TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY PROJECT

Creating agents of change

The Transforming Community Project planted 1,500 flags on the Quad during Founders Week to represent its many participants.

By MARGIE FISHMAN

For the past five years, the Transforming Community Project (TCP) has encouraged participants to take comfort in the uncomfortable and open up about race.

The initiative has attracted a mix of faculty, staff, students and alumni in examining the issue of race at Emory through provocative dialogue and original research. A five-year effort funded by the Provost’s Office, Emory’s strategic plan and the Ford Foundation, TCP has lent a voice to a slave named Kitty and her owner, the first chairman of Emory’s Board of Trustees, along with the first Latinx, Jewish and Asian students who contributed to the University’s cultural mosaic.

Apart from recovering Emory’s complicated history with race, the initiative encourages hundreds of participants to be active agents of change. Previous attendees have gone on to develop diversity programming on campus and in DeKalb public schools, conduct oral history interviews to examine an aspect of Emory’s racial legacy, lead youth movements in Atlanta, or share insights with their families around the dinner table.

“A lot of diversity training is a weekend or a workshop,” says TCP Director Leslie Harris, associate professor of history and African American studies. “We wanted to set up something where people stayed in conversation over time.”

TCP celebrated its fifth anniversary during Founders Week, and collaborated with the Emory Visual Arts Gallery to feature renowned portraitist Dawoud Bey’s photographs of students across the nation, a cross-section of a generation.

Throughout the year, TCP facilitates three tiers of groups to develop creative responses to issues of race on campus, from day-to-day interactions to long-term challenges to the institution’s identity.

Community Dialogue Groups members commit to meeting eight times a semester with trained peer facilitators. They are encouraged to move from intimate conversations about race to constructive public action.

Gathering the Tools Groups engage in excavaing Emory’s legacy, lead youth movements in Atlanta, or share insights with their families around the dinner table.

$2.4 million grant bolsters humanities

BY ELAINE JUSTICE

Emory has received a grant of $2.4 million from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support the reassessment, reconfiguration and strengthening of the humanities across the University.

“This initiative comes at a key moment in Emory’s history,” says Earl Lewis, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs.

“Given the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of inquiry and the development of new methodological tools, the University has been anticipating the need for strategic changes in hiring, departmental intellectual configuration, research, publication and scholarly collaborations.

“At Emory and throughout higher education, those changes are accelerating and expected to accelerate further in the coming decade,” says Lewis. “Hiring in the humanities will need to be done very differently in the future. Emory is anticipating hiring a new generation in the humanities who will have both deep training in the humanities and broad training in other areas.”

As an example, Lewis cites the interdisciplinary collaborations surrounding this month’s opening of the Salman Rushdie archive, much of which was born digital material.

“At the core of the program will be the recruitment of a cohort of junior and mid-career faculty across the humanities, says Claire Sterk, senior vice provost for academic affairs.

MyEmory launches for gifts from staff

BY MARIA LAMEIRAS

Emory employees are behind all of Emory University and Emory Healthcare’s accomplishments. Now, in addition to contributing their time and talent, Emory employees and retirees are supporting MyEmory, the employee component of the University’s fundraising effort, Campaign Emory.

Emory University and Emory Healthcare employees and retirees have contributed more than $41 million since Campaign Emory began in September 2005. MyEmory officially launched on Feb. 3.

The goal of MyEmory is to raise $50 million by the end of 2012, and every employee and retiree is encouraged to make a gift, no matter the size. Gifts can support scholarships, patient care, the arts, research, and countless other priorities that will enable Emory to advance among the world’s top universities.

Employees Ginger Cain and Sally Lehr have volunteered to co-chair MyEmory. In addition, each school and unit has a volunteer leader to guide its MyEmory efforts.

Cain, director of public programs for Emory Libraries, has worked at Emory in a variety of roles since graduating from Emory College in 1977. She earned her master’s degree in library science from Emory in 1982.

Cain says employee support for Emory speaks volumes about the donors’ belief in Emory’s vision and mission.

“I want to invest my donor dollars in an institution that matters — an institution that emphasizes ethics and morals in the advancement of its goals. We should believe in where we work, and we should be willing to donate to something we believe in. It makes a tremen dous statement for employees to donate to their employer, and the combined impact of our giving, whether we can give a lot or a little, should be a source of pride and inspiration to continue giving,” Cain says.

