

PROFILE

“Many hands make light work,” says Dee Sneed, who’s not afraid to get hers dirty. **Page 2**



DISCOVERY

New online tool separates the shoppers from the browsers. **Page 6**



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Twin exhibits trace an Islamic art



This muhaqqaq script fragment (c. 1400) is one of the Islamic art treasures featured in the Carlos’ “Writing the Word of God” exhibit.



These Turkish calligraphy examples (c. 1850-1900) will be on view at the Carlos exhibit “Traces of the Calligrapher.”



This pen box (c. 1850) will also be featured in “Traces of the Calligrapher: Islamic Calligraphy in Practice, c. 1600-1900.”

By PRIYANKA SINHA

At the Carlos Museum, preparations are under way to present two exhibitions on Islamic calligraphy and the Qur’an.

“Atlanta has not experienced Islamic art on this scale for almost 20 years, not since the Carlos Museum mounted ‘Islamic Art and Patronage: Treasures from the Kuwait Museum’ in 1991,” notes Carlos Director Bonnie Speed.

“Traces of the Calligrapher: Islamic Calligraphy in Practice, c. 1600–1900” and “Writing the Word of God: Calligraphy and the Qur’an” open Aug. 28.

These complementary exhibitions — on view through Dec. 5 — examine the artistry of calligraphy, folios from the Qur’an, and the tools used to create these works of art, while exploring the social significance associated with calligraphy.

“For Muslims, the writing of God’s words, the Qur’an, is an act of worship in which devotion and beauty join in praise of God,” notes Gordon Newby, professor of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies.

The exhibitions are composed of approximately 150 objects, revealing the skills of artisans — calligraphers, paper

makers, gold beaters, illuminators, bookbinders and metalworkers, to name a few.

“Traces of the Calligrapher” maps the practice of the calligrapher from the 17th through the 19th centuries, both through examples of calligraphy, as well as through tools of the trade.

“Writing the Word of God” is devoted to key developments in Islamic scripts of distinct cultural areas, spanning from Spain and North Africa to greater Iran from the 7th to the 15th centuries.

“The two exhibitions provide a unique opportunity to experience the art of Islamic calligraphy from A to Z,” says Vincent J. Cornell, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Middle East and Islamic Studies. “Visitors will not only be able to observe the range of calligraphic styles from the west and the east of the Muslim world, but also learn how the art itself is an integral part of the material culture of Islam.”

“The exhibitions are just in time for Ramadan,” observes Isam Vaid, executive director of the Association of Emory Muslim Alumni.

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Expanding the wireless campus

By PAUL PETERSEN

The driving force in today’s IT is mobility. Every new laptop, handheld device, and smartphone stresses the flexibility of completely wireless connectivity. In response to this communication evolution, University Technology Services (UTS) is in the midst of three significant improvements to Emory’s wireless experience: Emory Mobile, Next Gen Wireless and the Distributed Antenna System.

Emory Mobile, a collection of smartphone apps, gives device-toting students, faculty, alumni, and campus visitors access to over 100 sources of data to enhance their Emory experience. UTS and the Office of Communications and Marketing partnered to develop Emory Mobile, which allows users to navigate campus maps, browse news and events, search campus contacts, follow Emory Eagles sports and more.

The Emory Mobile platform has been established to provide a common mobile space for future apps to be developed. While many data sources on campus can be included in one of the existing apps, having a standardized platform allows for seamless growth and expansion.

Emory Mobile is scheduled to be available in the Apple App Store late this month. BlackBerry and wireless application protocol (WAP) versions should also be available soon thereafter. Stay tuned for formal launch announcements.

Next Gen Wireless, which features the installation of the latest in wireless access point technology, is UTS’s response to the increased on-campus demand from laptops, iPads and other handheld devices. Placed strategically around campus, these devices project Emory’s network signal into areas occupied by students,

Please see UTS page 4

Breathe campaign to offer a fresh take on wellness

By MARGIE FISHMAN

Step UP Emory’s new Breathe campaign promotes campus-wide healthy living — and offers tools for smokers to finally break the habit.

The latest in a series of Step UP Emory wellness programs, the Breathe campaign is designed to promote overall respiratory health by focus-

ing on smoking cessation, deep breathing, regular exercise and proper sleep and nutrition.

“There’s something for everyone,” says Eddie Gammill, Step UP co-chair and Emory wellness programs manager. “Promoting a culture of wellness not only creates positive outcomes for individuals but it creates models for others to follow.”

The year-long Step UP Emory campaign will launch Aug. 4 with a Breathe Carnival at Emory University Hospital, from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will feature free sleep screening surveys, lung function tests and yoga and massage demonstrations.

While there, smokers can learn about upcoming Freedom From Smoking classes, a free

eight-week tobacco cessation program offered by the American Lung Association.

Led by a trained facilitator, the group sessions explore the emotional triggers for smoking, along with how to respond to cravings. Emory also offers behavioral health resources

Please see BREATHE page 5

Emory Report goes digital

An exciting transformation is under way at Emory Report. **See page 2 for details.**

EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue concludes Emory Report's 2009-10 publication schedule. Publication will resume Aug. 23 with a special back-to-school issue to keep you informed and prepared for a new academic year.

Emory Report goes digital

An exciting transformation is under way at Emory Report.

We're changing from a weekly print newspaper to a web-first publication. We believe it's a more timely, effective and sustainable method to deliver the news that our readers value.

Beginning this fall, Emory Report's website will become the starting point for news — frequently updated with articles, videos and the same great content that filled our print pages.

Emory Report will continue to keep you up-to-date on the latest University news and events with a weekly e-mail, enhanced with new features.

Look for special print editions, strategically published throughout the year, to chronicle major events and milestones in the life of the University.

This move from print to digital supports Emory's commitment to sustainability, and will result in significant cost savings. It's also a response to your comments in our recent Reader Survey, where 73 percent said you prefer to read Emory Report online.

