Bill Fox retiring after 34 years at Emory

BY JAN GLEASON

Bill Fox, senior vice president for external affairs, retired on Jan. 17, concluding 34 years of service at Emory. Fox had served as senior vice president for Institutional Advancement (IA) from 1991–2004, when he moved to his recent role in external affairs.

“Bill Fox has earned the affection and gratitude of generations of Emory alumni, staff members and faculty members for his remarkable spirit and exemplary love of his alma mater,” President Jim Wagner wrote in a Jan. 7 memo to Administrative Council. “He has left an indelible mark on our University, for which we can be very grateful.”

“When I came to Emory, I found a place that held, at its deepest core, values that were similar to my own,” said Fox, who retires with the title of senior vice president emeritus. “That alignment has been magic to me all these years.”

In reflecting on the changes and accomplishments he’s seen during his career, Fox said he achieved nothing by himself. “My career,” he said, “has been one of collaboration and inspiration from others and the wonderful staffs with which I have worked.”

Fox also was quick to credit his wife of 38 years, Carol: “She is the sunny hero of my work; I don’t know how she survived the schedule. Sometimes we were out [in the evenings] for Emory seven nights a week, and she still got up to go teach every morning.”

“As I think back over the years, some of the smaller things stand out in my mind,” said Fox, who while head of Campus Life from 1979–91 oversaw a tremendous building phase, including such facilities as the Woodruff P.E. Center, the Dobbs Center and new residence halls. With Fox as senior vice president, IA raised more than $2 billion in gifts, pledges and planned gifts.

He supported efforts to create Volunteer Emory, the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services, the LGBT office, the Humanitarian Awards, to grow the Annual Fund, and to build the Miles-Ward Alumni House.

Fox, who served under four University presidents, said he saw Emory “open its doors” during his career. “Emory has become much more concerned with outreach and reach for the external community,” he said. “But I also saw it become much more diverse and open, which makes it such a more rich community.”

Other Fox came to Emory in 1971 to pursue a doctorate in religion and literature and began his administrative career in 1974 in the Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts. In 1979, he earned his Ph.D. and became the University’s first dean of Campus Life, then was named vice president for Campus Life three years later. After joining IA in 1991, Fox directed the completion of a capital campaign that raised $420 million. Before the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, he chaired the steering committee that coordinated Emory’s involvement with the Games.

Along with fulfilling his administrative duties, each year Fox taught an undergraduate seminar in religion and literature.

Another of my greatest joys was being permitted to continue teaching,” he said. “The classroom is an exciting environment where students stimulated me. They kept me in mind of what we were here for; they kept me grounded.

“Emory gave me the chance to travel the world,” Fox continued, “to make close friends with people I would have otherwise never met, and intertwined my greatest passions: community, service and education of the needs of the world.”

Power of song drives Reagon keynote

BY ERIC RANGUS

We’ll stand the storm. Oh! Stand the storm! It won’t be long. We anchor by and by.

Bernice Johnson Reagon quietly sang the words of spiritual, “We’ll Stand the Storm,” as soon as she stepped to the microphone Tuesday night, Jan. 18, in Cannon Chapel to deliver the keynote speech for Emory’s 21st annual King Week celebration.

When Reagon, a Grammy-winning vocalist in addition to a renowned historian, repeated the verse, many in the crowd joined in. “It does not say the storm is going to disappear,” she said, in between verses. “It says in fact that we will live in a storm.”

And that was the way Reagon’s 70-minute address went—references and stories about the civil rights movement she helped foster, mixed in among gospel and traditional African American songs, which encouraged good audience participation than the average King Week keynote.

“I like this holiday,” said Reagon, in one of her few references to Martin Luther King Jr. She framed her discussion around the wider civil rights movement King led rather than the man himself. “Instead of being in a political climate where violence can be seen as a way of changing things, through this holiday we can honor the civil rights movement, which has as a core principle nonviolent social change.”

But, Reagon said, nonviolence didn’t mean rolling over. “When you think of people saying ‘peace and love’ and singing soft harmonies, it has nothing to do with the civil rights movement,” Reagon, who was jailed in 1963 after participating in a civil rights demonstration at See King Week on page 4

CAMPUSNEWS

EOP shifts to provost’s office

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

Provost Earl Lewis announced last month that he is shifting the reporting line for the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs (EOP) from the Office of the General Counsel to the Office of the Provost.

More changes are likely in store for EOP in the coming months, Lewis said, but for now the shift in reporting lines means the office’s “autonomy and neutrality can be realized and maximized to their fullest.”

A portion of EOP’s duties—those dealing with complaints under federal equal opportunity laws—will remain in the general counsel’s office, with coordination when appropriate with EOP staff.