Lehr, who earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in nursing at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, says her Emory connections have helped her understand the breadth of Emory’s research.
James Rilling is associate professor of anthropology.

By CAROL CLARK

James Rilling entered the University of Wisconsin in Madison as a pre-med major, following in the footsteps of three older brothers who are physicians. But an evolutionary biology class changed his plans.

"I thought the course was so powerful," says Rilling, associate professor of anthropology and the founder of Emory's Laboratory for Darwinian Neuroscience. "All societies have had a need to understand their origins. But they've made up myths to explain it, while evolutionary biology is trying to get at the true story."

Encouraged by his parents to pursue his passion, Rilling left the pre-med track to study the essence of human nature. "It's like the space program," he says. "We believe that we should be trying to understand the universe around us. I feel the same way about exploring the brain to learn who we are and how we got here."

The Milwaukee native came to Emory as a graduate student, drawn by the anthropology department's emphasis on human biology. "It's a definite strength," Rilling says, citing the department's access to Yerkes National Primate Research Center, and the quality of the faculty.

For his dissertation, Rilling used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to compare the neuroanatomy of humans and 10 other primate species at Yerkes. The 1998 study was the first in-depth look at whether the human brain is merely a scaled-up version of the brains of other primates.

"We found that human temporal lobes are larger than you would expect for a primate of our brain size," Rilling says. "We've done subsequent work that shows this larger size is likely due to the evolution of language pathways in humans."

The study also found that the human prefrontal cortex is more convoluted than expected. "One of the things that causes these cortical folds is when strongly connected areas of cortex get pulled together. That could be the neural basis for our ability to integrate lots of different types of information," Rilling says, explaining that the prefrontal cortex is involved in functions like planning, decision-making, emotional regulation and working memory.

Rilling's Laboratory for Darwinian Neuroscience is a leader in the use of non-invasive imaging technology to compare the neuroanatomy of living primates.

Much previous work has focused on the gray matter of brains. Rilling's group is the only one in the world using diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) to compare the white matter connections of monkeys, humans and our closest relative, chimpanzees. White matter contains the fiber tracts that connect and "wire" the brain.

"We've discovered a difference in both the size and the trajectory of the fiber tract that runs between Wernicke's area in the left temporal lobe and Broca's area in the left inferior frontal cortex," Rilling says. Broca's area is involved in speech production and Wernicke's is understanding language. In humans, the pathway that connects the two areas is much more massive, and projects beyond Wernicke's area down to the ventral part of the temporal lobe.

"There's something special going on in the human brain with that pathway," Rilling says. "It's organized differently than in other primates."

The lab is also exploring the neural basis of human cognition and behavior. One of its studies showed that reciprocation in humans is tied to activation of a reward pathway in the brain. "The magnitude of that reaction correlated to how likely the person was to cooperate in the future," Rilling says.

"When you cooperate and someone else fails to reciprocate, activation is found in the anterior insula, a brain region known to track visceral responses of the body.

"Why are some people more cooperative than others? How does the brain change with age? What promotes social bonding and attachment? These are just a few of the many research questions the lab is tackling."

"We want to start to understand individual human differences in social behavior, at both the genetic and neurological levels," Rilling says. He adds that he's particularly interested in understanding why some men are more nurturing than fathers as others. It's important to have someone besides the mother involved in a child's care. I think one way that we could improve childhood development is to have more committed dads," says Rilling, who is married to a psychiatrist and hopes to one day become a father.
People: Unsung Heroines’ impact revealed

By STACEY JONES

For many years Gretchen Schulz has run the lyrical and laudatory citations for the honorees of the Center for Women at Emory’s annual Unsung Heroines Awards ceremony. This year she will sit among the honored. A popular teacher, Schulz was praised by the late beer company director Dean Emerita Dana Greene, for her ability to “connect her intellectual life to teaching and service. She knows about collaboration among women and has worked to support women and educate men to the power of joint effort.” In this regard she is a model.

This year too, Schulz will write the following stories of her fellow Unsung Heroines for the Feb. 18 awards ceremony.

