properties in which the moduli are powers of five, seven, or eleven . . . and no simple properties for any moduli involving primes other than these three.”

The legendary Indian mathematician died at the age of thirty-two before he could explain what he meant by this mysterious quote, now known as Ramanujan’s congruences.

In 1937, Hans Rademacher found an exact formula for calculating partition values. While the method was a big improvement over Euler’s exact formula, it required adding together infinitely many numbers that have infinitely many decimal places. “These numbers are gruesome,” Ono says.

In the ensuing decades, mathematicians have kept building on these breakthroughs, adding more pieces to the puzzle. Despite the advances, they were unable to understand Ramanujan’s enigmatic words, or find a finite formula for the partition numbers.

Ono’s “dream team” wrestled with the problems for months. “Everything we tried didn’t work,” he says.

But a eureka moment happened in September, when Ono and Zach Kent, a postdoctoral fellow, were hiking to Tallulah Falls in northern Georgia. As they walked through the woods, noticing patterns in clumps of trees, Ono and Kent began thinking about what it would be like to “walk” amid partition numbers.

“We were standing on some huge rocks, where we could see out over this valley and hear the falls, when we realized partition numbers are fractal,” Ono says. “We both just started laughing.”

The term fractal was invented in 1980 by Benoît Mandelbrot, who received an honorary degree from Emory in 2002, to describe what seem like irregularities in the geometry of natural forms. The more a viewer zooms into “rough” natural forms, the clearer it becomes that they actually consist of repeating patterns. Not only are fractals beautiful, they have immense practical value in fields ranging from art to medicine.

The hike sparked a theory that reveals a new class of fractals, one that dispensed with the problem of infinity for partition numbers. “It’s as though we no longer needed to see all the stars in the universe, because the pattern that keeps repeating forever can be seen on a three-mile walk to Tallulah Falls,” Ono says.

Ramanujan’s congruences are explained by their fractal theory. The team also demonstrated that the divisibility properties of partition numbers are “fractal” for every prime. “The sequences are all eventually periodic, and they repeat themselves over and over at precise intervals,” Ono says. “It’s like zooming in on the Mandelbrot set,” he adds, referring to the most famous fractal of all.

But this extraordinary view into the superstructure of partition numbers was not enough. The team was determined to go beyond mere theories and hit upon a formula that could be implemented in the real world.

The final eureka moment occurred near another Georgia landmark: Spaghetti Junction. Ono and Jan Bruinier were stuck in traffic near the notorious Atlanta interchange. While chatting in the car, they hit upon a way to overcome the infinite complexity of Rademacher’s method. They went on to prove a formula that requires only finitely many simple numbers.

“We found a formula, that we call P, that is like a magical oracle,” Ono says. “I can take any number, plug it into P, and instantly calculate the partitions of that number. P does not return gruesome numbers with infinitely many decimal places. It’s the finite, algebraic formula that we have all been looking for.” — Carol Clark

U.S. News ranks Emory’s graduate schools among best in nation
The U.S. News & World Report’s 2012 “America’s Best Graduate Schools” guide ranked Emory’s Department of Biomedical Engineering with Georgia Tech second; the School of Public Health sixth; the physician assistant program fourth, and physical therapy 11th; the School of Nursing 21st; and the School of Medicine 21st among research-oriented schools.

Emory and St. Joseph’s health care systems form partnership
Emory Healthcare and Saint Joseph’s Health System, which includes Atlanta’s oldest hospital, plan to form a joint operating company, with Emory controlling 51 percent of the new company. The partnership creates the largest health system in the state of Georgia, with major hospital campuses in DeKalb County, Johns Creek, Midtown Atlanta, and Sandy Springs.

Want to know more about Emory’s scientific discoveries?
Visit esCIENCECOMMONS.BLOGSPOT.COM.
of Note

Lab Partners

Medical student Casey Woodward and aspiring researcher Brahma Natarajan first discovered the wonders of the laboratory as two of hundreds of high school juniors from the Atlanta area who have participated in the Summer Scholars Research Program at Emory’s Winship Cancer Institute.

“We provide a genuine experience in a biomedical research laboratory for high school students who have a keen interest in science,” says oncologist Mary Jo Lechowicz, assistant professor of hematology and medical oncology and director of the Winship Summer Scholars program.

Woodward returned to Winship each summer during her undergraduate years to work with Lechowicz, her faculty mentor. “My family didn’t have much of a medical background, and getting to work as part of the medical community was really valuable,” says Woodward, now a medical student at the University of Pennsylvania. “It helped me understand how much we know and how much we don’t.”

Natarajan, a senior at McIntosh High School in Peachtree City, worked in Winship biochemist Anita Corbett’s lab last summer, studying the yeast cousin of a protein thought to be involved in human breast cancer. Two graduate students in the lab taught her how to run gels, perform Western blots, and create mutations in proteins.

“Now that I have experienced how a lab works, I have gotten excited about continuing research in college,” Natarajan says.

The program, started by local Westminister High School biology teacher Andrea Allio ten years ago, has both academic and practicum components. Faculty treat the students as full members of the lab team. Students also take field trips throughout Winship, visit the labs in Emory’s medical school, and become grounded in published articles on cancer biology.—Quinn Eastman

What Nurses Know

IMPROVING CARE THROUGH NURSE-LED RESEARCH

1 Several nurses in the nephrology unit discovered that blood glucose levels were tested differently in two of Emory’s hospitals. They found no reason for the difference, nor any previous studies on comparative test effectiveness, so they are planning a pilot study.

2 A group of neonatal nurses is examining whether radiant warmers or skin-to-skin contact is more effective in warming babies after their first postpartum bath. Assistant Professor Maeve Howett 85N 97MN 06PhD is helping them develop a study protocol and research questions.

3 A night nurse at the Center for Rehabilitation Medicine believes that reinstituting back rubs at bedtime—something nurses used to do routinely—may improve patients’ sleep. She and her clinical nurse specialist contacted Professor Ann Rogers, an expert in sleep medicine who is helping them study the practice.

Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano will be Commencement speaker

U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano will deliver the keynote address at Emory’s 166th Commencement ceremony Monday, May 9, 2011. Napolitano was attorney general of Arizona and US attorney for the District of Arizona before becoming governor, and she was the first woman to chair the National Governors Association.

Oxford alumni honored

At Oxford College’s first alumni awards ceremony, Zoe Hicks 63OX 65C 76L 83L, chair of the Board of Counselors, and Kip Hart 94OX 96C, president of the alumni board, presented the R. Carl Chandler Award for lifetime service to Oxford to Hugh M. Tarbutton Sr. 52OX 55B. The Outstanding Alumnus/a Award was presented to Joe Bartenfeld 64OX 66C.
Destination Deep Space

ASTROCHEMIST SUSANNA WIDICUS WEAVER is set to begin one of the first broad spectral surveys of small organic molecules in deep space.

Her lab’s proposal—to search for the raw materials of life in star-forming regions—recently won forty-two hours of observation time on the Herschel Space Observatory, which launched in 2009.

“I watched the Herschel instrument evolve over the past ten years, so I have to pinch myself that this is actually happening,” says Weaver, assistant professor of chemistry, who as a graduate student at Caltech would visit the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory to marvel at the Herschel technology.

Headed by the European Space Agency, Herschel is the largest telescope in space. Its 3.5-meter diameter mirror offers an unprecedented view of the “cool universe,” the domain of objects like tiny stars and molecular clouds that barely emit light. Scientists believe that the cool universe holds secrets to how life forms.

Herschel operates in the far-infrared range, penetrating the veil of gas and dust shrouding these cooler realms by bridging the gap between infrared and radio astronomy.

Weaver and her students will use their time on the Herschel to search for building blocks of life—a range of simple molecules they have identified as key to prebiotic pathways in interstellar chemistry—in this largely unexplored area of deep space.—Carol Clark

Practice without Preaching

A retooled Master of Theological Studies (MTS) program debuts next fall at Candler School of Theology, allowing some students to explore theology and religion without preparing for ordained ministry.

The two-year program is especially suited for those who plan to teach, do research, or engage in social issues, says Steven Kraftchick, associate professor in the practice of New Testament interpretation and director of general and advanced programs at Candler. Journalists, attorneys, teachers, and others whose work requires an understanding of the role of religion and theology in public life could also benefit from the program, he says.

The new curriculum has several broad focus areas—history, scripture, and tradition; and modern religious thought and experience—and allows flexibility in course selection. “Students will be able to employ their own creative energy for exploration while maintaining a clear focus within the curriculum,” says Dean Jan Love.

An increased emphasis on collaboration within Candler and across Emory, plenaries, and a professional development elective will help students shape career goals. Interdisciplinary study is encouraged, and joint degrees in public health, law, and business are available.

The MTS degree program started in 1972 with about a dozen students; today, it has about seventy, comprising 15 percent of Candler’s student body.—M.J.L.

Genetic deletion linked to autism, schizophrenia

Individuals with the deletion of a genomic region on chromosome 17 are at significant risk for autism spectrum disorders and schizophrenia, found Emory researchers, who led an international collaboration of scientists in conducting the study, which was published in the American Journal of Human Genetics.

HUMANKIND AND DIVINE, REALITY AND MYTH COME TOGETHER IN A rich display of works now on view at the Michael C. Carlos Museum.

Divine Intervention: African Art & Religion illustrates the traditional African belief that, through its creation or its use in ritual, a work of art becomes potent—filled with the power of the spirit and ancestral realms—and can effect change and transformation in the lives of humans. The exhibition features more than fifty works from some twenty African cultures, including masks, shrines, and other powerful objects: a hunter’s jacket from Mali covered with mirrors, talons, and other amulets believed to be imbued with nyama, or ritual potency, to empower and protect the hunter; and divining instruments thought to facilitate human communication with ancestors and spirits.

Monsters, Demons, and Winged-Beasts: Composite Creatures in the Ancient World, drawn from the permanent collections of the Carlos Museum and loans from private collections, explores a menagerie of mythological creatures from the Greek perspective. The Greeks borrowed imagery from Egypt and the Near East, developing a repertoire of richly imagined creatures that proliferated in the Greco-Roman world. From the seductive yet deadly siren, to the cannibal cyclops Polyphemus, to the winged Pegasus, to the fire-snorting Chimera, the show traces “monstrous” imagery through works in gold, silver, stone, terracotta, and papyrus.

American Chemical Society selects chemistry professors as fellows

The American Chemical Society (ACS) named as fellows Professor of Organic Chemistry Dennis Liotta and Timmie Professor of Organic Chemistry Albert Padwa. “Whether making new materials, finding cures, or developing energy alternatives, these scientific leaders are improving lives through the transforming power of chemistry,” says ACS’s Joseph Francisco.
Pulling Some Strings

A SURPRISING LOOK AT THE PEOPLE BEHIND THEIR PUPPETS

At his wedding a few years ago, Mark Goffman 90C was blown away when his normally very shy mother-in-law delivered a funny, moving toast... using a white glove as a sock puppet.

Later, she told him and his new wife, Lindsay, about her budding interest in ventriloquism and her plans to attend the Vent Haven ConVention in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky—the ultimate annual gathering for this eccentric performance art. “That was our inspiration,” says Goffman, a TV writer who’s now executive producer for the hit show White Collar. “We knew we had to go to the convention and see what it was all about.”

The resulting documentary, Dumbstruck, follows five ventriloquists through a year of highs and lows as they struggle to practice their craft—once solidly popular, but now a little faded in mainstream American consciousness. The big surprise was Terry Fator, a “vent” enthusiast who had been trying to make a go of it for two decades while painting houses and mowing lawns to pay the bills. As Goffman’s team filmed from the sidelines, Fator won a million dollars on America’s Got Talent, then wound up signing the biggest entertainment deal in Las Vegas history to headline the Mirage hotel and casino.

“We really caught lightning in a bottle with this film,” says Goffman, who wrote and directed Dumbstruck and coproduced it with his wife, Lindsay Goffman. “It was a most unusual year in a very unusual art form.”

Effective new therapies for glioblastomas are urgently needed to improve survival,” says Haian Fu, center director and principal investigator.

Emory ‘Study’ Makes The Onion

“A new study published Tuesday by Emory University determined that 89 percent of networking encounters occur forcibly and without the consent of one of the parties involved, a disturbing finding that suggests far more people are victims of unwanted career-related discussions than was previously thought.”

So began a recent article in The Onion, the humor publication that has long billed itself as “America’s Finest News Source.” The story goes on to describe a bogus study by fictitious sociology professor Thomas Raybeck on interactions in which people are forced to “talk shop” against their will, mainly in social settings. (Hint: It’s hilarious.)

“It’s nice to know that Emory is sufficiently well-recognized to be lampooned by The Onion,” says Ron Sauder, vice president for communications and marketing. “We have truly arrived.”

To read the “report,” visit www.emory.edu/magazine.

Emory’s Chemical Biology Discovery Center, a member of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) consortium, received $1.5 million to study the genomic alterations found in the most aggressive type of adult brain tumors.

“This has long been billed itself as ‘America’s Finest News Source.’”

Risk to heart from cocaine higher for those on antiretroviral therapy

Used together, cocaine and antiretroviral medicines for HIV can amplify injury to the cardiovascular system, a side effect of both. Emory researchers and their colleagues will use a new $5.7 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse of the National Institutes of Health to study the biochemical mechanisms behind cocaine and antiretroviral drug interactions.
Save the Scrapbooks

SCRAPBOOKING HAS BECOME A popular pastime of late, practiced often by groups of women who gather with abundant craft supplies to create a physical repository of family memories more artistically ambitious than an ordinary photo album or diary.

The craft has a rich legacy that’s easily overlooked by historians and archivists, perhaps because of the whimsical nature and limited reach of most scrapbooks. But a new project at Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL) aims to give some particularly notable examples the attention they deserve.

A collection of rare African American scrapbooks will be saved from the danger of disintegration thanks to a $170,000 three-year Save America’s Treasures grant, matched by the Emory Libraries. The grant will be used to conserve African American scrapbooks and create digital surrogates to enhance access to the historical materials—the scrapbooks of artists, writers, students, vaudeville performers, preachers, and former slaves.

“Scrapbooks have often been treated as the unwanted children or the neglected orphans of the archives. They are difficult to handle, they are often in fragile physical condition, and they are a mix of memorabilia of every description and taste,” says Randall Burkett, MARBL’s curator of African American collections.

Thirty-four scrapbooks have been selected, with dates ranging from 1883 to 1975. They include the scrapbooks of author Alice Walker, vaudeville performers “Jolly” John Larkin and Johnny Hudgins, entertainer and playwright Flourney Miller, Spelman College graduate Virginia Hannon, and former slave and author W. S. Scarborough, who became a professor of classics at Wilberforce University and eventually its president.

“These scrapbooks give us a glimpse into how these artists and students and former slaves thought about themselves, their families, their work,” Burkett says. “The funding for this project will allow us to preserve these important memory books.”

The project is urgent because the scrapbooks are deteriorating rapidly, says Laura Carroll, manuscript archivist and principal investigator for the grant. “The clock is ticking,” she says.

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EPHEMERA: The scrapbooks in MARBL contain items that disintegrate or are easily damaged, such as newspaper clippings, pressed flowers, and ticket stubs.

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How Many Tacos Does It Take . . .

Who knew there was a world record for longest taco line? But yes: A record-setting line of fish tacos at Emory helped raise awareness about sustainable seafood. In the Dobbs University Center on February 16, students and staff from Emory Dining’s Green Team filled tortillas with eighty pounds of Alaskan cod, forty-five pounds of cabbage, and four gallons of salsa. The 260 tacos formed a line nearly 121 feet long, setting a Guinness World Record. In a related event at Oxford College, students built a giant sushi roll.