“I think this is where this kind of office should be located,” said EOP Vice President Robert Edger, referring to his new administrative home in the provost’s office. “It gives us more credibility from an academic perspective; it demonstrates a sensitivity toward and awareness of the academic culture.”

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EmoryGives offers a way to support disaster relief.

**The Road of Death**

Ben Brazil is a master's of theological studies student in the Candler School of Theology.

In the course or dropping nearly 12,000 feet in less than 40 miles, Bolivia's "Road of Death" poses a number of challenging questions to mountain bikers.

Here's a sample: A Nissan pickup unexpectedly rounds a blind curve 20 feet ahead of you. You should:

a) Steer sharply left, toward the 3,000-foot drop.

b) Hug the mountain side, hoping the hood is softer than it looks.

c) Find God, quickly.

Looking for "d) none of the above?"

For almost 20 miles at its start, the "world's most dangerous road" is paved and not too terribly dangerous. What it is, however, is fast. In seconds, the wind was whipping my clothes and numbing my face as I flew into the upper reaches of the Yungas region. My nose ran, my eyes watered and my ears hurt, but I couldn't stop grinning.

I was moving faster than I ever had in anything without an engine, catching—then passing—several buses and heavy trucks. If you've never ridden a bike past a truck topped with blanket-covered Bolivians, I can only say that it is an odd exhilarating sensation.

As we descended, the air turned warmer, the vegetation grew greener and the clouds were no longer so far below. Several times, Efrain stopped so we could take pictures.

Then, after 2.5 hours that included an anti-drug checkpoint and a short, uphill slog, the pavement suddenly ended. Dead ahead, the ground dropped sharply, leaving only whirling clouds riding the warm updrafts from the tropical valley below. To the right lay our path, a barren track of rock and mud leading into the jungle.

Efrain steered off his bike. This, he said, was the dangerous section.

"Dangerous?" asked a young Dutch woman in our group.

"But for us it is OK," Efrain said, not totally convincingly.

There was one essential rule for this section of the road, he told us gravely: Downhill traffic, they back entirely off the cliff.

The guide from the Candler School of Theology.

Yes, very much so. All you need to do is look at the recent "Mississippi Burning" arrests or gay rights issues, and you see the parts are still on the front burner.

Gary Hauk
VP and deputy to the President
President's Office

Yes, but it's a matter of perspective. Most people who think it's not an issue have never had their civil rights infringed.

Dee Coleman
Director of Graduate and Professional Development and Learning Services

I think that civil rights are inappropriately made a forced issue in the United States. People's inability to move on has forced this.

Katie Allison
Graduate student
Physician Assistant Program

Yes, we as a people need to take time to change our behavior—the way we treat one another. If we can put all race behind us during a tragedy, I'm sure we can do it all the time.

David Stuart
Refrigeration mechanic
Facilities Management

Yes, there is still a lot of racism going on.

Celeste Murray
Emory visitor

**AROUND CAMPUS**

**FIRSTPERSON BEN BRAZIL**

The Road of Death

Ben Brazil

**EmoryReport**

Are civil rights still an issue in the U.S. in 2005?

Very much so. All you need to do is look at the recent "Mississippi Burning" arrests or gay rights issues, and you see the parts are still on the front burner.

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EMORY PROFILE BENN KONSYNSKI

One forward-thinking S.O.B.

by Eric Ranges

The title of Benn Konsynski’s Great Teachers Lecture earlier this month was “Technology, S.O.B.s & Magic.” In it, he dissected technological advances and the “magic” that goes into them. The S.O.B.s were an entirely different, yet no less compelling subject.

During his hour-long address, Konsynski pulled open several curtains revealing how many gadgets we use in the process dispelling, perhaps, some of the mystery behind them. Take the iPod, for instance. “You take a small Winchester drive,” Konsynski told the Miller-Ward Alumni House crowd, which numbered more than 125, an impressive amount for a lecture given while students were away (Jan. 6) and on a bitterly cold night that made travel unpleasant. “Slap on a circuit board for processing and an ergonomically cool interface, link with a good, PC-based music asset management—done. Magic. You have all your music on your person.”

Thus science, when nurtured by imagination, application and design, reveals technology, Konsynski continued. “Magic brings will, aspiration and purpose to concise technology.”

And that was how it went. He discussed current technologies as well as possible waves of the future—such as the possibility that consumer goods could be delivered to drop points midway between work and home—wrapped around a narrative that was understandable and engaging alike.

“My major task is getting students to challenge assumptions,” said Konsynski, George S Craft Distinguished Professor of Business Administration and Decision and Information Analysis in Goizueta Business School. “That’s a different pedagogy than the one I started with 30 years ago. It’s changed from these past theories of adult learning where there are structured discipline modules with specific expectations. I view it more as creating experiences that will teach students from Goizueta or Harvard. He doesn’t remember self on a panel that consisted solely of his former students. “When my kids ask me what the future is going to be like, I think back on what Benn talked about in his classes. I’ll be better than 50 percent right.”

