At the intersection of Emory, Atlanta, and the global crisis of human trafficking

Stopping Traffic

Georgia Stars as ‘the Hollywood of the South’

THE RESEARCH RETENTION CHALLENGE
Put the Law to Work for Your Career

Legal Training for Non-Lawyers

New Online Juris Master degree in Health Care Law and Business Law

“For a technology leader, particularly in the financial services industry, balancing business risks associated with the fast pace of innovation and ever-increasing regulatory and data privacy concerns requires a higher level of thinking. As a practical matter, I can already look back at a specific work experience knowing that my contracts class helped surface questions I would not have asked before, saving our company more than the cost of the JM.”

Eric Martin
Managing Director, Deutsche Bank
2016 JM Graduate

Gain the legal knowledge and skills to navigate complex regulatory environments, make informed decisions, assess risk, and advance your career.

Now Online: Complete the online program in 18 months with three short residencies in one of two concentrations: Health Care Law, Policy, and Regulation or Business Law and Regulation

On Campus: Complete the on-campus program with a wide range of concentrations full time in 9 months or part-time in up to 4 years

Scholarship: 15% scholarship available for Emory alumni

Learn more at law.emory.edu/jm | Email us at JMadmission@emory.edu
Put the Law to Work
for Your Career
Legal Training for Non-Lawyers
Learn more at law.emory.edu/jm | Email us at JMadmission@emory.edu

industry, balancing business risks associated with the fast pace of innovation and ever-increasing regulatory and data privacy concerns requires a higher level of thinking. As a practical matter, that my contracts class helped surface questions I would not have asked before, saving our company more than the cost of the JM.”

Eric Martin
Managing Director, Deutsche Bank
2016 JM Graduate

New Online Juris Master degree in Health Care Law and Business Law
Gain the legal knowledge and skills to navigate complex regulatory environments, make informed decisions, assess risk, and advance your career.

Now Online:
Complete the online program in 18 months with three short residencies in one of two concentrations: Health Care Law, Policy, and Regulation or Business Law and Regulation

On Campus:
Complete the on-campus program with a wide range of concentrations full time in 9 months or part-time in up to 4 years

Scholarship:
15% scholarship available for Emory alumni

CONTENTS
MORE ONLINE AT EMORY.EDU/MAGAZINE
LEARN MORE: TRUMP’S FIRST 100 DAYS
A panel featuring Emory political scientist Andra Gillespie.
VIDEOS: CAMPUS MOVIEFEST 2017
Watch films by Emory student filmmakers.
VIDEO: EMORY RESEARCH
Learn about Emory’s Fecal Microbiota Transplant Study.

ON THE COVER Illustration by Darren Hopes.
POINTS OF INTEREST

6 EMORY COLLEGE DOUBLES SCHOLARSHIPS

8 SHORT LIST

9 PRICE NAMED 2017 CARNEGIE FELLOW

10 STUDENTS
1915 SCHOLARS PROGRAM

12 IN CLASS
GRAPHIC MATERIAL

14 FACULTY BOOK
WENDELL BIRD ON FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

16 OFFICE HOURS
CATHERINE BAGWELL ON MAKING FRIENDS

19 DOOLEY NOTED
WHEN EMORY DOCTORS WENT TO WAR

20 RESEARCH
MISSING: GENE 3Q29

EMORY EVERYWHERE

41 2017 TURMAN AWARD

43 ALUMNI PROFILE
O’NEILL WILLIAMS 65C

48 ALUMNI INK

51 TRIBUTE
JOHN HERBERS 49C

52 CODA
DRIFTING OFF TO SLEEP ALONE

EMORY MAGAZINE is published quarterly by Emory’s Division of Communications and Public Affairs. Periodicals postage paid at Atlanta, Georgia, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: send address changes to OFFICE OF ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT RECORDS, 1762 Clifton Road, Suite 1400, Atlanta, Georgia 30322.

Emory Magazine is distributed free to alumni and to parents of undergraduates, as well as to other friends of the university. Address changes may be sent to the Office of Alumni and Development Records, 1762 Clifton Road, Suite 1400, Atlanta, Georgia 30322 or eurec@emory.edu. If you are an individual with a disability and wish to acquire this publication in an alternative format, please contact Paige Parvin (address above) or call 404.727.7873.

No. 17-EU-EMAG-0035 ©2017, a publication of the Division of Communications and Public Affairs.

The comments and opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily represent those of Emory University or the staff of Emory Magazine.
It’s early May, Commencement is days away, and Atlanta is awash in bright, young green, with splashes of blooming color. So it’s a little weird that a house on my street is all decked out for Christmas.

Turns out they’re shooting a movie there—the sequel to Bad Moms, presumably titled Bad Moms Christmas. Some of my neighbors are complaining because the road is lined with orange cones, production trucks, catering vans, uniformed officers, and crew members drinking coffee, and at certain hours they close the street altogether, which is admittedly kind of a pain. When they made the Goosebumps movie a few houses down, all the big shoots were overnight, and they used lights so bright that three in the morning was like noon for the entire street. A resident nearby kept posting to our community forum, “Who in god’s name approved this?” until I finally responded that film production companies don’t actually have to get approval from the neighborhood before they turn the whole area into a studio set.

But I don’t mind; it’s exciting. When I walk the dog past the Bad Moms house—which of course I do every day, totally on purpose—I don’t even try to pretend that I’m not looking, trying to catch a glimpse of stars Mila Kunis or Kathryn Hahn. The crew members don’t bat an eye, and they always stop to pet the dog, although they have yet to offer her a bit part as an extra like I keep hoping they will.

Watching this production in action has been especially enjoyable because it coincides with our feature story on the entertainment industry boom in Georgia and how it is benefiting Emory students and alumni, Atlanta, and the state. Thanks to a tax-credit program that was master-minded by Stephen Weizenecker 80Ox 90C, Atlantans are growing increasingly accustomed to moviemaking in our midst, and that means more opportunities for the university’s graduates. The Department of Film and Media Studies is reinventing itself to offer education in film production as well as theory and criticism. A number of major shoots have taken place on Emory’s campuses, which boosts both visibility and revenue for the university. And alumni who want to work in the business are finding that they no longer have to move to L.A. or New York to get jobs.

That’s all great news, for Emory and for Atlanta. Not so good for our city is its position as a hub for human trafficking, largely due to Hartsfield-Jackson Airport, the busiest in the world. In this magazine, we also explore how Emory community members are chipping away at the problem from all angles—through research and scholarship, activism and advocacy. Emory students come to us from around the country and the world, and after Commencement, they scatter again. But for the university, Atlanta is where we live, and the positive connections continue to multiply and grow stronger.

Just for the record, as a proud graduate of Emory’s Film Studies program, I don’t expect Bad Moms Christmas to earn critical acclaim or make it onto a course syllabus. But who knows what new opportunities it might create? I’m still glad it’s being made in Emory’s hometown.—Paige Parvin 96G
Wonderful Wednesday drew students outdoors for some fun in the sun, like the chance to say "checkmate."
Even as a kid, Stephanie Spangler ‘12C always wanted things to be fair. When she came to Emory as a Dean’s Achievement Woodruff Scholar, that sense of justice naturally drove her toward prelaw and an internship in the federal public defender’s office. That’s where she had a revelation.

“It was while I was sifting through boxes of case files on death row inmates that it hit me: for them, it’s too late,” Spangler says. “I want to help people before they land in the criminal justice system. You’ve heard of light-bulb moments? My entire perspective shifted when I realized I could make an impact through education.”

Changing her major to history and anthropology, Spangler focused on understanding the systemic social problems that create inequity, and through volunteer work in an urban Atlanta preschool, she saw firsthand how those problems damage real lives. Teaching elementary school was not a career Spangler had envisioned for herself, but she began to see the difference she could make—and, she says, “the scholarship gave me the courage and financial support to do it.”

Now her fourth-graders at Tubman Elementary School in Washington, D.C., most of whom live in poverty and some of whom are new to English, are reading at levels 30 percent higher than the district average. And every Friday, they eagerly wait to hear which student has been named “Eagle of the Week” and will get to wear the coveted Emory Eagles jersey.

“The children I work with every day are intelligent, curious, and resilient,” Spangler says. “It’s an incredible group of people to help empower.”

Scholarship support has been a game changer for thousands of students like Spangler, which is why building that capacity is an ongoing priority for Emory College of Arts and Sciences. The college is celebrating a milestone with the establishment of more than one hundred new or augmented endowed scholarships, thanks to numerous donors and an unprecedented anonymous $50 million matching endowment gift, which provides the seed funding that allows Emory College to maximize the impact of individual donors.

“Scholarship support contributes mightily to Emory’s ability to recruit and support top students and allows for greater investment in the faculty and programming that make Emory College such an exceptional experience,” says Emory College Interim Dean Michael Elliott. “Our students are partners for our faculty in the work of discovery and creativity, and are the means by which we have an impact on the world.”

The recent growth in student support is part of the ongoing Scholarship Endowment Initiative, which is dedicated to raising money for scholarships in all of the university’s nine schools. Before the initiative began in 2013, Emory College had 102 endowed scholarships. Pledges or gifts in the matching endow-
Emory’s School of Law celebrated its centennial anniversary in April with a special event featuring former US President Bill Clinton as the keynote speaker.

In a speech focused on a hopeful future, Clinton noted that the school’s core mission holds promise for untangling the social and political challenges facing the nation.

“If you believe in the rule of law, you must find a way to build up the positive and reduce the negative forces of our interdependence,” he said.

Clinton also praised the diplomacy of former US Senator Sam Nunn 61L 62L, who was awarded Emory Law’s Centennial Lifetime Achievement Award. The gala was the culmination of a series of anniversary events that included recognition of the Emory Law 100, alumni and faculty selected for their extraordinary contributions to the law school and the world.

At the heart of legal education, Clinton told the 1,200 guests, is “the goal of equal, fair, and honorable treatment.”

College endowment funds provide about 10 percent of scholarships extended. The college makes up the nearly $80 million difference through operating funds.

Alumni like Srini Mukundan 86C 90G 91G 96M 01FM are helping to narrow that gap. Mukundan was only nineteen when he received his bachelor’s degree in chemistry, but he spent more time at Emory during his graduate and medical education. His wife, Nancy Bost Mukundan 94PhD, also has an Emory doctorate in chemistry.

When the couple learned about the match available for gifts to create scholarship endowments, they recognized the potential impact a gift could make.

“All of our professional success flows from what we did at Emory,” says Mukundan, now a section chief of radiology at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston and an associate radiology professor at Harvard Medical School.

Justin Correa 19C sees his scholarship as donors investing directly in him. That mindset has motivated him in class, where his academic performance qualified him for the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society. He’s also served as a chemistry teaching assistant, worked as a tutor, and participated in undergraduate research programs.

“The scholarship has had a profound effect on me, because I know that someone is giving their own hard-earned money to help me accomplish my dream of becoming a surgeon,” Correa says.

“Emory has been an opportunity for me to become more responsible for what I want my future to be. And now that I have this chance, I plan to make the most of it.”—April Hunt

CLINTON: LESS ‘THEM,’ MORE ‘US’

Emory Law’s Centennial Gala speaker calls for greater unity, civility, and respect for the rule of law

“You don’t have to be a Republican or a Democrat, but you have to decide, if you live in a free society: Government and rule of law, should it be the same for all?” he said. “I think unity works better than division, cooperation works better than conflict. . . . That’s what I believe. You don’t have to believe that, but if you do believe it, our law schools and legal education—and a way of giving every side its hearing and listening with an open mind, as Sam said—surely offer America a model of how we might get this country back on track.”—Maria M. Lameiras
New public intellectual

Bin Xu, a Confucius Institute professor in Emory’s Department of Sociology, has been named a fellow in a program for young China Studies Scholars sponsored by the National Committee on US-China Relations. Xu is one of just twenty-one fellows in the Public Intellectuals Program for the 2016–2018 cycle.

24,114 apps

Undergraduate applications to Emory hit an all-time high this year, with a total applicant pool of 24,114 students seeking to join the Class of 2021, an increase of 19 percent over 2016. Emory College received 23,694 applications, and Oxford College applications jumped to 14,080. About 56 percent were dual applications to both colleges.

Hidden heart risk factors

Approximately one-third of all individuals with a normal body mass index had cardio-metabolic risk factors for heart disease, especially those of South Asian and Hispanic descent, according to findings from an Emory-led research team. Experts recommend heart disease or diabetes screenings in members of at-risk racial and ethnic minority populations even in the absence of obesity.

Talking their way into a national trophy

Emory seniors Viveth Karthikeyan 17C (left) and Kristen Lowe 17C bested Harvard University’s team to win the American Debate Association National Championship at George Mason University in March. The duo was undefeated throughout the tournament as they challenged teams from Harvard, Michigan State University, UGA, and Wake Forest University, among others.