**Women’s studies major Alisha Lalani** serves as a residence adviser to a women-only floor in Dobb’s Hall. Outside of Emory, Lalani works to prevent domestic violence, spending 10 hours a week researching current curricula on batterer intervention, some of which has been used by the Georgia Commission on Family Violence. This undergraduate honoree “has shown the ability to step out of her comfort zone and put all of her effort into helping communities overcome social barriers of all kinds,” said her nominator and fellow student, Rachel George.

The amount of work doctoral student Tiffany Worboy has done on behalf of women in the Emory community is too numerous to list here. Yet with all she’s accomplished, Worboy said, “It’s been amazing.” Her efforts on behalf of women, from utilizing the large and formal to the individual and informal, have been heartfelt and largely unrewarded, but those around her feel valued and important, said Rambo. “If you’re thinking ‘pink’ goes with basketball, then you’ve got Angie Duprey, assistant athletic director, to thank for it. This year’s staff honoree started an annual fundraiser for breast cancer research more than two years ago, held during the varsity women’s basketball season, where athletes don pink uniforms and attendees receive pink t-shirts. Off court, Duprey established the Think Pink Ball, where the purchase of pink tas and scarves are requisite for entry. One hundred percent of the proceeds goes to Emory Winship Cancer Institute.

Emory’s lactation support system, an honor she’s managed throughout her tenure at Emory, is also a testament to her abilities. “My role as an Emory’s lactation support program coordinator across campus, where mothers can go to express milk or feed their babies during work hours. She takes great care to provide others with not only a private space but also with research and articles on the values of breastfeeding,” wrote her nominators, who included Yerkes Director Stuart Zola. “Mothers at Yerkes know that Lula is a valuable resource and often come to her for advice.”

Although religious denominations are considered to be, in appearance and in reality, male-dominated hierarchies, Mary Louise Hascall says, “Women bring YICG, stands out as a Christian feminist whose work has been to ‘reclaim the lost voices of women’.”

TCP: Excavating Emory’s racial history

Continued from the cover

racial history, dating to the University’s founding in 1836, through oral histories, archival research and multimedia presentations.

Summer faculty pedagogy seminars explore ways to incorporate Emory’s strategic theme of “Creating Community, Engaging Society” into new or existing course material. TCP also works with the summer Scholarly Inquiry and Research Experience (SIRE) program to fund student projects.

Mary Catherine Johnson, assistant director of the Visual Arts Gallery and department, was instrumental in bringing Bey to campus for an artist residency this spring. A former TCP participant and two-time facilitator, Johnson says the Community Dialogue groups “were some of the most powerful experiences I’ve had at Emory.”

Vice President for Campus Services Bob Hascll signed up for a TCP Community Dialogue last year and encouraged his department to participate. More than two dozen Campus Services employees were “introduced to one other in a different way,” he says, from exploring color divisions within the African American community, to learning about Emory’s early struggles with racial division.

“It was sharing some of who we are, and how we came to be in our working environment,” Hascll says.

TCP is working with the Provost’s Office to secure funding for the next five years. Faculty are developing an extracurricular curriculum on racial diversity for youth at Druid Hills High School and the local YMCA. In fall semester, TCP piloted a dialogue on the Middle East conflict and this spring is collaborating with the Center for Women to explore gender issues. A dialogue on sexuality is slated for next fall in coordination with the Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Life.

When will the community be fully transformed? “Progress is not a word I ever use,” explains Harris, who founded TCP with former Emory journalism professor Catherine Manegold. “We go back, we go forward and we go around. Communities are constantly transforming. The question is do we want to be swept along with that transformation or have an active role in guiding that transformation?”

Web Extra

Financial Aid’s Melissa Sacks chooses three hair-raising words from her experience with the Transforming Community Project’s Palestinian/Israeli Conflict Dialogue group. Visit www.emory.edu/EMORY REPORT for her First Person essay.

ACCLAIM

Ken Alexander received special recognition by the Georgia General Assembly as a founder of Hands Off Atlanta. Alexander, Emory’s senior vice president and general counsel, and the other four were commended with a resolution in the state House of Representatives and invited to appear before that legislative body.

Susan Bauer-Wu has been inducted into the Fellowship class of the American Academy of Nursing. Bauer-Wu is a nurse scientist and Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Cancer Scholar.

The associate professor at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing becomes one of AAN’s 98 new top national nursing leaders.

Susan Cruse has been selected as a "2010 Most Powerful and Influential Woman of Georgia" by the National Diversity Council.