“When my kids ask me what the future is going to be like, I think back on what Benn talked about in his classes. I’ll be better than 50 percent right.” —Chris Dunn, ’02EMBA and S.O.B.}

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EOP from page 1

vices, affirmative action and hiring processes, and in-service training and outreach, will remain with the office while Lewis conducts a more thorough review to determine whether further changes are necessary. In last year’s external review of Emory’s EOP structure, these services were sited out by the review team as areas that should be explored to determine whether they should all be grouped under a single administrative heading.

Disability services, for example, is one area for which other universities have a dedicated office. Lewis said the University of Minnesota has such an office that handles disability issues for faculty, staff and students.

Other schools, such as Lewis’ former employer, the University of Michigan, have disability offices more attuned to student needs.

Ethridge said EOP handled disability services partly because there were no other volunteers when the need began to arise at Emory over the past couple decades. He said his office will work with the provost to review EOP’s duties to determine whether any services need to be delegated to another office.

First on the agenda, Lewis said, is to hire a senior vice provost for community and institutional development. This individual would oversee EOP, and Lewis said he hopes to fill the position before the start of the 2005–06 academic year.
While Reagon’s language have to observe boundaries. She continued. “You participate,” she continued. “You have to observe boundaries.

Earlier in the week, the Carter Center’s delegation of 60 observers had deployed throughout the country. As they traveled to their assigned provinces, the delegation’s leadership—the Carters and former Benin President Nicephore Soglo, along with David Pottie of the Carter Center’s Democracy Program and field representative Nicolas Bravo—met in Maputo with the candidates, outgoing President Joaquim Chissano and the National Elections Commission.

As Mozambique finished the second and final day of voting in its presidential elections, the island nation off the southern African coast faced serious challenges in its efforts to deepen democracy, despite remarkable progress since its independence in 1975 and the end of a brutal civil war in 1992.

When it gained independence after more than four centuries of Portuguese rule, Mozambique was one of the world’s most impoverished countries, with economic dependence on South Africa, severe drought and prolonged internal conflict hindered the country’s development. The United Nations negotiated a peace agreement between the government and rebel forces in 1992, ending the fighting.

During the 1990s, Mozambique’s record growth was the envy of many developing countries. The government embarked on a series of economic reforms in 1987 to stabilize the economy amid the country’s basic social and economic infrastructure that had been devastated by the war. The reforms, along with foreign assistance and the move to multiparty elections, helped lower inflation and spark investment, though Mozambique remains dependent on foreign aid.

The country has since achieved notable success in rebuilding the economy and holding regular multiparty elections. The Carter Center observed its 1999 presidential elections—Mozambique’s first election since the peace agreement—and found that the voting process was peaceful and orderly. The problems were noted with processing delayed, polling stations, intimidation of some opposition party members and a lack of transparency in processing the final vote count.

When the 2004 election observers returned to Maputo on Dec. 3, they shared their findings. Of nearly 1,000 polling stations in all 30 provinces and the capital city, observers found most of sites to be well organized, fully staffed with poll workers and election materials, and functioning effectively. Voter turnout, however, was low.

The Carter Center observed procedural irregularities due to tableaux and other scenarios, but they were not significant enough to alter the overall result. Armando Guebuza of the ruling Frelimo party won 63 percent of the vote for president, followed by the opposition Renamo party’s Afonso Dhlakama with 32 percent. However, despite the center’s findings, Renamo has rejected the results, leaving Mozambique’s democracy facing a more uncertain future than expected.

Kay Torrance is assistant director of public information for the Carter Center.

EmoryNews

PCSW secures $15K for women’s leadership training

By Eric Ranges

Responding to a proposal submitted by President Jim Wagner and the Carter Center’s Democracy Program for Women in Higher Education Administration (known as the HERs Program), now in its 30th year, offers a curriculum designed to provide skills and information to women interested in managing and governing colleges and universities around the world.

Aimed at women leaders and specialists jointly by Bryn Mawr College and the University of Denver-based Higher Education Resources Services, the HERs Program is an exclusive (only about 75–80 women attend each year), concentrated program with weekend retreats, small group rooms, reading and other programming led by top faculty. The program addresses the myriad issues affecting academic environments both on and off the university campus.

The HERs Program’s women in leadership committee has contributed to the program while researching leadership opportunities. Committee chair Allison Dykes submitted a proposal to President Jim Wagner asking for concepts for what it means to make Emory a better community.