As always, we welcome your comments, submissions and ideas! We hope you'll find many reasons to visit us often at www.emory.edu/EMORY_REPORT.

See you this fall,
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EMORY PROFILE: Deitrich "Dee" Sneed

Readying campus for back to school

Housing services director's hands are always full, sometimes dirty



Dee Sneed is assistant director of building and residential services.

KAY HINTON

By MARGIE FISHMAN

When gunk, grime and the occasional bodily fluid invade the areas where students live and learn, Deitrich "Dee" Sneed '92C and her custodial staff put the gloves on.

As assistant director of building and residential services in Campus Services, Sneed is responsible for keeping more than 50 Emory residence halls, classroom buildings and fraternities and sororities, along with all of Oxford's facilities, spick-and-span.

During the summer, her staff can clean the same dorm room 10 times. The season is her department's busiest time, when they are given a two-week window from when the last students leave to when the first conference attendees arrive to wash walls, shampoo carpets, sanitize mattresses and essentially scrub every surface. Recently, Sneed was found hauling trash after a missed pickup at Candler School of Theology.

"Many hands make light work," she explains. "It's important for me to help out when I can. My employees make me look so good."

An Oxford and Emory alum, Sneed enjoys interacting with faculty and staff who remember her as an inquisitive political science major and Martin Luther King Jr. Scholar. During her junior year, Sneed took a job as a student assistant for Camellia Flanigan, then-director of interior and custodial services for Emory's Office of Residence Life & Housing.

Flanigan encouraged Sneed to get her hands dirty, dispatching her to vacuum carpets and move furniture (she carried one headboard for every four toted by another member of the crew).

After graduation, Sneed worked briefly as a law firm receptionist and employment data collector. She returned to Emory in 1996 to accept a position reporting to Flanigan as assistant director of custodial services in housing. She eventually earned her MBA from Mercer University.

In 2003, Sneed's employees presented her with a Distinguished Service Honor Award,

recognizing her empathetic approach to management. Aware that the stressors of home life can impact worker productivity, Sneed helped her staff locate childcare, set up doctors' appointments and educated them about campus resources.

"You see things in black and white and the staff opened my eyes to shades of gray," says Sneed, who serves on the campus-wide WorkLife Advisory Group.

She assumed more responsibility when her department merged with Building Services in 2007, adding academic and clinic buildings to her housing roster.

While on the job, Sneed met her husband, Patrick, an assistant supervisor in the same department. With a 2-year-old daughter at home, the couple adopts a divide-and-conquer strategy to handle personal custodial chores.

"Sometimes you walk into my house and it looks *lived in*," she admits.

In her spare time, Sneed enjoys getting together with her large family every fifth

Sunday for potluck dinners, and playing piano for Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church in Covington, where she grew up.

But these days she has her hands full with a deadline looming to prepare all main campus residences for back to school by Aug. 8. Students generally are appreciative, sending the staff thank-you notes and gift cards during the holidays.

"I'm always amazed at what the students leave behind," Sneed says, adding that custodians have found laptop computers and flat-screen televisions, which can turn the department into a lost-and-found.

Her biggest challenge was responding to last year's H1N1 "swine flu" outbreak on campus. Sneed outfitted her team with protective suits, gloves and high-tech masks to clean Turman South, where the sick students were housed. She visited the residence hall herself to reassure her staff that she would not put them in harm's way.

"No one got sick," she says, beaming.

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People

Professor cycles across America

By JASMINE HOFFMAN

This summer marked an important milestone for Joyce King. On her 60th birthday, the assistant clinical professor in the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing embarked on an exciting adventure.

"I am an avid runner and cyclist, and I wanted to take my passion to the next level this summer," says King. "I saw the TransAmerica Bike Trail in 2008, and I knew it would be a journey of a lifetime, so I decided to bike across America for my birthday."

The TransAmerica Bike Trail stretches 4,325 miles from coast to coast, beginning in historic Williamsburg, Va. and ending in the Pacific coastal town of Eugene, Ore.

King's 83-day trek began on May 22 — her birthday — with 13 other cyclists from around the world whom she had never met.

"Getting to know my fellow cyclists was one of the highlights of this trip. Everyone was special in their own way," she says. "I definitely established some lifelong friendships during this journey."

Members of the group ranged in age from 22 to 70. Some traveled from as far as Australia and Wales to bike the legendary trail. Beginning at 5:30 a.m., the group biked 60 miles on average each day.

"While I was biking, I really enjoyed the beautiful scenery across our great country. The terrain we covered was remarkable, especially the Blue Ridge Mountains," she says.

King's adventure was cut short after a nearly fatal collision with a coal truck in the Bluegrass Region in Kentucky.

"After four weeks of biking and 1,200 miles completed, it was a very difficult decision to leave my fellow cyclists and abandon my adventure,"



Professor Joyce King dips her back tire into the Atlantic Ocean, a TransAmerica Bike Trail tradition. SPECIAL

she admits.

During this life-changing cycling excursion, King learned the importance of discipline and endurance.

"While I was unable to finish the TransAmerica Bike Trail this summer, this trip taught me perseverance and challenged me to keep my sense of humor

when I'm faced with adversity," she says.

Although her experience ended early, King is determined to complete her original goal.

She has big plans for next summer: "I want to finish the second segment of the bike trail before climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania."

Reports from the road

Follow Joyce King's cycling adventure at jlktransam.blogspot.com.

ACCLAIM

Jay Hakes, director of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, has been tapped as research director of President Obama's Oil Spill Commission.



An alumnus of the Carter administration, he headed the Energy Information Administration at the U.S. Department of Energy during the 1990s.

Jan Love has been named to the Association of Theological Schools board of directors, where she will serve at least a four-year term.



Love is dean and professor of Christianity and world politics at Candler School of Theology.

ATS is an organization of more than 250 member graduate schools that direct professional and academic degree programs for the practice of ministry and for teaching and research in theological disciplines.