Swimming and diving teams make waves at nationals

The Eagles women’s swimming and diving team clinched its eighth consecutive NCAA national championship and the tenth overall in program history at the Division III National Championships in March. Emory’s men’s team also secured the Division III championship, its first ever after previously finishing in the top three at nationals thirteen times.

Lewis chair fully funded

The School of Law’s John Lewis Chair for Civil Rights and Social Justice has been fully funded through gifts and pledges of $2 million, including an anonymous $1.5 million donation to help establish the chair, which will focus on areas where racial discrimination persists in American society.

Leading the way in digital humanities publishing

Emory College has launched a $1.2 million effort that positions it to be a national leader in the future of scholarly publishing. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is funding the multiyear initiative to support long-form, open-access publications in the humanities in partnership with university presses, led by the Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry.

Nursing professor selected for top fellowship

The Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) have selected Ursula Kelly, associate professor at Emory’s Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, into its 2017 fellowship class. Induction into the AANP Fellowship is considered one of the highest honors for nurse practitioners. With Kelly’s pending induction, the nursing school has nine faculty AANP fellows.

Leading the way in digital humanities publishing

Emory College has launched a $1.2 million effort that positions it to be a national leader in the future of scholarly publishing. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is funding the multiyear initiative to support long-form, open-access publications in the humanities in partnership with university presses, led by the Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry.
Polly Price, professor of law and professor of global health at Emory, has been named one of thirty-five recipients of the 2017 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship. Price will use her award to write a book about how governments confront the challenge of contagious disease.

“The book’s premise is that we have much to learn from the study of governmental response to public health crises in the past,” says Price. Drawing from historical examples, the book will provide a set of important lessons for lawmakers. “The goal is to help initiate, encourage, and frame the terms of public debate on how government may best respond to health threats in the future.”

As a professor of both law and global health, Price is well-positioned to provide insights on government responses to epidemics. She also serves as a faculty member in health law and regulatory policy with the Emory Antibiotic Resistance Center.

In 2013, Price was one of six professors chosen for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Scholar-in-Residence Program, where she worked with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Texas Department of State Health Services, and the US-Mexico Border Health Commission to study tuberculosis control measures along the southern US border.

Price’s book, *Governing Disease: Epidemics, Law, and the Challenge of Disease Control in a Democratic Society*, will offer three examples that shed light on both successes and failures in government responses to past epidemics: yellow fever in the nineteenth century, tuberculosis and the modern challenge of antibiotic drug resistance, and HIV/AIDS.

As a Carnegie fellow, Price will receive up to $200,000 toward funding her research and writing for the project—the most generous stipend of its kind. The Carnegie program recognizes exceptional established and emerging scholars, journalists, and authors with the goal of strengthening US democracy, driving technological and cultural creativity, exploring global connections and global ruptures, and improving both natural and human environments.
Family First

First-generation students find needed support in the 1915 Scholars Program

As a high school student in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Jalyn Radziminski-Smith 18C was already taking college classes and preparing to apply to a list of Ivy League schools.

When she was accepted to Emory, she envisioned a bright future where she could pursue all the opportunities offered by a high-profile private university.

In her first few weeks on campus, however, the first-generation college student was homesick and a little overwhelmed by the social, academic, and pragmatic realities of college life. Then she received an invitation to participate in the first cohort of 1915 Scholars.

Launched in fall 2013, the 1915 Scholars program is designed to provide a support network for first-generation college students who might struggle with the transition. Admission requirements include a family income of $100,000 or less and the inability to go to college without scholarship support.

Each student is placed in a “family unit” made up of alumni, students, staff, and retired faculty. The students meet regularly with members of this family group—individually and as a unit—during the academic year.

“Each student is part of a family cluster that serves as their family away from home,” says Adrienne Slaughter, director of Student Success Programs and Services in the Division of Campus Life. “These students often need a support system here beyond what is available to all students. Each year the family grows, like a real family.”

Complementing the orientation programs required for all first-year students, the 1915 Scholars program helps provide support and services for students who may not have similar resources available to them from home. Peer mentors—first-generation students who have been through the program—help first-year scholars navigate, “filling in the gaps” for new students, providing guidance and tips on navigating the first year of college from the student perspective. The mentors receive thorough training so they are well equipped to help first-year students handle a variety of situations, from academic to financial to personal.

“My first few weeks at Emory I was really kind of figuring out college day by day. When I found out there was a program that had workshops to teach you about all of the opportunities at Emory and that provided mentorship, I thought,
After a national search, Dwight McBride has been named Emory’s provost and executive vice president of academic affairs, and Christopher Augostini has been named executive vice president for business and administration. Both will begin on July 1.

“These two appointments will build upon Emory’s exceptional leadership team. We look forward to working with Dwight and Chris, whose leadership and vision will help Emory realize its bold ambitions now and well into the future,” says President Claire E. Sterk.

McBride joins Emory from Northwestern University where he currently serves as dean of the graduate school and associate provost for graduate education, as well as the Daniel Hale Williams Professor of African American Studies, English, and Performance Studies.

McBride will serve as Emory’s chief academic officer, directing and collaborating with deans from each of Emory’s nine schools and colleges, with an emphasis on academic excellence and inclusivity. In addition, he will direct leadership of the Michael C. Carlos Museum, the Center for Ethics, and the Woodruff Library, as well as Emory’s other libraries. He also will oversee Emory’s strategic planning, including global strategies, university budgeting, and other matters related to academic affairs.

Augostini joins Emory from Georgetown University where he currently serves as senior vice president and chief operating officer. In his new position, Augostini will be responsible for Emory’s fiscal and administrative affairs. Reporting to Sterk, Augostini’s primary responsibilities include strategic financial planning and stewardship of Emory’s resources to support the academic and operational missions for the university. He will provide leadership to finance, endowment management, human resources, campus services, and business practice improvement, among other areas.

The mentorship has been the most helpful to me.

And Radziminski-Smith has been very involved, running varsity cross-country and track; founding the Multiethnic Racial Group at Emory designed to support and celebrate multiracial, biracial, and multiethnic students; helping found the Black Mental Health Ambassadors, which advocates for black students in relation to mental health; and serving as president of the Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority for 2016–2017.

Isabel Garcia 99L supports the program as an alumni mentor for a group of three juniors, two sophomores, and two first-year students.

“Achieving academic excellence cannot happen without diversity as most broadly defined. These first-generation scholars are essential to that goal. We owe it to our scholars and our university to see that these scholars thrive in this most competitive of academic environments,” Garcia says. “Coming to Emory can be overwhelming, and for a lot of these first-generation students this is not only their first time being away from home, but the college environment is completely foreign. It’s not enough that these students merely attend Emory—we strive to make them realize that they are an essential component to the student body.” —Maria M. Lameiras
I was feeling a little sleepy, but now I find myself listening... I can't seem to stop it. I am awakening to the discussion... I'm losing control... I might make a comment soon.

Am I listening? Or do I just appear to be listening? No one in the room knows. Even our esteemed professor cannot guess! And yet... I am listening. Who is winning this epic battle? Yes, I am.

Hmm... these students look a little sleepy. I will enliven them with my insights about the Japanese manga series, *Genkaku Picasso*.

They will not be able to resist the allure of these brilliant works combined with my analysis. Just wait...

I am starving. We all are starving, because no one here got up in time for breakfast. But... these graphic novels help us forget our hunger, because they connect us with universal human struggles. I will give this unique art form my full attention... and then I will eat lunch.

Despite the presence of a mobile phone... notes are being handwritten...

Graphic Material

**COURSE TITLE**
English 389RW: Comics and Visual Literacy

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**
This course explores American comic books and Japanese manga from cultural, aesthetic, literary, and ethical perspectives. Students study sequential art as a medium with its own standards of artistic quality that require a high level of visual literacy on the part of informed readers.

**PROFESSOR CV**
A lecturer in English at Oxford College since 2005, Brad Hawley received a BA in English from Presbyterian College, an MA in English literature from Clemson University, and a PhD in English literature from the University of Oregon. Areas of specialty include contemporary fiction and ethics as well as first-year composition and rhetoric.

**TODAY’S CLASS**
A wide-ranging discussion centers on *Genkaku Picasso*, a three-volume Japanese manga series by Usamuru Furuya. The protagonist is a high-school introvert nicknamed Picasso because of his artistic talent. The loss of his only friend drives him to help others by drawing their “hearts”—an epic creative endeavor that uses art and allegory to explore the psyche of classmates who are struggling with their own personal challenges.

**QUOTES TO NOTE**
“Manga, like comics in the US, are not a genre; they are an art form like fiction or film or drama, all of which present narratives. In a manga periodical, there can be an endless variety of genres represented—from mysteries, horror, and science fiction to coming-of-age and daily life stories.” —Professor Hawley

**STUDENTS SAY**
“As a college student, one of the most important things is learning to help yourself. That’s what this book made me think about. Picasso never really recognizes his grief. I remember in RA training, we talked about how everyone comes to campus thinking they have to wear a mask. It’s important to recognize your emotions and let yourself feel.” —Renie George 17Ox 19C
The ancient philosophers Descartes, Aristotle, and Plato are among those who have pondered variations on the question: How much of our brain and mind are we born with, and how much comes from being in the world?

“It’s an age-old debate, and one that we’re still having because it’s one of the most difficult questions to answer,” says Emory psychologist Daniel Dilks. “You can’t do controlled experiments to fully test the question in humans because you would have to take away a person’s experiences.”

Modern-day techniques, such as functional magnetic resonance imaging, or fMRI, offer a window into neural activity, but subjects have to remain perfectly still and alert during scanning, making it difficult to do experiments with very young children. Most measurements of children’s neural activity only go back to age four, at the earliest.

Until now. As a postdoctoral fellow at MIT, Dilks was part of a team that successfully scanned the brains of awake human infants using fMRI. The researchers wanted to learn whether infants used similar neural mechanisms as adults to visually distinguish specific types of input, such as faces and objects.

“Two thirds of the adult brain is involved in visual processing, so the origins of how we process visual stimuli is particularly important to understanding the brain and the mind,” Dilks says.

The researchers adapted fMRI technology to make it baby friendly, building a special head coil—the receiving antenna of the scanner—that allows a subject to recline in what resembles an infant car seat. A mirror attached to the seat allows a baby to watch videos while in the scanner. The researchers also muffled the noise of the scanner. With these and other modifications, they were able to conduct fMRI experiments on babies just four to six months old.

The results, published this year by Nature Communications, found that the visual cortex of the infants responded preferentially to the categories of faces and places, with a spatial organization similar to adults. The adult responses, however, were more sensitive.

“We’ve provided the first neural evidence that our basic mechanisms for face and place recognition are active in infancy and only a little weaker than that of adults,” Dilks says.

The work adds to the growing evidence that babies do not come into the world as what the ancient philosophers referred to as tabula rasa, or blank slates. “Thirty years ago, we thought that infants were basically little sponges, absorbing everything around them,” Dilks says. “We now know that babies are full of knowledge really early—and we’re learning that some of that knowledge is pretty complex. It’s a big paradigm shift.”

Dilks has brought the fMRI scanning technology for infants and children to Emory, where his lab will build on the research to learn more about the development of visual processing. One goal is to map the progression of the category-selective visual cortex from infancy to adulthood. As well as adding new knowledge, the research may one day have medical applications.

“We can’t fix most neurological problems right now, partly because we don’t know enough about the brain,” Dilks says. “By continuing to learn more about how the brain develops and functions normally, we may keep moving closer to being able to repair it when something goes wrong.”—Carol Clark
The Sedition Act of 1798 made it a crime, punishable by a $2,000 fine and two years in prison, “if any person shall write, print, utter, or publish . . . any false, scandalous, and malicious writing or writings against the Government of the United States, or either House of the Congress . . . or the President.”

For Americans who take freedom of the press seriously, these might seem like dark days. President Donald Trump, speaking at the Conservative Political Action Conference in February, again described journalists as “the enemy of the people.” That same day, White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer banned major news outlets—including the New York Times, CNN, and the BBC—from his daily briefing. A day later, however, those same outlets regained access.

Most Americans—including most American lawyers—are surprised to learn that [dissent] is a crime in most other countries . . . and that it was a crime in the United States until 1964 or later,” Bird says.

The story begins with Sir William Blackstone’s famed Commentaries on the Laws of England, a four-volume treatise on English common law published in the 1760s that arguably made a greater splash on this side of the pond.

Blackstone’s claim that “liberty of the press” and speech meant liberty only from a requirement of prior licensing or approval, and that this was enshrined in common law, is untrue, according to Bird. In fact, Blackstone provided one of the narrowest definitions of speech and press at the time, yet his words carried great weight.