“Wagner said, “This is a great example of leadership development. And perhaps academia in general and Emory in particular need to do a better job in providing development opportunities for women who have a potential for leadership. That’s what this does for us; it’s one small step in that direction.”

“We’re looking for women who are interested in advancing their careers,” said Dykes, senior associate vice president of the Office of the President has committed nearly $15,000 to fund the attendance of two Emory women at an intense, four-week university management program this summer.

The Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration (known as the HERs Program), now in its 30th year, offers a curriculum designed to provide skills and information to women interested in managing and governing colleges and universities around the world. Their work paid off to the tune of almost $15,000.

Allison Dykes (left) and Susan Gilbert, junior chair and chair, respectively, of the PCSW, lobbied President Jim Wagner for funding to send Emory women to the leadership training program this summer.

“Women who are interested in advancing their careers. They also should also be interested in participating in leadership training programs,” Wagner said.

“Women who have a potential for leadership positions here.”

Programs are available at the PCSW website (www.pcsww.emory.edu) in hardcopy at the Center for Women. In addition to completing and submitting the application by March 1, applicants must get a letter of reference from their dean or director and write a letter to the program, a letter of support.

Once all the applications have been received, a selection committee will sit through them and announce the the attendees at random.

Ten Emory women have attended HERs since 1980, but this is the first time the University administration has funded the endeavor. “The women attending the HERs conference were fascinating,” said Marilyn Surby, associate vice president for finance and research in the Office of Grants and Contracts, who attended HERs in 2000. At the time, Surby was an assistant vice president, she was promoting in 2002. “I learned a tremendous amount about working within an academic institution and about myself,” she said.

Applicants must find a mentor willing to match the funds for a small percentage of funding for each candidate.

In addition to her musical talents and activities as a part of the album Woody Guthrie and Leadbelly: A Tribute, Reagon is a part of the album Voci di Fiamma: A Vision Shared.—A Tribute to Woody Guthrie and Leadbelly.

She retired from performing in 1975, three years after earning a history degree from Spelman College. Reagon founded Sweet Honey in the Rock, a cappella group whose roots are in black church music but whose repertoire ranges from folk to blues to rap. In 1989 the group won a Grammy Award for Best Traditional Folk Recording as a part of the album Folks: A Vision Shared.—A Tribute to Woody Guthrie and Leadbelly.

“This is the movement and change,” she said, switching back to spoken word. “In the civil rights movement, we did not migrate geographically, but we were determined to move from where we were. If you want to move from your position, you are not but let that change the place.”

Leigh Harris, associate professor of history and chair of African American studies, called Reagon’s “a Renaissance woman in her introduction, and the description was apt. In addition to her musical prowess, Reagon is an accomplished academic. She holds a doctorate in U.S. history from Howard University and worked at the Smithsonian Institution for 19 years. She has taught at American University and spent six years at the University of Cambridge as a research fellow. She is also a fellow of the Institute for Human Rights and Justice and the Institute for Human Rights and Justice in the Arts at the University of Cambridge. She is also a fellow.

Reagan said life is about making a difference, and there is a fine line between life and death. “You’re not promised, if you go into the water, you’ll get out the other side,” she said. “But if you don’t, you’ll be changed.”

Kay Torrance from page 1

Albany State College, spoke from experience in a role that is often not to be oppressively successful, you have to participate,” she continued. “You have to know your heritage.

Everything in your culture and your world—you have to stay inside those lines. It was not just useful, this struggle for peace.

While Reagon’s language was difficult at times, her voice was most prevalent. Specifically, the beauty of her voice. In 1973, three years after earning a history degree from Spelman College, Reagon founded Sweet Honey in the Rock, a cappella group whose roots are in black church music but whose repertoire ranges from folk to blues to rap. In 1989 the group won a Grammy Award for Best Traditional Folk Recording as a part of the album Folks: A Vision Shared.—A Tribute to Woody Guthrie and Leadbelly. She retired from performing in 1975.

Reagan sang portions of traditional hymns, gospel tunes or freedom songs—spirits that inspired civil rights workers. “And you have to be what not to let that change the place. She said.

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Focus: CarterCenter

Questions in Mozambique follow Dec. elections

Natalie Cabell

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The following calendar lists the activities for the 2005 Charter Celebration. All events are free and open to the Emory community unless otherwise noted. For more information, call 404-727-6242 or the number listed with each event.

MONDAY, JAN. 24
Academic Assembly Ceremonies in recognition of the nominees and recipients of various academic awards that were given in 2004.

TUESDAY, JAN. 25
Banquet Celebration Includes musical performances.

Campus Life 25th Anniversary Celebration Refreshments and initial screening of Campus Life’s commemorative video. 3:30 p.m. Winship Ballroom.