Nanette Wenger has been named 2010 Georgia Woman of the Year by the Georgia Commission on Women.



Wenger is a professor of medicine in the Division of Cardiology at Emory School of Medicine, and former chief of cardiology at Grady Memorial Hospital. For more than 50 years, Wenger's steadfast dedication to reducing women's disability and death from cardiovascular disease has made her one of the world's most respected experts on coronary heart disease in women.

Paul Root Wolpe was one of the speakers at the first meeting of the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues in Washington, D.C.



Wolpe is director of Emory's Center for Ethics, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Bioethics, Raymond F. Schinazi Distinguished Research Chair in Jewish Bioethics and a professor of pediatrics and sociology.

Vice chaired by Emory President **Jim Wagner**, the commission will advise President Obama on bioethical issues that may emerge from advances in biomedicine and related areas of science and technology.

CAMPAIGN EMORY

Poet's bequest to open doors for MARBL

By MARIA LAMEIRAS

A bequest from the estate of Turner Cassity, a renowned poet and long-time librarian at Woodruff Library, will support a new building for Emory's Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL).

Cassity, who died in July 2009 at the age of 80, was a nationally known, award-winning poet who spent 29 years as a librarian at the Woodruff Library, primarily as head of serials and binding — a job he said made his real career as a poet possible.

His \$100,000 bequest to MARBL, which houses his archives, will be used to help finance a new home for MARBL, which is internationally recognized for its collections in modern literature and African American literature.

Linda Matthews, retired director of the Woodruff Library, worked with Cassity from 1970

until his retirement in 1991 and thinks Cassity would be thrilled that his gift would be going toward creating a home that will serve as international destination for students, scholars and poets.

"After his retirement, Turner maintained close contact with the library and he was thrilled about the growth of the poetry collections," says Matthews, who retired in 2006. "I remember when the first batch of W.B. Yeats materials came to Emory around 1980, Turner rushed to special collections, which was on top floor, to see them. He was just so thrilled, being a poet himself, to see those original drafts and manuscripts of Yeats' poetry."

Cassity's gift will help build a new home for MARBL, which is currently housed on the top floor of the Woodruff Library, to provide an expansive space that utilizes the latest technologies

to support new scholarship of rare materials and to make the collections more accessible to students and scholars at Emory and from around the world as well as to the general public.

Located on Emory's core campus, the building will include gallery space for exhibitions and provide areas for multidisciplinary study by Emory students and faculty as well as visiting researchers from around the world; secure storage for primary materials; and space for curatorial work.

The facility also will house MARBL's "living archive," built upon ongoing relationships with active writers who've chosen Emory to house their papers; and as a national center for humanities research, further distinguishing Emory at the global level through its collections and the use of technology to broaden scholarship and access.

"We are thrilled to have this contribution from such a beloved member of the Library community," says Rick Luce, vice provost and director of Emory Libraries.

"I think Turner, who achieved such widespread recognition for his own writing, would be delighted as well that he is playing a part in building a home to showcase MARBL's world-class collections in the way they deserve. All of us in the Libraries are pleased that through the building, as well as through his own papers in MARBL, Turner Cassity will remain a lasting part of MARBL's important work."

The Cassity bequest is part of Campaign Emory, a \$1.6 billion fundraising endeavor that combines private support and Emory's people, places and programs to make a powerful contribution to the world.

TAKE NOTE

Emory among 'Great Colleges to Work For'

Emory University is among the colleges and universities nationwide included in The Chronicle of Higher Education's annual survey of Great Colleges to Work For. Of the 275 institutions that participated in the survey, 97 were recognized, meaning that they stood out in last least one of 12 categories that are the core attributes of a great academic workplace.

Emory was recognized in the area of facilities, workspaces and security. The survey recognized Emory's ranking among the nation's top campuses in LEED-certified green buildings, with the addition of Emory's Conference Center Hotel as the 13th building on campus to be LEED certified.

Volunteer for Dalai Lama's visit

The visit by His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama on Oct. 17-19 in his capacity as Presidential Distinguished Professor will feature three days of events for more than 20,000 visitors.

Volunteers are key to the success of these events. The Office of University Events seeks volunteers from the Emory community for wide range of assignments. Volunteers who complete the minimum full five-hour shift will receive the exclusive "The Visit 2010" volunteer shirt.

For details about the volunteer registration process, visit <http://dalailama.emory.edu/2010/volunteer.html>.

Completed registration forms and signed participation release must be returned by Friday, Sept. 17. All volunteers must attend one of two on-campus training sessions on Oct. 1 or 2 at times to be announced.

UTS clarifies process for phone ownership

Based on feedback from the Emory community to the new billing practice for departmental desk phones (see "Phone ownership change will shift control," Emory Report, July 19, 2010), University Technology Services wishes to make a clarification.

All ordering or repairs of desk phones will be done through the UTS Shopping Cart and delivery and installation will be done solely by UTS. Users will not be picking up their own phones.

For more information, contact the UTS Service Desk at 404-727-7777.

Now online: HR tool to track training

The Emory Learning Management System (ELMS) is a centralized system designed to improve consistency and delivery of training, improve tracking systems and provide the ability to deliver more robust e-learning.

Learn more about ELMS and how to use the system at www.emory.edu/elms-training.

SNAPSHOT



BRYAN MELTZ

Welcoming global students

Brett Prather of Durban, South Africa, and program staffer Kate Thornberg look over materials for the Community College Initiative Program in the Woodruff Residential Center. Prather is participating in an orientation program by the U.S. State Department that brings people from a variety of developing world countries to attend community college for a year or more in the United States where they will earn a vocational certificate. This year, for the first time, Emory has been selected to host an orientation session for the program, from July 26 through Aug. 6, with 150 attendees expected the first week and an additional 75 the second week.

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UTS: Growing mobile access to resources

Continued from the cover

faculty and staff who need access.