Cruse, senior vice president of development and alumni relations, will receive the economic environment, noting Emory was named one of the "100 Most Influential Georgians: Georgia’s Power List," by Georgia Trend magazine. Wagner, Emory’s president, was cited for his leadership of the University in a challenging economic environment, noting Emory was named one of the top universities to work for both the Chronicle of Higher Education and The Scientist magazine.

Betty Willis was named one of the "100 Most Influential Georgians: Georgia’s Power List," by Georgia Trend magazine. Willis, Emory’s senior associate vice president for governmental and general affairs.
Campus relief efforts for Haiti quake victims continue

By ANN HARDIE

For Jinan Francois, the need to help ease pain victims in Haiti is extremely personal. Her 8-year-old cousin died from internal injuries sustained after the Jan. 12 quake toppled the little girl’s elementary school.

Jinan, a career adviser for MIBA students, put the “help wanted” call to faculty and students in the Goizueta Business School, they responded immediately with 20 bags of blankets and other necessities and $1,200 in cash. The students are continuing the fundraising effort. “My family is sad but we are lucky because a lot of families lost more people or we are looking at it like that,” Francois says. “And the community here and my friends and family are very supportive.”

The Emory community continues to seek out ways to ease the suffering from the quake that killed tens of thousands of Haitians and injured many more. The effort also comes in the form of teaching-in to fundraisers to prayer vigils to legal advice and shoe drives.

When the University requested French Creole speakers willing to serve as interpreters for Haitians evacuated to Atlanta, more than 50 people signed up within two hours. Within a day, more than 300 had. The first flights carrying earthquake victims for treatment in Atlanta area hospitals began arriving last week.

The law school is coordinating with legal assistants to triage Haitians already in the United States who want to apply for Temporary Protected Status. The Emory College of Law Staff Consortium is collecting loose change for Partners in Health until Feb. 12. For a list of current efforts and volunteer opportunities, visit www.emory.edu/CERP/haiti/response-activities.html.

On a single day, the Health Organization for Latin America (HOLA) raised $1,164 and collected 539 pounds of medical supplies. “Student mobilized with enthusiasm and humility and lent of their time graciously,” says Sulma Lewis, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and a partner in helping create this program.

The spirit to do something for the Haitian earthquake victims for treatment in Atlanta area hospitals began arriving last week. “If you compare what the other organizations on the ground are doing, what HOLA has done may seem like a little thing. But for the families that benefited, it presents a huge help,” says Cadet, who returned to Emory Jan. 29. “The need in Haiti is just so great. Across the campus, other relief efforts are in the planning stage. Emory’s Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response (CEPAR) is coordinating the University’s relief efforts and asks that groups send finalized plans regarding events and donations to emergency@emory.edu. “The recovery period for Haiti is going to be measured in years, if not decades. I think you are going to see many at Emory remain engaged in the recovery effort,” says Alexander Isakov, CEPAR’s executive director. “That is consistent with the makeup of our community, to lend a helping hand to those in need.”

Emory continues to support Haitian relief efforts.

Lewis says he sees the program building on three broad areas: digital scholarship, mind-brain neuroscience and humanities in the age of the human genome. “It’s becoming impossible to talk about what it means to be human and recognizing DNA analysis without inserting humanities scholars into the conversation with life scientists,” he says.

Integrals to these initiatives, Lewis says, will be Emory University Libraries, which becomes a setting for these conversations and a partner in helping create this intellectual community, along with the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry.

Faculty already involved in the program expect its reach to be felt across the University, says Sterk, especially in Emory and Oxford colleges and at Candler School of Theology.

Sтерк says rehumanizing the humanities could have multiple impacts on higher education and help define the future role of the liberal arts at a research university. Emory will have wonderful opportunities to show how research scholarship in the humanities really contributes to the common good,” she says.
Call to prayer broadcast during Islamic Awareness Month

By TANIA DOWDY

If you were on campus last Friday, you may have heard the adhan, or the Islamic call to prayer. Every Friday during the holy month of Ramadan, the Emory Alumni Association and the Muslim Student Association requested the adhan be broadcast from the Robinson Clock Tower at 1:45 p.m., the Jummah, a time to pray together, as a congregation, and community members of all faiths are more than welcome to come. And we hope that people will not only bring themselves, but their families and friends as well.