Emory in Perspective Debate "Am I My Brothers’ and Sisters’ Keeper? Rights and Responsibilities" Panel featuring faculty and alumni on various academic subjects such as health care policy, gay marriage, the crisis in Sudan and the protection of our planet. Moderated by Rick Doner, political science, and Catherine Manegold, journalism, 4 p.m.

Charter Week Calendar 2005

BY ERIC RANUS

E ncouraged by the success of last year’s inaugural Charter Celebration, 2005 will feature another seven-day, campuswide birthday party to honor this, the 90th anniversary of the signing of Emory’s charter. The event mixes academic, artistic and social programming beginning with the invitation-only Charter Banquet, Monday, Jan. 24, and capped by the inaugural Charter Ball at 9 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 29, at the Emory Conference Center Hotel.

The ball idea originated with students, who wanted to create a signature event for the entire Emory community.

“The Charter planning committee liked the idea,” said Associate Dean of Emory College Sally Wolf King, chair of that committee. “Especially because some members missed the old Charter Ball.”

The Heritage Ball was a formal event that brought together faculty, staff, students and alumni in celebration of the University before being discontinued in the 1980s. With the black-tie-emblazoned Charter Ball, the committee hopes to accomplish that same goal of bringing all levels of Emory together for a toad to the institution.

The ball will feature a dessert reception, music and dance with there being something for everyone. From 9–11 p.m., the big band sounds of E. J. Hughes will be featured. Then, from 11 p.m.–1 a.m., a local funk-rock band Canebox Jones takes over.

For novice dancers who might be shy about cutting a rug, swing dance lessons will be featured the night before at the spring semester debut of the “Friday@10” program, an on-campus series of entertainment events started last fall by the Office of Student Activities. In addition to the banquets and balls, academic events will be featured during the Charter Celebration. Highlights include the Thursday, Jan. 27, panel discussion “The Holocaust in Hollywood Film, the American Presence and Traumatic Memory,” and the Emory in Perspective Debate, “Am I My Brothers’ and Sisters’ Keeper? Rights and Responsibilities,” Tuesday, Jan. 25, which features several faculty and students in separate roundtable discussions of controversial issues such as gay marriage and environmental stewardship.

“This is one of the best collaborations between faculty and students, and we hope to continue this program each year,” said Donna Wong, associate director of multicultural programs and services, and a member of the Charter planning committee. Her co-sponsors of the debate and the play debut (“Shrapnel”) by Emory alumna Lauren Narcejac and E. J. Hughes follow it with the Student Government Association.

Finally, the arts and athletics will play key roles in the celebration. Emory’s basketball and swimming and diving teams will be in action (admission is free). Several films will be screened during the week, and musical performances will provide still another option for activity.

Renowned French pianist (now a resident of upstate New York) Hélène Grimaud will perform Tuesday, Jan. 25, not only in honor of Charter Celebration but also for the second anniversary of the Schwartz Center for Performing Arts. Plays, such as Gunderson’s piece, are on the Charter schedule, as well as dance events and STR, a non-shot arts festival where participants will have 24 hours to create new works.

Wolf King was particularly excited about how much student input went into the Charter weeklong birthday party. “The students had a lot of ideas for programming,” she said. “They really led the effort to bring those ideas into fruition.”

If you have a question or comment for Employee Council, send e-mail to Legacy@emory.edu.

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

Employee Council plans strategically with Mandl

ike Mandl, executive vice president for finance and administration, was the special guest at Employee Council’s Jan. 19 meeting at Yerkes. He commented on the council’s draft document on strategic planning for staff development.

The document had been submitted to Provost Earl Lewis, who passed it along to finance and administration. Mandl said he was “thrilled” to see the contents of the council’s plan.

The council submitted the plan to Provost Earl Lewis on Dec. 13. It contains nearly three dozen bullet statements grouped under seven themes (leadership and administration, work/ life balance, internal career advancement, benefits, collaboration, and recruitment and retention of excellent people).

Mandl said the ideas contained in the plan will be part of the conversation that leads up to the University’s final strategic plan, which will be released later this year. “Great things don’t happen in two months,” he said. “I encourage you to look at the real results of the strategic plan may not be felt for seven years. “We need to be about a set of principles. The key is to identify and articulate them, then begin the momentum toward them.”

Council President Susie Lackey said she was encouraged by Mandl’s positive reaction and pledged to continue revising the council’s plan. “He gave us much more than I hoped for,” she said. “He engaged our planning document and ensured that it will be at the forefront of many good things to come. This will take staff up to the next level.”

The next Employee Council meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 16, at noon in Seney Hall at Oxford. Transportation will be available for council members, and Oxford College staff are invited to attend the meeting.—Eric Ragus

Planetarium Open House “Winter Skies.” 7:30 p.m. Math and Science Center Planitarium

SATURDAY, JAN. 29
Swimming and Diving

Emory at Georgia Tech.