In much the same way that computer technology improved while becoming less expensive, the new wireless access points offer greater performance at a much lower cost. Specifically called 802.11n, these devices feature improved throughput and almost double the speed of Emory's old wireless network.

All residence halls and several academic buildings were upgraded over the summer, with the remaining academic buildings, hospitals and clinics to follow.

A **distributed antenna system** is a solution to the question, "Why does my cell phone quit working when I go into this building?" Emory has contracted with a third-party vendor to improve cellular coverage inside many of the structures on campus. Cellular coverage supplied by antennae is often not sufficient to provide reliable coverage for building interiors. A supplemental, in-building system (a distributed antenna system, or DAS) is often required to provide service. The use of these systems will allow Emory to spread cellular coverage into previously unreachable areas.

Interestingly, cellular dead zones have been more prevalent in newer buildings constructed to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification standards. New construction uses thicker walls and Low-E glass windows to improve air tightness and save energy, but they also block cellular signals from coming into the buildings. This presents greater challenges in receiving cellular service.

In addition to improved signal strength and capacity, the cellular carriers are also facilitating future upgrades to 4G, 5G and other future cellular technologies. Critical areas of need around Emory have been identified and phased plans are under way to implement improvements over the next several months.

"By taking a proactive approach to mobility growth," says Alan Cattier, director of Academic Technology Services, "UTS has positioned Emory to successfully meet the challenges presented by users who want to access campus digital resources anytime, anywhere."

Library service desk, stacks get makeover

The Woodruff Library's new Library Service Desk, expected to open the week of Aug. 16, will combine Circulation, Reference and Learning Commons desks on the main floor.

There will be two self-checkouts and a separate consultation area for complex questions from patrons. (Reserves and laptop checkout moved to the Music and Media Library on lobby level 4.)

"We're hoping to get a fuller picture of faculty and student needs," says Frances Maloy, services division leader.

Stack Tower Project

The Stack Tower Project will store some 200,000 items, freeing up level 9 for the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library.

The stack tower will remain open, and collections on all floors will be accessible.

Visit the Stack Tower Project on the Emory Libraries website for updates.

—Staff Reports

REPORT FROM: Health Sciences

Academic health centers need to lead change

Bob Dylan was right: “The times, they are a’changing.” Nowhere is that more true than for academic health centers, where a variety of financial, societal, political and demographic changes are increasingly requiring us to rethink the way we organize to achieve our lifesaving missions.

Among the new realities that are converging upon academic health centers are a struggling global economy; an aging Baby Boomer population that will soon flood our health care systems; a workforce shortage as health care professionals from this same generation retire; an increasing number of physicians leaving private practice; and, of course, the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The changing environment, and how academic health centers should lead the response to it, was the subject of the 2010 meeting of the Blue Ridge Academic Health Group (BRAHG). Sponsored and co-led by Emory,

BRAHG is composed of academic health center leaders from across the nation. The group studies and makes recommendations to improve health and health care through sound research — both basic and applied — and health professional education, in order to help academic health centers create greater value for society.

While the nation’s academic health centers have been through many periods of change over the past few decades, it is the unanimous consensus of BRAHG members that the current environment is truly different and unlike anything we have experienced in decades. The report based on our recent meeting will be released in the coming weeks, and includes recommendations for adapting to the changing environment:

• **New leadership and management models:** Academic health center leaders will need to eliminate the silo mentality in favor of enterprise thinking and accountability. Building strong teams and strategically aligning resources

will be crucial to success.

• **Integration/alignment:** We will need to align the entire academic health center — across academic and clinical units — both functionally and structurally.

• **Education:** We must innovate new models of education and train health professionals to work in IT-enabled settings and in coordinated inter-professional teams.

• **Clinical delivery innovation:** Health services research will be important in the new environment. We must innovate new models of care utilizing a broad range of health professions to improve the quality and value of the services we provide.

• **Treatment strategies:** We must continue to develop new treatment strategies that take into account quality, cost and access, and we must ensure that we have the infrastructure, especially IT, to support such

strategies.

• **Partnerships:** We must continue to collaborate with our partners within the public and private sectors to achieve the greatest common good.

The U.S. economy, health reform and sweeping population changes make this a unique period of both great challenge and great opportunity. It is imperative that academic health centers like the Woodruff Health Sciences Center do more than just passively adapt or react to these new realities. BRAHG’s recommendations this year are complex and won’t be easy to achieve, but they are critical if academic health centers — including WHSC — are to meet our obligation and vision to develop proactive, effective, innovative approaches to transforming health and healing... together.

Fred Sanfilippo is executive vice president for health affairs, CEO of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center and chairman of Emory Healthcare.

BREATHE: Smoking cessation emphasized

Continued from the cover

through the Faculty Staff Assistance Program, along with a round-the-clock phone help line administered by Aetna. A list of free prescription medications for smoking cessation is available through Emory Human Resources at www.hr.emory.edu/healthspotlight.

The Breathe campaign aligns with the University’s strategic goal of creating community and engaging society, Gammill says, by promoting a healthy work environment that supports overall respiratory health. In 2007, Emory moved to prohibit smoking inside University buildings — Campus Life sets the requirements for residence halls — and within 25 feet of all building entrances.

“We’re raising awareness about the dangers of smoking and secondhand smoke,” says Gammill. “It’s not just an individual health issue. It’s a public health issue.”

Starting next year, Emory Healthcare will implement a \$50 monthly tobacco

use surcharge on health premiums for employees, their spouses and dependents who use tobacco products. It’s a move to support tobacco cessation and encourage employees to set a positive example for their patients and the community. Emory Healthcare employees who enroll in a participating tobacco cessation program before Jan. 1, 2011, will be exempt from the charge.

The University is still evaluating the surcharge for possible future adoption. In the meantime, there will be no tobacco use surcharge for University employees.

“Smoking isn’t just a social habit or a cultural norm. It is also an addiction,” says Gammill. “We’re doing ample preparation and offering incentives to help anybody who wants to stop.”