The Sedition Act became law under President John Adams and generated a number of cases, serious and less so. Benjamin Franklin’s grandson, a newspaper editor, was arrested for criticism of Washington and Adams but died of yellow fever before trial. In a second case, when a cannon went off during a parade to welcome Adams in Newark, New Jersey, a tipsy man named Luther Baldwin yelled, “I hope it hit Adams in the arse.” A $100 fine hit him in the wallet.

Although enforcement ended once Jefferson took office, the battles the act stirred were profound.

“The Sedition Act controversy was the first major debate on the meaning of the First Amendment, and the early justices were the first federal judges to interpret freedoms of press and speech, and the only Supreme Court justices to do so for nearly a century,” says Bird. At issue were “what rights individuals retain and did not surrender to government, including the right to dissent from the administration and its measures.”

—Susan Carini 04G
Emory graduate schools and programs are ranked among the best in the nation, according to analysis and surveys in *US News & World Report*’s 2018 “America’s Best Graduate Schools” guide.

Emory’s Schools of Nursing, Business, Law, Medicine, and Public Health are the top-ranked schools in Georgia in their respective categories, and several other Emory entities were ranked this year.

The Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing was ranked No. 4 in the nation, up from No. 8 last year. The school’s Family Nurse Practitioner program ranked No. 8 in the country.

Goizueta Business School’s full-time MBA program was No. 20, its part-time MBA program No. 25, and its Executive MBA program No. 17.

The School of Law ranked No. 22 in the nation. Emory University School of Medicine ranked No. 23 nationally among research-oriented medical schools, and No. 34 among primary care schools.

Emory and Georgia Tech’s joint Department of Biomedical Engineering PhD program ranked No. 3 in the nation.

PhD programs in several humanities and social science fields were newly ranked this year. Rankings in these categories were based solely on reputation surveys. Emory’s PhD program in political science was ranked No. 24, and its PhD in history was ranked No. 27.

The PhD programs in English, sociology, and psychology were ranked No. 30, No. 36, and No. 36, respectively.—Kimber Williams
Catherine Bagwell on
Making Friends

For parents, watching children develop friendships and interact with their peers can be a pleasure, but it can also be unexpectedly difficult. Early friendships are among the first experiences that breach the perimeter of parents’ careful control. Catherine Bagwell, professor of psychology at Oxford College, studies children’s social development, especially the significance of their relationships with peers and friends. Her research asks: How do friends contribute to children’s and adolescents’ development and psychosocial adjustment concurrently and over longer periods of time? Are there ways in which friendships can be maladaptive? Can friendships serve a protective function, for example, against negative outcomes associated with depressive symptoms?

“I was drawn to the challenge of studying empirically something that is such an important part of our everyday experiences,” Bagwell says. “Throughout childhood and adolescence, we spend much of our time in the company of peers, and children’s social worlds are complicated and fascinating. There is good evidence that friends and friendships can have profound effects not only on social and emotional development but also in domains such as mental health and academic adjustment. Ultimately, a better understanding of the role of peers and friends in children’s lives may aid in the development of interventions to help children who are struggling.”

FIVE WAYS TO HELP KIDS BE GOOD FRIENDS

1. Don’t trivialize. Parents should recognize that children with good friends have many advantages. They are less lonely and less likely to be depressed; they are more engaged in school and cope more successfully with school transitions; and they are more socially competent than children without friends or with lower-quality relationships. High-quality friendships enjoy many positive features—companionship, closeness and intimacy, help and support, loyalty and security—and are associated with positive outcomes. It often takes just one close reciprocal friendship to make a positive difference.

2. Role model. In early childhood, parents can explicitly teach social skills that are essential in getting along with peers—how to cooperate and share, how to manage conflict, how to be a good listener, how to be a fun playmate. As children age, parents can be an important sounding board for youth to talk about their friendships and inevitable challenges.

3. Stay focused. In adolescence, parental monitoring of peer activities is important for positive outcomes—knowing who their friends are, where they hang out, how they spend their time, and what they’re doing online. Recent work by psychologist Marion Underwood and colleagues shows that adolescents who had conflict with peers online experienced psychological distress. However, adolescents whose parents monitored their activity on social media were less distressed from this conflict than those whose parents did not.

4. Besties, not bullies. The excuse that “kids will be kids” is not an appropriate response to bullying and peer victimization. Parents need to send the message that bullying and being a bystander to bullying are never okay. Peer victimization affects between 5 and 30 percent of children and adolescents, and being the victim of peers’ aggression, including physical and verbal aggression as well as social exclusion, is linked with problems such as depression, anxiety, delinquency, and poor school and academic adjustment. On the bright side, having a close friend—an ally who sticks up for you and provides emotional support—is protective.

5. Watch ‘frenemies.’ Psychologist Amanda Rose coined the term “co-rumination” to describe a communication pattern that involves two friends focusing on a problem, rehashing it, dwelling on the negative effect, and failing to engage in more active and productive problem solving. Having a nuanced understanding of children’s relationships with friends—their benefits as well as their challenges—will help parents help their children establish and maintain healthy friendships that can contribute to social, emotional, and cognitive development and well-being.
Fecal Matters

Sometimes the most effective treatment comes from an unexpected source

When you’re facing a life-threatening infection, it’s good to have an open mind. Fecal microbiota transplant, or FMT for short, has become an accepted treatment for recurrent Clostridium difficile infection, which can cause severe diarrhea and intestinal inflammation. Emory physicians Colleen Kraft and Tanvi Dhere are among the leading experts on how FMT restores microbial balance when someone’s internal garden has been disrupted.

C. difficile, or “C diff,” is a hardy bacterium that can barge into the intestines after another infection has been treated with antibiotics, when competition for real estate is low. Recently doctors around the world have shown that FMT can resolve recurrent C diff infection better than antibiotics alone.

Kraft and Dhere have performed almost three hundred FMTs and report a 95 percent success rate when treating recurrent C diff. They have established a pool of stool donors whose health is carefully screened.

Building on their experience with the procedure, Kraft and Dhere are studying whether FMT can help head off other antibiotic-resistant infections besides C diff in kidney transplant patients, and have teamed up with infectious disease specialists Aneesh Mehta and Rachel Friedman-Moraco to conduct the study.

Kidney transplant recipients must take drugs—which suppress the body’s ability to fight infections—to prevent immune rejection of their new kidneys. As a result, kidney transplant recipients are exposed to a lot of antibiotics and are at higher risk for acquiring multidrug resistant infections. The most common bacterial infections requiring hospitalization after kidney transplant are urinary tract infections, which can lead to impaired graft function, graft rejection, and even deadly sepsis.

FMT has been previously performed at Emory with organ transplant patients and immunocompromised patients. The new study is for kidney transplant recipients who test positive for carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae and vancomycin-resistant Enterococci. Doctors will test whether FMT can displace the antibiotic-resistant bacteria, so that last-resort antibiotics are not necessary.—Quinn Eastman

THE ORIGAMI OF LIFE

How misfolding proteins may kickstart chemical evolution

Alzheimer’s disease, and other neurodegenerative conditions involving abnormal folding of proteins, may help explain the emergence of life—and how to create it. Researchers at Emory and Georgia Tech demonstrated the connection in two new papers published earlier this year by Nature Chemistry.

“In the first, we showed that you can create tension between a chemical and a physical system to give rise to more complex systems. And in the second, we showed that these systems can have remarkable and unexpected functions,” says David Lynn, professor of biological chemistry, who led the research.

“The work was inspired by our current understanding of Darwinian selection of protein misfolding in neurodegenerative diseases.”

Lynn’s lab is exploring ways to potentially control and direct the processes of these proteins—known as prions—adding to knowledge that might one day help to prevent disease, as well as open new realms of synthetic biology.

“These protein polymers can fold into a seemingly endless array of forms and sometimes behave like origami,” Lynn explains. This protein misfolding provided the model for how physical changes could carry information with function, a critical component for evolution.
High Honors

STANDOUT STUDENTS EARN LIFE-CHANGING SCHOLARSHIPS

Five Emory College students and one Emory College alumna have been chosen for highly competitive scholarships based on academics, public service, and international relations.

Truman Scholar
Chelsea Jackson 18C, an Emory College junior double majoring in political science and African American studies, has been named a 2017 Harry S. Truman Scholar. Only sixty-one other college students across the US earned the highly competitive national honor, which is granted to exceptional students in their junior year who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, academic excellence, and a commitment to a life of public service. Jackson is Emory’s first Truman Scholar since 2011. As part of the award, which is administered by the Harry S. Truman Foundation, Jackson will receive $30,000 for graduate study as well as professional development for a career in public service.

At Emory, Jackson has been involved in the university chapter of the NAACP and cofounded the Atlanta Black Students United, a group with black student representatives from every school in metro Atlanta. A BA/MA candidate and honor’s student in the Department of Political Science, Jackson aspires to lead the US Department of Justice as attorney general and is considering suggestions from professors to pursue a doctorate with her law degree, with an ultimate goal to become a Supreme Court justice.

“This is about what changes I can make that will make Emory different. That’s the legacy that was left for me, and that’s the mark I’m trying to leave for the next little black girl from Decatur. Then, the world,” Jackson says.

Bobby Jones Scholars
Four Emory College seniors—Jason Ehrenzeller 17C, Julianna Joss 17C, Ekaterina Koposova 17C, and Joan Shang 17C—were named Bobby Jones Scholars and will pursue a paid year of master’s study at the University of St Andrews in Scotland for the 2017–2018 academic year. More than 250 Emory students have received the scholarship since its establishment.

Ehrenzeller, a double major in Spanish and international studies, will pursue a master’s degree in cultural identity studies at the University of St Andrews. Joss, a double major in political science and dance and movement studies and a Robert W. Woodruff Scholar, will seek a degree in sustainable development. Koposova, an art history major and anthropology minor, will pursue a master’s degree in art history. She hopes to return to the US after her year abroad to pursue a PhD in art history. Shang, a biology major and Dean’s Achievement Scholar, will seek a master’s degree in global health implementation.

Luce Scholar
Kadiata Sy 15C, who completed a one-year master’s degree in Middle East, Caucasus, and Central Asian security studies at the University of St Andrews as a Bobby Jones Scholar, has been named to the 2017–2018 Luce Scholars program. Sy is currently pursuing a master of arts in Islamic law at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

A native of Mauritania who spent her early childhood in a West African refugee camp in Northern Senegal, Sy earned a bachelor’s degree in politics and Middle Eastern studies from Emory. She hopes to gain new perspectives and cultural insights in the field of women’s empowerment through living and working in Asia.

SCOTLAND BOUND Emory College seniors (from left) Joan Shang, Julianna Joss, Jason Ehrenzeller, and Ekaterina Koposova were named Bobby Jones Scholars and will pursue a paid year of master’s study at the University of St Andrews in Scotland for the 2017–2018 academic year.
In April 1917, shortly after America’s entry in the Great War, a call went out from the US Army and the Red Cross to medical schools across the country. Doctors and nurses would be urgently needed to staff hospitals in support of the hundreds of thousands of newly enlisted “doughboys” who would soon head overseas to join British and French Allies fighting Germans in the trenches snaking across Europe.

When Emory medical school Dean William Elkin received the request, he turned immediately to Edward Campbell Davis to organize the school’s medical unit. Davis, a professor at the school and cofounder of Atlanta’s Davis-Holmes Sanatorium (later Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital and now Emory University Hospital Midtown), had served as an army surgeon in the Spanish-American War and retained his military rank. Without hesitation, he began assembling a team of Atlanta’s and Georgia’s prominent physicians, skilled nurses, and other staff.

“Every doctor and every nurse that can be spared must be sent to France, and they must go at once,” wrote Cora Harris, a noted Atlanta journalist.

The initial call was to organize a five-hundred-bed hospital to be funded through popular subscription. Recognizing the scale of this endeavor, in August 1917 the federal government appropriated $40,000 to equip the Emory unit, soon to be officially designated Base Hospital 43. A local fundraising campaign by the Atlanta newspapers netted $7,000, which was used to purchase a fully outfitted ambulance.

Finally, in April 1918, unit officers received instructions to report to recently constructed Camp John B. Gordon (the present site of DeKalb Peachtree Airport) for basic training. They also learned that the unit’s hospital would be increased to one thousand beds.

That June, unit members boarded the SS Olympic (sister ship of the ill-fated Titanic) for the voyage to England, arriving in Blois, France, late that month.

Emory Unit Base Hospital 43 of the Allied Expeditionary Force was now operational.

By mid-July, casualties began arriving by train from evacuation hospitals near the battle lines at Chateau-Thierry and along the Marne River. Soon the hospital’s census exceeded seven hundred, most injured by gunshot and shrapnel wounds, with dozens of others suffering from poison gas.

To meet the growing number of casualties, two principal surgical teams were organized—the first under the command of Davis, the second under Charles Dowman. In August, a surgical team was deployed to staff Mobile Hospital 1, providing front-line care for American soldiers fighting in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, the climactic battle to end the war. Twice during these final months, Base Hospital 43’s capacity was again increased to meet the desperate need; the day before the Armistice was signed ending the war, the hospital was serving 2,237 patients.