January 24, 2005 5
Grady study looks to improve medication compliance

BY ALICIA SANDS LURRY

C an an illustrated pill card or refill-reminder postcard improve medication adherence among high-risk patients with coronary heart disease (CHD)? A School of Medicine study may be the key to determining the answer.

According to the American Heart Association (AHA), coronary heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. CHD patients often have high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes, making it more likely for them to suffer heart attack. Although medication can help prevent heart attack, only 50-60 percent of patients take their medicines as directed. Those who don’t are considered noncompliant.

Thanks to a $260,000 AHA grant, Sunil Kripalani, assistant professor of medicine at Grady Hospital, hopes to change those statistics by improving medication adherence among patients with CHD. The four-year grant will fund a randomized, controlled trial focused on CHD patients at Grady, where a large percentage of patients have limited literacy skills.

The study’s aim is twofold: to learn more about the relationship between low health literacy (defined as the ability to obtain, understand and act on basic health information) and medication compliance, and to test two different strategies designed to help patients take their medicines more regularly.

The second evidence that patients with low health literacy have difficulty understanding the instructions on how to take their medications correctly, and they also have difficulty obtaining refills in a timely manner, the data, principal investigator of the study “Both of these factors can lead to lower medication adherence.”

Two interventions are being used in the study to improve medication adherence. The first tool is a personalized, graphically illustrated medication schedule that shows each patient pictures of the pills he or she is taking. Symbols for morning, afternoon and evening enable patients to remember when to take their medicine, and simple pictures like a blood pressure cuff and bacon and eggs, for example, show that certain medicines are used for hypertension and cholesterol, respectively. After receiving the card, patients repeat the medication instructions to pharmacists to make sure they understand.

A second group of pa- tients receive a refill-reminder postcard before their medica- tion runs out, a third group receives both interventions; and a fourth group receives regular care, which includes regular medication instructions printed on medicine bottles and no refill reminders. The goal is to determine how well each inter- vention works, both in isolation and in combination.

What we’re trying to do with the reminder postcard is help patients with advance planning required to get their medications before they actu- ally run out,” Kripalani says. “The illustrated pill card pro- vides patients an understand- able schedule of how to take their medicines, which we hope will boost their understanding and confidence, making it more likely for them to take their medicines on time.”

Three months after enroll- ing in the study, patients are interviewed to find out if they’re using the pill card. So far, 80 percent of patients using the card report they like the tool and refer to it at least once a week. Many have said it helps them understand which pills to take, when to take them and their purpose. Some added it helps their family members and other physicians know what medicines they are taking.

Over the course of one year, researchers will determine the interventions’ impact on patients’ medication adherence. The study also will try to deter- mine whether patients’ health literacy affects the success of the two interventions.

“Research already has shown that patients who adhere to their medical regimens live longer,” Kripalani says. “We’re hoping these simple tools will help patients take their medicines regularly, improve their blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes, and ultimately help prolong their lives.”
Group continues review of Emory benefits package

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

Three years after Emory engaged in a passionate but ultimately fruitless debate over employee benefits, the subject once again is being explored, but the mood surrounding the inquiry is decidedly different.

The Benefits Review Committee, made up of members from University administration, University Senate, Faculty Council and Employee Council, is spending this academic year examining Emory’s benefits package, benchmarking it against peer institutions and looking for possible changes that could tailor benefits more closely to what University employees want and need.

The process got under way last fall, when the committee convened and commissioned a study of Top 20 research universities and their benefits programs and it continues this spring as the committee deliberates input from the Emory community itself.

In 2002—staring at declines in endowment income into the foreseeable future—Emory’s leadership decided to rein in spending by lowering the University’s overall fringe benefit rate. A series of benefits cuts were proposed in the University Senate’s fringe benefits committee, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Steve Mandl said, “If I believe we will find that a few adjustments can make a significant, positive impact in helping advance us toward the Emory vision.”

Beginning this week, Emory employees will receive a survey intended to measure their satisfaction with the current benefits package and their perceived benefits needs. The committee urges every faculty and staff member to complete the survey, either in hard copy or electronically, by Feb. 4. The data will be used to determine what changes, if any, can be made to the benefits program to make it more competitive.

Last fall Emory exchanged benefits information with 16 of its fellow Top 20 research universities, providing insight into how the current benefits program matches up against the University’s peers.

“Most of the benefits groups themselves are fairly standard; they revolve around health care, retirement, security, paid time off and tuition,” Strochca said. “Right now we’re focusing on making the basics more competitive with other institutions. Sometimes this work involves rethinking underlying strategies that have guided Emory’s benefits package in the past.”