Learn more

Visit www.stepup.emory.edu for stress relief tips and more resources.

For information about Freedom From Smoking classes, contact the Faculty Staff Assistance Program at 404-727-4328.

Emory athletic facilities to undergo major renovations

Construction equipment invades the Woodruff P.E. Center as the outdoor track and the Madeleine Jude Brown Aquatic Center get major face-lifts in time for this academic year.

Track improvements

Weinbel Sports Corporation, which installed the original track in 1983, will install a new track surface formulated with plant-derived resins.

New subsurface drainage will prevent the pooling of water on the turns and on the apron. An extension on the track’s west side will allow for sprints to be run in either direction.

Athletic Director Tim Downes says that with track meets and practices “as well as extensive recreational use, the

track facility is one of the most popular spaces in the WoodPEC.”

Pool upgrades

Water Works of Atlanta will replace all deck tile at WoodPEC’s swimming facility with non-slip tiles, repairing and regrouting all in-pool tiles. Underwater lights will be removed, filled with grout, and covered with matching tile. The bulkhead will get new fiberglass; the gutter system improved; and the in-deck timing system replaced.

An in-deck hot tub will be installed to accommodate divers.

“The pool was built almost 30 years ago, and it is time for an upgrade,” says Jon Howell, head swimming coach.

—Staff Reports

High schoolers explore theology and tolerance

By LAUREL HANNA

The halls of Candler School of Theology were abuzz with activity this July, as 39 rising high school juniors and seniors gathered at the school for the 18th annual Youth Theological Initiative (YTI) Summer Academy, an intensive, residential program of justice-seeking theological education.

The young scholars — who came from the United States, the Bahamas, Jerusalem, and Mexico — represented a variety of Christian denominations, including Methodist, Baptist, Roman Catholic, non-denominational, Presbyterian, Episcopalian and Disciples of Christ. They were on campus July 10-31 to take classes, engage in ecumenical worship, attend workshops with Candler faculty, work with agencies in the Atlanta community, get involved with public issues from theological perspectives, and build intentional community with one another.

YTI’s goal is to cultivate public theologians for the church and world and foster opportunities for youth to explore questions that shape beliefs and action in the public sphere. The program is rooted in Christian theological education, yet learning to engage in respectful and effective interfaith dialogue is an important part of the Summer Academy.

It’s important for public theologians to engage in meaningful interfaith interactions within the public sphere, says Elizabeth Corrie, director of YTI and assistant professor in the practice of youth education and peace building at Candler. “YTI creates a safe space for interfaith dialogue.”

While in Atlanta, YTI scholars learned about Judaism and Islam through both classroom discussions with practitioners of those faiths and by attending Shabbat services at The Temple and Jummah prayers at a local mosque.

YTI scholar Alberto Hernandez of Lawrenceville, Ga., thinks that this combination of classroom learning and experiential learning was especially effective. “Experiences like these offer us a full understanding of the tradition,” Hernandez says.

Gerald Daigle of Houston, Texas, adds that he could see immediately how he could apply what he’s learned:

“Learning about other faiths from the tradition’s leaders allows me to go back to my hometown and dispel misconceptions about other religions.”

Interfaith engagement reached an even deeper level at YTI’s “Interfaith Day of Youth Service” on July 26. YTI scholars partnered with Atlanta-area youth from several faith traditions, including Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus, Baha’is, Zoroastrians and Sikhs, to complete a service project, sorting books at the local nonprofit Books for Africa. After the project, the youth gathered for a time of interfaith dialogue facilitated by YTI staff. The camaraderie they developed while working on the service project allowed them to ask each other probing questions about their faith—questions they might not feel comfortable asking an adult religious leader.

“We spend a lot of time learning from scholars and religious leaders, but the day of service gives us a chance to learn from our peers,” Daigle says.

Corrie agrees: “The interfaith youth service day allows students to put what they have learned about interfaith cooperation into action, serving alongside other students from various religious backgrounds.”

Hagop Sivzattian, YTI’s first-ever scholar from Jerusalem, pointed out that “such exposure to other traditions increases my faith in God.”

Some of this year’s YTI scholars have aspirations to pursue degrees in religion and careers in ministry, and some are interested in other professions. No matter what professions they choose, Corrie believes they will be the kind of leaders who can change the world—leaders who model peace-building, conflict resolution, respect for others and ethical engagement.

“They will have a sense that God has called them to work for the common good, drawing on their religious tradition as a formative resource.”

Video: Expanding spiritual horizons

Students at this summer’s Youth Theological Institute get hands-on experience and learn how their faith is integrated into their everyday lives.

Vaccine-delivery patch promises easier shots

A new vaccine-delivery patch based on hundreds of microscopic needles that dissolve into the skin could allow persons without medical training to painlessly administer vaccines — while providing improved immunization against diseases such as influenza.

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

The dissolving microneedle patches and immunization benefits observed in mice were described online July 18 in the journal *Nature Medicine*.

Just 650 microns in length and assembled into an array of 100 needles for the mouse study, the dissolving microneedles penetrate the outer layers of skin.

“The skin is a particularly attractive site for immunization because it contains an abundance of the types of cells that are important in generating immune responses to vaccines,” says Emory microbiologist Richard Compans.

Beyond their other advantages, the dissolving microneedles appear to provide improved immunity to influenza when compared to vaccination with hypodermic needles. Three months after mice were vaccinated with microneedles, they appeared to have a better “recall”

response to the virus and thus were able to clear the virus from their lungs more effectively than those that received vaccine with hypodermic needles.

The microneedle arrays were made from a polymer material, poly-vinyl pyrrolidone, that has been shown to be safe for use in the body. Freeze-dried vaccine was mixed with the vinyl-pyrrolidone monomer before being placed into microneedle molds and polymerized at room temperature using ultraviolet light.