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ANTHROPOLOGY, chemistry, psychology professors are AAAS Fellows
Dobbs Professor of Psychology Lawrence Barsalou, Dobbs Professor of Anthropology Michelle Lamp, and Candler Professor of Chemistry and Biology David Lynn were elected as 2010 Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). AAAS is the world’s largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal Science.

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Pan-influenza vaccine gets help from swine flu
The search for a universal flu vaccine has received a boost from a surprising source: the 2009 H1N1 pandemic flu strain. Several patients infected with this strain developed antibodies that are protective against a variety of flu strains, scientists from Emory’s School of Medicine and the University of Chicago have found.

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MORE ONLINE
Check out the video at emory.edu/magazine.
Campus beat

Trickle-Down Knowledge

RESEARCH? WHO, ME? GRAD STUDENTS HELP UNDERGRADS GET IT

A psychologist, a neurologist, an immunologist, and an Egyptologist walk into a classroom . . .

No, this isn’t the start of a joke. It’s an undergraduate course with the tantalizing title Blood, Brains, Death, and Disease, led by four graduate students with research interests in different academic fields. Part of a series of seminars called On Recent Discoveries by Emory Researchers, or order, the course bridges the gap between undergraduates and graduate students and also between the arts and the sciences. Graduate student instructors collaborate across their disciplines to provide specific insight into how to conduct a project, walking the younger students step-by-step through their own research efforts.

The order courses were conceived by David Lynn, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Chemistry and Biology, who in 2002 was selected as one of twenty inaugural Howard Hughes Medical Institute professors to receive $1 million to bring scientific research to the undergraduate classroom. Graduate students apply to teach the courses through a competitive process, and are overseen and guided by Lynn and other faculty throughout the courses. Seminars are offered for freshmen and seniors.

“Graduate students represent the next level after undergraduate training in the career path of a scientist,” Lynn says. “Seeing that graduate students—who were themselves taking undergraduate classes only a few years earlier—are contributing to our scientific knowledge base

WHAT DO YOU THINK?: In a recent class, graduate student Flora Anthony pushed younger students to help shape her research project on Egyptian artifacts, which she will present at a national conference.

Uncovering Discovery

GROWING UP under stereotypical circumstances as an Asian American whose parents owned and worked in a local Chinese restaurant, I felt the pressure of race and ethnicity daily. Customers would routinely question if I was going to “take over the business” from my parents. They would also compliment how well I spoke English and ask about my future.

At the time, I did not think much about those circumstances, but as I grew older, I began to understand how race and stereotypes were impacting not only my own life, but also my parents’ lives.

It was not until coming to Emory and taking a sociology course on race that I really began to explore race in both a theoretical and practical sense. These beginnings helped to form my growing interest in the place of race in a community, especially a community of college students.

Even before coming to Emory, I knew I wanted to do research, but didn’t know where to start. After talking with faculty and staff, I landed a position at Yerkes National Primate Research Center, working in a lab with DNA.

I maintain interests both in the sciences and sociology. Research has importance in terms of social impact, and for me, this is where the order research class came into play.

I wanted to gain an understanding of the international student population and interactions within this group.

The order class has helped to take my initial and current interests and mold them into a project worth exploring: “International Student Experiences Inside and Outside the Classroom: Barriers to Assimilation.”

This research could have serious implications in terms of college campus resources, because it would help colleges better assist international students as they adapt to a new culture and system of doing things.

I have heard numerous times from my international student peers that they felt they were not able to fit in because the college did not provide these resources for them. Having the chance to understand where these gaps are and where there is miscommunication would be an invaluable pool of information.

For the future, I can envision myself in both science and sociology research settings throughout graduate and professional school.

Research, to me, is an adventure, and the allure of expanding knowledge for not only my self but also the world is extremely tempting.

Regardless of the career path that I choose, I know that Emory has set me off on the right foot with experienced faculty and goal-oriented classes, and has imprinted a message for me about the importance of research; a message that I will forever pass on to others.—Billy Zhang 11C
The information presented to them in a creativity workshop,” says Flora Anthony, a graduate student in Egyptology and one of the scholar-teachers. “In class, chemistry undergraduate students really helped push the boundaries of an art history inquiry.”

Anthony’s project is focused on evaluating a set of Egyptian artifacts to determine their authenticity, using both historical research and chemical testing processes supported by staff at the Michael C. Carlos Museum. The students were given a guided tour by Anthony and a walk-through of how artifacts are restored in the museum’s conservation lab.

They also got the opportunity to perform an experiment in a neuroscience wet-laboratory, guided by Jacob Shreckengost, a neuroscience graduate student. “I was amazed by the freshmen, who, after an introduction to a very complex area of spinal cord research, were able to independently devise some of the very experiences I had proposed and performed upon entering graduate school,” Shreckengost says.

Next, students visited capuchin monkeys at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center, home to groundbreaking studies on the origins of fairness. Psychology graduate student Erin Robbins gave them the chance to participate in her human versions of these experiments to see how their concepts of fairness compare to those of children and adults in cultures like Samoa and Vanuatu.

The course ended with an up-close look at blood transfusions led by Justine Liepkalns, a scholar-teacher who is studying immunology. The class saw how blood is stored and used at the Emory Blood Bank and spoke to the director of the Center for Transfusion and Cellular Therapy and to the nurse in charge of patients treated for various blood ailments.

“Research has sudden twists and turns, just like our life stories,” Robbins says. “Post-college, I thought my interests and career choices were too diverse, but through research I came to see that there was a common theme. It’s rewarding to help students find their own themes and recognize that great scholarship comes from examining alternative perspectives.”

The research topics the undergraduates pursue for their own projects reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the class, ranging currently from obesity trends to Sanskrit to cell chemistry. But they are nearly always personally meaningful to the students, which is, says Lynn, what drives discovery.—P.P.P.

of Note

MORE IN ORDER? Learn more about the ORDER courses at www.emory.edu/magazine.

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Bridge Builders:
Leaders David Lynn and Leslie Taylor help connect students across ages and interests.

is both very motivational to the undergraduate students and empowering for the teacher-scholars.”

This year, Lynn is partnering with Leslie Taylor, chair of the Department of Theater Studies, to lead the seminars. “David has been really interested in having scientists figure out ways to tell their stories,” Taylor says. “I’m here to talk about creativity—the idea of embedding creativity into teaching and thinking creatively about doing research. It’s not just A-B-C-D, but a series of leaps and lurches. And you need to be able to engage your audience with narrative.”

As the course unfolds, undergraduates in the class see firsthand how research is conducted and use this experience to lead a project of their own. They also learn about the career goals, life stories, and the research obstacles that the graduate students face.

“I was pleasantly surprised by the interest these students expressed in what I spend most of my time doing. The highlight of my year so far was when groups of my students created goofy songs that synthesized all of the
When scrupulous historian, Deborah Lipstadt, trained never to cross the double line separating observer from participant, herself becomes part of history? Ask Deborah Lipstadt.

When editor Jonathan Rosen approached Lipstadt—the Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish and Holocaust Studies at Emory—to do a book associated with the fiftieth anniversary of the Adolf Eichmann trial, she demurred. She already had written her own courtroom memoir and was not particularly intrigued by the Eichmann case. But Rosen countered, “You’re the one to write it. Your trial [Irving v. Lipstadt, in which she prevailed against Holocaust denier David Irving’s libel charges in 2000] is now considered in a line with the Nuremberg and Eichmann trials. Your voice is important.”

The power of voice was the very thing that made the Eichmann trial a watershed moment in history. “One by one by one,” says Lipstadt, these survivors of the camps—“young people in their thirties and forties who had stitched their lives back together”—faced one of the chief operating officers of the Final Solution in a Jerusalem courtroom beginning in spring 1960.

After the war, survivors had been speaking out—in public settings and books. “It wasn’t they who had been silent,” she notes, “we hadn’t been listening.” Never again, though, would a war-crimes trial proceed without the voice of the victim.

The story of Eichmann’s capture in Argentina, kidnapped by the Israeli Mossad as he stepped off a bus coming from work, captured world attention. Lipstadt’s book, The Eichmann Trial, opens with an account of what was expected to be “a run-of-the-mill budget debate” in the Israeli parliament. Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion’s two-sentence announcement left the Knesset, and the larger world community, stunned. In this “dramatic understatement,” as the New York Times called it, Ben-Gurion said:

“I have to inform the Knesset that a short time ago one of the great Nazi war criminals, Adolf Eichmann, the man responsible with the Nazi leaders for what they called the Final Solution, which is the annihilation of six million European Jews, was discovered by Israel security services. Adolf Eichmann is already under arrest in Israel and will be placed on trial shortly under the terms of the law for the trial of Nazis and their collaborators.

The line of descent among the three trials is real. For instance, Lipstadt’s libel trial was responsible for getting Eichmann’s memoir, written during his imprisonment and under seal by the state of Israel, released into the public domain. When it arrived in time for her lawyer’s closing arguments, she describes the now-familiar mixture of scholarly excitement and human revulsion that has come with access to such documents throughout her career.

On the day of our interview, she opened a file drawer and showed me a Nazi document signed by Heinrich Himmler. It lists the number of “bandits, suspects, partisan helpers, and Jews” who were killed between September 1 and December 1, 1942. For the Jews, the number is a staggering 163,211. The document is set in “the Führer font,” a large face chosen so that Hitler could read about the destruction without the inconvenience of putting on his glasses.

Lipstadt was thirteen at the time of the trial, which became part of her family dinner hour. “I was intrigued that something so profoundly connected with Jews had been featured so prominently,” she says. “If you had asked me to recall those years, I would have told you about the thriving Jewish community in which I lived. And I would have insisted that I never encountered even a hint of anti-Semitism . . . despite knowing that there were neighborhoods in which Jews could not live and firms that would not employ Jews.” Asked where the fortitude comes to tell these truths, she answers, “I don’t see myself as having courage. It’s what I do.”

She takes famed Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal down several pegs (he inappropriately took partial credit for the Eichmann capture) and deals, as every historian of the trial
must, with the legacy of Hannah Arendt, whose *Eichmann in Jerusalem: A Report on the Banality of Evil* stirred such strong reaction. Had Arendt fallen into a type that was talked about then, the self-hating Jew? Lipstadt offers a nuanced portrait of Arendt. “She made some terrible mistakes, was glib, and uttered statements that weren’t historically correct,” she says. “She was brutal at times in her language, but she said many important things that have gotten lost in the cacophony of often-well-deserved criticism that was directed at her. Hers is a book that won’t go away.”

In the end, Lipstadt points to several salutary effects of writing the book. First, the Eichmann trial became the foundation for Holocaust studies. “It is fascinating to go back to it,” she says, “like looking at the roots of my field.”

Most important to her is that the book provides contemporary sufferers of genocide a way to describe their experience. Several years ago, Lipstadt attended a conference at Yad Vashem—the center for documentation and commemoration of the Holocaust—and talked with young Rwandans, one of whom told her: “I want to tell my story and help my fellow Rwanda survivors tell theirs. Just like the Holocaust survivors, I want people to listen to me as they listen to them.” In her book’s final line, Lipstadt writes, “This may be the most enduring legacy of what occurred in Jerusalem in 1961.” —Susan Carini 04G

**Dali Lithographs at Hillel**

The muted walls of the Marcus Hillel Center provide a perfect backdrop for the passionate colors of Salvador Dalí’s *Aliyah: The Rebirth of Israel*, a little-known suite in which the late Spanish surrealist portrays the epic history of the Jewish diaspora and the return to the homeland.

Ursula Blumenthal purchased the limited-edition lithographs many years ago as a gift to her husband, Emory Professor David Blumenthal, in memory of their first date in 1965, on which they went to see an exhibit of Dalí’s paintings at the Huntington Hartford Museum in New York. The set of twenty-five colored prints was kept in its original box and stored safely under the couple’s piano for nearly thirty years, until Ursula Blumenthal had the idea of displaying the series at Emory’s new Marcus Hillel Center. “I am so glad it’s here where it can be seen and appreciated,” she says.

The Marcus Hillel Center opened last spring and was dedicated in September. Home Depot cofounder Bernie Marcus, for whom it is named, donated $3 million to the $9.2 million total campaign. The 10,500-square-foot facility, on Gatewood Road just across from the old Hillel Center, contains meeting rooms, a kosher cafe, and gathering and worship spaces. “This should not be just a destination, but a center from which Jewish life emanates on campus,” says director Michael Rabkin. “We want to enrich the lives of Jewish students so they may enrich the Jewish people and the world.”

David Blumenthal, the Jay and Leslie Cohen Professor of Judaic Studies in Emory’s Department of Religion, also curated the *Aliyah* exhibit, which had its formal opening March 17 and will remain on loan through June. “Dali was commissioned to do this suite, which led some to believe it’s not serious work,” he says. “I believe it was serious, commissioned work.”

“There are no accidents with Dali,” adds Ursula Blumenthal. “He worked very carefully, very deliberately.”

The original *Aliyah* works took two years for Dalí to complete and were commissioned by Shorewood Publishers, a New York firm noted for art publications. After its grand opening at the Huntington Hartford Museum’s Gallery of Modern Art in New York on April 1, 1968, 250 sets of twenty-five lithographs each were produced and then the stones were destroyed, ensuring that there would be no more reprints; the Blumenthals’ (number 150) is the only known set in Atlanta.

For the Hillel exhibit, Blumenthal has organized the lithographs—all of which are signed and many of them dated—historically and thematically. A favorite section is the four iconic images of exile and hope: “A Voice Is Heard in Ramah,” “The Wailing Wall,” “For That Is Thy Life and the Length of Thy Days,” and “Return, O Virgin of Israel.” “The Hebrew word aliyah means ‘ascent’; in later Hebrew, it was broadened to mean ‘to ascend to the land of Israel’,” Blumenthal says. “After centuries of oppression in the exile, aliyah is a commitment to the rebirth of the Jewish people, to the renaissance of the Jewish spirit, in its own space.”

Despite critics’ contention that Dalí was anti-Semitic or driven solely by a desire for profit, Blumenthal sees a deeper understanding communicated through the thoughtfulness of the *Aliyah* series. “When he handled Catholicism, he was aggressively Dali,” Blumenthal says. “But, in regard to Zionism, he is more respectfully Dali.” —M.J.L.
Uncharted Territory

LANDMARK STEM CELL TRIAL OFFERS HOPE TO ALS PATIENTS

About six months ago, on the eve of his fifty-ninth birthday, John Conley was preparing to let neurosurgeons at Emory University Hospital inject stem cells into his spinal cord.

Conley is one of a handful of patients selected out of hundreds of applicants with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) to be part of the first clinical trial in the country to focus on the safety of injecting human stem cells directly into the spinal cord as a possible treatment for ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease.

An expectant grandfather, Conley considers this experimental surgery a gift—not just to himself and his family, on the chance that it might slow the progression of his disease, but to others with neurological diseases who might be helped by advances in stem cell therapies.

“Patients like Mr. Conley are agreeing to participate without promise of any benefit. They are doing this to help move science forward,” says ALS Center nurse Meraida Polak.

Two years ago, Conley, from Jackson County, Georgia, started experiencing cramps and twitches in his muscles. Although in good physical shape, he began stumbling over things and falling several times a day. He was diagnosed with ALS, a fatal neuromuscular disease. “It just comes on out of the blue, and people start to get weak. They could develop problems with breathing, chewing, swallowing, even speaking,” says neurologist Jonathan Glass, director of Emory’s ALS Center and principal investigator of the trial site.