The Emory unit remained in France, caring for ill and wounded soldiers, until relieved from duty on January 21, 1919. They returned home to a rousing welcome at Camp Gordon that March.

Although the Emory unit received citations for meritorious service from General John Pershing, French Field Marshal Ferdinand Foch, and others, the greatest compliment may have come from a patient—a young Army lieutenant, E. H. Jefferies, from New York, who wrote: “Atlanta, you can be proud of Emory unit and if you think you have any more like it, send them along, but you have to go some to keep up with Emory. God bless the people of the South. From a Northern Yank.”

In September 1942, the Emory unit would be reactivated for service in World War II as General Hospital 43, serving in North Africa and France.

—Render Davis ’73C
LEADING RESEARCH EXPLORES A GENETIC LINK TO INCREASED RISK FOR SCHIZOPHRENIA

It’s difficult to imagine anything more worrisome than a pediatrician saying, “Test results show a problem with your child’s DNA, but it’s something I’ve never seen before, and I don’t know what it means.”

That was the unexpected news Aaron and Jenna Gallagher of Palm Bay, Florida, received about their younger son Luke shortly after he was born in August 2014.

Luke Gallagher is afflicted with a rare genetic mutation called 3q29 deletion syndrome, according to Jennifer Mulle, assistant professor of human genetics at Emory. Thanks to a $3.1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), she is coprincipal investigator of a multidisciplinary Emory team performing first-of-its-kind research on the syndrome.

“Normally, each parent contributes a complete copy of their DNA to their unborn child,” Mulle explains. In about one in thirty thousand births, a specific segment of twenty-two genes from the end of one or the other parent’s No. 3 chromosome is deleted by unknown means and fails to occur in the child’s DNA.

This 3q29 deletion syndrome has been associated with feeding disorders, behavioral problems, failure to meet certain developmental benchmarks, and a range of neuropsychiatric conditions—including mild-to-moderate intellectual disability, anxiety, autism, and a forty-fold increased risk for schizophrenia.

That’s quite a range of potential health issues, which is why it’s important to understand the function of the deleted gene segment, says Mulle.

“Even with intellectual disability, we see kids who are in normal classes and do fine, and then we have kids at the other end who are nonverbal, need special education, and may never live independently,” she says. “Just because your child has 3q29 deletion syndrome does not mean they’re automatically going to have autism, schizophrenia, anxiety disorder, or any other related issues, but the risk is increased.”

In the NIH research project, the team led by Mulle and Gary Bassell, professor and chair of the Department of Cell Biology, will engineer pairs of cell lines with and without the 3q29 deletion for study—a so-called “disease in a dish.” This is accomplished by taking blood cells from healthy individuals and, using induced pluripotent stem cell technology, turning them back into stem cells, then reprogramming them to redevelop into neurons. Next, researchers will use a gene-manipulation tool to remove the twenty-two genes in the 3q29 region from some cell lines, leaving others intact and normal.

“They can compare how neurons would behave in a person without the syndrome versus neurons in a person with the syndrome,” Mulle says. Researchers hope to acquire a better understanding of the molecular-cellular mechanism behind schizophrenia—the “great white whale” of genetics.

Another project goal, in collaboration with the Marcus Autism Center and Emory’s Departments of Psychology and Psychiatry, is to collect and disseminate detailed information about 3q29 deletion syndrome to parents and medical professionals.
During Luke’s first months, a lack of basic information left the Gallaghers to fend for themselves. The baby struggled with severe eczema and frequent, violent vomiting—a parent’s nightmare. Switching formulas didn’t help, and allergy tests revealed nothing.

His medical situation was complicated by a congenital heart defect. At birth, the left side of his heart was only half normal size, and a series of risky operations was scheduled. Miraculously, the heart began to grow, and within eleven days had achieved 98 percent of its proper size, rendering surgery unnecessary. It was his heart condition that prompted a DNA test and led to the 3q29 deletion syndrome diagnosis.

A few months later, the Gallaghers could finally focus their attention on learning more about the mysterious 3q29 deletion syndrome. They spent a lot of time searching and eventually found a Facebook community of parents whose kids have 3q29 deletion syndrome.

“It was a blessing for us to be able to talk to other parents and see that our son has some of the same issues that they’re dealing with,” Aaron Gallagher recalls.

“...and see that our son has some of the same issues.

They also began communicating with Mulle through the group, and joined more than one hundred syndrome carriers in the Emory research team’s international 3q29 deletion registry (www.3q29deletion.org).

Approaching his third birthday, Luke loves Thomas the Tank Engine and Paw Patrol. “He gets excited about all the things that little kids get excited about,” his father says. “It’s wonderful seeing him grow up.”

But there are other times when he’s seemingly unable to control himself and can become physically violent. And although he tries hard, Luke manages a vocabulary of only about twenty words, so verbal communication is a concern. His future independence is uncertain.

Ultimately, Mulle and her research team hope to help kids like Luke by discovering new treatments to mitigate the effects of 3q29 deletion syndrome. A future direction for their work would be to assay dozens of the “disease in a dish” specimens to screen hundreds of chemical compounds, “to see if there’s an agent that can fix any deficits we find,” she says. “The answer is right there. We just have to get to it.”—Gary Goettling
By the time she came to Emory, Maya Lakshman 19C already understood what it means to live in vulnerability and fear. She also knew how good it feels to be able to help.

Lakshman’s mother started and ran a support and awareness organization for victims of domestic violence in their hometown of San Diego, and eleven-year-old Lakshman would help in any way she could—doing administrative tasks, compiling email lists, and setting up for small events. The experience led to an early social and political awakening.

“I saw my mother getting so passionate about it,” she says. “She really wanted to make a change.”

Lakshman immersed herself in reading and learning about domestic violence, which led to information about sexual abuse, which led to the emerging topic of sex trafficking—heavy subjects for a preteen. So when she arrived at Emory in fall 2014, Lakshman was aware that human trafficking is a problem in Atlanta, and she wanted to follow her mother’s example by reaching out into the community and doing something about it.

But, “I didn’t know if there was anyone else at Emory as eager to make a change in this field as I was,” she says.

By the end of her first year, the anthropology and human biology major had met a classmate to help her cofound Red Light Emory—a student group that works with local nonprofits to help victims overcome the mental health consequences of child sex trafficking—and had fielded applications from more than eighty other students eager to join the effort. She also found faculty members, advisers, and the Center for Civic and Community Engagement ready to offer support.

“The faculty here are amazing. They have changed my perspective and been supportive of this work,” says Lakshman. “And there are also a lot of amazing students here—Red Light could not be putting on any of this stuff if there weren’t people making it happen.”

Lakshman’s proposal for Red Light Emory outlined a three-pronged approach to helping sex-trafficking victims in Atlanta. The first is outreach through off-campus partners Youth Spark, which focuses on children, and Haven Atlanta, geared
Red Light volunteers organize programs for victims such as health fairs, etiquette classes, even talent shows—anything that might help ease the stress that follows their experience. Second is advocacy on and off campus, including events like public concerts and art shows to raise awareness. And the third piece is education—training outside volunteers to interact with people who have experienced any type of trauma. At every step, Lakshman says, she drew encouragement from people she encountered across the Emory campus.

“We’re big on social justice and responding to students’ desires to make meaningful contributions to the community,” says James Roland, senior director of the Center for Civic and Community Engagement, housed in the Division of Campus Life. “With Red Light, it was refreshing to see that they didn’t bite off more than they could chew. It showed a level of maturity and sensitivity. Their proposal was so well-thought-out that not only was it easy to say yes, it was easy to see how it would be successful.”

Red Light quickly became a path for undergraduates who wanted to get involved with the issue at the community level. It also became the latest in a series of Emory-based efforts to take action against sex trafficking in Atlanta and beyond, helping to fuel the momentum behind ongoing work including projects at the Emory Global Health Institute (EGHI), the Barton Child Law and Policy Center at the School of Law, Rollins School of Public Health, and among alumni who are studying the issue and raising awareness.

“Emory has connections to everything,” says Lakshman, “in Atlanta and all over the world.”

PUBLIC HEALTH PERSPECTIVE

Jasmine Ko 15C 17MPH had seen the posters at Hartsfield-Jackson Airport—the signs in English and Spanish warning travelers to be on the lookout for children who might be trafficked through the world’s busiest international air hub. Ko, a second-year graduate student in public health focusing on epidemiology, had heard through her studies at Rollins that sex trafficking was an issue in Atlanta, but she had never seen much about it in the news. So when she and her fellow members of the EGHI’s Student Advisory Committee (SAC) were looking for a topic for the 2016 Global Health Case Competition, Ko had a suggestion.

The annual competition is an opportunity for students across schools and disciplines to collaborate and devise innovative solutions to twenty-first-century global health issues. Teams conduct in-depth research, interview experts in the field, and compile the data into a report. Last year, human trafficking in Atlanta was selected as the challenge.

“We had never done a local case,” Ko says of the nine-year-old competition. “We always want to make sure the issue is very complex with no known strategy that has been proven to work. Sex trafficking came about because we thought it would be good to focus on Atlanta.”

The SAC quickly ran into one of the most formidable obstacles to addressing the issue. Because the sex-trafficking industry is illegal and operates underground, there is a lack of information on the subject. And owing to the stigma surrounding victims, survivors of the sex trade are reluctant to speak out. As a result, reliable, consistent data can be hard to come by.

“As an epidemiologist, it was difficult because you can’t study what you can’t measure,” says Ko. “You want to see statistics, but with sex trafficking it’s hard because there is no data. Nobody is collecting this stuff on a large scale. You don’t come across the kind of studies you’d normally see with a public health issue.”

Even defining “sex trafficking” proved surprisingly difficult, because some organizations are focused only on girls and boys under the age of eighteen, assuming that anyone older is able to consent and advocate for themselves.

Pushing forward, Ko and her group gathered what data they could find and interviewed local aid organizations, government social workers, law enforcement, and attorneys who had worked in the field.

“Through Emory, we had the capacity to approach it from legal, law enforcement, research, and public health angles,” says Leslie Munoz Johnson 09Ox 11C 14MPH 22PhD, a third-year doctoral student in behavioral science at Rollins and lead writer on the case-writing team. Johnson consulted a former FBI agent who’d had twenty years of experience in dealing with sex trafficking victims. And that insight, along with other field interviews, helped provide a factual framework for the report.

The EGHI case-writing team found that there were between ten million and thirty million victims, 80 percent of whom are women or girls, who were being trafficked for sex—somewhere between a $290 million and $99 billion industry. Atlanta,
Inspired by her mother’s work with victims of domestic violence, Lakshman cofounded Red Light Emory, a student organization that works in the Atlanta community to help women who have been affected by sex trafficking.

they found, had emerged as an international hub for the practice, due mostly to its busy Hartsfield-Jackson Airport. According to the team’s findings, many victims are flown in believing that they are coming here to work for money to send home, but once here, their identification is taken from them and they are stranded. Helpless, many are then pressed into the sex trade.

But the EGHI case also found that Atlanta’s trafficking problem is not restricted to transients from other countries. There is a range of factors that also put local metro populations at risk—particularly children. With 39 percent of children living in poverty, many face homelessness, high crime, housing instability, and educational failure. Other risk factors include problems at home, such as neglect and physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. In many cases, victims are running away from these problems; lost, they sometimes resort to survival sex, or they are recruited, lured, or coerced into prostitution by pimps who buy and sell them as commodities. In Atlanta, data indicates that most of the local victims are female and African American; LGBT youth are also at a higher risk of exploitation through sex trafficking.

Sex trafficking is a global health problem as well as a social issue. Johnson and Ko found that victims who managed to escape the trade may suffer from sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV; unintended pregnancies; and severe physical injuries. Worse might be the psychological damage: anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts, low self-esteem, panic attacks, insomnia, and posttraumatic stress disorder.

“Mental health is a huge issue,” says Johnson. “Once you’ve assessed these individuals, I think it’s obvious that there will be some counseling and mental health treatment needs.”

Of twelve Emory teams in the 2016 EGHI Case Competition, the winner zeroed in on those needs—proposing an after-school photography program to bolster girls’ self-esteem and teach them about the risk factors for sex trafficking. But Johnson says that since the competition, other participants and even some of the judges from local organizations have inquired about possible help in combating the problem from all angles—especially the legal arena. “I’ve never encountered a problem that was so dependent on the law—it was way outside of our expertise,” says Ko. “But we didn’t have to go too far from Emory to get a feel for what was happening.”

**NOT A NEW PROBLEM**

Emory’s engagement in the fight against human trafficking in Atlanta is hardly a recent development. Just ask Kirsten Widner.
Widner is a lawyer and graduate student in political science at Emory. She is also a former director of policy and advocacy for the Barton Child Law and Policy Clinic, part of Emory Law. When she arrived in Atlanta on a two-year Barton fellowship, her first big project was to compile data and research on the commercial sexual exploitation of children for policy recommendations to the Georgia legislature. The year was 2007.