“MSA has always sought to increase awareness about Islam,” says Halepota.

The adhan precedes the Jummah, a congregational prayer, that will take place in Cannon Chapel beginning at 11:35 a.m. MSA Vice President Shahmeez Halepota says that it is important to pray together, as a congregation, and equates the Friday Jummah prayer to Sunday Mass.

“We consider Friday to be the holiest day of the week,” says Halepota, a junior political science major. “Anyone who has questions about Islam is welcome to come to pray and community members of all faiths are more than welcome to come.”

Therefore, since we’re not trying to preach someone else’s audience, member schools are very open about sharing successes — and struggles. We have a lot to learn from each other. From a professional perspective, that’s great, and the plethora of sample materials is simply fun to explore. As soon as I could, I took one piece from each pile and bagged them up for future research and personal use.

The future is now.

For the uses of this column, I’m going to reach into my swag bag o’ goodies (the bag, courtesy of Wake Forest) and pull out two random samples to compare to EAA pieces. It’s benchmarking in front of God and everybody. Here goes …

Sample No. 1

Them: Johns Hopkins, Alumni Weekend mailed postcard invitation. “Studies have shown that the fun starts here” reads the cover. Above that tagline are four pictures of alumni looking like they are having fun. One is dressed in the JHU’s blue jay mascot uniform.

Us: The EAA sends out Homecoming Weekend mailers, too. They have smiling, happy people, but also include an image of campus in the fall. We like to give alumni something to come home to and we have pictures of two mascots — Swop and Dooley (I know that Dooley is technically a spirit, so please, no e-mails.)

Sample No. 2

Them: Loyola University Chicago, “Loyola’s Rambler Clubs Are Going Green.” Yes, it’s a sustainability message printed on a postcard. But the point of it, though, is to invite Rambler Club members (supporters of Loyola’s sports teams) to register online, because all future event invitations will be coming via e-mail. So that’s good. Bonus points for the logo appearing in green (school colors are maroon and gold) and for the message being printed on 100 percent post-consumer fiber paper.

Us: The vast majority of the EAA’s event invitations already come by e-mail, so we wouldn’t necessarily send something out like this. Although the message is a relevant one. By the way, if any of you would like to update your own information and receive e-mail communications from the EAA, please visit the EAA Web site.

Message received. We hope.

Eric Rangus is director of communications for the Emory Alumni Association.

Do you have Atlanta’s oldest furnace?

You may qualify to win a new furnace and standard installation valued at $3,500!

Visit our website or call for registration details. Gift certificates awarded for second and third prizes.

“Let us help you save money with a spring tune-up!”

Newer furnace? Claim the savings with any other discount offer.

Save $25 on any repair

Empire Heating & Air Conditioning
Saver • Cleaner • Better • Since 1985

www.empirehvac.com
404-963-9363
Ancient remains put teeth into Barker hypothesis

By CAROL CLARK

Ancient human teeth are telling secrets that may relate to modern-day health: Some stressful events that occurred early in development are linked to shorter life spans.

“Prehistoric remains are providing strong, physical evidence that people who acquired tooth enamel defects while in the womb or early childhood tend to die earlier, even if they survived to adulthood,” says anthropologist George Armelagos.

Armelagos led a systematic review of defects in teeth enamel and early mortality recently published in Evolutionary Anthropology. The paper is the first summary of prehistoric evidence for the Barker hypothesis — the idea that many adult diseases originate during fetal development and early childhood.

“Teeth are like a snapshot into the past,” Armelagos says. “Since the chronology of enamel development is well known, it’s possible to determine the age at which a physiological disruption occurred. The evidence is there, and it’s indisputable.”

The Barker hypothesis is named after the late British epidemiologist David Barker, who during the 1990s helped pinpoint links between early infant health and later adult health. The theory, also known as the Developmental Origins of Health and Disease Hypothesis, seeks to explain how conditions expanded into widespread acceptance.

As one of the founders of the field of bioarcheology, Armelagos studies skeletal remains to understand how diet and disease affected populations. Tooth enamel can give a particularly telling portrait of physiological events, since the enamel is secreted in a regular, ring-like fashion, starting from the second trimester of fetal development. Disruptions in the formation of the enamel, which can be caused by disease, poor diet or psychological stress, show up as grooves on the tooth surface.