While this trial tests only whether this treatment is safe, future trials will determine the treatment’s effectiveness. ALS affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord that control muscle movement; patients usually die within two to five years of diagnosis. About thirty thousand people in the US have the condition and nearly seven thousand are diagnosed each year. No cure exists, and many ALS patient advocacy groups and researchers believe stem cell transplants are the best hope for a therapeutic advance.

But stem cell trials and treatments remain highly controversial. Opponents of this research, including groups such as antiabortion advocates and the Catholic Church, want it to be severely restricted or banned. Proponents, including many medical researchers and patient advocacy groups, say that the embryos (often from fertility or abortion clinics) would be discarded and that stem cell research could save countless lives. President Barack Obama signed an executive order last year lifting restrictions on federal funding for embryonic stem cell research. The Georgia Senate approved legislation that would have shut down most forms of embryonic stem cell research in the state, but the proposal failed in the House. The ALS trial at Emory uses fetal neural stem cells, not embryonic stem cells.

On October 20, 2010, Emory neurosurgeon Nicholas Boulis developed a technique to deliver stem cell injections straight into the spinal cord of ALS patients, with the hope of slowing or halting the disease. Researchers began the trial with ALS patients who had severe disability (so they were at a lower risk for added weakness that might occur as a consequence). They are now moving forward with less disabled patients.

The trial participants are being watched closely to see how they tolerate the surgery, the stem cells, and the antirejection medications.

“We have completed eleven patient surgeries, and all are doing well as of this date,” Glass says. “Stopping the disease in its tracks would obviously be the best outcome, but that is a bit of a utopian thought right now. This is just the starting point.” —M.J.L.
Rushdie on truth vs. memory, books vs. movies, and writing his memoir

Author Salman Rushdie returned to campus in February for his fifth consecutive year of teaching, seminars, and public talks. Rushdie, who wrote his latest novel, *Luca and the Fire of Life*, during his time at Emory as Distinguished Writer in Residence, is now at work on a memoir, drawing heavily from his archive in Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library; the archive includes “born digital” material that was retrieved from Rushdie’s computers.

“The truth is,” he said, “I could not have written the memoir at all if it weren’t for the work that was done here at MARBL.”

In a public conversation with Vice President and Secretary of the University Rosemary Magee on truth and memory, Rushdie said he is “interested in the filter of memory and how it sometimes reshapes the record. Memory rebuilds our life for us. We believe the truth of the memory more than we believe the facts.”

His long-anticipated memoir, which is expected in 2012, will contain an account of the years Rushdie was in hiding after Iran’s then-supreme leader Ayatollah Khomeini issued a death edict against him.

Writing a memoir is a bit easier than writing a novel, Rushdie said, since “you’ve already taken the precaution of leading the life.”


A panel discussion on music and literature in the technological age featured Rushdie with Robert Spano, music director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Emory University Distinguished Artist in Residence; and Steve Everett, professor of music at Emory.

**Perfect Pitch**

**Aid Advantage:** “I’ve really built a family here. . . . I know it sounds corny but Emory helped mold me into an adult. I’m just so thankful I can afford this,” said Emory Advantage recipient Evan Dunn 12C in an *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* profile of the University’s financial aid initiative. Emory Advantage helps students from families with annual total incomes of $100,000 or less who demonstrate a need for financial aid. Dunn, who is from Kennesaw, says people “are floored” when he tells them he will graduate debt-free.

**East Meets West:** “I’m constantly amazed it’s gotten as far as it has. . . . A lot of it is the sheer energy or power of His Holiness. He has this way of envisioning things and making them happen and inspiring people to make them happen,” biology professor Arri Eisen told the Associated Press about his experience with the Emory-Tibet Science Initiative (ETSI). The AP profiled the cohort of Tibetan Buddhist monks currently studying science on the Emory campus through ETSI at the request of Presidential Distinguished Professor His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama. The story and photo essay appeared in more than 130 outlets worldwide.

**Egypt Expert:** During the height of the uprising in Egypt earlier this year, the *New York Times* turned to political scientist Carrie Rosefsky Wickham, author of *Mobilizing Islam*, a 2002 book on Egypt and the Muslim Brotherhood, to help explain the history and evolution of the Islamic organization in the region. “It was a bottom-up, gradual process, beginning with the individual and ultimately reaching all of society. . . . It’s roughly analogous to the evangelical Christian goal of sharing the gospel. Politics were secondary,” she said. Wickham also wrote widely cited opinion pieces in *Foreign Affairs* magazine and CNN.com.

**SOMETHING FISHY**

Feel free to broil, bake, grill, or saute your fish—just don’t deep-fry it.

Assistant Professor of Neurology Fadi Nahab, medical director of the stroke program at Emory University Hospital, has found that deep-fried fish may be a main culprit in giving the “stroke belt” a bad name.

The stroke belt includes Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Previous studies have shown that people living in this region are more likely to die from a stroke than people in other parts of the US, and that blacks are more affected than whites.

“Our is the first major study to look at geographic differences in fish consumption in and out of the stroke belt,” Nahab says. “Eating less healthy fish may be contributing to America’s stroke belt and to racial disparities in stroke.”

Omega-3 fatty acids in fish (especially oily fish like salmon, herring, and mackerel) have been found to have health benefits and may actually reduce the risk of stroke. But when fish is deep-fried, it loses its natural omega-3 fatty acids and becomes more of a risk factor than a benefit, Nahab found.

The Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke (REGARDS) study is a national, population-based longitudinal cohort study with a special focus on African Americans and persons living in the stroke belt.

Nahab’s team studied a subgroup of the participants, giving them a food frequency questionnaire that gauged their intake of oysters, shellfish, tuna, fried fish, and nonfried fish.

Total average servings of fish consumed per week were lower among residents of the stroke belt and “buckle” (the coastal plain region of North and South Carolina and Georgia) than among residents of other areas, but stroke belt residents ate more fried fish.

The American Heart Association recommends two or more servings of fish per week. —M.J.L.

**The Missing Years:** Rushdie’s autobiography will include an account of his time in hiding.

**MORE ONLINE:** See Rushdie’s conversation on “Truth and Memory” at www.emory.edu/magazine.
THE PROBLEM SOLVER

BY DAVID PEARSON 58C
PORTER ANDERSON

WAS A TALL, SKINNY TOWHEAD FROM ALABAMA WHO CAME TO EMMORY IN THE FIFTIES, WON A WOODROW WILSON FELLOWSHIP, GOT A DOCTORATE AT HARVARD, AND WENT ON TO CREATE A VACCINE CREDITED WITH SAVING THE LIVES OF 668,661 CHILDREN—AND COUNTING.

You probably wouldn't learn any of that if you talked to him, though. You'd have to Google Anderson to find out that in 1996 he and three colleagues were awarded the Albert Lasker Clinical Award, one of the highest honors in medical science.

Miami pediatrician Warren Quillian ’58C was an Emory classmate of Anderson’s who later worked with him at Boston Children’s Hospital. “Whoever would have thought that this quiet, self-effacing guy would go on to become a giant—really, a giant—in the field of immunology?” Quillian says. “And as if it wasn’t enough to invent vaccines for infant meningitis, he felt it was critical that a way be found to manufacture them inexpensively for children in the developing world, because the early versions were costly to make.”

Anderson may be a cross between a polymath and a Renaissance man. Although he gravitated to science and enjoyed studying organic chemistry under Professor Leon Mandell, his happiest memories of Emory are the history classes he took with Professor George Cuttino, Shakespeare with Professor of English Roland Frye, and the “Athletics for All” sports program. Overcoming the handicap of a gimpy leg, he worked his way up to become an alternate on the Emory tennis team. And although he would deny musical ability, he still plays the Chopin mazurkas today that he did in college.

But there was a darker side to Anderson’s Emory years. The mid-fifties—more than two decades before the Woodruff gift launched the University into the orbit of top-tier research institutions—were bringing great change to a nation awakening to the need for racial justice and equality. In some ways, the Emory he recalls, like most Southern schools, lagged behind leading universities in other parts of the country, both in education and in ethos. Anderson, on reflection, finds Emory’s progress to be halting. “I could not understand how they had Brotherhood Week, and yet not one black student was enrolled in the College,” he says. He also observed what he considered discrimination against Jewish students among the fraternities, a practice he thought the administration did little to address.

“When I came there as a seventeen-year-old, I didn’t know much about the world,
and Emory presented itself as a place where you were involved in success,” Anderson says. “I took what was laid out for me as a matter of course. Only toward the end did I start to think of some of the negatives. I was in a fraternity, and I resigned from it because I came to think of it as waste of time and money, and an influence for bad conduct.”

Anderson’s strong feelings about the need for equality in education in the South later led him to spend two years teaching at the predominantly black Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, from 1966 to 1968. “However, I disliked the Sisyphean quality of teaching, and preferred solving concrete problems,” he says. From there he became a delegate to the famous 1968 Chicago Democratic Convention, as a member of an integrated splinter group from Alabama.

After graduating from Emory in 1958, Anderson spent three years as an agricultural chemist working on United Fruit’s banana plantations in Honduras, where, he says, “I became skillful in lab work and aware of third-world health challenges.” He later returned to the US and Harvard to earn an MA and PhD in bacteriology.

In 1968, a friend and colleague, pediatrician David Smith, sparked his interest in the bacterium known as *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, or Hib. The bacterium mainly affects children because they lack the natural antibodies to fight it, and typically causes meningitis, an infection of the covering of the brain and spinal cord. Each year some twenty thousand children in the US alone were being affected, and 5 percent died. While many in the industrialized world might recover, up to 45 percent were left with other problems such as deafness, brain damage, and epilepsy. In addition to childhood meningitis, the Hib bacterium also causes pneumonia, pericarditis, and arthritis.

Anderson and Smith partnered to set out on a near-epic twenty-year pursuit of a vaccine for Hib. As the self-described “bacteria juggler” of the two, Anderson spent thousands of intense hours in the lab working to perfect the vaccine by extracting and purifying the bacterium’s outer slime layer—technically a molecular structure called a polysaccharide—while Smith worked to raise awareness and money. The pair tested early versions of their vaccine on themselves and colleagues before testing it on children.

There were breakthrough moments, certainly, but Anderson likens lab research to clocking in at a regular—if somewhat lonely—job. “I am something of a night owl, and I tended to arrive late and stay late, working by myself,” he says. “For the most part it was just doing one thing after another, putting things into test tubes and watching them change color. But there were moments of suspense and excitement, particularly in getting samples from people who had been vaccinated to see if they had a response or not.”

Clinical trials that administered the vaccine to 100,000 children in Finland in 1975 showed protection for toddlers, although not infants, whose immune systems are less developed. But the Finnish trial results served as a strong incentive for Anderson, Smith, and colleague Richard Insel to begin the little company that would become Lederle-Praxis Biologics (later acquired by Wyeth, now a major subsidiary of Pfizer). The strategy was to get licensure in the United States for the plain polysaccharide vaccine and to use revenue from this fund to develop the second-generation vaccine they hoped would protect infants (see sidebar).

“Our work was on a small scale,” Anderson says. “To get into the field, the vaccines needed—and any new vaccine will need—major investment and skilled development by the vaccine industry and work by the FDA and the CDC to ascertain safety and actual disease prevention.”

The first vaccine, for older children, was approved for use in 1986, and the second, for use with infants, was approved in 1990. Anderson and Smith’s persistence has paid tremendous dividends, saving tens of thousands of young lives and preventing lifelong disability for many more.

“By the work for which Anderson, Smith, and NIH scientists John Robbins and Rachel Schneerson received the 1996 Albert Lasker Clinical Award. “Since conjugate vaccine was introduced,” reads the Lasker Award citation, “Hib

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**TWO PROBLEMS, TWO VACCINES**

**PHASE II:** An early Hib vaccine developed by Porter Anderson and David Smith worked on toddlers, but not infants. Their immune systems are too immature to have the “memory” necessary to make the antibodies to fight bacteria; their cells, in essence, don’t recognize the enemy.

Since most cases of Hib meningitis occurred in the first year of life, Anderson and Smith worked to develop a second-generation vaccine specifically for use in young infants: a “conjugate” vaccine, in which the purified polysaccharide is conjugated, or linked to a carrier protein. The carrier triggers T-cells (a type of white blood cell that recognizes foreign proteins) to mount an effective immune response.

Today, the Hib vaccine is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for all children under five, with more than 95 percent effectiveness. Prior to the vaccine, some twenty thousand US children contracted Hib-related meningitis annually, and 45 percent were left with permanent damage. Now cases have decreased by 98 percent.
meningitis has been reduced by about 98 percent in the United States. The vaccine offers the hope that Hib-related diseases can be virtually eliminated.”

Anderson was inducted into the National Academy of Sciences in 2010, and earlier this year was appointed as a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.

Asked how he feels about saving so many lives, Anderson says, “I rarely think about it. It was nice to have done, but I tend to think about what’s ahead.”

And the Lasker Award? “It opens a few doors when I am trying to get someone interested in a new project. Like the National Academy membership, it might get you a few moments of someone’s time who would not ordinarily call you back.”

LURE OF THE LAB
After the successful manufacture and distribution of the Hib vaccine in the US, Anderson was running a busy lab at the University of Rochester, raising money in addition to doing research. “I got very weary of that,” he says. He decided to take a sabbatical and move to a home he bought on the Atlantic Ocean side of Key Largo in the Florida Keys.

But his mind continually wandered to vaccine development, specifically against pneumococcus. This bug is well-known as a cause of pneumonia in adults, but it is more prevalent in infants, also causing meningitis. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that pneumococcus kills a million children each year, mainly in third-world settings.

In the 1990s, conjugate-type vaccines for pneumococcus were under development by several companies. These are inherently expensive because there are many different polysaccharide types that need to be included. WHO began to look for cheaper methods, and asked Anderson to join an advisory panel. He reviewed numerous proposals and began to have his own ideas about how to make a vaccine.

“He couldn’t stay out of the lab for long,” says Richard Malley, a pediatrician and infectious disease specialist at Boston Children’s Hospital. As he had semiretired in 1996, Anderson needed a work site and basic research equipment—ultimately furnished by the hospital, where the two met. “One day I heard a crash from Porter’s area, next door to mine,” said Malley. “He had dropped a flask. We met as we mopped up the floor, and that was the beginning of a fifteen-year friendship. We started playing tennis together, and talked about developing this inexpensive way to make a pneumococcus vaccine. I knew that’s what I wanted to do . . . to learn from this brilliant, quirky fellow. So he became my mentor.”

Their approach includes the option to put the vaccine onto the mucous membranes of the nasal or oral cavity—similar to the flu mist commonly used now—for both the economy of omitting sterile injections and for the combination of internal and mucosal immunity that results.

The goal of developing an economical pneumococcus vaccine was to prevent disease in infants, but Anderson believes it will likely help susceptible adults as well, including AIDS patients and the elderly. The organization PATH funded the manufacture of the vaccine for human trials by the Butantan Institute of Sao Paolo, Brazil. The vaccine has not yet been approved for human testing in the US by the FDA; Anderson and Malley hope this will happen within the coming year.

Since his semiretirement, Anderson has been able to focus on the work he likes and leave the “paperwork” to others. “I never had much of a vision of what I would be doing, but I am very practically oriented and like to deal with concrete problems,” he says. “In spirit, I’m a Yankee engineer more than a scientist. Real scientists look for problems to solve.