“The dissolving microneedle patch could open up many new doors for immunization programs by eliminating the need for trained personnel to carry out the vaccination,” says Georgia Tech biomedical engineer Mark Prausnitz.

In many parts of the world, poor medical infrastructure leads to the re-use of hypodermic needles, contributing to the spread of diseases such as HIV and hepatitis B. Dissolving microneedle patches would eliminate re-use while allowing vaccination to be done by personnel with minimal training.

If mass-produced, the microneedle patches are expected to cost about the same as conventional needle-and-syringe techniques, and may lower the overall cost of immunization programs by reducing personnel costs and waste disposal requirements, Prausnitz says. Before dissolving microneedles can be made widely available, however, clinical studies will have to be done to assure safety and effectiveness.

—Staff Reports

Mouse trail leads to online shoppers

By CAROL CLARK

Emory computer scientists Eugene Agichtein and Qi Guo have developed an online tool that helps predict whether a person intends to buy or to browse by tracking the cursor movements.

“We used controlled experiments to develop a model for the way people use a computer mouse when they plan to make a purchase,” explains Agichtein, assistant professor of mathematics and computer science. “When we apply this shopping model to data from actual Web users in an uncontrolled environment, it correlates to a doubling of the ad click-through rate.”

Agichtein and Guo, a graduate student, will present their findings this month at the SIGIR 2010 conference in

Geneva, Switzerland. SIGIR is the leading forum for innovations in information retrieval and Web search.

The patterns of computer mouse behavior vary a great deal, depending on the habits of the user, Agichtein says. “A lot of skeptics believed that mouse movement is too varied to be useful, but our study validates that it can be a valuable indicator of a searcher’s intent.”

Agichtein heads the Emory Intelligent Information Access Lab.

Blog spotlight

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

HIV, aging have negative impact on bone health

By QUINN EASTMAN

Although individuals who are HIV positive can now expect to live longer because of the availability of anti-retroviral drugs, this advance brings on new health challenges. It is estimated that the majority of the HIV-infected population of the United States will be older than 50 by 2015.

The intersection of aging and HIV infection appears to have a destructive impact on bone health. Emory researchers have shown in an animal model that the presence of HIV proteins, even without a replicating virus, leads to alterations in cells that break down bone.

The team’s results were published online July 19 in the Early Edition of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

“We found that HIV proteins, by themselves, can alter the output of hormones that affect the balance between bone formation and bone breakdown leading to bone loss,” says endocrinologist M. Neale Weitzmann. “This information could help doctors decide the best way to stave off osteoporosis and bone fractures, which are becoming increasingly common in

individuals living with HIV infection.”

The Emory team studied rats that have an HIV virus that cannot replicate incorporated into their DNA. The virus does not kill white blood cells directly as it does in human patients, but parts of the virus appear in the rats’ blood, and appear to distort the function of immune cells.

Compared to normal rats, the HIV-transgenic rats’ bone mineral density (determined by X-rays) in the femur was reduced by 36 percent, while the proportion of bone in the spongy areas of their femurs was reduced by 32 percent.

The authors found that HIV-transgenic rats have more osteoclasts — cells that originate in the bone marrow that break down bone. This is because their B cells produce more of certain hormones that promote osteoclast differentiation.

Previous studies have shown that viral infection drives changes in the balance of the types of B cells present in HIV-infected people. Weitzmann says the next step in the team’s research will be to examine B cell subpopulations in HIV-infected people, and to measure their output of hormones involved in bone growth and breakdown.



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Forum

FIRST PERSON: Lauren Hayden Dyer

How can we support struggling students?

Lauren Hayden Dyer is an area director for Residence Life & Housing and organizer of the Campus Life Book Club.

As we prepare for a new school year, I'd like to encourage you to take a few moments to think about a topic that is on the minds of many of our students: money and finances. While this is something that may be on all of our minds, the Emory community sometimes gets lost in its own world, forgetting that while we are lucky enough to work at a top-tier institution with talented students, many of them are struggling to pay for basic needs.

As an area director for Residence Life, I hear firsthand from students about the stress they feel when it comes to finances. In order to start a conversation about this topic with my colleagues, I suggested that the Campus Life Book Club read "The Broke Diaries: the Completely True and Hilarious Misadventures of a Good Girl Gone Broke" by Angela Nissel for our summer meeting. This is a humorous true story about a woman who struggled to pay her way through her undergraduate years at UPenn.

In preparation for our meeting, I came up with discussion questions that would help our group to connect this topic to Emory. I wanted us to think about what resources we have at Emory to help our "broke" students and to reflect on our programs and activities that cost students money.

Then, while brainstorming with my supervisor about the meeting, we decided that it might be a good idea to get some firsthand accounts from students depicting their struggles. We realized that while it would be easy for me to tell stories of the struggles I've heard from students, it would probably be more effective to have book club attendees hear their stories in the student's voices.

I reached out to six students who had disclosed financial struggles to me and asked if they'd be willing to anonymously share their stories; the responses I received were more than I could have hoped for. The stud-



A book club discussion inspired Lauren Hayden Dyer (second from left) to reach out to Emory students.

KAY HINTON

ents were candid about what opportunities they wished they could afford and where they feel the most peer pressure. Here are some quotes from the responses I received:

- "[One of the hardest parts for me is] grocery shopping. I go in armed with my million coupons, my Kroger Plus card, and whatever [money] I've managed to save from my two jobs. I distinctly remember the day I walked into the condiment aisle and realized I could no longer afford both peanut butter and jelly. I think at the point where you feel guilty for 'indulging' in basic needs, there's a problem." —Female, class of 2012

- "Looking back at [my experience], the most difficult thing for me was vacationing. I never had an extravagant spring break. Also, studying abroad would have placed a bigger burden on my family, so I never considered going. A lot of people around me were easily able to afford these trips and it

was hard to relate to some my peers in that sense. And that is my biggest regret in college: not studying abroad." —Male, class of 2010

- "[In regards] to peer pressure, I would have had to dress a certain way, drive a certain car, and have certain gadgets in order to fit the Emory scenes." —Male, class of 2010

- "My parents don't have the luxury of paying for Emory's tuition (so thank goodness for Emory Advantage!) The cost of attendance at Emory is higher than my parents' income put together. Just keeping up with basics has been the hardest for me. I personally never joined sorority life because I knew the fees were high each year. [Also,] I love fashion and seeing [students] with brand name stuff as if it's nothing, I do turn a little green with envy." —Female, class of 2010

As you can see, our students may appear to have it all together, but many of them experience a

culture of haves and have nots while at Emory.