“It sort of fell into my lap,” says Widner. “We had this great momentum—the community here was interested.”

Available data was even more scarce for Widner than it would be for the GHI teams almost a decade later. But what Widner could plainly see was that there were a number of teenage girls coming through county court charged with prostitution. At the time, the primary approach to these girls was law–enforcement based—the kids were arrested and entered into the juvenile justice system.

“The problem with that, from a public defender’s point of view, is that in order to move them into a victim program, you have to charge them,” says Randee Waldman, a clinical professor of law at Emory’s Barton Juvenile Defender Clinic. “Would I rather see them in a treatment program than a detention center? Sure. But you might be putting them into a program that they’re not ready for.” Waldman says she was seeing criminal charges as coercive measures to put them in treatment; and, “if the girls aren’t willingly seeking help, treatment is less likely to be successful.”

“They’re sexual abuse victims more than criminals,” says Widner. “The response to them should be the response to a victim rather than a criminal.”

In her advisory report, Widner pointed to a recent Boston pilot project that operated on a child abuse model rather than a criminal one. Her recommendation was to make commercial sex exploitation a form of child abuse, thus compelling mandatory reporters like police, doctors, and teachers to report any suspicions to the Department of Child and Family Services. And in 2009, the Georgia legislature passed a bill to do just that.

The next step was reforming the criminal law to offer more protection to victims of sex trafficking. As it stood, the court could still rule that anyone over the age of consent had willingly engaged in sex with their “johns.” Although a 2010 bill that would have protected trafficked victims from prosecution for prostitution failed, Widner and her fellow advocates did succeed in creating an affirmative defense, and later, a legal presumption that the defense applies for victims under eighteen. They have also seen the creation of a Safe Harbor fund—fines collected from those convicted of sex trafficking, along with surcharges on adult entertainment—that is allocated especially for treatment and diversion programs.

Now Widner has her sights on the implementation of her and her fellow advocates’ legislative work.

“Georgia is one of the leading states in its legal response to these kids,” she says. “Now we need to make sure we
have the processes to back that up. We are working with the agencies tasked with these things. The Department of Family and Child Services has expressed commitment, but it’s a big bureaucracy with lots of hoops to jump through. There’s more work to be done.”

**FUEL FOR THE ROAD AHEAD**

Human trafficking is not an Atlanta problem; it’s a global crisis. Emory also is having an impact through faculty and alumni who have taken what they’ve learned here and moved on to the private sector or other institutions.

Carrie Baker 94G 94L 01PhD is associate professor in the Program for the Study of Women and Gender at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, and author of the forthcoming *Fighting the US Youth Sex Trade: Gender, Race, and Politics* (Cambridge University Press), as well as numerous related articles. Baker’s path was shaped at Emory, where she earned three degrees and taught during a time when the issue was just starting to attract widespread attention.

“They’re sexual abuse victims more than criminals. The response should be the response to a victim.”

“Atlanta has a huge adult sex trade,” says Baker. “Not just prostitution but strip clubs—a culture very tolerant of the commercialization of sex. People encounter it in their communities and in the media. It’s normalized, and young people pick up on that.”

Baker says this general acceptance of sex commodification, along with the city’s racial and wealth inequities, create a favorable climate for systemic abuse. But she also points out that the powerful presence of influential women and minorities, like former Mayor Shirley Franklin, helped the city pioneer a nationwide push to treat young women who are caught up in the industry as victims rather than criminals. Emory, she notes, has contributed to that positive movement toward advocacy all along.

“The Barton Child Law and Policy Clinic was an early advocate on this issue,” she says. “Broadly, universities have access to researchers and funding streams; faculty and students have the time and resources to work with non-governmental organizations and governments.”

Baker says that by mobilizing its resources, including the Barton Clinic, Rollins, and the Schools of Medicine and Law, the university has been a leading example of how an institution of higher learning can be a powerful ally to advocates and governments. Emory’s support of research and policy recommendations also lends credibility to the findings and possible solutions. And when large research universities and their faculty and students speak out about an issue, it helps raise awareness—the public listens.

“Having Emory involved contributes a lot,” Baker says. “More and more universities are trying to encourage their faculty to be public scholars. And I’m sure there are many Emory grads working for change in traffic-related areas.”

After completing her Emory degree, Red Light cofounder Lakshman plans to attend graduate school, where she hopes to focus on legal advocacy and community health. In between studies, she’ll dedicate her time to Red Light, working to grow the organization and its reach in the community. Red Light is a model that Lakshman believes can have a concrete impact if applied on a national or even global scale.

And regardless of the path her career takes, Lakshman knows she will continue her work to stop human trafficking.

“I couldn’t let this go; it’s become a huge part of my life,” she says. “That’s the thing about activism—it becomes a key part of who you are.”

---

*Photography: Kay Hinton, Jim Gipe*
CALL IT THE 800-POUND GORILLA IN THE LAB.

Crystal Grant 22PhD, a graduate student in the Genetics and Molecular Biology program in the Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences (GDBBS), faced it while studying how people’s DNA changes with age.

Joshua Lewis 19PhD of the GDBBS Biochemistry, Cell, and Developmental Biology program saw its shadow while researching how cells stick to neighbor cells, information that could lead to understanding how cancer cells metastasize.

The problem weighed so heavily on Chelsey Ruppersburg 16PhD that she changed career directions after racing to earn a doctorate in cell biology in only four years, rather than the usual six or seven.

The situation is readily apparent to anyone who works in an academic lab. Research is a slow, steady, incremental process; funding is erratic, inconsistent, boom and bust. Principal investigators must tear themselves away from working with students to chase fewer National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Science Foundation (NSF) grants. Hiring new students and staff is fraught because funding for their positions is a moving target.

Meanwhile, a steady stream of graduate students—vital to every academic lab—compete for rarer faculty positions while being tempted by more lucrative private industry jobs or opportunities abroad.

Postdoctoral fellowships, an important transitional step from student to professor, have become a port of call that may stretch into years of low pay and uncertainty for scientists who hoped to settle down after a decade-plus of intense schooling.

But as the challenge grows steeper, the same young scientists who are most affected are also trying to solve it.

THE WORKHORSES OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

It’s no coincidence that the students who entered graduate programs after the fallout from the 2008 recession, and budget cuts from the 2013 sequestration, are the same ones who are hyperaware of the need for consistent federal support of basic science research.

Grant fell in love with genetics while studying biology as an undergraduate at Cornell. Her first job in a behavioral genetics lab involved watching the romantic pursuit of fruit flies in petri dishes. Female flies were more likely to chase males whose wings flapped at a greater frequency. Each speed-dating session lasted five minutes. Grant was hooked.

After taking a gap year to research leukemia, she’s now in the third year of a PhD, studying DNA changes in women aged fifty to eighty. Her work could contribute to important health benefits for women in this age group.

Lewis was wrapping up a degree in biological engineering at the University of Georgia when an internship at a civil engineering firm convinced him that he needed “room to think about problems in a more interesting, challenging way.” He’s now in the sixth year of a PhD program working on research that could lay the groundwork for innovations in cancer treatment.

Both students believe strongly in the importance of what they’re doing, but neither believes they’ll stay in academia when they complete their PhDs.

“When I started graduate school, I thought I’d go into academia,” says Lewis, “and I still think in a lot of ways I’d be happier doing academic research. But I’m thirty years old, and it would be hard to give up financial stability in exchange for a relatively small chance of a job in academia.”
"It’s a broken system," says Grant. "We’re educating scientists and then losing them."

Last summer, Grant and Lewis made their case to congressional aides from the Georgia delegation at a meeting set up by Cameron Taylor 90C, Emory vice president of government and community affairs. They cast their PhD education as an investment strategy by the federal government. Congress underwrites their six- to-seven-year apprenticeship in university labs—it’s up to the NIH and NSF to choose which research projects are worthy of support. So each newly minted PhD constitutes a substantial investment on the part of the taxpaying public.

According to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the federal government pays almost $140 billion a year for research and development (down from $160 billion in 2010), with 29 percent going to universities. In return, they get “the workhorses of biomedical research,” students who lay the foundation for most of the new discoveries in health care fields and future teachers who will train the next generation of students. Well, almost.

Every year, nine thousand biology students receive PhDs, but only 70 percent take the next step of accepting a postdoctoral position that provides additional training and experience to prepare for a faculty position. Of those students who become postdocs, only 11 percent achieve tenure-track academic research positions (data courtesy of a 2012 NIH Workforce report).

If we see this as a pipeline in which students come in one side and faculty come out the other, the pipeline isn’t just leaking, it’s ruptured. Ninety percent of students flow away from academia to industry or other careers—many of them in fields where they’ll never conduct research again. Once gone from our universities, we lose their valuable experience and passion for scientific discovery. In private industry, their research may become trade secrets that are no longer shared with the academic community.

In addition, international students working in US labs are returning to their home countries for jobs, lured by the promise of expanding research funding and academic positions. In 2014, the journal Nature reported that China’s total expenditures on research and development has increased by an average of 23 percent in recent years.

While Grant and Lewis admit that the growing appeal of private industry is a plus for students, they point out that even this sector depends on the time-consuming work of basic science.

“A pharmaceutical company can screen for drugs that inhibit prostate cancer. But to do so, they have to know what metabolic pathways are driving prostate cancer,” Lewis says. “That kind of knowledge comes from basic research, and takes too long and isn’t lucrative enough for the private sector to pursue it. This is why our whole system depends on funding from the NIH and NSF.”

So students like Grant and Lewis, despite their love for the lab and the academic environment, are prepared to take their chances outside of academia, even as they try to educate the public and politicians on what they’re missing.

**TAKING CHARGE**

“When most people think of science funding, they think of helping older professors in white lab coats,” says Ruppersburg. “But they need to understand the funding helps a whole community of younger students who want to make a difference.”

She was in the middle of her PhD research in cell biology, working with her faculty mentor on the brink of making an important discovery about the dysfunction of certain cilia (almost every cell in the body has one), when she was invited to talk up science on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. She and a few other Emory students dropped by congressional offices and shared stories about how the federal funding crisis was affecting them and their labs.

The experience was so exhilarating, when they returned to Emory they formed a student advocacy group in the Laney Graduate School with the full support of Dean Lisa Tedesco. Students responded well to their call to arms. "We, as scientists, need to stand up and take charge of our future—after all, if we don’t, who will?" "If you want to be a scientist in ten years, you need to be an advocate today.”

Since its inception in 2013, Emory Science Advocacy Network (EScAN) has become a model for other campuses and been recognized on a national level. One of its most popular events is a letter-writing campaign that galvanizes students, faculty, and staff into dashing off personal letters to local members of Congress urging them to support robust funding of biomedical research. EScAN’s first and second annual letter-writing campaigns generated about a thousand letters. Other activities include meet-and-greet sessions with legislators and their staffs.

Ruppersburg’s participation led to a position in Senator Johnny Isakson’s reelection campaign, and she hopes to eventually have a voice in a national science advocacy group.

“How wonderful to have someone with such an understanding of science be in a position where she can hear the advocacy coming from Emory and other places, and can help translate that to leaders in Congress,” says Andrew Kowalczyk, a professor in the Departments of Cell Biology and Dermatology in the School of Medicine and the first faculty adviser to EScAN.

“I have to give our students at Emory a lot of credit” he says. “They looked at the situation, and rather than say we’re
Learning more about the political environment that shapes their research. They understand that science doesn’t take place in a vacuum. Sometimes you need to sit down and write a letter.

Kowalczyk would love to see a national commitment to a balanced plan for basic science that would take into account the six-year training programs for students and the nearly twenty-year timespan of most research projects. As Grant and Lewis pointed out in their presentation to congressional aides, this would benefit almost everyone in the pipeline, allowing funding agencies to stop making inefficient, short-term funding plans; the academic research workforce to stabilize; universities to make more informed decisions about investing in infrastructure; and PhDs to make better decisions about their careers.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Leaving the academic lab environment behind isn’t even an option for current EScAN President Jarred Whitlock 21PhD, a fourth-year graduate student in the GDBBS Biochemistry, Cell, and Developmental Biology program.

“I will stay in academia come feast or famine,” he says. Whitlock studies the basic function of muscle signaling (“figuring out how to control this system so we could turn on muscle repair full blast”) with the dream of helping everything from muscular dystrophies to battlefield injuries.

“Coming into a lab, I feel like I’m coming home,” he says. “Why would I give that up to do anything else? If I get a faculty position, great. If I scrape by in the back of someone else’s lab, I’ll still be happy and at the bench.”

Kowalczyk says he would wholeheartedly advise undergraduates to consider graduate training. “The graduate program forces you to think better and learn how to deal with a lot of information and people. It helps you develop as a person. There’s a lot you can do with that,” he says.