I use whatever is at hand to solve a problem that is already there, to chip away at it.”

PORTER IN PARADISE
The two-story house where Anderson spends about a third of his time looks out over a canal and a mangrove-fringed bay toward Carysfort Light, just shy of the Gulf Stream.

All the living spaces and decks of the contemporary home are upstairs; below is a large carport where he keeps his tiny fleet of canoes, kayaks, and dinghies. They are light enough for two to carry, and it’s only about a hundred yards to the ocean’s edge and his launch site in the mangroves.

The house is the site of frequent gatherings of Anderson’s eclectic coterie of friends (including several of his closest, friends since their days together at Emory). Besides his sister Sally, his son Andrew and his son Henry, her daughter Juliette and Juliette’s husband Ralf, he might have friends down for morning canoeing, a lunch of shrimp salad and banana bread, and a concert on his grand piano given by a visiting pianist from the University of Miami. Or just as likely, a cabaret performance with one of his friends playing and singing “Brush Up Your Shakespeare,” from Cole Porter’s Kiss Me Kate. Until a recent hand injury forced him to the sidelines, Anderson also was the acknowledged tennis champion among his family and friends.

Harking back to his days on the plantations of Honduras, Anderson has planted several banana, key lime, mango, and coconut trees in the yard next to his house. His property fronts on an old canal whose brackish water is an ideal home for small landlocked tarpon; the house is set in the middle of a state-owned forest nature preserve.

Anderson’s quiet life in the Keys is an hour from Miami and fifteen hundred miles from the bustle of Boston. His mind, though, is never far from the lab—at least, not while problems like pneumococcus still linger, unsolved.

David Pearson 58C lives in Florida and owns a strategic marketing firm for resorts. He was Anderson’s dorm counselor in Dobbs Hall and has maintained his friendship through the years. Anecdotes from Moe’s and Joe’s bar have been edited out of this story.
After a snowboarding accident resulted in a severe traumatic brain injury, Thomas Sowell was in a coma and his parents were preparing for the worst.

The rest of the story amazed even his doctors.

By Mary J. Loftus
When the Cataloochee Ski Patrol got to fifteen-year-old Thomas Sowell, who had fallen headfirst while snowboarding, it was clear that he was in trouble. The call to his parents, Virginia and Jim, was minutes away. The MRI at Mission Hospital in Asheville, which would show severe brain trauma, was hours away. The transfer to Grady Memorial Hospital’s Marcus Stroke and Neuroscience Center, where Thomas would be treated by Emory doctors who specialize in severe brain injuries, was days away. And the pivotal night that determined whether Thomas would live or die was nearly a week away.

Sunday, January 30, 2011, was the last day of an annual winter sports trip Decatur’s Scout Troop 77 takes, this year to the Cataloochee Ski Resort in Maggie Valley, North Carolina. Thomas and the other troop members decided to get an early start—they wanted to be the first ones on the slopes.

The weather had been unseasonably warm that weekend, in the sixties, but the mostly machine-made snow at the ski area had refrozen overnight and glittered in the early morning sun.

Thomas had on his rental helmet as well as ski goggles he had borrowed from a friend. He snapped one of his boots into the snowboard’s binding and got in line for the lift. A snowboarding novice, he was sticking to the run called Short ‘n’ Sweet.

Monday meant heading back to classes at Lakeside High, including a challenging trigonometry precalculus course he had been placed in because of his strength in math, but today was all about making the most of his remaining time on the mountain.

LIKE A ‘SERIOUS CAR CRASH’

Thomas doesn’t have any memory of the accident, but volunteer Ski Patroller Eric Hutchinson vividly remembers getting the call around 9:30 a.m.

“I was on Upper Turkey Trot, which comes downhill into Short ‘n’ Sweet. I heard on my radio there was a person hurt and not responding,” Hutchinson says. “A bunch of us got there together and started tending to Thomas according to the medical protocol we’ve been trained in.”

Thomas had experienced what the patrols call a toe-side edge catch, which means that the board stops but the body keeps going.

“Basically, the snowboard becomes a fulcrum,” says Hutchinson. Thomas catapulted forward, landing directly on his head and upper face, with enough force to flatten his goggles.

Once Thomas was transported to Mission Hospital, he was sedated and placed on a ventilator. He had lost the ability to breathe on his own, which is often the case with severe brain injuries. After a CT scan and an MRI, an intracranial bolt was placed in Thomas’s brain to monitor increased pressure from the swelling.

His parents—Virginia, a freelance graphic designer, and Jim, an astronomer at Georgia Tech—were contacted at church on Sunday around 10 a.m., went by home to grab a change of clothes, and left for Asheville.

“On the drive up, we thought it was a concussion,” Virginia Sowell says. “He’d sent us a text on Saturday saying that everyone had been falling all day. But after meeting with the doctors, we learned that this was much more serious. They likened his brain injury to one caused by a serious car crash.”

Thomas’s diagnosis was “diffuse axonal shearing”—damage to individual neurons and connections among nerve cells—in both hemispheres of his brain.

Diffuse axonal injury (DAI) results from the brain violently hitting the wall of the skull, and is one of the most devastating diagnoses a parent can hear; Google DAI and terms jump out like “coma,” “significant impairment,” and “persistent vegetative state.”

“We knew zero about traumatic brain injury,” says Virginia Sowell, “but we were about to learn.”
Through a mutual friend, the Sowells got in touch with David Wright, associate professor of emergency medicine, director of Emory’s Division of Emergency Neurosciences, and an expert on traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

For the past decade, Wright has focused most of his research on TBI. He is the coinventor of DETECT, a portable device for assessing concussions, and is primary investigator for a national clinical trial, based at Grady, testing a promising progesterone treatment discovered by Asa Candler Professor of Emergency Medicine Donald Stein.

“Really, the impetus behind me doing research in TBI came from my clinical work at Grady. It came from seeing so many patients with traumatic brain injury coming in and not having any tools to treat them with,” Wright says. “Most patients with TBI are disabled for life. It’s horrific when you start looking at the statistics. And it occurs mostly in young people who are in the prime of their lives.”

The damage results not only from the initial trauma, but through a domino effect of potential consequences—continued swelling and increased pressure in the brain, toxic changes in brain and blood chemistry, infection in the lungs. “The secondary cascade starts immediately after the injury,” says Wright.

Instead of improving once they get to the hospital, nearly half of people with severe brain injuries deteriorate in the hours or days following. Providing care for TBI patients is a complex matter, requiring specially trained medical staff, constant vigilance, and an almost intuitive ability to predict what might go wrong next.

When Wright got the call about Thomas, his immediate response was that the teen should be transferred to Grady’s Marcus Stroke and Neuroscience Center, where the nursing staff and Emory neurointensivists (doctors who specialize in neurocritical care) know the danger zones in aftercare for brain injuries.

Largely funded through a $20 million donation from Home Depot co-founder Bernie Marcus’s foundation, the center had been open for less than a year. Thomas would be the youngest patient treated at the center, one of a handful around the country that is specifically designed to treat acute, time-dependent emergencies of the brain, such as strokes and TBI.

“This,” says Wright, “is where he needed to be.”

The Sowells are active members of the 175-year-old Oak Grove United Methodist Church, a cornerstone of their historic Atlanta neighborhood. Scout Troop 77 is based there, and many of their neighbors and friends are members.

After Thomas’s accident, the church and community went into full support mode. Friends brought food to the Sowells’ home, held a “ridiculously well attended” prayer service at Oak Grove, and filled their home phone message box. Daniel, Thomas’s older brother, received a flood of cards and notes at his college, Young Harris. And a Scout leader set up a blog, “Pray for Thomas,” that became a live news feed for family and friends—and a lifeline for Virginia and Jim.

The entry from January 31 reads:

As you may be aware, Thomas S. (Jim and Virginia’s youngest son) had an accident while snowboarding with the Scouts on Sunday morning. He is currently at Mission Hospital near the Biltmore in Asheville, North Carolina. The

**THE SPECIALIST:** David Wright, director of Emory’s Division of Emergency Neurosciences, is an expert on brain trauma and is leading a national clinical trial of a promising new treatment, based at Grady.
family is in the process of preparing to have him transported to Grady today. Since the accident he has not been conscious though he responds to stimulation. The physicians have implanted a monitoring device to track brain activity.

Virginia rode in the ambulance with Thomas to Grady, and the paramedics gave her small tasks to keep her busy. (“It was very kind of them,” Virginia says.) They arrived in downtown Atlanta around 8:30 Monday night, and Thomas—unresponsive, heavily medicated, and breathing through a tube—was taken directly to the eighth floor.

The Marcus Center is a hub of futuristic-looking technology, dedicated staff, and common-sense accommodations. Modeled after top neuro-ICUs around the country, it has a CT scanner and neuroangiography suite with equipment that appears to have been beamed straight out of a Star Trek medical bay. The floor has large windows to let in light, video cameras in each room with centralized monitors so nurses can keep an eye on several patients at once, and “family rooms” where relatives can sleep, shower, even do laundry.

“Thomas’s parents, understandably, wanted to stay with him,” says Professor of Neurology Michael Frankel, director of the center. “In fact, his mom didn’t really want to be more than a few feet away.”

**THE LOWEST LOW**

One of the first doctors to see Thomas at Grady was Sanjay Dhall MR09, chief of neurosurgery. Traumatic brain injuries, Dhall says, are classified as mild, moderate, or severe. “Mild is like a concussion, moderate is awake but confused. Thomas’s was severe. He was comatose, he would only respond to painful stimulation, he wouldn’t open his eyes, follow commands, or speak.”

Many patients with Thomas’s level of brain trauma never regain consciousness and, if they live, are permanently disabled. “We see a lot of TBI in teens and young adults who survive, but then need around-the-clock care,” says Dhall, who had several difficult conversations with Thomas’s parents.

“We were being prepared, all along, for the worst case scenario,” says Virginia Sowell.

Thomas’s CT scan showed multiple areas of bleeding into his brain. “His scan was pretty scary,” Frankel says.

Since the injury was diffuse, there was not one spot where neurosurgeons could operate to relieve the pressure. “We placed a drain-
age tube into the fluid spaces in his brain, the
ventricles, that also functioned as a pressure
monitor,” says Dhall. “And we inserted another
device, relatively new, that’s a fiber optic that
goes into the brain tissue and measures pres-
sure and the amount of oxygen in the brain.
One of the things we know about TBI is that
lack of oxygen causes very severe secondary
injury to the brain."

And then, Thomas’s lungs started to fail. The
doctors are unsure whether this was trig-
ggered by aspiration or was a consequence of
his brain injury.

“Thomas developed some very complicated
lung problems and went into full-on lung fail-
ure,” Dhall says. “His lungs stopped working,
we had to force high concentrations of oxygen
into them, his blood pressure was dropping,
and he was going into multi-organ failure. We
had to use drugs that artificially elevated his
blood pressure to keep him alive.”

“When the brain is failing, and the patient is
on a ventilator, the body just doesn’t react well,”
says Frankel. “Other organs start to fail when
the brain fails.”

“When they told us he might not make it, I
just collapsed on the floor, crying, vomiting,
ready to pass out,” Virginia Sowell says. “It was
the lowest low I’ve ever experienced. And then
came the highest high.”

“Born again:” Jim and Virginia Sowell consider
February 8, 2011—the day Thomas got his
breathing tube out—his “second birthday.” Thomas
is back home now and preparing to return to classes
at Lakeside High.

Lots of factors, both tangible and intangible,
can make a difference with traumatic brain
injury outcomes. Immediate and constant care
by top doctors and nurses using cutting-edge
medical technology, certainly.

Age, genetics, gender, and even hormones
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Women tend to survive brain injuries more
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researcher Don Stein to his studies of the hor-
monal progesterone as a neuroprotective agent
and possible treatment for TBI (see sidebar).

Research also shows that brain injury
patients do better when they are exposed to
natural light and when loved ones can stay
close by.

And the helmet and goggles Thomas wore
while snowboarding almost certainly saved his
life, Dhall says.

But no one can explain how, just two
weeks after his doctors at Grady had to tell his
parents he might not live through the night,
Thomas is sitting on the edge of his hospi-
tal bed at Shepherd Center’s rehabilitation
unit—surrounded by balloons and stuffed
tigers, eating Girl Scout cookies, sneakered feet
dangling, eager to go home.

“When he first woke up [on February 8],
Thomas thought he’d been in the hospital for a
day. He asked his dad for his chemistry book,
because he had a report due,” Virginia says.

“The turning point,” Dhall says, “was about
two days before we took his breathing tube out.
It was very rapid. Thomas shocked us all. The
rates of recovery have been so poor in the past.
But he gives all of us hope that even in the most
dire circumstances, our patients can get better.”

“The closest thing I remember is waking up in
the hospital. I don’t remember the accident.
I remember the day before.”

—THOMAS SOWELL
His doctors say Thomas is on track to make a full recovery, and shows none of the serious impairments they expected he would have. He is walking, talking, and thinking at near-normal levels already. “It’s so remarkable as to be miraculous,” Frankel says.

On February 17, Thomas stood beside his parents, smiling shyly, at a press conference at which the Cataloochee Ski Patrol presented him with a ski patrol cap and told him “it’s good to see you upright.”

Virginia and Jim Sowell credit the patrol and paramedics and doctors and the Grady Marcus Center staff. They credit the prayers of so many friends, and friends of friends, and community members. They credit Thomas’s inner strength.

But they do not take Thomas’s recovery lightly or believe that they are somehow deserving of this miracle while others are not. “We decided to share Thomas’s story not because we got lucky,” said Jim Sowell. “We know that there are parents who are having to build wheelchair ramps up to their front door. We thought we wouldn’t get to this point for months, or even years. We are telling it so that maybe there can be hope.”

A reporter asked Thomas to share the first thing he wanted to do when he got back to his house. “Just to be there,” he said. “To be home.”

**EPilogue**

Thomas continues outpatient therapy at Shepherd Pathways. “He’s enjoying the variety of things they’re having him do, but is anxious to get back to school,” says Virginia Sowell. Another head trauma, even a minor one, could have dire consequences for Thomas. So while he is eager to play sports again, like Ultimate Frisbee with his Lakeside team, for now he is cheering them on from the sidelines, enjoying the first sunny days of spring.

When Representative Gabrielle Giffords was shot in the head outside a Safeway during a “Congress on Your Corner” public meeting on January 8, 2011, she focused national attention on traumatic brain injury (TBI).

Until someone well-known is injured—such as Giffords, actress Natasha Richardson (who died of her injuries in a skiing accident), journalist Bob Woodruff (injured in a roadside bomb blast in Iraq)—or a pro-football player is knocked out of the game, TBI doesn’t receive much attention, says Director of Emergency Neurosciences David Wright.

“No one really wants to think about it,” he says. “This is an injury of young people in their twenties and thirties, who are pulled out of the workforce at the prime of their lives, and their family members become their caretakers. The loss is huge.”

During the past three decades, about fifty compounds have been tested as possible treatments for TBI, and all of the studies have failed.

But a $14.5 million, national clinical trial, Progesterone for the Treatment of Traumatic Brain Injury (ProTECT III), led by Wright and based at Grady Memorial Hospital—which has become an epicenter of TBI research—is expected to change that.