While the Emory community does a good job of supporting our students, there is always more we can do. Some of the ideas that surfaced during our book club discussion included referring students to the new Emory Employee Student Job Network, planning more off-campus events that are free of charge, and providing more education around budget management and the dangers of credit card debt.

On a closing note, I'd like to encourage you to think of ways you can help our "broke" students. Need help mowing your lawn? Post on the employee student job network! Know of scholarships that your students would be eligible for? Pass them along!

As our mission says, the intellectual and social energy that results from diversity is a primary asset of the University. Make it a goal to live our mission and make all of our students feel welcomed and comfortable in our community.

SOUNDBITES

The how-to of getting into college

Emory admissions officers Tim Fields and Jessica Jaret told a packed White Hall auditorium what they tell people all over the U.S. and the world about admission to Emory, and to other colleges.

The number one factor in admissions decision: Curriculum rigor. "The best indicator of how a student is going to fare in college is how they did in high school over four years, not what you did on a four-hour standardized test," Jaret said.

Fields, assistant dean, emphasized research, such as majors and minors, physical location and visiting campus. "There is nothing that can replace going on a college campus."

Fields also said, "Activities will never trump the academic portion of your application. What happens in the classroom is really going to push the admission decision."

—Leslie King

Fighting remains in war on cancer

"Since about the 1970s there's been over \$100 billion spent by the federal government on cancer research" money, more than matched by other sources. "So people ask where's my cure?" said Susan Gapstur, an American Cancer Society vice president and Rollins School of Public Health adjunct professor.

Gapstur traced the progress in America's war on cancer at the Winship Cancer Institute's Grand Rounds on July 14.

"Cancer mortality rates have come down by about 16 percent since 1990. We have a growing arsenal of tools for prevention, early detection and treatment and survivorship."

However, she noted, "There's really a lot of work to be done. One in two men and one in three women will be diagnosed with cancer. Those are incredibly bad odds . . . The biggest challenge is the obesity epidemic," which may wipe out "all this tremendous work we've done at decreasing tobacco."

—Leslie King

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ADVANCE NOTICE

Arts awards are new for Soiree

The third Annual Creativity & Arts Soiree on Friday, Sept. 10 features the first Annual Emory College Center for Creativity & Arts Awards that will honor a community member, a student, a staff member, an alum and a faculty member who have made significant artistic, administrative or volunteer contributions to the arts on or off campus.

The Soiree, from 4-7:30 p.m. in the Schwartz Center, offers free performances, readings, and activities and opportunities to mingle with arts enthusiasts and representatives from arts departments, student groups, the Carlos Museum and Emory Libraries. The awards reception begins at 6:45 p.m.

For more information, or to submit a nomination (due Aug. 20), visit www.creativity.emory.edu.

SURE researchers to present posters

Students from the Summer Undergraduate Research Program at Emory (SURE) will hold a poster session on Thursday, Aug. 5 in the Coca-Cola Commons of the DUC. The morning session will run from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., followed by an afternoon session from 12:30-2:30 p.m.

"This is our 21st year, and the biggest group of SURE students we've ever had," says Catherine Quinones-Maeso, associate director of the Center for Science Education.

The group of 99 includes 73 Emory students, with the remainder coming from throughout the country.

The student posters will sum up their 10-week research experience in labs from one of 20 different science areas of the University, from anthropology to the Vaccine Center.

Farmers Market resumes weekly

"Tomato Centric" celebrates a favorite summer food and the return of the campus Farmers Market on a weekly basis. It will be Tuesday, Aug. 31, beginning at noon on the Cox Hall Bridge.

Guest chef Kevin Gillespie will be demonstrating recipes featuring tomatoes. Gillespie is chef and partner at Woodfire Grill, an Atlanta restaurant supporting local, organic and sustainable ingredients. He was runner up on TV's "Top Chef" in 2009.

The Farmers Market will be open every Tuesday from noon to 5 p.m. on the bridge.

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

TUESDAY, Aug. 3

Wellness Fair. 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m. 1599 Clifton Road Building, Room 5C. Free. 404-727-WELL. www.fsap.emory.edu.

WEDNESDAY, Aug. 4

Step Up and Breathe Carnival. 7:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Emory University Hospital, Annex N240. Free. <http://emory.hr.emory.edu/stepup>.

THURSDAY, Aug. 5

"Are There Fundamental Laws of Biology? Where Would We Surgeons Look for Them?" Timothy Buchman, Emory surgery, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory University Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-727-5695.

SURE Poster Session. 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Coca Cola Commons. Free. cquinon@emory.edu.

SATURDAY, Aug. 7

"Domestic Violence 101." 10 a.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. Brenda_St Stanley@emoryhealthcare.org.

SUNDAY, Aug. 8

"Breath of Life-Healing the Wounds of Domestic Violence and Abuse." 4 p.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. Brenda_St Stanley@emoryhealthcare.org.

THURSDAY, Aug. 12

"Mechanical Circulatory Support Devices: Treatment of Advanced Heart Failure." Duc Q. Nguyen, Emory surgery, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory University Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-727-5695.

To see all campus events, visit the online Emory Events Calendar at www.emory.edu/home/events.