Emory’s young scientists are already doing a lot with it. As they study changes in DNA, cells, and pathways, they are also

**89% of students flow away from academia to industry or other careers.**

PhD candidates Crystal Grant (left) and Joshua Lewis are vocal advocates for scientific research at universities, but neither is ready to commit to academic careers due to uncertainty about good jobs and adequate funding.
In fall 2007, Ben White 08C was a few months away from earning his bachelor’s degree in film studies at Emory, but something was missing. He enjoyed studying world cinema and its themes and genres, but what he really wanted to learn was how films are made—and, by extension, how could he get into the movie business?

During his senior year, the Department of Film and Media Studies offered its first filmmaking course. It was an introductory, 101-style look into the basics of what happens on a film set, and it helped confirm White’s desire to go Hollywood—literally. That next spring, he and ten of his classmates decided to move out to Los Angeles after graduation in order to break into movies and TV.

Four years later, with dozens of screen credits on his resume as an assistant director and crew member—including several feature films with budgets in the tens of millions—White, a Seattle native, decided to pursue his career back in Atlanta. That’s partly because he developed a liking for the city during college, but also because—thanks to Georgia’s film-production tax credits and the ongoing construction of new TV and movie studios—this is where the work is.

With metro Atlanta now the third-busiest production location in the country behind L.A. and New York, White is among a growing number of Emory alumni working in the industry locally. Set against the leafy, green backdrop of the state’s 30 percent tax break, nearly 250 films and TV projects were shot last year in Georgia—double that of about five years ago, according to the state Department of Economic Development. Included in that tally are some of the most complex and expensive productions around, such as Marvel’s Captain America: Civil War and upcoming entries in its Spiderman and Avengers franchises, as well as top-rated TV shows like The Walking Dead.

Back at the ranch, Emory’s film studies program has added a number of production classes to its curriculum, as recent graduates and some from decades past continue to be lured by the energy, excitement, and exploding career opportunities of the so-called Hollywood of the South.
BIG BREAK After four years in L.A., Ben White returned to Atlanta to take advantage of the explosion of opportunity in the film industry. His credits as assistant director include The Hunger Games: Catching Fire, 24: Legacy, and Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul.

“I LIKE THE CHALLENGE OF LOOKING FOR JOBS ALL THE TIME BECAUSE THERE’S SO MUCH VARIETY.”
The bounty of opportunity helps explain how Meredith Stedman 16C was able to make the transition from college campus to movie set in less than a month.

“I realized about halfway through my Emory experience that I wanted to work in film production,” says Stedman. Shortly before she graduated with degrees in film studies and English, she was referred by a professor to a local extras casting director who had contacted Emory in search of candidates for an opening as assistant.

Stedman’s background as a student adviser and president of her sorority, as well as her communication skills, won her the job, which involves keeping track of hundreds of extras and making sure they show up when and where they’re supposed to.

“My production classes prepared me for being on set,” she says. “Casting isn’t where my heart lies, but it’s been a great introduction to the industry.”

Within weeks of graduation, Stedman was working on big-budget Marvel shoots like Spiderman: Homecoming at Atlanta’s huge new Pinewood Studio in Clayton County and Black Panther at EUE Screen Gems in Atlanta’s Lakewood neighborhood. She’s even found herself in production meetings with directors and stars like Jason Bateman. After she gains more experience, Stedman plans to enroll in film school with an eye toward eventually writing and directing her own movies.

Atlanta’s film industry has grown so much that it’s even pulled in earlier graduates who left Emory on a seemingly different career path. Margaret Burke 00MPH was already helping to oversee industrial hygiene for Delta Air Lines when she earned her master’s degree from Rollins School of Public Health. About ten years ago, she began working as an occupational health consultant for some of the country’s largest corporations, developing safety protocols, conducting compliance audits, and investigating environmental hazards.

A couple of years later, she began getting jobs reviewing on-set health and safety compliance with some of the Hollywood studios—and found the movie bug had bitten. Last August, she joined 21st Century Fox full time as director of production safety for the eastern US, and has overseen fifteen ongoing film
and TV shoots in Georgia and along the East Coast, making sure regulations are followed and precautions are taken. Recently, she worked on the Oscar contender *Hidden Figures*, and such TV shows as *Star, 24: Legacy,* and *Sleepy Hollow.*

“Working on movies is so exciting and fulfilling,” she says. “I’ve worked with pharmaceutical firms, railroads, and oil companies, but the film industry is by far the most challenging because you’re always changing locations, dealing with temporary construction, and working with potentially untrained day players.”

Even when a production isn’t moving around, a movie set presents a constantly changing set of risks—pyrotechnics, constant construction work, smoke and fog, tall cranes, exploding “squibs” that mimic bullet hits, and dangerous stunts. Then there are the less glamorous potential hazards of heat stroke, electrocution, fatigue, and even makeup asphyxiation. Add in the fact that states have different safety and environmental compliance standards, and Burke has a lot to stay on top of.

“Early in my career, a director on a big-budget movie came up and told me, ‘Every minute you delay production costs $60,000,’ ” she recalls. “There are a lot of judgment calls in this industry, and we’re working under pressure to get things done fast.” That pressure can come from all sides—not just directors anxious to shoot a scene, but from union reps arguing against crew members taking unnecessary risks. Fortunately, she says, the studio gives her the authority to make tough decisions.

Typically Burke works from home, preparing for upcoming filming by reviewing scheduled stunts and special effects, but she regularly visits sets for complex or dangerous scenes. In recent months, she’s overseen movie scenes shot in Atlanta’s Stone Mountain Park that involved moving box cars and fire effects for a young adult sci-fi thriller and a scene in a different production that had a car crashing into a tree.

Burke worked out an arrangement with Fox that allows her to live in Atlanta rather than Hollywood, and with so much shooting going on in Georgia, there’s plenty to do. Ideally, she’d like to spend the rest of her career working in the entertainment industry. “It has energy and creativity and new challenges,” she says. “I’m learning something new every day.”

★★★★

The reason Georgia has become such a mecca for filmmaking are the generous tax credits that apply to every production shot within the state—adding the Georgia Film Commission’s official peach logo to the end credits can boost the savings to a full 30 percent. First adopted in 2005, the Georgia Entertainment Industry Investment Act was rewritten three years later in part to make credits transferable, meaning a studio could turn around and sell them—not just to another studio, but virtually anybody—making them more valuable. Those financial incentives, combined with Georgia’s temperate climate and a growing workforce of experienced film crews, have helped push the local production industry into the stratosphere.

One of the forces behind all this is Stephen Weizenecker 88Ox 90C, who used his background in entertainment law to play a key role. Now, in addition to helping major studios, cable networks, and video game companies take advantage of production incentives, he serves as a consultant to other states and countries that want to build up their own entertainment industry.
Weizenecker’s path started at Emory, when he was managing a friend’s band that played fraternity parties. “Although I’d fallen in love with music and entertainment, I saw that our lawyer worked regular hours,” he says. “I realized that, rather than manage rock bands, I really wanted to work on the legal and finance side.”

After graduating, Weizenecker earned a law degree in Michigan, but returned to Atlanta, where he helped an acquaintance draw up a financing plan for using Wall Street investments to fund a new film production company. That was Legendary Pictures, one of the most successful media companies of the past decade—think Christopher Nolan’s Dark Knight Trilogy, Jurassic World, and the Hangover films (the latter were coproduced by another Emory grad, Scott Budnick 99B).

Weizenecker came up with the idea for transferable credits when he was tapped by the governor to serve on a commission tasked with simplifying Georgia’s tax incentives to make them more appealing to film studios. He later was part of a delegation sent to London during 2012 to help woo the prestigious Pinewood Studios into opening what is now Georgia’s largest soundstage complex, located in rural Fayette County.

Along the way, Weizenecker also has leveraged his connections on Emory’s behalf, bringing in top filmmaking talent to talk to classes and hosting a convention for film commissioners from around the world at the Michael C. Carlos Museum.

Last year, Weizenecker was appointed to another legislative study committee to explore how to foster growth in Georgia’s music industry. That work led to Weizenecker’s drafting of the Georgia Music Investment Incentive Act, which was signed into law by Governor Nathan Deal on May 9.

“This is a huge milestone for Georgia’s music industry. That work led to the drafting of the Georgia Music Investment Incentive Act, which was signed into law by Governor Nathan Deal on May 9. It’s incredibly exciting to see film shoots everywhere.”

This June, the Terminus Conference and Festival is expected to bring as many as three thousand filmmakers and game developers to Atlanta’s W Midtown Hotel for four days of workshops, networking, screenings, and demonstrations focused on content creation.

That’s nearly double the attendance at last year’s inaugural convention, which cofounder Dan Costa 01B largely attributes to two factors: Atlanta’s newfound status as a media capital, and the vanishing divide between film and video games—at least from a production standpoint.

Costa was a business major at Emory when he and three classmates started a weeklong moviemaking competition between dorm halls to capitalize on the iMovie editing software that had just hit the market. Now, sixteen years later, the four run a company that oversees film festivals at schools across the country, as well as a creative agency that has produced marketing campaigns for Starbucks, Google, the Weather Channel, and other big-name clients.

After a successful launch at Emory—which drew a crowd of about one thousand to Glenn Memorial Auditorium to watch thirty-five student-made short films—Costa and his partners took Campus MovieFest (CMF) to Georgia Tech, where it was met with similar enthusiasm. Armed with funding from Delta Air Lines and other corporate sponsors, they rolled out CMF nationwide, bringing filmmaking equipment and know-how to colleges and universities, where they hold competitions for five-minute films. So far, CMF has visited eighty-five schools in the US, Mexico, and the UK, and facilitated the production of about seventeen thousand films.

Six years ago, after the founders realized that many of the one-time CMF participants had gone on to follow careers in film and TV, they established We Make, a network of the most promising writers, actors, and directors they’d encountered, drawing upon this talent pool to shoot commercials for a range of corporate and nonprofit clients.

One of those rising talents was Evan Kananack 09C. After graduating from Emory with a history degree and then interning with CMF, he moved to Los Angeles to become a production assistant on Silicon Valley, Up All Night, and several reality TV shows. He returned to Atlanta to become a producer with Ideas United, the combination agency/studio that Costa and his partners founded to create marketing campaigns.

“I really love it in Atlanta,” Kananack says. “It’s incredibly exciting to see film shoots everywhere. There’s a lot of great crew that we can draw from.”

Promoted to the position of creative director last year, Kananack and his team specialize in producing what is known in the industry as
“branded content” but could also be called “non-commercials,” which have the look and feel of short films—often with a narrative and characters—but little overt connection to the clients that commissioned them, apart from a credit at the end or a web link.

“Traditional ways of advertising are changing,” says Costa. “At the end of the day, it’s all about storytelling.”

In fact, the lines between film and TV, commercial work, video games, and even internet graphics are becoming ever more blurry as content often plays across multiple media platforms. To those involved, they’re all aspects of the entertainment industry, often requiring the same skills and union memberships.

Ben White, the assistant director who came back to Atlanta from L.A., finds himself continually shifting between TV and film gigs, having worked on movies like The Hunger Games: Catching Fire, 42, and Diary of Wimpy Kid and shows like 24: Legacy. His job is focused on set logistics—corolling actors and extras and making sure the production stays on schedule.

“TV is a little more of a grind because of the accelerated shooting schedule, but I like the challenge of looking for jobs all the time because there’s so much variety,” he says.

White has kept tabs on his ten Emory classmates who made the trek out to Hollywood after graduation in 2008. “Almost all of us still work in film, but maybe not in the ways we envisioned,” he says, recalling that some have stayed in production while others entered the business side and other roles.

With increasing numbers of Emory graduates entering the film industry in Georgia and California, the support network and web of connections will only continue to grow, drawing ever more folks into the burgeoning entertainment business.

“I see more and more Emory graduates on set,” says Jessica Hershatter 11C, who earned a bachelor’s degree in film studies. After starting out on student films and low-budget indie productions, she’s since earned her union card and has worked as a camera assistant on The Walking Dead and The Vampire Diaries. She’s also begun shooting local music videos in order to eventually make the transition to cinematographer.

Hershatter’s advice to today’s students who want to get into the film industry is to apply for internships, volunteer on friends’ films, and basically look for any opportunities to make connections and gain experience.

Bottom line, she says: “Do whatever you can to get on set.”
As he walks through the gallery of the former Visual Arts Building, Rob Schmidt Barracano points to the high ceiling, envisioning its transformation into a multiuse studio for art, media, and film production classes.

As Emory’s first full-time faculty member in film production, Barracano plays a central role for a department in the midst of a bold remake. The goal: Tap into the ongoing revolution and evolution in the media industry.