The protective properties of progesterone, a naturally occurring hormone, were discovered by Asa Candler Professor of Emergency Medicine Donald Stein, director of Emory’s Department of Emergency Medicine Brain Research Laboratory. As a young professor, Stein noticed that female rats fared better than male rats after brain injuries. Females, especially those who are pregnant, have higher levels of progesterone than males. “Ultimately, we learned that progesterone basically does in brain injuries what it does for fetuses—protects cells and tissue,” Stein says.

Earlier, a smaller trial at Grady showed that giving progesterone to TBI patients not only was safe, but appeared to greatly reduce deaths and disability. ProTECT III, a randomized, double-blind study funded by the National Institutes of Health, seeks to confirm these findings by expanding the trial to seventeen major trauma centers across fifteen states and enrolling more than a thousand patients.

In an unusual exemption, patients in the trial can be given progesterone (or a placebo) without consent of next-of-kin—a latitude granted to researchers because success is highly dependent on the drug being administered as quickly as possible after the injury.

Stein, who has been actively studying the positive effects of the hormone on brain injury since the mid-1980s, is eager for the clinical trials to be complete and for progesterone to be given routinely to brain injury patients. “I just turned seventy-two, and I would like to see this happen,” says Stein, who, even while dean of Emory’s graduate school, conducted progesterone research in the evenings. “I know it works. Not a week goes by that I don’t get a paper to review that confirms our findings. They come from Australia, Iran, Germany, France—dozens of labs all over the world. The data is so overwhelmingly compelling. As a scientist, I understand the need for rigorous testing and following procedure. But as a human being and a father, I find it frustrating and sometimes discouraging that it is taking so long to get this treatment out to patients.”

Stein has moved on to animal studies testing progesterone’s ability to reduce inflammation and brain damage in stroke victims. He is collaborating with Michael Frankel of the Marcus Stroke and Neuroscience Center at Grady (where Thomas Sowell was treated, although he did not take part in the trial), who has received an NIH grant to collect blood samples from TBI patients in the ProTECT III study. “When the brain is damaged, it releases specific proteins into the blood,” Frankel says, “so the samples provide a window into the damage that has occurred.”

When given systemically or by injection, Stein says, progesterone “goes everywhere in the body and affects all organs, like a broad-spectrum antibiotic. It evolved to protect the fetus. The process of repair is not really that different from development.”—M.J.L.
Patterns in Black and White

Emory is serious about facing its Southern past—and having a voice in the national conversation on race.

On February 6, Emory’s Oxford College hosted a family reunion—of sorts.

In attendance were siblings Darcel and Cynthia Caldwell, who had traveled from Pennsylvania to pay homage to their great-great-great-grandmother, Catherine “Miss Kitty” Andrew Boyd.

Also present was Virgil Eady, a direct descendant of Emory professor and slave owner George Stone; and Callie “Pat” Smith, one of the first students of color at Oxford, whose ancestors laundered the clothes of white Emory students in the institution’s early days.

Miss Kitty was the memory who brought them together for what historian Hank Klibanoff, James M. Cox Jr. Professor of Journalism, called “an expression of institutional genealogy.” Though their DNA is not shared, they are all connected by Emory’s past as a university that used slave labor to build its campus. This gathering in Oxford had its origins in what is arguably the ugliest reality in history; the hands that built the Oxford campus in 1836 implicated many of Emory’s founders, who not only kept slaves but vociferously defended the practice.

Kitty was one of twenty slaves owned by the first president of Emory’s Board of Trustees, Bishop James Osgood Andrew. And she has become a potent symbol for the Southern schisms that still linger. Her symbolic value is examined in former Oxford anthropology professor Mark Auslander’s forthcoming book, The Accidental Slaveowner: Revisiting a Myth of Race and Finding an American Family. It was Auslander’s pioneering research into Kitty’s past that set the stage for the revelations that day at Oxford.

To whites, Auslander observes, Kitty once seemed to illustrate the myth of the devoted and loyal servant and the implication that slavery was, somehow, a benevolent—or at least benign—way of life.

To blacks, she symbolized the ravages of slavery, the denial of freedom, and speculation that she was forced into a sexual relationship with Andrew. Kitty had national significance, too: slave owning among Southern Methodists like Andrew triggered the split in the Methodist Episcopal Church that presaged the American Civil War.

As so often happens in families, Miss Kitty is evidence of how wildly versions of the past can diverge according to one’s perspective.

The gathering in Oxford was the culmination of a landmark four-day conference hosted by Emory, “Slavery and the University: Histories and Legacies.” During the course of the summit, 250 participants, including faculty from Harvard, Brown, and Spelman, gathered for an open discussion of American public and private universities’ ties to slavery.

“The importance of enslaved labor to all kinds of institutions is America’s, and indeed the world’s, biggest open secret,” said Leslie Harris, associate professor of history and an organizer of the conference, at the opening event.

Brown University President Ruth Simmons delivered the keynote address, outlining Brown’s three-year effort to document its eighteenth-century links to slavery. A committee convened in 2003 to unearth the complex relationship...
between the New England slave trade and the founding of the university. Its work culminated in a 2006 report recommending that Brown create a center devoted to the study of slavery and injustice, raise a $10 million endowment to help educate children in Providence public schools, and rewrite its history in time for Brown’s 250th anniversary in 2014.

“I think of this as a persistent effort to understand why we are who we are,” Simmons said. “This rigorous review is absolutely essential.”

“Slavery and the University” came on the heels of the January statement of regret from Emory’s Board of Trustees for the school’s connections to slavery. “Emory bears an inescapable legacy involved in the institution of slavery and its long and painful aftermath,” President James Wagner said in his opening remarks. “These are facts of history. They should not be disputed or avoided.”

What the conference represented, Harris says, was the intention of Emory scholars to engage with historical projects that illuminate slavery’s history for the good of the present.

“You can’t really make sense of race in America without slavery,” says Auslander, who also helped organize “Slavery and the University.”

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“You can’t really make sense of race in America without slavery,” says Auslander, who also helped organize the conference. “And for a long time there’s been a great unwillingness to face up to the complexities of the stories of slavery in American life. And that’s where I think Emory is pushing the envelope in a lot of exciting ways.”

“It made me realize,” Klibanoff adds, “how closely connected we are in time and space to the past. Going to the gravesite of Miss Kitty and seeing her relatives, that was very powerful. I was just in awe of the process of discovery.”

**Hard Questions**

That process of discovery—whether through historical research, or as it played out in the conversational circle on that day in Oxford, Georgia—is central to Emory’s effort to distinguish itself in the field of African American studies by engaging with stories that are admittedly hard to tell.

African American studies chair Mark Sanders acknowledges that there is a great deal of fear and guilt involved, resulting in “the issue of Southern whites perhaps feeling indicted or put on the spot.” But, he cautions, “even with the reality of that existence in some quarters, we should recognize that there continue to be lots of people really hungry and yearning for open interracial discussions about race.”

One of those discussions is taking place around the recent and widely noted collaboration of Goodrich C. White Professor of American Studies professor and director of the James Weldon Johnson Institute, Rudolph P. Byrd, and Director of Harvard’s W.E.B. Du Bois Institute Henry Louis Gates Jr., who cowrote a controversial analysis of the Harlem Renaissance figure Jean Toomer. Author of the revered African American book *Cane*, considered a pivotal work of literary modernism when it was published in 1923, Toomer strove to shed new light on the black experience—and, according to Byrd, he still does today.
whether race is increasingly malleable; is it the sum total of experience, a component of that experience, or of so little consequence that we now live in what some have termed a "post-black" age?

Toomer, the authors write, was "a pioneering theorist of hybridity, perhaps the first in the African American tradition. Nevertheless, he remained indifferent to the consequences of this position, and quite determined to maintain and justify it, returning to the subject seemingly endlessly in his autobiographical writings."

"I think that his life and example raise very interesting questions for us at a time when we are still struggling with race," says Byrd. "On the new census there are more than fourteen different categories for self-identifying. This is completely new. Americans are exercising the right to identify themselves in very specific ways. I do hope Americans don’t fall into Toomer’s pattern of denial, but that they engage in an honest way with questions related to race. And that they understand that race tells us something, and then nothing at all about an individual."

For Gates, the study of Toomer’s conflicted racial identity remains highly relevant. "It’s timely that our edition of Cane was published when there is the first black president in an era of so-called ‘post-blackness,’" Gates says. "In my opinion, an era of post-blackness will only exist when we are post-racism. And I don’t know about down in Atlanta, but up here such an era is nowhere in sight."

Past Made Present

In addition to those who work and teach here, scholars from around the country are drawn to the African American Collections of Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library. Researchers can grasp history in African American church fans and political pamphlets, in the documents of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, in the Alice Walker papers, in a book of poetry signed by ex-slave writer Phillis Wheatley.

"His life and positions around race reflect some of the conversations that we are now having about race as a social construction," says Byrd. "Toomer as a pioneering thinker and writer on race was one of the first to contest the so-called one-drop rule and argue for more expansive definitions of race. But unfortunately Toomer didn’t stop there. He also sought to deny his own racial background."

Born to a former Georgia slave and educated at African American schools, Toomer argued against essentialist definitions of race. But Gates’s and Byrd’s research—presented in their extensive introduction to the 2011 Norton edition of Cane—led them to conclude that in later years, Toomer took his own notions of race as self-defined to an extreme in his decision to pass for white. That choice of a half-century ago taps into current tensions surrounding whether race is increasingly malleable; is it the sum total of experience, a component of that experience, or of so little consequence that we now live in what some have termed a “post-black” age?

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“All these initiatives draw attention to the extreme, centuries-long exploitation of peoples of African descent,” Eltis says. “But for me, they also underscore the huge shift in social norms or values that can occur in a relatively short time, and how poorly we understand why this happens. A little over two centuries ago, slavery was an accepted institution in almost every society in the world and had been for millennia. Today, it is so widely regarded as the apotheosis of evil, nowhere supported by the law, that it is almost impossible to comprehend premodern history.”

Southern Cross

The University’s ties to the history of the South still cast a shadow, but they also serve as inspiration for current research, creative writing, and cultural dialogue and trends.

Natasha Trethewey, Phillips Wheatley Distinguished Chair in Poetry and a Pulitzer Prize–winning poet, highlights the lingering barriers of skin color and class in her most recent book, Beyond Katrina: A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast; and Kevin Young, Atticus Haygood Professor of English, reenvisioned history in another way in his epic poem on one of slavery’s most famous rebellions, Ardeny: A Chronicle of the Amistad Rebels.

Auslander points to the Emory Libraries’ online journal Southern Spaces, edited by Associate Professor of American Studies Allen Tullos, as a site where the ethos of the South is continually reimagined. “A lot of the most important writing about race and place and power is coming out of that journal,” he says. “All institutions should be doing this kind of work, but it’s very important for Southern institutions to be taking the lead.”

Atlanta set the stage for the University’s involvement with the “Without Sanctuary” exhibition of lynching photographs at the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site in 2002, and the establishment, led by Byrd, of the Johnson Institute in 2007—tasked with studying the origins and legacy of the civil rights movement.

“Being in Atlanta is enormously important in my opinion,” says Sanders. “The major twentieth century response to slavery and its residual effects is the civil rights movement, and Atlanta is the cradle of the civil rights movement.”

The Transforming Community Project (TCP), founded at Emory in 2005 to foster communication about race, has been an agent of storytelling too, as various members from Emory’s community come together to offer their version of reality to measure others against.

“One of the things we’ve done is make people more comfortable with the idea of talking about race openly,” says TCP’s cofounder and director Harris, while “recognizing that we’re not going to come to some grand agreement.”

Funded in part by the Ford Foundation’s Difficult Dialogues initiative, TCP’s focus on “history-making” has led to disclosures about Emory’s past, including its connections to slavery. As and with Brown University’s self-investigation of slavery’s practice in its ranks and in the North, Harris’s writing has countered common wisdom about slavery’s scope, particularly in the North.

Revisiting the stories of Southern history can help shape the present in a number of ways, but perhaps few are as immediate as the work being done by Klibanoff in examining past cases of racially motivated crimes. His Civil Rights Cold Case

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**Reading List**

**SLAVERY IN NEW YORK**

*New Press, 2005*

Leslie Harris (In the Shadow of Slavery: African Americans in New York City, 1626–1863) and Ira Berlin’s anthology of the unwritten history of slavery from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries was inspired in part by the discovery in 1991 of an African American cemetery in the heart of Manhattan. This collection of scholarly essays on Northern slavery examines the differences when it occurred in the metropolitan North rather than the rural South.

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**‘TIL DEATH OR DISTANCE DO US PART**

*Princeton University Press, 2009*

When Barack Obama studied law at Harvard, did he know his apartment lay on ground that was home to African slavery for 150 years? Who, in this century, knows that slavery persisted in Massachusetts longer than it did in Georgia? Catherine Manegold, former Cox Professor of Journalism, traces five generations of slave owners on a farm in colonial New England, digging deep to bring the history of the American slave trade full circle from concealment to recovery.

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**ARDENCY: A Chronicle of the Amistad Rebels and THE ART OF LOSING: Poems of Grief and Healing**

*Knopf, 2011 / Bloomsbury, 2010*

Emory Atticus Haygood Professor of English and Creative Writing Kevin Young’s latest, Ardeny, is an epic poem of the famous 1839 slave rebellion aboard the Amistad. In 2010, Young edited an anthology of classic and contemporary poems about loss including works by Dylan Thomas, Robert Frost, and fellow Emory professor Natasha Trethewey called The Art of Losing.
Project aims to unearth and even untangle the unsolved murders of civil rights workers, and serves as the foundation for a class Klibanoff will teach alongside assistant professor of African American studies Brett Gadsden this fall.

Klibanoff hopes their exploration of these cases nearly a half-century old will illuminate a pattern of evasion in American history that persists today—not to mention ease the hearts of descendants of the crime victims.

“I think there are large segments of the population who are in denial,” says Klibanoff, who grew up in Alabama and coauthored the 2007 Pulitzer Prize–winner The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation. “There are segments that are blissfully ignorant and there are probably some who purposefully don’t want to know. But I also think there is another large segment that’s deeply hungry for the total story. I think that history still has huge gaps for a lot of people... I grew up in the South, where history was written for white people.”

Slavery may be a distant, dark memory in American life, but its scars run deep, and they don’t end at the Mason-Dixon Line. Events like Hurricane Katrina, President Obama’s election and the often vicious critiques of his presidency, and cities that remain effectively segregated remind us that a “post-black” world is not yet upon us.

“When we look at the length of time in which African Americans were held enslaved, to expect that five-hundred-plus years of outright oppression would then be rectified in forty to fifty years is ludicrous,” Harris says.

In her book Beyond Katrina, poet Natasha Trethewey notes how some people she meets on a visit to her hometown on the Gulf Coast after the hurricane remember the storm’s aftermath in a way that allows them to gloss over many of the more brutal elements.

“I know that a preferred narrative is one of the common bonds between people in a time of crisis. This is often the way collective, cultural memory works, full of omissions, partial remembering, and purposeful forgetting,” she writes. “People on both sides of a story look better in a version that leaves out certain things.”

But, she cautions, there is no power like the truth:  “It is another way that rebuilding is also about remembering.”

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The Oxford city cemetery, with the obelisk to Bishop James Osgood Andrew in the foreground and Kitty’s memorial visible in the back, under the oak.

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**BEYOND KATRINA:** A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast University of Georgia Press, 2010

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for her volume of poetry Native Guard, Emory professor Natasha Trethewey examines her family history as it intersects with the social and economic changes on the Gulf Coast and the psychological and spiritual devastation wrought alongside Katrina’s physical damage in a book Publishers Weekly calls “hauntingly beautiful.”