Armelagos and other bioarcheologists have noted the connection between dental enamel and early mortality for years. For the Evolutionary Anthropology paper, Armelagos led a review of the evidence from eight published studies, applying the lens of the Barker hypothesis to remains dating back as far as 1 million years.

One study of a group of Australopithecines from the South African Pleistocene showed a nearly 12-year decrease in mean life expectancy associated with early enamel defects. In another striking example, remains from Dickson Mounds, III., showed that individuals with teeth marked by early life stress lived 15.4 years less than those without the defects.

“During prehistory, the stresses of infectious disease, poor nutrition and psychological trauma were likely extreme. The teeth show the impact,” Armelagos says.

Until now, teeth have not been analyzed using the Barker hypothesis, which has mainly been supported by a correlation between birth weight in modern-day, high-income populations and ailments like diabetes and heart disease.

“The prehistoric data suggests that this type of dental evidence could be applied in modern populations, to give new insights into the scope of the Barker hypothesis,” Armelagos says. “Bioarcheology is yielding lessons that are still relevant today in the many parts of the world in which infectious diseases and under-nutrition are major killers.”

For more news of the natural and social sciences, visit: www.emory.edu/osciencecommons.

Brain protein work indicates new protection drugs

By QUINN EASTMAN

Pathologist Keqiang Ye has made a series of discoveries recently, arising from his investigations of substances that can mimic the growth factor BDNF (brain-derived neurotrophic factor).

BDNF is a protein produced by the brain that pushes neurons to withstand stress and make new connections.

“BDNF has been studied extensively for its ability to protect neurons vulnerable to degeneration in several diseases, such as ALS, Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s disease,” Ye says. “The trouble with BDNF is one of delivery. It’s a protein, so it can’t cross the blood-brain barrier and degrades quickly.”

Working with Ye, postdoctoral fellow Sung-Wuk Jang identified a compound called 7,8-dihydroxyflavone that can duplicate BDNF’s effects on neurons and can protect them against damage in animal models of seizure, stroke and Parkinson’s disease.

The compound’s selective effects suggest that it could be the founder of a new class of brain-protecting drugs.

7,8-dihydroxyflavone is a member of a family of antioxidant compounds naturally found in foods ranging from cherries to soybeans. Ye says his laboratory has already identified compounds that are several times more active.

The next step is more animal studies to choose compounds likely to have the best drug profiles: stable and non-toxic.

“It is likely that many people take in small amounts of 7,8-dihydroxyflavone in their diets,” he says. “But drinking green tea or eating apples doesn’t give you enough for a sustained effect.”

Along the way to finding 7,8-dihydroxyflavone, Jang and Ye have also identified other molecules, both natural and artificial, which can mimic BDNF. For example, the tricyclic antidepressant amitriptyline activates the same signaling molecules as BDNF in neurons.

This provides an alternative mechanism for how some antidepressants may exert their effects.

A description of 7,8-dihydroxyflavone’s properties was published online Jan. 25 by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).

An article from neuroscientist Kerry Ressler’s laboratory describing how 7,8-dihydroxyflavone and genetic manipulation of BDNF can be used to probe fear memory formation was also published in PNAS on Jan. 25. Ye’s studies on amitriptyline were published in the June 2009 issue of the journal Chemistry & Biology.
Emory emergency medicine resident Mark Fenig (pictured second from left) travelled with a team of doctors and nurses to help with the Haitian relief effort. His patients included children, some of whom were orphaned during the quake.

Mark Fenig is a resident in Emory School of Medicine’s Department of Emergency Medicine.

In the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake, emergency medicine resident Mark Fenig joined a relief effort out of Baton Rouge and spent Jan. 25–28 at a hospital compound in Jamiaca, a city in the Dominican Republic just over the Haitian border. He shares an account of his time there:

The compound was surrounded by huts, rolling green hills and a stunning lake. Hundres of Haititans, some unable to walk due to their injuries, traveled or were carried illegally across the border into our hospital. Most had sustained some sort of orthopedic and infectious complications from amputations, inserted pins and crush injuries. Patients slept on bare mattresses in hallways and in the open air.