One example Strochca cited is the idea of making conference scholarships “portable,” meaning the scholarships could be used anywhere outside the Atlanta area.

Other possible options being explored include revising the vesting schedule for retirement benefits to create a more attractive recruiting tool, especially for senior faculty and staff.

The committee’s goal is to work with Human Resources and the Emory Council and Employee Council, the grantee for the COPC study, to develop a clear action plan for future work with Human Resources.

“I am very pleased with the approach we are taking, using this process to ensure that our decisions are made in a strategic context consistent with our overall goal of enhancing excellence. I do think we are in reasonably good shape, as virtually all of our peers are struggling with the escalating costs of medical care,” Mandl said. “But I believe we will find that a few adjustments can make a significant, positive impact in helping advance us toward the Emory vision.”

Focused:

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Emory’s Jewish Committee’s Berger to visit as Halle Fellow

Unlikely as it might sound, the question of Jews in Germany today unites an array of pressing social and political themes: the Holocaust, immigrant minorities in Europe, Germany’s future as a European and world power, transatlantic relations, anti-Semitism, and even the politics of language and historical memory.

The familiar voice of former National Public Radio Berlin correspondent Deidre Berger, now managing director of the American Jewish Committee (AJC) in Berlin, will address these topics on campus, Feb. 7–9, when she visits as a Halle Distinguished Fellow.

Berger stepped into her new role as managing director of the AJC’s Berlin office since 2000. An international think tank and one of the oldest American Jewish advocacy organizations, AJC was established in 1906 by a group of Americans concerned about anti-Jewish pogroms in Russia. The organization promotes pluralism and democracy, combats anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry, works for secure and democratic Israel, protects rights and freedoms of Jewish communities around the world, and advances understanding between American and Jewish leaders.

In 1996, AJC created the Halle Distinguished Fellows program in order to further the engagement and understanding between American Jewish leaders and their counterparts in Germany and other countries. AJC operates 33 U.S. and 18 international offices.

In her role as director, Berger coordinates a wide range of activities dealing with transatlantic relations, Mideast affairs, terrorism, the promotion of pluralism and democracy, Holocaust memory and other issues of importance to the American-Jewish community. Prior to joining the AJC, she worked for 15 years as a foreign correspondent based in Germany, reporting for National Public Radio. She has also reported for Deutsche Welle, Monitor Radio, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and the Christian Science Monitor.

Berger’s stint as Halle Distinguished Fellow is not her first association with Emory. Participants on the 2003 Halle Study Trip to Germany visited her offices at Potsdam University in Brandenburg, Berlin. During the meeting, Berger described a picture of Jewish life in Germany fraught with challenges, yet decidedly more vibrant than 20 years ago.

She explained that, following World War II, the vast majority of the country’s Jewish population emigrated to the United States or Israel, but about 7,000–8,000 remained in Germany. “Some were avoiding the battleground of Israel,” Berger said. “Others stayed because they spoke German. Prior to the war, Germany was the country in Europe with the largest Jewish population and the most extensive Jewish culture.”

By 1989, Berger said, the number of Jews in Germany had fallen from an estimated 250,000 to 7,000. More recently, “the familiar voice of former National Public Radio Berlin correspondent Deidre Berger, now managing director of the American Jewish Committee (AJC) in Berlin, will address these topics on campus, Feb. 7–9, when she visits as a Halle Distinguished Fellow.”

Berger also is concerned with the increase in anti-Semitic sentiment in Europe. In a June 2004 speech to the Finnish Parliament, Berger said, “The flare-up of anti-Semitism in Europe in this first decade of the 21st century is a renewed challenge to the democratic order, on a continent preoccupied with a search for common definitions and visions.

Many European nations today face demographic and social issues that are altering the fabric of their societies and altering the proliferation of religious and cultural diversity in Europe,” she continued. “The dizzying pace of change has caused some people to feel left behind. And, sadly, once again, in the search for simple explanations, some are again blaming the Jews.”

Her visit to Emory, Berger will present several public lectures on a variety of topics:

Feb. 7
12:30–2 p.m. Halle Institute Lunchtime Lecture, “Religion and Public Policy in Germany.” For an invitation, call the Halle Institute at 404-727-7504.


Feb. 8

Lailie Mandelson is communications coordinator for the Office of International Affairs.
Events for the Emory Community

TUESDAY, JAN. 25
Charter Celebration play
Shanghai, Written by Lauren Gunderson. Ken Hornbeck, director. 7 p.m. Cox Hall Ballroom. Free. 404-727-6754.

Flora Glenn Candler Concert Series
Hélène Grimaud, piano, performing. 8 p.m. Emerson Concert Hall, Schwartz Square Faculty, staff, alumni, discount groups, $33, students, $5; public, $44. 404-727-5000.