Professor of English Lawrence Jackson’s survey of a little-known period in African American literature from the Harlem Renaissance to the Civil Rights era includes a look at not just writers, but publishers, editors, scholars, and the African American intellectual class of the time.

**A BLACK SOLDIER’S STORY:** The Narrative of Ricardo Batrell and the Cuban War of Independence University of Minnesota Press, 2010

Mark Sanders’s translation of an Afro-Cuban memoir by Ricardo Batrell, a poor and illiterate field hand turned soldier in Cuba’s War of Independence, is a first-person account of the efforts to build an eguitarian Cuba and the subsequent abandonment of those lofty goals amidst institutional government corruption and racism.


This revised edition of the 1935 novel by Jean Toomer features a new introduction by Emory’s Rudolph Byrd and Harvard’s Henry Louis Gates Jr. Canе is an influential mix of poetry, prose, and drama published in 1923 as well as controversial aspects of Toomer’s personal life. Toomer was a progressive thinker, determined to see race as a social as much as a genetic construct, who took that contention to its bitter end, argue Byrd and Gates, in trying to pass for a portion of his life as white.

**ATLAS OF THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE**

Yale University Press, 2010

Robert W. Woodruff Professor of History David Eltis, working with coauthor David Richardson, has created an extension of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database in this record, called “the Rosetta Stone of slave historiography” by Henry Louis Gates Jr. The atlas chronicles 35,000 slave ship voyages from Africa to the Americas and includes documents, maps, diary entries, and photographs to more fully capture the magnitude of the practice.

**W.E.B. DU BOIS:** Grandfather of Black Studies Africa World Press, 2011

Naguelyati Warren, senior lecturer in African American studies, looks at the scholar and activist W.E.B. Du Bois, whose work was the foundation of African American studies today. Warren examines Du Bois’s pioneering efforts to elucidate the black experience in America including a progressive look at the experience and influence of black women.
Most treatments for Alzheimer’s disease can only address its symptoms. But associate professor of neurology James Lah is leading a team of researchers in several late-stage clinical trials testing promising disease-modifying therapies. Emory is one of twelve universities participating in a nationwide study on the effectiveness of an experimental medication, CERE-110, the first gene therapy clinical trial for Alzheimer’s. CERE-110 seeks to prevent or slow the death of brain cells in Alzheimer’s patients by delivering a protein called nerve growth factor (NGF) to the affected area of the brain. NGF nourishes a specific population of cells that deteriorate in Alzheimer’s—cells that play a vital role in memory and cognitive function. Lah and Allan Levey, neurology professor and director of the Emory Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC), also are involved in research that could lead to a vaccine for Alzheimer’s and a new method for early detection. The ADRC is one of thirty-two active centers in the nation supported by the NIH.

Garcia, who credits his invention with saving his own life, says the most fundamental question the software addresses is whether a patient has coronary artery disease.

Heart attacks are the leading cause of death in the US, and many strike without warning.

But a software program known as the Emory Cardiac Toolbox can display a three-dimensional image of a patient’s heart, allowing doctors to determine blood flow and efficiency. Developed by Ernest Garcia, professor of radiology in the School of Medicine, the software is one of the most widely applied cardiac imaging systems in the world.

The latest addition to the toolbox allows physicians to more accurately diagnose and treat heart failure.

“In particular, it helps with predicting which patients are going to benefit from specific treatments,” Garcia says. “One treatment that is becoming more widespread these days is cardiac resynchronization therapy. Just by using the software and analyzing how the heart beats, we can see how synchronized it is. And if it’s not synchronized, we can now predict how well it would improve with resynchronization therapy, a method of restoring the correct mechanical sequence of heart contractions in patients with an irregular heartbeat.”

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Created three years ago, the Emory Institute for Drug Discovery is one of the first and largest of its kind, partnering with small biotech labs, pharmaceutical companies, non-governmental organizations, and foundations in its quest to bring new medicines to market. A recent study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* found that Emory is the fourth-largest contributor among US public research institutions to the discovery of new drugs and vaccines—ranking behind the National Institutes of Health, the University of California, and Memorial Sloan-Kettering.

The seven products that landed Emory on the list include HIV/AIDS drugs lamivudine (3TC) and emtricitabine (FTC), discovered by Emory scientists Dennis Liotta and Raymond Schinazi and their former colleague Woo-Baeg Choi. These two drugs are among the most commonly used and most successful HIV/AIDS drugs in the world, taken in some form by more than 94 percent of US patients on therapy and by thousands more globally.

During the past two decades, through the Office of Technology Transfer (OTT), Emory has launched fifty-one startup companies and received more than $788 million in licensing revenues from drugs, diagnostics, devices, and consumer products. More than fifty products are in various stages of development or regulatory approval.

Emory funnels a large portion of the funds from these successes back into a range of programs in research and science education.

**Rx for Fragile X?**

For nearly three decades, Emory scientists have been inching back the curtain on the complex disorder fragile X syndrome, the most common inherited cause of intellectual disability.

In 1991, Stephen Warren, W. P. Timmie Professor and chair of the Department of Human Genetics, led a team that discovered the mutated gene on the X chromosome. Researchers here helped develop a screening test for fragile X and have been studying it ever since, but there has been no treatment.

Now Emory is participating, along with four other medical centers, in a phase II clinical trial testing targeted drug therapy for fragile X syndrome. Warren and others have learned that the genetic mutation of fragile X inhibits the production of a protein, FMRP, that regulates the amount of other proteins produced in the brain. The absence of this protein leads to the overproduction of synaptic proteins triggered by mGluR5 activity, a glutamate receptor that is part of the brain’s signaling mechanism. This results in the tangle of learning and behavior problems of fragile X syndrome.

“The drug we are testing is an mGluR5 antagonist, which puts a brake on the mGluR5 activity and may improve learning and cognition,” says Emory geneticist Jeannie Visootsak, assistant professor of human genetics and principal investigator of the study. “In mouse and fruit fly models, we were able to improve cognition with an mGluR5 antagonist.”

Fragile X syndrome affects about one in four thousand men and one in eight thousand women in the US, in addition to many more carriers of the mutation.

**Want a New Drug? Look to Emory**

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**Mouse Models**

Gary Miller, a neurotoxicologist and professor in the Rollins School of Public Health, genetically engineered mice to have flaws in their dopamine systems that led them to exhibit symptoms of Parkinson’s disease—tremor, stiffness, and slow movements, as well as nonmotor symptoms such as digestive problems and depression. Their brains are providing clues to Parkinson’s and how environmental toxins might speed up its progression. Miller will use the mouse models to develop biomarkers of exposure, risk, and early disease, as well as to test whether a promising new brain-protective compound (from the family of flavonoids found in fruits and vegetables), discovered by pathologist Keqiang Ke and colleagues, can restore function to a damaged dopamine system.

**A Light Touch**

Serqet, a new, light-activated, antibacterial and antiviral coating that can be applied to respirator masks, surgical masks, cleaning wipes, and dishwashing towels, was developed by Professor of Microbiology and Immunology Gordon Churchward of Emory and Stephen Michelsen at North Carolina State University. The coating produces singlet oxygen, an broad-spectrum antibacterial and antiviral agent, when exposed to light. Singlet oxygen inactivates or eliminates viruses and does not allow any odor or bacteria to grow. The treated item works wet or dry, will continue to be activated by light for up to three months, and can be washed up to ten times.

**Treating Incontinence**

After experimenting with pig bladders on their kitchen table, father and son research team Niall Galloway, associate professor of urology, and James Galloway 990X 01C, a physician currently working with the OTT, came up with a prototype for the Periurethral Injection Technology for treating incontinence, a problem for more than 13 million Americans (twice as many women as men).
**Disappearing Needles**

Let’s face it, no one likes to get shots. But a new vaccine-delivery patch based on hundreds of microscopic needles that dissolve into the skin could allow people without medical training to painlessly administer vaccines—while providing better immunization against diseases like flu.

Patches containing microneedles that carry vaccine with them as they dissolve into the skin could simplify immunization by eliminating the use of hypodermic needles—and their “sharps” disposal and reuse concerns. Applied easily to the skin, the microneedle patches could allow self-administration of vaccine during pandemics and simplify large-scale immunization programs in developing nations.

A study in mice conducted by researchers from Emory and Georgia Tech is believed to be the first to evaluate the immunization benefits of dissolving microneedles. The research was supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

“The skin is a particularly attractive site for immunization because it contains an abundance of the types of cells that are important in generating immune responses to vaccines,” says Richard Comans, professor of microbiology and immunology at Emory University School of Medicine.

**Critical Factor**

A new treatment for hemophilia A, caused by a lack of blood clotting factor VIII, has been developed by Professor of Pediatrics Pete Lollar, director of hemostasis research at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta.

OBI-1, a special form of factor VIII, is still in clinical testing, but already it has saved a life. The first patient to enroll in the phase III clinical trial at Indiana Hemophilia and Thrombosis Center last November had severe, uncontrolled hemorrhaging due to what appeared to be acquired hemophilia. Through treatment with OBI-1, the bleeding was brought under control.

Unlike people with inherited hemophilia, those with acquired hemophilia don’t have a history of bleeding episodes, so the first can be dangerously unexpected. The disorder takes hold when the immune system, for reasons unknown, starts to make antibodies against the person’s own clotting factor VIII. OBI-1 is less of a red flag to the immune system, which allows treatment of patients who don’t benefit from standard clotting factor VIII because of the presence of auto-antibodies.

**Good News for the Blues?**

By pioneering the use of deep brain stimulation (DBS) to treat depression, Helen Mayberg, the Dorothy C. Fuqua Chair for Psychiatric Neuroimaging and Therapeutics, is helping some intractably depressed patients in dramatic ways.

While it can take months for patients to respond to antidepressants or psychotherapy, Mayberg and her team were stunned when some deep brain stimulation patients reported an immediate lifting of their symptoms. “Patients described a sudden disappearance of something negative: a sense of intense calm and relief, a clearing of mental heaviness, the disappearance of a void, the fading of a burrowing dread in the pit of the stomach,” she says.

Even more promising, more than half of the patients emerged from their depression and remained well four years later. DBS has been used to treat a variety of neurological disorders, including epilepsy, Parkinson’s, and dystonia, but never—until now—depression.

**Kinder, Gentler Antirejection Drugs**

Transplant recipients have to take lifelong immunosuppressant drugs, which have numerous damaging side effects. But Emory scientists have been working to create more effective and less toxic antirejection drugs, one of which—belatacept—is nearing possible FDA approval.

Whitehead Professor of Medicine Christian Larsen 80C 84M 91R, director of the Emory Transplant Center, says that belatacept preserves kidney function while preventing graft rejection better than the standard drug, cyclosporine.

“Belatacept is different,” Larsen says. “It blocks the immune system, but does so in a selective way.”
Don’t Let the Name ‘Programmed Death’ Scare You

Could suppressing a little molecule known as PD-1 slow HIV from turning into full-blown AIDS?

Recent research suggests that a boost to the immune system, combined with medication, could send a strong holding signal to HIV for years. Last year, the Concerned Parents for AIDS Research, a New York–based charity, contributed $250,000 to the Emory Vaccine Center—a seed grant that supported collaboration between the lab of Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar Rafi Ahmed, who directs the center, and researchers at Harvard.

That work has blossomed into a $13 million NIH-funded collaboration among several universities aimed at understanding how the immune system is tricked by chronic infections such as HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C.

In the journal Nature, scientists described what appears to be an attractive target for HIV therapy: the molecule known as programmed death-1. PD-1 is an immune system receptor that is able to hamper immune responses during chronic infections. Treating monkeys infected by HIV’s cousin, SIV, with an antibody against PD-1 allowed the animals to fend off the virus for several months.

“I didn’t think that the results from primates would be so strong,” says Rama Amara, an Emory researcher at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center who works with Ahmed and performed the monkey studies with Ahmed. “They really blew me away.”

A potential clue as to why these results were so strong lies in the way HIV attacks the immune system, Amara says. HIV attaches to CD4+ or “helper” T cells, the white blood cells that initiate the body’s response to invading microorganisms.

Previous experimental therapies focused on raising the levels of CD4+ T cells in infected people because patients appear to become more vulnerable to opportunistic infections when levels of the cells drop. But there’s a catch. “If you do something to make CD4+ T cells healthier, you could also be giving the virus more targets,” says Amara.

A Clearer Picture: New molecular imaging software makes attacks on invading cancer cells more accurate and effective, providing patient-tailored treatments. Velocity Medical Solutions, an Emory start-up founded in 2004 at Emory by radiation oncologists Tim Fox and Ian Crocker, produces Velocity AI, which blends cancer images into one high-quality, 3-D-like visual that provides a better look at a tumor’s actual boundaries.

Blocking PD-1 may turn out to be a more balanced approach because PD-1 dampens more than one arm of the immune system, Amara says. In SIV-infected monkeys, blocking PD-1 increased both antibody-producing B cells (which protect cells from infection) and “killer” T cells (which clear virus-infected cells from the body) that protected target CD4+ T cells and pushed HIV levels down in a sustained way for months in some animals.

Surgical Precision

More than 40 percent of cancer patients who have surgery leave the operating room with cancer cells remaining in their bodies. But a handheld spectroscopic device invented at the Emory/Georgia Tech NIH Center for Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence was designed to improve those odds by helping surgeons to better identify the edges of tumors and completely excise them.

Shuming Nie, a professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Emory and Georgia Tech, and colleagues developed the SpectroPen, named a top medical innovation of 2010 by the Georgia Research Alliance.

The SpectroPen combines a near-infrared laser and a spectrometer, and can detect tumors through the use of markers such as fluorescent dyes and scattered light from tiny gold particles. These particles are coupled with a reporter dye and an antibody that sticks to molecules on tumor cells more than to normal cells. “Because SpectroPen can identify tumors with accuracy on the cellular scale,” says OTT licensing associate Chris Paschall, “the device has the potential to revolutionize oncological diagnosis, surgery, and treatment.”

No More Flu?

Scientists at Emory and the University of Chicago discovered that the 2009 H1N1 flu virus provides excellent antibody protection. This may be a milestone discovery in the search for a universal flu vaccine.

Researchers took blood samples from patients infected with the 2009 H1N1 strain and developed antibodies—some of which were broadly effective and could provide protection from the H1N1 viruses that circulated during the past ten years, in addition to the 1918 pandemic flu virus and even bird flu. The antibodies protected mice from a lethal viral dose, even sixty hours post-infection.

The first author of the research, published online in the Journal of Experimental Medicine, is Jens Wrammert, assistant professor of microbiology and immunology at the School of Medicine.
History and Wholeness

WHAT IS THE CONSEQUENCE OF DELIBERATELY OR unconsciously forgetting the past? For George Santayana, famously, the consequence was being “condemned to repeat it.” But for many others, such forgetting may lead to illness, brokenness, and barriers that prevent them from moving forward in life with integrity. Consider the affliction of “conversion disorder.”

Occasionally persons develop physical symptoms—say, inexplicable blindness, paralysis, or sudden inability to speak—that have no apparent physical cause. Neurological tests and other diagnoses turn up no anatomical reasons for the problem. Often, however, such afflictions are preceded by emotionally or psychologically stressful events, some trauma, whose unpleasantness seems to be channeled into an actual physical disorder. Witnessing a horrific experience may lead to blindness—not because the eyes have been injured, but because the mind does not want to risk seeing more horror. Or getting angry enough to want to punch someone's lights out may feel so frightening that the mind paralyzes the arms to prevent unwanted violence. It may sound like a movie plot, but, sadly, such disorders are real.