“To be literate in the twenty-first century, you need to be literate in media, especially moving image media,” says Barracano, the director of several feature films, who attended the American Film Institute as a directing fellow and has taught courses at New York University, the New School, and Champlain College. “We want Emory to be a place where students are excited about media, can get a great liberal arts education, and also get a great production education.”

Barracano’s arrival two years ago allowed the Department of Film and Media Studies to expand courses in production. Next up are fundraising for building renovations and launching a recently approved undergraduate concentration focused on documentary filmmaking and study.

“The advances in digital technology mean that our students have experimented with media making on their smart phones and computers. With the college’s support, we are able to teach Emory students to create films and videos in a way that was not possible twelve to fifteen years ago,” says Matthew Bernstein, Goodrich C. White Professor and department chair. “We regard this as a form of research, comparable in many ways to writing papers.”

The department also teamed up with Associate Dean Andrea Hershatter and Goizueta Business School in 2010 to launch a concentration in film and media management, the first such collaboration between Goizueta and Emory College. The management concentration connected the business and creative aspects of the industry just as the Georgia production scene was exploding.

“We had other undergraduate programs keep film and media studies and production separate, and business studies entirely apart, we insist on integrating them,” says Bernstein. “We designed the concentration courses to train not just those students who aspire to write or direct, but to open students’ eyes to the roles of creative executives, producers, agents, production assistants—positions many of our alumni currently hold.”

Barracano began in independent film before making his name as a writer and director of horror films and thrillers. But as he kept trying to juggle projects, he realized he has a passion for teaching.

“People think that because they have dreams, they can make a film,” he says. “My job as an instructor is to let them make a terrible film, and then teach them what they need to really tell a story.”

Leila Yavari 18C took that message to heart. She was required to take Barracano’s production class as a film and media studies major, even though her career goals had focused more on generating ideas than generating content.

In class, Yavari’s idea was a short documentary that asked female students their thoughts on campus “hookup” culture. She wound up as the writer and director of the finished project, Hooked.

“It went on to win a Jury Award at the Emory Campus MovieFest and was later screened at the national Campus MovieFest event in Atlanta.”

“I could always write an essay on a film, about what it means, and get a good grade, but I was uncertain about my abilities to create,” Yavari says. “Then when I was filming, I could hear Professor Barracano saying in my ear, ‘I want a story, and give it some drama and some conflict.’ ”

—April Hunt
Outdoor Living

O’Neill Williams 65C has combined his love of the outdoors and his business savvy to become one of the most successful niche TV show hosts in the country. Story on page 43.
COLOR CRAVING

WHEN YOU CAN’T FIND JEWELRY THAT GIVES YOU FASHION, QUALITY, AND AFFORDABILITY, MAKE IT YOURSELF

Working in finance and private equity in New York City, Pratiksha Vaidya 09B wanted individuality in an environment where bland business dress was the norm.

“I worked in a conservative industry for many years, but I love—no, crave—color,” Vaidya explains. “The more time I spent in the professional world, the more I wanted to express myself through my outfit, including accessories. But the typical luxury brands were so cost-prohibitive that it broke the bank. And while the fun costume jewelry was great, it would never last beyond a few months. I wanted both. I wanted fashion and quality.”

Vaidya began to design her own pieces, items that would be the foundation of Pratiksha Jewelry, the Dallas-based jewelry company Vaidya went on to found in 2015 with her older brother and business partner, Parag Vaidya. The business leverages a multigeneration family history in the gem and mining business in India.

“We decided to take the family business and turn it on its head by collapsing the supply chain,” Pratiksha Vaidya says. “In the traditional model for jewelry sales, multiple levels of commerce exist, from the harvesting of stones in mines, supplying of those stones to manufacturers, distribution of finished jewelry to wholesalers, who then sell to traditional brick-and-mortar retail stores. Ultimately, these finished jewelry pieces end up in the hands of consumers, with costly markups at every step.”

Pratiksha Jewelry embraces an innovative business model that benefits the bottom line for consumers. “We’re exposing the underbelly of unnecessary markups,” she says, adding that the company leverages its relationships and industry connections to offer high-quality jewelry at dramatically lower prices.

Looking forward, Vaidya reflects on what is yet to come. “You could say that fine jewelry is in our DNA,” she says.

“Consumers want to be as educated as possible before making a purchase, and we want to be their partner in that journey. The whole industry is wrapped up in a cloud of illusion, and we want to be a pioneer in demystifying that world.”—Michelle Valigursky

Olga Viso, Walker Art Center Director:
Art May Rock Your World

During more than a decade at the helm of the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Olga Viso 92G has championed the arts in all forms and promoted artists on the leading edge of creativity.

“The Walker is an institution that is deeply committed to catalyzing thinking and provoking questions. How does art reflect society in our time? We offer inquiry-based experiences of seeing things that may rock your world and may inspire a whole domino effect of challenging and questioning,” Viso says. “These moments are often quite challenging—they don’t just focus on beauty, they focus on reality and human experience. Art provokes that.”

Viso is executive director of the Walker, which ranks among the five most-visited modern/contemporary art museums in the United States. Prior to her tenure with the Walker Art Center, Viso held positions at the Smithsonian Institution’s Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, starting as assistant curator and becoming director in 2005. Viso was a curator at the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach, Florida, from 1993 to 1995, and held several curatorial and administrative positions at Atlanta’s High Museum of Art while earning a master’s degree in art history at Emory.

“At a time in our country when the values of a creative and inclusive society are being decidedly challenged, it is ever more important for arts organizations to affirm their values and promises to the communities they serve,” Viso wrote in a blog post supporting the thirtieth-annual Arts Advocacy Day, which took place in Washington, D.C., in February.
Healthy Meals, Delivered

PURPLE CARROT TAKES A PLANT-BASED APPROACH

For the first two decades of his career, Andy Levitt 92C spent most of his time promoting the value of Western medicine on behalf of pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Now he has created his own plant-based meal-delivery service that he hopes will help customers live even healthier lives.

Levitt is founder and CEO of Purple Carrot, a subscription meal-kit delivery service he started out of his garage. It’s an interesting turn of events for someone who worked in the pharmaceutical industry before a documentary changed his life.

In January 2014, he and his wife watched Forks over Knives, a documentary advocating the adoption of a predominantly plant-based diet for improved health.

“I looked at my wife, and I said, ‘That is what I am going to do. I am going to start a meal-kit company that is going to offer people a plant-based approach,’” Levitt says.

Levitt began working nights and weekends, “becoming a vegan overnight for the next several months” to learn more about plant-based eating. “It’s not a very easy diet to follow,” he says. “I wanted to make it easier for people to adopt this style of eating.”

Levitt quit his day job and invested $125,000 to feed his new venture. In October 2014, he launched Purple Carrot’s website and shipped the first thirty-six boxes from his converted garage, with the help of his wife and one employee.

In March, the company teamed up with New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady to offer plant-based performance meals. The partnership developed after Levitt, an avid Patriots fan, learned of Brady’s plant-centric diet. As an athlete, “Tom sees food as fuel, and understands that what he puts in his body is consistent with what he gets out,” Levitt says.

Recent Purple Carrot offerings include sweet pea flatbread with truffled fingerling potatoes and Kite Hill ricotta, and vegetable chow mein with baby leeks and miso mustard sauce.

2017 Turman Award

ISABEL GARCIA HAS BEEN AN ENTHUSIASTIC EMORY AMBASSADOR

For Isabel M. Garcia 99L, receiving the 2017 J. Pollard Turman Alumni Service Award is a testament to her mentors, a role she has embraced as an alumna.

“Serving others is something that has been ingrained in me throughout my childhood and adulthood. I’ve had tremendous role models throughout my life who have taught me the importance of service,” Garcia says.

Garcia is a founding partner of the Piedmont Law Group, a boutique law firm in Atlanta engaged in the practice of commercial real estate. In addition to practicing law, Garcia has been on the faculty of continuing legal education seminars and served on the Executive Committee for the Real Property Law Section and the Executive Committee of Military and Veterans Law Section of the Georgia Bar Association.

An enthusiastic ambassador for Emory through her volunteer work with the Emory Alumni Association, Garcia served an eight-year term with the Emory Alumni Board (EAB), including one year as president. During her time on the board, Garcia played an integral role in the selection of half a dozen alumni trustees and many award recipients.

“I have served on the committee of the EAB responsible for selecting the recipient of the Turman award. I know intimately the caliber of alumni considered for this award, and I am very humbled by the fact I was even nominated,” Garcia says.

“There have been very few alumni volunteer leaders as dedicated and as productive as Isabel has been within the Emory University community,” wrote Cecily Craighill, former director of alumni relations with Emory School of Law, in her nomination of Garcia. “Isabel’s modesty, quiet calm, lively good humor, and willingness to be the face and voice of the Emory Alumni Board in so many ways has been appreciated.”
Bill Harber 00 MBA of Hong Kong is president of Hurtigruten China and Asia-Pacific where he manages the company’s entry into exploration travel in the region while driving sales and profitability across markets including greater China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, and India. Prior to Hurtigruten, Harber was senior vice president and managing director–Asia for Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania, and Regent Seven Seas Cruises. He also served as vice president, market development for Carnival Asia, based in Singapore. He currently lives in Hong Kong with his wife and daughter. His son is studying at Carnegie Mellon University.

Nikhil Kundra 11C is transforming the food and beverage industry through technology. In 2012, he cofounded Partender, an app that turns the bar inventory process from a six-hour endeavor to a 15-minute task. Partender is now being used in more than 15,000 bars and restaurants in 29 countries and is saving users both time and resources through more accurate inventory and analytics. Kundra attributes his critical-thinking and problem-solving skills to his time studying neuroscience at Emory. With original plans to attend medical school, Kundra found his passion for entrepreneurship at Emory College.

Thomas Macek 99 G is senior director and global program leader in the CNS Therapeutic Area Unit at Takeda Pharmaceuticals. Takeda, the largest pharmaceutical company in Japan and the 15th largest in the world, has a robust pipeline of new compounds and marketed products in multiple therapeutic areas, including metabolic and cardiovascular disease, respiratory and immunology, and oncology. As global program leader, Macek leads a team and resources to develop innovative medications for the treatment of psychiatric and neurological disorders. Previously, Macek was a director of clinical neurosciences at Pfizer.

Jon Soffer 09 BSN 10 MSN and his colleagues at Mid-Columbia Medical Center (MCMC) founded a program in 2016 to serve the seasonal farm workers who pick cherries in Oregon’s Columbia River Gorge. MCMC joined with community groups to form SOMOS (Serving Oregon and its Migrants by Offering Solutions), which provided a walk-in clinic and off-site events to provide health screenings, primary care, and referrals for some 200 workers. SOMOS, which Soffer says will be continued on an ongoing basis, is patterned after Emory nursing school’s Farmworker Family Health Program in Moultrie, Georgia, where Soffer participated as a student.

Shawntel Hebert 07 L is a partner at Taylor English in the Employment and Labor Relations practice, where she advises in-house counsel and human resources professionals on all aspects of the employment relationship. Hebert is president of the Gate City Bar Association. She was selected by Super Lawyers as one of Georgia’s Rising Stars from 2013 to 2016 and was named to the Lawyers of Color Hotlist, Southern Region, in 2014. She also was chosen for the Outstanding Atlanta Class of 2016, a nonprofit that recognizes young professionals’ service, leadership, and achievements. Hebert serves on Emory Law’s Young Alumni Steering Committee.

Ann Chahroudi 06 MD 06 PhD is assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Emory School of Medicine and an affiliate scientist in the Division of Microbiology and Immunology at Yerkes National Primate Research Center. Her research focuses on HIV pathogenesis and cure, with emphasis on translational studies in nonhuman primates. She is a coinvestigator in the Emory Consortium for Innovative AIDS Research in Nonhuman Primates and the Martin Delany Collaboratory of AIDS Researchers for Eradication and a member of the Society for Pediatric Research.
Outdoor Living

O’NEILL WILLIAMS HAS BECOME A BIG FISH IN THE SEA OF SPORT AND NATURE TELEVISION

Even at age twelve, O’Neill Williams 65C understood the business side of leisure. During the summer and on weekends, he and his pal Merrick “Rick” Hobbins would go to the local ponds in DeKalb County where you could pay a dollar and fish all day, keeping whatever you caught. Arriving early, they’d stake out a prime spot on the bank and set up their rods and buckets, and then they’d sweeten their odds by tossing handfuls of canned corn into the water in front of their chosen spot. The boys would then walk around the pond to chat with the other fishermen. “I’d tell them, ‘If you don’t catch enough, and you need fish at the end of the day, I’ll be right across there and I’ll sell you some,’ ” Williams recalls. “I’m sure they were thinking, that little so-and-so.” Sure enough, come evening, there would be a line of folks behind Williams’s chair saying, “I’ll take the next one you catch, fifty cents!”

After all these years, he says, he’s still selling his catch.