For a week the reality was, all of the buildings — the hospital, a chapel and an orphanage — were empty, large structures. Dozens of volunteer medical teams from all over the United States arrived carrying supplies. The hospital had six functioning “operating rooms” and the chapel and orphanage were converted to inpatient wards.

But there were no ventilators so surgeries were performed under regional or spinal anesthesia. Therer were no monitors available so anesthesiologists had to literally keep their finger on the patients’ pulse.

There was no X-ray machine. That meant over 200 people with broken limbs were basically in a holding pattern, because they could not receive the treatment they needed, which in most cases, consisted of placing rods inside their broken bones. Instead, their wounds were stabilized with external fixation devices, pins drilled into bones and held together with metal rods outside the body. It was discouraging to see patients turning away to a child before leaving.

The Haitian patients were the bravest and most stoic group of people I had ever met. They were also the most grateful and helpful. Family members volunteered to help translate Creole or physically transport patients. They would regularly clean the grounds to keep the compound as germ-free as possible. They would divide their time between their relatives and patients with no family.

There was a small cluster of three orphans who walked in my inpatient ward. One had his arm amputated just below the shoulder and the other two had bad fractures with extensive hardware sticking out of their legs. They were surrounded by donated stuffed animals. The first thing I noticed was how they never made noise, cried, or asked for anything. I became increasingly aware of how unnatural this picture looked. By the time I left I really had realized that the stuffed animals were these children’s new family.

More than anything, I wish I was back there. At times, when I’m not distracted, I find myself thinking about those stuffed animals. Or about what a 6-year-old in a foreign country without a home, a family or an arm has to live for.

The thoughts haunt the volunteers who are parents even more; what would Martin Luther King Jr. think of the post-racial attitude in today’s society? That was the question that Dr. Cershew bore in her mind.

On the first day back, a woman whom we had been treating for several days was discharged. She never asked for anything. I became moved by her. I gave her with some ibuprofen. I found it ironic that she might never forget their eyes. It was my first introduction to true terror. The Haitian patients were the bravest and most stoic group of people I had ever met. They were also the most grateful and helpful. Family members volunteered to help translate Creole or physically transport patients. They would regularly clean the grounds to keep the compound as germ-free as possible. They would divide their time between their relatives and patients with no family.

In many ways development studies and development practice have become fragmented, as a result of disciplinary boundaries and technical specialization, she says. “This series addresses that fragmentation by asking broad questions that will engage a wide range of participants.”

“Development at a Crossroads” events are expected to draw Emory’s community of scholars as well as development practitioners from metro Atlanta. We’ve really tried to select speakers who are well known and who are addressing topics of interest to a broad section of scholars here,” Ranchod-Nilsson says.

The series kicks off Feb. 15 with an anthropologist critique of global poverty by Akhil Gupta, a UCLA anthropologist, at 4 p.m. in the anthropology seminar room.

Coming March 1 is activist and social entrepreneur Zainab Salbi, founder and CEO of Women for Women International.

The IDN has teamed up with the University of Oregon anthropologist Lamia Karim to campus to talk about women and microfinance.

The series concludes with Stanford anthropologist James Ferguson on April 18 at 4 p.m. in the Center for Ethics, speaking on “Anthropology and the Crisis: Reflections on Distribution and Labor.”

The IDN has teamed up with the University of Oregon anthropologist Lamia Karim to campus to talk about women and microfinance.

The series kicks off Feb. 15 with an anthropologist critique of global poverty by Akhil Gupta, a UCLA anthropologist, at 4 p.m. in the anthropology seminar room.

Coming March 1 is activist and social entrepreneur Zainab Salbi, founder and CEO of Women for Women International. Salbi is expected to speak on her organization’s work with women in war-torn regions, at 4 p.m. in Ball Auditorium.

In April, IDN hopes to bring University of Oregon anthropologist Lamia Karim to campus to talk about women and microfinance.

The series concludes with Stanford anthropologist James Ferguson on April 18 at 4 p.m. in the Center for Ethics, speaking on “Anthropology and the Crisis: Reflections on Distribution and Labor.”

The IDN has teamed up with the University of Oregon anthropologist Lamia Karim to campus to talk about women and microfinance.

The series kicks off Feb. 15 with an anthropologist critique of global poverty by Akhil Gupta, a UCLA anthropologist, at 4 p.m. in the anthropology seminar room.