THURSDAY, JAN. 27
Baroque concert

Concert

MONDAY, JAN. 31
Film
Battle of Algiers. Gillo Pontecorvo, director. 7 p.m. 208 White Hall. Free. 404-727-2694.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2
Film, Visual Feminist Director Film Series

THURSDAY, FEB. 3
Poetry reading
Laurie Patton, religion, and Bruce Covey, creative writing, presenting. 7 p.m. Carlos Museum, first floor galleries. Free. 404-727-4291.

Great Japanese Film Series
Overocho (The Greenha House). Kenji Fukusada, director. 7:30 p.m. White Hall, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-5087.

PERFORMING ARTS

Schatten Gallery exhibit

TUESDAY, JAN. 25
Charter Celebration play
Shanghai, Written by Lauren Gunderson. Ken Hornbeck, director. 7 p.m. Cox Hall Ballroom. Free. 404-727-6754.

Flora Glenn Candler Concert Series
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VISUAL ARTS

Carlos Museum exhibit

Special Collections exhibit

LECTURES

MONDAY, JAN. 24
Human History & Genomics Lecture

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26
Women’s Health and Wellness Lecture

THURSDAY, JAN. 27
Scientific medical lecture
“Good to Great: The History and Future of Surgical Education at Emory.” Kurt Hess, surgery, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-712-2196.

Physiology Seminar Series
“It’s Not Just Proteins: Lipids as Determinants of Membrane Protein Topology.” William Dowhan, University of Texas-Houston, presenting. 9 a.m. 600 Whithead Building. Free. 404-727-7401.

African studies seminar
“Rice, Memory, and Enslavement in the Black Atlantic.” Judith Carney, UCLA, presenting 4 p.m. 302 Math and Science Center. Free. 404-727-6402.

Egyptology lecture and book signing
“Painting and Identity in Ancient Thebes, 1349-1372 BCE.” Melissa Hartwig, Georgia State University, presenting. 7 p.m. Carlos Museum reception hall. Free. 404-727-4291.

FRIDAY, JAN. 28
African studies seminar

WEDNESDAYS

Roastmasters @ Emory

MONDAY, JAN. 24
Medical ethics in public health lecture
9 a.m. Rollins School of Public Health. Free. 404-358-3143.

Charter Celebration academic assembly
Patrick Allitt, history, presenting. 4 p.m. Winship Ballroom. Free. 404-727-0674.

TUESDAY, JAN. 25
Charter Celebration birthday event

Internet workshop
2:30 p.m. 310 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-0178.

SPECIAL

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2
The Family Forum Series

MARIAL Colloquium Series

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3
Surgical Grand Rounds
“Endoluminal Surgery.” Mark Leibold, surgery, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-712-2196.

Anna Julia Cooper Lecture
Diane Stewart, religion, presenting. 11 a.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-4180.

THURSDAY, JAN. 27
Ecumenical Celebration Annual Service

Book signing

SUNDAY, JAN. 30
Worship Service
Alton Pollard, theology, preaching. 11 a.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6225.

SIGNATURE SERIES

WEDNESDAYS

Roastmasters @ Emory

MONDAY, JAN. 24
Medical ethics in public health lecture
9 a.m. Rollins School of Public Health. Free. 404-358-3143.

Charter Celebration academic assembly
Patrick Allitt, history, presenting. 4 p.m. Winship Ballroom. Free. 404-727-0674.

TUESDAY, JAN. 25
Charter Celebration birthday event

Charter Celebration Arts Festival

FRIDAYS@10
“Swing! Swing! Swing!” Swing dance lessons. 10 p.m. Coca-Cola Commons, Dobbs Center. Free.

SUNDAY, JAN. 30
Workshop for children
“The Shield of Achilles.” Alan Bremer, Atlanta Goldsmiths Association, presenting. 1 p.m. Tate Room, Carlos Museum. $10, members; $15, nonmembers. 404-727-0519.

TUESDAY, FEB. 1
Library research workshop
2:30 p.m. 310 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-0178.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2
Library research workshop
2 p.m. 310 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-0178.

Thursdays@10
ARStor workshop
11:30 a.m. 312 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-2997.

Psychological and educational tests workshop
11:30 a.m. 310 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-2833.

Endnote workshop
2:30 p.m. 310 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-6863.

For sports information, visit www.go.emory.edu.

To submit an entry for the Emory Report calendar, enter your event on the University’s web events calendar, Emory Events, which is located at http://events.cc.emory.edu (also accessible as the “calendar” link from the Emory homepage) at least three weeks prior to the publication date. Dates, times and locations may change without advance notice. Due to space limitations, Emory Report may not be able to include all events submitted.