It is not too much of a stretch to suggest that something like this can happen in institutions, even in nations, as well as in individuals: collective blindness, collective paralysis, collective inability to hear with any acuity.

Emory University, like the US, has been on a long road to recovery from a kind of “conversion disorder,” a kind of elective amnesia, suffered for many years by our nation as well as by Emory. The trauma to be forgotten was the inhumanity of slavery, and the resulting affliction—the disordering of healthy communal life—was decades of Jim Crow laws, racism, and social discord.

Earlier this year the Executive Committee of the Emory Board of Trustees issued a statement of regret for Emory’s “entwinement” with the institution of slavery during the early years of the College’s life and for the harmful legacy of slavery. While the statement grew out of a campuswide conversation prompted by our extensive, five-year Transforming Community Project, in every respect the statement was neither a culminating end point nor exactly a beginning. It is, rather, the latest in a long series of chapters in Emory’s history, some courageous, others less so, dealing with the legacies of slavery and racism.

The roots of that statement, like the roots of our university, reach deeply into America’s past, and if we seek to trace out those roots we find a particular strand gripped by Georgia clay and flourishing as early as 1836—indeed, earlier. This root we know as slavery. But we could also call it by the name of inhumanity. For it was a way of life that prevented everyone involved in it from achieving the full potential of their humanity—whether it was the enslaved, whose humanity was degraded by bondage, or the enslaver, whose humanity was eroded by hubris and blindness.

The Emory University motto, drawing on the Book of Proverbs, is Cor prudentis possidebit scientiam, which we translate, “The wise heart seeks knowledge.” In this, the 175th year of Emory’s existence, we can be grateful that some wise hearts sought knowledge and aimed not to forget the trauma of that period, so that we could reclaim the wholeness, the integrity, of our university.

One of those wise hearts was a president who, in the 1880s, incurred the opprobrium of many fellow Georgians by creating opportunities for higher education for freed slaves. Another wise heart was an Emory professor who in 1902 risked his career in speaking out against lynching and calling his fellow Southerners to the rule of law. Other wise hearts included faculty members who in the 1950s acted in behalf of desegregated public schools in Atlanta and Georgia. Still others included trustees who in 1962 took the step of suing the state for the right to integrate Emory’s student body. And today those wise hearts include men and women of all races and colors who refuse to let Emory or America forget either the trauma of the past or the long way we have come toward the full restoration of our humanity.

Our community is now recovering from its elective amnesia. As the University observes its 175th year, it is important to the integrity and health of Emory for us to remember who we were and who we have become—to recall our history in order to claim our wholeness. Only thus can we move to a brighter future. The way the trustees put it in January was this: “As Emory University looks forward, it seeks the wisdom always to discern what is right and the courage to abide by its mission of using knowledge to serve humanity.”

May it be so.

James W. Wagner
FUNDING SANITATION RESEARCH
Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health receives a $2.5 million grant from the Gates Foundation. (page 42)

NEW CHAIR IN ONCOLOGY
The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation establishes an endowment for patient care and cancer research. (page 42)

PROGRESS AS OF MARCH 31, 2011
$1.2 BILLION
TOTAL GOAL $1.6 BILLION

College Alumnus Creates Legacy of Success

The estate of James E. Varner Jr. 43C has provided $15.4 million to Emory College of Arts and Sciences. The bulk of the gift will support the Emory Advantage financial aid program. (page 41)

A MAJOR GIFT FOR BREAST HEALTH
The Wilbur and Hilda Glenn Family Foundation has committed to give $5 million to the Winship Cancer Institute for breast cancer care, research, education, and outreach. (page 40)

RARE BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY
Ohio collector Stuart Rose 76B has given rare books valued at more than $1 million to Emory University’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library. (page 40)

ESTATE GIFT FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS
School of Medicine executive Claudia Adkison and her husband have bequeathed their entire estate to a scholarship fund created by Dean Thomas Lawley. (page 40)
Gifts with Impact

As you’ll read in this issue of the Campaign Chronicle, Emory has received a number of major, high-impact gifts in 2011 that will touch people and programs across the University, including undergraduate financial aid, breast cancer care and research, medical education, the library, and public health.

These major gifts are coming from a diverse group of people and organizations that share two common values. They are committed to making the world a better place, and they believe an investment in Emory is a good place to start.

The generosity of these donors—two alumni, two foundations, and an Emory executive—has brought us to 75 percent of our campaign goal. Our giving total for this fiscal year through the end of February, $71.6 million, surpassed our $58.5 million total for the same period last year.

This exciting news reflects the loyalty of our donors and predicts the best possible outcome for Campaign Emory. During the final months of the campaign, which ends in December 2012, enthusiastic support from all parts of our extended community will help us finish strong.

Susan Cruse, Senior Vice President
Development and Alumni Relations

Alumni and friends are supporting all areas of the University in increasing amounts, signaling a steadfast trust in Emory’s mission and stewardship. Among the major gifts Emory has received recently are these for breast cancer research and care, the library, and medical education.

Glenn Family Foundation
Winship Cancer Institute

The Wilbur and Hilda Glenn Family Foundation has committed to give $5 million to the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University. The donation will name the Glenn Family Breast Program at Winship, establishing a fund to support patient care, research, education, and community outreach. “We are indebted to those who invested in research so many years before our family was touched by cancer,” said Glenn Foundation trustee Lou Glenn. “Many lives have been saved because of previous investments and previous breakthroughs.”

Stuart Rose 76B
Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library

Ohio book collector and business leader Stuart Rose 76B has given rare books to the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL). The twenty-two-title collection is valued at more than $1 million and includes in its original binding a first edition of Poems, the first book published by John Keats; a theological study by St. Thomas Aquinas that is now MARBL’s oldest book; and a fifteenth-century volume of universal history, the Polychronicon, one of the first books published in the English language.

Claudia Adkison
Emory University School of Medicine

School of Medicine Dean Thomas Lawley has established the Claudia Adkison Scholarship Fund to honor the former executive associate dean for administration and faculty affairs. Adkison and her husband, John Shullo, have bequeathed their entire estate to the fund. “I would like to build this fund to support as many students as possible,” she said. Adkison, who served in administration for fifteen years and before that as a faculty member, began her career as a researcher in cell biology and has been recognized as an excellent teacher.

For more Campaign News, visit www.campaign.emory.edu/news
Alumnus Creates Legacy of Success

The estate of the late James E. Varner Jr. 43C has provided $15.4 million to Emory College of Arts and Sciences. The bulk of the gift—$14.4 million—will strengthen financial aid for deserving students through the Emory Advantage program. The gift doubles the amount raised for Emory Advantage, bringing the total to just over $28 million. The program’s funding goal is a $75 million endowment.

“Emory Advantage grows out of the core belief that we simply cannot succeed unless we retain the ability to recruit to Emory the sort of vibrant, talented, diverse, exciting student body that enhances the Emory experience for everyone and strengthens every aspect of the institution,” said Robin Forman, dean of Emory College.

“This requires that we remain a destination university for all students we would like to see join us, independent of their financial means. This gift is, in every way, a significant investment in the future of these students, the college, and the University.”

Emory Advantage was established in 2007 to ensure access to an Emory education for undergraduates from families with total annual incomes of $100,000 or less.

“The Varner bequest to Emory College is exactly the right gift at the right time. There’s no greater challenge facing the college today than keeping Emory accessible and affordable,” said Emory University Trustee Wendell Reilly 80C.

Since its inception, 1,297 students have benefited from the program. In the 2010–2011 academic year, Emory Advantage provided more than $6.3 million in financial aid awards to students across the University. Of that amount, about $4.2 million supported students in Emory College.

An Atlanta banker with a career that spanned nearly four decades, Varner believed that his Emory education helped him to achieve financial success and that his gift to the college would help others excel.

“It is a pleasant obligation to continue to contribute to Emory and make it a little easier for students who come behind me,” he commented during a 2007 interview for the Emory University Alumni Directory.

Varner was acutely aware that the future lies in the education of each succeeding generation, said his stepson, John T. Clower III 65B.

“With his knowledge of economics and finance, Jim knew that an education today is much more expensive than in the past and that one of the major structural problems with America’s society and the economy is the disparity between the education level young Americans are obtaining and the level required for the new jobs being created,” Clower said.

Varner’s wife, Mildred Price Varner, and those friends who knew him best remember him as thrifty but generous in supporting causes that were important to him. He was a faithful annual contributor to Emory, even during his final years.

“He saw many changes and much growth at Emory through the years—different presidents, deans, professors, and others. . . . Through it all he was a strong believer in education and a loyal supporter of Emory University,” she said.

(For more information about Emory Advantage or to support the program, please visit campaign.emory.edu/EmoryAdvantage.)
A loyal supporter of the Emory Eagles for many years, Craig Matthews made a leadership gift of $100,000 to Emory softball’s stadium project in memory of his late wife, Diane Keyes Matthews.

David Boyd, former Committee of 100 chair and an Emory trustee emeritus, is naming the reception area of the Development Suite in honor of his wife, Anne.

Mary “Trudy” Clark Johnson ’71C is making an estate gift to create the Mary Clark Johnson Scholarship, which will be awarded to an Emory College student with a demonstrated commitment to increasing the number of women in science.

A gift from the estate of Adeline “Coc” Henson is providing $25,000 to fund strategic priorities of the Emory University Hospital Midtown Auxiliary.

The Emory Public Interest Committee has 75 applicants for its $5,000 summer grants. Donor support is critical to ensure these students gain practical legal experience while serving the community. Give today at www.law.emory.edu/givetoepicgrants.

James V. Hatch and Camille Billops have donated to the papers of the poet, novelist, dramatist, and “Dean of Theatre” at Howard University, Owen Dodson. Correspondents include W. H. Auden, James Baldwin, and Countee Cullen.

Margaret and Henry F. McCamish Jr. have given $25,000 to support a conference for speech therapists who work with Parkinson’s disease patients. The gift honors Gordon Beckham III, an Atlanta native who plays for the Chicago White Sox.

The R. Randall Rollins Chair in Oncology has been established in Emory School of Medicine with a gift of $2 million from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation. H. Jean Khoury, professor of hematology and medical oncology and director of the Division of Hematology in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, is the first holder of the Rollins Chair, in partnership with the Winship Cancer Institute. The purpose of the chair is to support a faculty member with a focus in patient care and cancer research.

The Rollins family has been an Emory benefactor for generations. “This
“Dr. Khoury’s outstanding care of patients with hematologic malignancies and his dedication to developing novel therapies for these diseases make him most worthy of the great honor that the Rollins family has bestowed upon him.”

Fadlo R. Khuri, chair of the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology and deputy director of the Winship Cancer Institute

Young Alumna Supports Goizueta Business School
Joanna Weiss 04B has invested so much of herself in Goizueta Business School that she earned the school’s Young Alumni Award. Despite her hectic work schedule as assistant vice president of marketing for WL Ross & Co. LLC in New York, she helps coordinate events, serves on the Goizueta Alumni Board, and makes financial contributions.

She supports the Alumni Board Scholarship, which will be awarded to one student in the BBA, evening MBA, full-time MBA, and executive MBA programs each year.

The Gifts of Art
As a graduate student in medieval history, Jenny Miller 01G saw the Michael C. Carlos Museum as “a little jewel box” with amazing collections. Now an attorney, she says it’s a respite from her demanding job. She visits often, donates her time, and makes annual gifts.
**CAMPAIGN PROGRESS**

**AS OF MARCH 31, 2011**

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<tr>
<th>Campaign</th>
<th>Goal</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yerkes National Primate Research Center</td>
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<td>$16.1 million</td>
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* Progress chart does not include goals for general University and Woodruff Health Sciences Center initiatives.

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68C 72L

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Ellen A. Bailey 63C 87B
Chair, University Programs

Russell R. French 67C
Chair, Leadership Prospects Committee

M. Douglas Ivester
Chair, Health Sciences

Teresa M. Rivero 85OX 87B 93MPH
Chair, Alumni Engagement

School and Unit Chairs
J. David Allen 67C 70D 75DR
Beverly Allen 68C
Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing

Courtlandt B. Ault
James H. Morgens
Michael C. Carlos Museum

James B. Carson Jr. 61B
Goizueta Business School

Ada Lee Correll
Emory School of Medicine

William L. Dobes Jr. 65C 69M 70MR
Yerkes National Primate Research Center

William A. Brosius 85B
Crystal Edmonson 95C
Emory Alumni Board

J. Joseph Edwards 54Ox 56B 58B
Henry Mann 62OX 64C
Oxford College

James R. Gavin III 70PhD
James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies

Laura Hardman 67C
Campus Life

Ann Klamon 65C 76L
Lawrence P. Klamon
Rollins School of Public Health

John F. Morgan 67OX 69B
Emory Libraries

Philip S. Reese 66C 76B 76L
Chilton D. Varner 76L
Emory Law

Wendell S. Reilly 80C
Emory College of Arts and Sciences

Bishop B. Michael Watson 74T
Candler School of Theology
All Hail the Skull and Bones

_Dooley’s Week wouldn’t have been the same without its namesake, shown here with his ubiquitous handlers._

_Photo by Bryan Meltz._
Congratulations to the members of the Class of 2011 on your graduation! I’d like to warmly welcome you into the Emory alumni community and tell you a little about what we do at the Emory Alumni Association (EAA).

We help Emory’s soon-to-be 116,000 alumni stay informed about, connected to, and involved with the University. We help build traditions and foster student and alumni leadership. The EAA’s vision is to develop a dedicated and dynamic global alumni community where graduates are committed to each other, devoted to Emory’s mission, and invested in its future.

Our programs and services cover a wide range of activities, from career services to educational enrichment. We also offer important benefits related not just to campus life (free access to Emory’s libraries continues after you graduate) but even price breaks on insurance.

If you haven’t already, please let us know where you’re going, and register with the EAA on our website at www.alumni.emory.edu; click on “Update Your Address,” on the left side of the page. Email is the most effective way to receive information about your alma mater.

I hope alumni and new graduates will take part in the traditional Candlelight Crossover, Thursday, May 5, which ends at the house. Miller-Ward will be open throughout Emory Commencement Weekend and long after.

What I mean by “open” is that alumni are invited to hold their special events—weddings, receptions, parties, business meetings, and the like—at the alumni house. You’ve always called Emory home, and we are excited to offer you another reason to drop by for a visit.

Join the Crowd: Above, previous recipients of the J. Pollard Turman Alumni Service Award gathered at the award ceremony on March 24. Front row from left are Kenneth Murrah 55C 58L, John Inman 42C 45M 52MR, Paul McLarty 63C 66L, Walker Ray 62C 65M 68MR (2011 recipient), Sally Lehr 65N 76N, and Tommy Owens 59OX 61C 65S; middle row from left, Tom Brodnax 65OX 68C, Marvin Hardy 61OX 63C 66L; top row, Sam Clark 54C, Dusty Porter 85C, Pamela Poryor 69C 70G, and Beverly Allen 68C. At left, Sharon Semmens 80C 80G and Dirk Brown 90B, leaders on the Emory Alumni Board Nominating Committee.

Nya Karanga 03PH (above, right) and Octavious White were two of the more than 150 guests who toured “Voyages: The Transatlantic Slave Trade Database” at The Carter Center on February 22.

Emory is all about the generations. Adrienne Vinson 09OX 11C attended the Miller-Ward Open House with her father, Art Vinson 66OX 68C, on February 19.