Coming March 1 is activist and social entrepreneur Zainab Salbi, founder and CEO of Women for Women International. Salbi is expected to speak on her organization’s work with women in war-torn regions, at 4 p.m. in Ball Auditorium.

In April, IDN hopes to bring University of Oregon anthropologist Lamia Karim to campus to talk about women and microfinance.

The series concludes with Stanford anthropologist James Ferguson on April 18 at 4 p.m. in the Center for Ethics, speaking on “Anthropology and the Crisis: Reflections on Distribution and Labor.”

The IDN has teamed up with the University of Oregon anthropologist Lamia Karim to campus to talk about women and microfinance.

The series kicks off Feb. 15 with an anthropologist critique of global poverty by Akhil Gupta, a UCLA anthropologist, at 4 p.m. in the anthropology seminar room.

Coming March 1 is activist and social entrepreneur Zainab Salbi, founder and CEO of Women for Women International. Salbi is expected to speak on her organization’s work with women in war-torn regions, at 4 p.m. in Ball Auditorium.

In April, IDN hopes to bring University of Oregon anthropologist Lamia Karim to campus to talk about women and microfinance.

The series concludes with Stanford anthropologist James Ferguson on April 18 at 4 p.m. in the Center for Ethics, speaking on “Anthropology and the Crisis: Reflections on Distribution and Labor.”

The IDN has teamed up with the University of Oregon anthropologist Lamia Karim to campus to talk about women and microfinance.
Frankenstein’s monster comes to life on Theater Emory stage

By HUNTER HANGER

Theater Emory presents “Frankenstein” in puppets.

Master puppeteers and to learn the puppetry arts required to bring this story — and monster — to life. Of this production, Ludwig muses, “I do not see what Shelly/Thayer did, but to present the story in a dreamlike, phantasmagorical, visual-based world that astounds, transforms and challenges the participants.”

The performances are Feb. 18-27 at 7 p.m. in the Schwartz Center’s Theater Lab. Tickets ($18; $14 Emory faculty, staff, and discount category members; $8 Emory students or free with Passport Coupon) are available from the Arts at Emory box office at 404-727-5050 or www.arts.emory.edu.

Vatican astronomer reflects on the stars

Brother Guy Consolmagno, astronomer for the Vatican, visits campus Monday, Feb. 15, to speak on “Truth in Science, God’s Presence: Reflections of a Vatican Astronomer.”

After the free, open to the public event, the speaker will be on campus until 2 p.m. in Room 252 of the Candler School of Theology.

The talk by Consolmagno, whose most recent book, “The Heavens Proclaim: Astronomy and the Vatican,” was published last year, is co-sponsored by the Aquinas Center, Emory Science and Society Program, the Center for Ethics and the Center for Ethics and the Center for Ethics.

 Argentine-Jewish legacy to be parsed

The Tam Institute of Jewish Studies presents “The Legacy of Jacobo Timerman: Jewish-Argentine, Public Intellectual, Survivor of Disappearance and Torture” at a symposium Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Center for Ethics.

The journalist’s criticism of Argentina’s military dictatorship in the 1970s subjected him to arrest. Timmerman also criticized President Jorge Rafael Videla during that time. On the 30th anniversary of his death, scholars are reappraising his legacy as a symbol of Latin American Jewish identity, crusader for human rights and critic of Israel.

Other co-sponsors include the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program and the departments of political science, history, Spanish and Portuguese.

The symposium is free and open to the public.

Slow Food chief to lead discussion

“Food, Pleasure and the Family Meal” will be the subject of a faculty panel and discussion Monday, Feb. 22, beginning at 4 p.m. in 102 Center for Ethics.

Carlo Petrini, author of “Terra Madre: Forging a New Global Network of Sustainable Food” and founder and international president of the Slow Food movement, will speak. Also on the panel are Joel Kimmons from the COC and Marshall Duke, psychology professor.

The free event is co-sponsored by the Office of Sustainability Initiatives and the University Food Service Administration.

Address reviews state of WHSC

Find out how Emory’s academic health science and service arm is making progress toward its goals at the State of Woodruff Health Sciences Center Address. CIO Fred San- filippo will present the annual address on Feb. 22 at 4:30 p.m. in WHSCAB Auditorium, followed by a reception.

RSVP to evphafeedback@emory.edu.