THEATER SEASON PREVIEW

Prize-winning plays to be staged

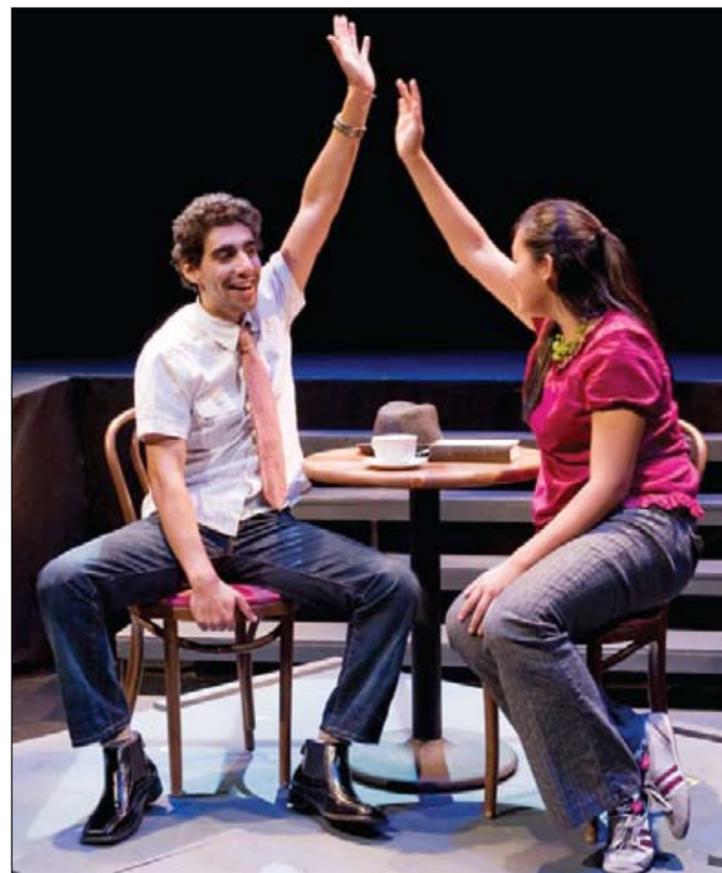
By HUNTER HANGER

Theater Emory keeps their "Eyes on the Prize" throughout the upcoming year with its 2010-2011 season of Pulitzer Prize-winning plays. The plays in this season are not only award-winning but they also seek to portray family dynamics, both nuclear and self-defined, through three very different decades of the 20th century.

The gold medallion season opens with Jonathan Larson's "Rent" (Sept. 30-Oct. 3, Emory Performing Arts Studio), produced in a concert format with an all-student cast and music direction by Bryan Mercer. Based on Puccini's opera, "La Bohème," this smash-hit Broadway rock musical follows a bohemian family of young New York artist and musician friends struggling to survive during the height of the AIDS epidemic. (Tickets: \$18; Emory faculty and staff \$14; Emory students \$6).

The season continues with George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart's "You Can't Take It With You" (Nov. 11-21, Mary Gray Munroe Theater). Directed by Theater Emory's Artistic Director John Ammerman, this classic 1930s comedy chronicles one mad-capped night in the lives of two socially different, yet equally eccentric families, about to be joined together by the marriage of their children. (Tickets: \$18; Emory faculty and staff \$14; Emory students \$6).

Sam Shepard's 1979 Pulitzer Prize-winning drama "Buried Child" (Feb. 17-27, 2011, Mary Gray Munroe Theater) ushers the season into 2011. Directed by Theater Studies faculty member Janice Akers, this intense and groundbreaking drama depicts a dysfunctional family harbor-



Jim Sarbh and Christina Ting will star in "Rent."

TONY BENNER

ing a grotesque secret. (Tickets: \$18; Emory faculty and staff \$14; Emory students \$6).

Theater Emory closes its season with the biennial new play series, "Brave New Works" (March 29-April 17, 2011, Schwartz Center, Theater Lab). Sponsored in partnership with The Playwriting Center of Theater Emory, this innovative series connects playwrights, directors, artists, researchers and scientists from all fields on-campus and nationally to create new plays. Having paired with Atlanta-based and alumni-founded Out Of Hand Theater

on past productions such as "Hominid," Theater Emory will once again work with the company to create a project on the topic of water.

"It is our mission," says Playwriting Center Director Lisa Paulsen, "that we assist the next generation of prize-winning playwrights as befits a research university such as Emory."

Tickets for all productions go on sale to the public on Sept. 10. For tickets and information, contact 404-727-5050 or visit www.arts.emory.edu.

ART: Opening during Ramadan

Continued from the cover

"It is very exciting and appropriate for these exhibitions to open during this month of revelation, this month of the Qur'an, this month of fasting, spirituality and unending blessings. Muslim students and alumni in conjunction with the Carlos Museum will host Iftaars, discussion events and galas to enhance the experience of the exhibitions for Emory students."

The Carlos Museum has developed a series of educational programs to accompany the exhibitions including lectures by visiting scholars and Emory faculty, as well as an artist-in-residency by calligrapher Aishah Elinor Holland. A student of world-renowned master calligrapher Mohamed Zakariya since 1988, Holland will demonstrate and discuss the art of calligraphy at the museum from Nov. 10-13.

The educational programming kicks off with a Sept. 7



The Carlos Museum explores Islamic calligraphy and the Qur'an Aug. 28-Dec. 5.

SPECIAL

lecture by Newby on scriptural conversations to introduce the Qur'an as the latest conversation partner in the discussion of the Word of God. Newby will also lead a Carlos Reads! Book Club series on William Pickthall's translation of the Qur'an. Coming this fall are lectures by Cornell; Roxani Margariti, associate professor of Middle Eastern Studies; and Devin Stewart, associate

professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies.

"Traces of the Calligrapher: Islamic Calligraphy in Practice, c. 1600-1900" and "Writing the Word of God: Calligraphy and the Qur'an" were organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and the Harvard Art Museum. For Atlanta exhibition sponsors, visit <http://carlos.emory.edu/ICQ-exhibition-sponsors>.