Upcoming Alumni Events

Dallas, April 26: “Toys Becoming Tools: Emerging Technologies and Future Possibilities,” featuring Goizueta professor Benn Konsynski

Online everywhere, April 29: Coach Chat: “Taking Charge of Your Career Progression.”

Atlanta, May 5–9: Emory Commencement Weekend

For more, visit www.alumni.emory.edu/calendar.
From Rural Roots, Reaching around the World

AS A CHILD, JAMES TURPIN 49C 51T 55M REMEMBERS WATCHING HIS grandfather, John Wesley Duke, tend to the medical and spiritual needs of his patients in the hills around his hometown of Hindman, Kentucky, and Troublesome Creek.

A devout Methodist, the physician would regularly ask his young protégé, “What are you going to be, Jimmy Turpin?”

“I would answer, ‘I am going to be a medical missionary in China,’” Turpin recalls. “He would ask, and I would give the same answer over and over. He would pop his buttons, he was so proud of that ambition.”

But even Duke could not imagine the impact his young grandson would have on the lives of millions around the world. This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of Project Concern International (PCI), the San Diego–based health and humanitarian organization Turpin founded in 1961. The organization works to promote health and self-sufficiency in poverty-stricken populations by preventing disease, improving community health, and supporting sustainable development.

Turpin started the program exactly where he’d imagined—in China—on a sixty-two-foot barge turned into a modern floating clinic called the Yauh Oi (Brotherly Love) on Hong Kong harbor. Now the organization has programs in Africa, Asia, and the Americas; in 2009, PCI reached more than 5.5 million people.

Although his ambitions began with his grandfather’s influence, Turpin credits his Emory education for helping to fulfill them. “Emory has meant so very much to me. I don’t live a day without sensing something I learned there,” Turpin says. “The phenomenal education I received and the exposure to such amazing faculty—as an undergraduate, at Candler, and at Emory School of Medicine—there is none better.”

But, Turpin says, the road was not always smooth. “When I was a premedicine student, I unwittingly signed up for organic chemistry and I did not do well,” he says. “Dr. [Osbourne] Quayle was in charge of the chemistry department, and he strongly suggested that I transfer to theology.”

Disheartened, Turpin transferred to Candler School of Theology, a moment he calls pivotal in his life. “I went on to seminary and learned that so many things you think at the
moment are tragedies turn out to be wonders and miracles,” he says.

After two years at Candler, Turpin was accepted to Emory’s School of Medicine. Graduating in 1955, he interned at Crawford Long Hospital, then performed a residency in family practice in Santa Rosa, California, and briefly practiced in Chickamauga before taking over a thriving medical practice in Coronado, California, from a retiring physician.

He also began volunteering with a medical clinic in Tijuana, Mexico.

“One night we had two kids dying with bronchopneumonia. With the help of volunteer nurses, we helped those kids survive the night. Leaving late that night, I felt ten feet tall. It was exhilarating,” he says. “Project Concern started for me that morning.”

Although he is retired from any official position with PCI—he has served as chairman of the board, medical director, and chief executive officer over the years—Turpin maintains close ties to the organization, and in April will travel with his wife, Wrenn, to Zambia, Botswana, and South Africa on a diplomatic mission for the group.

“Back in the hills of Kentucky, my Pawpaw Duke knew that working in such a needful place was something magical. He needed those people as much as they needed him,” Turpin says. “That has become a mantra of mine. When you are privileged to do this kind of work, it is as good for you as for the people you serve.”—Maria Lameiras

If you’re in Atlanta be sure and visit us at Emory’s new three-story, 29,000 square foot Barnes & Noble Collegiate Superstore on campus! Browse for books and merchandise, or refresh yourself in the coffee shop or outdoor cafe.

BARNES & NOBLE @ EMORY UNIVERSITY

MEDICAL MISSION: Turpin knew he wanted to care for people far away long before Project Concern materialized fifty years ago. Here, he greets a baby in Vietnam.

Shop online for everything:
t-shirts and ties,
blankets and mugs,
Eagle and Dooley,
the office or the beach.

www.emory.edu/bookstore
Three-Time Alumnus Earns Service Honor

A SENSE OF HUMOR. A CARING NATURE. Approachability. Intelligence. These qualities helped make Walker Ray 62C 65M 68MR a successful pediatrician in Atlanta for thirty-eight years. They also helped guide him into leadership roles at Emory. And the class, hard work, and success Ray brought to those leadership roles earned him the J. Pollard Turman Alumni Service Award for 2011, an honor that is sponsored by the Emory Alumni Association (EAA).

“I was asked to be involved with Emory,” Ray says. “I did not simply show up and volunteer. I think many times, for service, there has to be a portal that’s attractive, an opportunity that presents itself, or an environment that’s very receptive to establishing that first relationship.” That first relationship was with the board of the Emory Medical Alumni Association, where Ray served for several years, including a one-year term as president. That led to his selection for the Emory Alumni Board (EAB)—where he also served a term as president.

Ray then accepted a position as cochair of Candler’s Committee of 100, a liaison group to the United Methodist Church. He continues his relationship with the School of Medicine, serving on its campaign committee. Ray’s contributions to his profession are also noteworthy, not the least of which are the thousands of patients he treated in nearly four decades of private practice.

“The children were a lot of fun to relate to,” he says. “Children might come in sick with meningitis, pneumonia, or other illnesses. If you made the right diagnosis, with the right treatment, they were up running around the ward, smiling at you, playing hide-and-seek underneath the exam table.”

Ray has served on the Board of Trustees of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston, and he has chaired the medical staff at Egleston and the pediatrics department at DeKalb Medical Center. He also has held top posts in the DeKalb Medical Society and the Medical Association of Georgia.

The award is named for J. Pollard Turman 34C 36L 73H, an influential humanitarian whose support of higher education and cultural organizations benefited institutions throughout Georgia, and includes a $25,000 grant to Emory from the Tull Foundation, which Turman helped create.

The recipient may direct that grant to any Emory program he chooses. Ray chose five: the School of Medicine, the Candler School of Theology, Oxford College, the Department of Pediatrics, and the EAB Leadership Scholarship.—Eric Rangus

Spend a night on the town, upgrade to first class, or donate to your favorite charity...whatever moves you most.

As an alum of Emory University, you could save up to $327.96* on your auto insurance with Liberty Mutual. You could save even more by insuring your home as well. Liberty Mutual—helping people live safer, more secure lives for more than 95 years.

This organization received financial support for allowing Liberty Mutual to offer this auto and home insurance program.

*Discounts are available where state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify. Savings figure based on a February 2010 sample of auto policyholder savings when comparing their former premium with those of Liberty Mutual’s group auto and home program. Individual premiums and savings will vary. Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA. © 2010 Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. All rights reserved.
The coming year brings opportunities to discover new places and fresh faces around the world while revisiting some old, beautiful favorites. We are dedicated to giving travelers like you enriching cultural experiences to enhance your lifelong education while strengthening your connection with faculty, other alumni, and friends of Emory.

If you would like additional information about our upcoming trips or are interested in being added to our travel mailing list, please email alumnitravel@emory.edu or contact the Emory Travel Program at 404.727.6479.

The information and dates above are based on information provided by our travel vendors as of March 2011 and are subject to change. Individual trip brochures will be available to be mailed out approximately 9–12 months prior to the trip’s departure. All Emory Travel Program tours require that participants be in good physical condition. Each traveler must be capable, without assistance, of walking a minimum of one mile over uneven terrain and of climbing stairs that may not have handrails. Participants should have sufficient stamina to keep pace with an active group of travelers on long days of touring. If you have any questions about your ability to participate in a tour, please call the Emory Travel Program at 404.727.6479.
register

alumni ink

‘This World is Not Conclusion’

THE LATE AMERICAN POET EMILY
Dickinson—both intensely private and immensely prolific, with nearly 1,800 published poems—is often viewed as a religious skeptic who struggled with issues of faith and doubt throughout her life and work. But she never gave up on God, says Susan VanZanten ’82PhD, author of Mending a Tattered Faith: Devotions with Dickinson. “Many of her poems depict such struggles, sometimes with humor and sometimes with despair,” she says. VanZanten, professor of English at Seattle Pacific University and author of several previous academic books, says this is her first book intended for a general readership—it offers twenty-nine carefully selected poems by Dickinson, each with an accompanying meditation. “Several women’s prayer groups and book clubs have already adopted it,” she says. Mending a Tattered Faith includes an introduction to the mysteries of Dickinson’s life and poetry, her relationships to her family and the church, the significant poetic strategies she employs, and the dramatic family struggle over publishing her poetry that began soon after her death. “VanZanten guides the reader through the spiritual tangles of Dickinson’s verse in ways that enlighten and refresh the soul,” says Paul J. Willis, author of Rosing from the Dead: Poems. John Wilson, editor of Books & Culture, says he hopes VanZanten’s latest work will inspire a new genre: “engaged reading, slow reading, deeply informed by scholarship but inviting to all.”

The Heart Knows: The more Maddy Hoffman finds out about her father’s mysterious past as an international spy recruited by the Allies to lay the groundwork for their invasion of North Africa, the more she learns about her family’s recent history. Her relationships to her family and the church, the significant poetic strategies she employs, and the dramatic family struggle over publishing her poetry that began soon after her death. “VanZanten guides the reader through the spiritual tangles of Dickinson’s verse in ways that enlighten and refresh the soul,” says Paul J. Willis, author of Rosing from the Dead: Poems. John Wilson, editor of Books & Culture, says he hopes VanZanten’s latest work will inspire a new genre: “engaged reading, slow reading, deeply informed by scholarship but inviting to all.”

Mending a Tattered Faith: Devotions with Dickinson

A Brief History: From the time William F. Quillian Jr. ’35C became president of Randolph-Macon Woman’s College in Lynchburg, Virginia, he took careful notes about the development of the college during the twenty-six years of his tenure (1952–1978) with the intention of writing a follow-up to Roberta Cornelius’s History of Randolph-Macon Woman’s College, which traced the institution from its founding in 1891 to the mid-twentieth century. Voices from R-MWC is a compelling blend of institutional history, essays, commencement addresses, and recollections of the stories and people that made Randolph College (which began admitting men in 2007) what it is today.—M.J.L.

Notice Anything Different?

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Rozier was public face of Emory

JOHN W. ROZIER ’39C 47G, EMORY’s longtime communications director who used his intimate knowledge and extensive network to raise the University’s profile, died from respiratory failure on January 8 at his Atlanta home. He was ninety-two.

A Sparta, Georgia, native, Rozier first enrolled in Emory during the Great Depression, graduating Phi Beta Kappa in time for World War II. He volunteered for the Navy and commanded a landing craft tank through four Mediterranean invasions, including the war’s largest amphibious operation in Sicily with a front spanning more than a hundred miles.

After the war, Rozier returned to Emory to receive his MA in journalism, edit the Emory Wheel, and meet Dorothy Evans, the woman who would become his wife of sixty-one years. Later, as a Foreign Service Officer, he attended ceremonies inaugurating the Korean Republic in 1948 and was among the last American officials to evacuate China during the communist revolution in 1949. He fled Chungking with a cash-filled embassy satchel manacled to his wrist.

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After receiving a plum assignment in Beirut, Rozier left government in 1952 to purchase the weekly Wrightsville, Georgia, Headlight newspaper, serving as publisher and occasional delivery boy. He later owned the Henrico County Herald in Richmond before moving to Atlanta to comb Vogue for story ideas as editor of the woman’s pages for what was then the Atlanta Constitution.

In 1959, Emory recruited Rozier to direct the Emory News Bureau, a precursor to the University’s Office of Communications and Marketing. He crafted the University’s communications strategy during pivotal moments, including University desegregation and the 1965 “God is dead” controversy.

“Everybody knew John in those days. He was such a popular figure around campus and he always had a twinkle in his eye,” recalls Linda Matthews, retired director of the Woodruff Library.

Rozier maintained his easygoing nature even while orchestrating damage control, says Dorothy Rozier ’46C.

To honor Emory’s sesquicentennial in 1986, Rozier conducted a series of interviews with influential faculty members to discuss the shifting landscape of the University, remembers Ginger Cain ’77C 82G, director of public programs for the Emory Libraries. For his service, Rozier was recognized by the American College Public Relations Association and received Emory’s Alumni Award of Honor in 1978 and Distinguished Emeritus Award in 2007.

He retired from Emory in 1979, after being awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to research political developments in Hancock County, Georgia, his family’s home since the eighteenth century. The result was Black Boss: Political Revolution in a Georgia County, followed by two award-winning books on Southern culture, The Granite Farm Letters and The Houses of Hancock.

Rozier donated his source material for Black Boss to marbl and remained active in the University by attending readings and events at Woodruff Library. He was a regular participant in the Corpus Cordis Aureum, celebrating alumni who graduated fifty or more years ago.

“John was a complete gentleman who loved Emory and labored on its behalf with utmost distinction,” says Trustee Emeritus Charles “Pete” McTier ’61BBa. “His sincerity, respectfulness, and friendliness were hallmarks of his personality.”

—Margie Fishman

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The following essay, written by an alumna working in Haiti soon after the earthquake of January 2010, is a reminder of just how far Japan has to go toward recovery. Emily Cavan 07C worked for the nonprofit CHF International (which began as the Cooperative Housing Foundation) from March to July 2010. By the one-year anniversary of the quake, CHF had built some five thousand shelters and removed more than a hundred Olympic swimming pools’ worth of debris. Cavan is now working and writing independently in Haiti. See more on her blog at www.emilycavan.blogspot.com.

For Many, Haiti Is Still Home

BY EMILY CAVAN 07C

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In front of the National Palace—appearing, from this vantage point, like a crumbled sandcastle below us—is a sprawling tent city. Many of those who once filled the Fort National community now live in these camps. They have been there for five months and their presence has already become a very visual symbol of how much progress has yet to be made to get people back to their homes and back to their lives.

Through discussions with the government of Haiti, CHF International has begun clearing the main road of the Fort National neighborhood and will be working in the area during the next several months. Clearing rubble from the only artery that serves this area is likely to take weeks, but excavating and removing the stories of debris from the two sides of the hill will probably take a feat of ingenuity and a mind-boggling amount of energy.

Still, Daniel is willing to wait. In the past five months, his nephews have learned to play games by leaping from one slanted, collapsed rooftop to another, and the crackling sound of sledge-hammered concrete has become just one of the usual workaday noises. But on the corners of his neighborhood, women are still frying up snacks for the workers who still sweat through their labor in the hot sun that still rises on the schoolkids who still giggle as they walk by the homes that still stand in the community that Daniel and his mother and his cousins and the rest of his family—all, miraculously, surviving—still know as home.
For Zoe and Charles “Smoky” Hicks, Oxford College is more than the place that led to multiple degrees and successful law careers. “Oxford is a family, a place where you can’t slip through the cracks, where the professors will not allow you to be less than your best,” says Zoe Hicks 63OX 65C 76L 83L.

Now the couple—who met at Oxford—has included Emory Law and Oxford in their estate plans to support the schools’ greatest priorities. “Emory educated us and gave us the opportunities we have had. When we went to school here, it was in buildings someone else helped build. Now it is our turn,” says Smoky Hicks 62OX 64C 67L.

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LEAPS AND BOUNDS: Eagles athletes are finishing strong, including a second consecutive NCAA Division III national championship for the women’s swimming and diving team; the men took third. Here Taylor Warren ’13C gets over a major hurdle. Photo by Kay Hinton.

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