Williams is founder, producer, and host of O’Neill Outside, an outdoors-themed television show that celebrated thirty-five years in national syndication last May and reaches more than one hundred million households. Every Saturday morning for the past twenty-five years, he and his wife of fifty-two years, Gail, have risen early to produce the O’Neill Outside radio program. Gail Williams answers and screens calls while her husband hosts and answers questions on fishing and hunting, giving advice and dispelling hunting and fishing myths when he can.

“This is not important,” he says, gesturing at the trophies on his walls. “I don’t save lives. I talk about fishing.” He’s proud of his Emory connection—his degree hangs among family portraits in his home, and you can spot his Emory class ring glinting on his right hand when he hefts a prize fish out of the water or raises a rifle sight to his eye on his shows. In 2013, he was awarded Significant Sig status by his college fraternity, Sigma Chi. “My Emory education is a badge of honor to me, and I thank my parents for that,” he says.—Maria M. Lameiras
THANK YOU for going All In for Emory!

Within a span of 24 hours, alumni, parents, employees, students, and friends contributed 2,246 gifts to make Emory’s first day of giving an astounding success. Coupled with generous matching gifts, Emory raised $582,722 to support scholarships, strengthen academic programs, fund transformational research, enhance patient care, and much more.

Together we made history . . . for Emory’s future.
COLLISION COURSE: Former Lutheran minister Henry Plageman is a master secret keeper and a man wracked by grief. He and his wife, Marilyn, tragically lost their young son, Jack, many years ago. But he now has another child—a daughter, eight-year-old Blue—with Lucy, the woman he fell in love with after his marriage collapsed. In The Half Wives, author Stacia Pelletier 98T 07PhD follows these interconnected characters on May 22, 1897, the anniversary of Jack’s birth, to the city cemetery on the outskirts of San Francisco. The collision of lives and secrets that follows will leave no one unaltered.

BEAUTY FROM LOSS: Addressing profound questions about how to make meaning out of suffering, Anya Krugovoy Silver 97PhD uses poetry to follow a mother, wife, and artist as illness and loss of loved ones disrupt the peaceful flow of life in her third collection of poems, From Nothing. Grounded in the traditions of meditative and contemplative poetry, From Nothing confronts disease and mortality with the healing possibilities of verse. Silver is author of I Watched You Disappear and The Ninety-Third Name of God and an associate professor of English at Mercer University.

BACKSTAGE PASS: Originally published in 1991, Party out of Bounds: The B-52’s, R.E.M., and the Kids Who Rocked Athens, Georgia by Rodger Lyle Brown 98PhD is a cult classic that offers an insider’s look at the underground rock music culture that sprang from a lazy Georgia college town. Brown uses half-remembered stories, local anecdotes, and lore to chronicle the 1970s and 1980s and the spawning of Athens bands such as the B-52s, Pylon, and R.E.M. This twenty-fifth-anniversary edition includes some new and rarely seen photographs by locals on the scene.

SOUP’S ON: Before the 1820s, the vast majority of Americans ate only at home. As the nation began to urbanize and industrialize, home and work became increasingly divided, resulting in new forms of commercial dining. In Restaurant Republic: The Rise of Public Dining in Boston, author Kelly Erby 07G 10PhD sheds light on how commercial dining reflected and helped shape fragmentation along lines of race, class, and gender. Erby is assistant professor of history at Washburn University.
Lutheran Services of Georgia has selected John Moeller Jr. 97T as its new chief executive officer. In this key leadership role, Moeller will steer the statewide organization as it looks to expand and enhance its services and programs and to strengthen its position as an industry leader. “Lutheran Services of Georgia is known throughout the state as a leader in the program areas it serves,” says Moeller. “I am eager to get to work and look forward to increasing LSG’s impact around the state and advancing our vision and mission in the communities we serve.”

As director of the Office of the National Prevention Strategy at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Brigette Ulin 97MPH has been integral in creating and implementing the nation’s first comprehensive plan for preventive health care. Beginning in 2012, she co-led teams from the CDC, the Department of Health and Human Services, and 17 departments within the National Prevention Council to conceptualize and draft the National Prevention Strategy. Since the official release of the strategy, Ulin has been in charge of its implementation across the federal government.

After garnering awards as an undergraduate in Emory’s Campus MovieFest, Jeremy White 07Ox 09C went professional as a Los Angeles–based writer-director. His work has been featured at film festivals across the world, including Fantastic Fest 2015 where he was named best director for his film Enhanced. He is currently series producer of the Viceland show VICE World of Sports, a documentary anthology series set at the intersection of sports, culture, politics, and place. The show won a Producer’s Guild Award for Outstanding Sports Program in advance of its second season, VICE World of Sports: Rivals.

As director of the Office of the National Prevention Strategy at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Brigette Ulin 97MPH has been integral in creating and implementing the nation’s first comprehensive plan for preventive health care. Beginning in 2012, she co-led teams from the CDC, the Department of Health and Human Services, and 17 departments within the National Prevention Council to conceptualize and draft the National Prevention Strategy. Since the official release of the strategy, Ulin has been in charge of its implementation across the federal government.

As director of the Office of the National Prevention Strategy at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Brigette Ulin 97MPH has been integral in creating and implementing the nation’s first comprehensive plan for preventive health care. Beginning in 2012, she co-led teams from the CDC, the Department of Health and Human Services, and 17 departments within the National Prevention Council to conceptualize and draft the National Prevention Strategy. Since the official release of the strategy, Ulin has been in charge of its implementation across the federal government.
WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

JUST LOOK AROUND YOU.

WE’RE BETTING YOU KNOW A FEW DYNAMIC FUTURE MBAs.

Peers, colleagues, friends—the kind of people who would do well here at Goizueta Business School.

Then why not refer them? You’ll help them get closer to an exceptional education, and they’ll get more out of their careers.

Make yours today through Emory.Biz/Refer
John Herbers 49C

John Herbers 49C, a distinguished reporter for the New York Times on national affairs who in covering the racial turmoil in the Deep South in the 1960s demonstrated a rare blend of the journalistic skills, ingenuity, and courage often associated with front-line war correspondents, died March 17 in Washington. He was ninety-three.

During four decades, including twenty-four years with the Times, Herbers covered antiwar protests, civil rights marches, the passage and enforcement of civil rights laws, the rising influence of Martin Luther King Jr., the plight of the poor and social unrest in the cities, as well as the 1968 presidential campaign and the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, the Watergate scandal, and the resignation of President Richard M. Nixon.

Hank Klibanoff, professor of practice at Emory College and director of the Georgia Civil Rights Cold Cases Project, and coauthor of The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation, says Herbers appears frequently in the book “particularly for his courage in running the UPI bureau in Jackson in the early 1950s, and for taking, with great equanimity, a lot of racist invective from fellow reporters because he dared, simply, to cover black people.

“He was remarkable in his willingness to have dinner with Medgar and Myrlie Evers in the home of another white reporter at a time when they knew Evers was being closely watched by white supremacists and law enforcement, which often were one and the same,” Klibanoff says.

“But his career at the Times was remarkable for more than his coverage of the South in transition. From the Washington bureau, he specialized in writing about government policies and their human impact, and he took a drab beat as the census reporter at the Times and turned it into remarkable exploration of the soul of America.”

Herbers was the author of The Lost Priority (1970) on the decline of the civil rights movement; The Black Dilemma (1973), a study of the quest for black equality; No Thank You, Mr. President (1976) on White House journalism; and The New Heartland (1986), on demographic changes in America. His memoir, written with his daughter Anne Farris Rosen, is scheduled to be published by the University of Mississippi Press next year.

“On a personal note, John, in addition to being such a stalwart, ethical, and dogged reporter, was a gentle and gracious man, a sweet soul, and always, always, approached conversations about his remarkable career with an admirable modesty,” Klibanoff says. “He was deeply proud to have been associated with Emory.”

After serving as a combat infantryman in the Pacific in World War II, Herbers graduated from Emory with a bachelor’s degree in journalism and began his career as a reporter–city editor for the Morning Star of Greenwood, Miss., before moving on to work for the Jackson Daily News, then United Press. He was hired by the Times in 1963 to be an Atlanta-based correspondent, the third Southerner to cover the South for the paper in the modern era, after John N. Popham III and fellow Emory alumnus Claude Sitton 47Ox 49C, the Georgia-born, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who died March 10, 2015. All have been credited by historians with major roles in reporting the civil rights struggle, according to Herbers’s obituary in the Times. He retired from the Times in 1987.
One particularly strange feature of middle-class family life is the way we train our children to sleep. “Go to your room,” we tell even very young children, “and stay there all night.” We have invented elaborate techniques to support this supposedly essential aspect of child development, implementing them at great emotional cost to all parties involved. For the parents: agonizing decisions about when and whether to comfort a crying child, bleary-eyed squabbles about which parent takes a turn in the middle of the night. For the kids: fear of being alone in the dark, and resentment of the adults who, in the words of historian Peter Stearns, “hovered about urging sleep when none was wanted.” The resulting frustration seems to have reached a boiling point, as evidenced by the best-selling mock-bedtime book, *Go the F— to Sleep*.

Why do we do it?

For all the tenacity with which we cling to the ideal of solitary childhood sleep, it’s a historical anomaly. This system of sleeping—adults in one room, each child walled off in another—was common practice exactly nowhere before the late nineteenth century, when it took hold in Europe and North America. Even in wealthy families that could afford to spread out, children generally slept in the same room with nurses or siblings. Indeed, solitary childhood sleep seems cruel in those parts of the world where co-sleeping is still practiced, including developed countries such as Japan.

But as industrial wealth spread through the Western economies, so did a sense that individual privacy—felt most intently at night—was a hallmark of “civilization.” Great pains were taken to relieve nighttime overcrowding and provide more privacy in factory boardinghouses, which were thought to breed disease and immorality through the proximity of sleeping bodies.

Ensuring privacy at night was not just a health concern; it was also a matter of defining proper “whiteness” or “Europeanness.” While reformers endorsed solitary sleep as healthful and moral, they noted that “savages” slept collectively—and this practice was somehow to blame for underdevelopment of the non-Western world. This new insistence on individual sleeping was reinforced in psychology and pediatrics through the twentieth century.

There are, of course, good reasons for children to have their own bedrooms. It’s more practical for adults to pursue nighttime leisure in an area where children aren’t sleeping; it’s easier to set everyone on a proper schedule for work and school when they can all retire to different spaces at different times; and parental intimacy may increase without little ones around. Doctors advise parents not to share soft mattresses with infants.

I should also admit that I raised my kids to sleep alone. At the time, there seemed to be no reasonable alternative. But in fact there are economic, environmental, and emotional benefits of sleeping together. Spreading out requires large homes that are expensive to build, to heat, and to power with electricity. Our sleep, in other words, has a large carbon footprint. Far from being a backward practice, co-sleeping, or at least sleeping in close proximity, may be a more enlightened, sustainable use of space and natural resources.

The most obvious benefit might be knocking down the figurative walls that separate us. By the time we get the kids to stay in their rooms, they never want to let us back in, and “get out of my room!” replaces “go the f— to sleep!” as the American “goodnight.”

By contrast, as anthropologists Carol Worthman and Ryan Brown have argued, family structures in co-sleeping societies tend to be closer-knit, with less intergenerational conflict. If we brought our children up to share space with each other and their parents at night, they might grow up to fight a bit less, share a bit more, and care for others as much as they care for themselves.

Benjamin Reiss is a professor of English and the author of *Wild Nights: How Taming Sleep Created Our Restless World*. This essay originally appeared in the LA Times.
Ted and Mudie Weber
Ted Weber, Professor Emeritus of Social Ethics and a retired United Methodist minister, taught at Candler School of Theology for nearly 40 years, and wife Mudie Weber taught at the Glenn School for Young Children for almost 30. They cherish the friendships made through Emory.

Their charitable gift annuity will fund tuition scholarships for Candler students through the Theology School Fund for Excellence.

"NO PLACE ELSE HAS THE KIND OF COMMUNITY that we experienced through the School of Theology. This was our first appointment out of graduate school and we stayed 39 years, helping move Candler from a good regional seminary to one in which people of major consequence in the theological world have joined our faculty. We are confident that under the current leadership, Candler will continue to develop. We are especially interested in supporting students studying for the ministry."

This is my legacy.

Have you planned your legacy?
giftplanning.emory.edu  404.727.8875
QUILTED QUAD In November, Emory hosted the nation’s largest collegiate display of panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt. In light of the pioneering work on HIV/AIDS being done at Emory’s Center for AIDS Research, the Emory Vaccine Center, Yerkes National Primate Research Center, and Rollins School of Public Health, it’s fitting that the university host the quilt display, said Jon Giuliano 18C, president of the organizing group. This marks the twelfth year for the Quilt on the Quad event, which displayed some eight hundred panels, each memorializing the names of individuals who lost their lives to AIDS.