

## PROFILE

Uncovering the secrets of DNA “keeps life interesting” for Victor Corces. **Page 2**



## FIRST PERSON

“Pain had become my life’s poltergeist,” writes Nancy Eiesland. **Page 7**



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## Making a critical difference



BRYAN MELTZ

With an average response time of three and a half minutes, Emory EMS is often the first to respond to a call on campus or adjacent roads.

Dedicated students give 110 percent as on-campus EMS volunteers

By BEVERLY CLARK

Community service for most Emory students doesn’t include encounters with blood, vomit and myocardial infarctions. But for the students who serve as medics for Emory Emergency Medical Services, it can all happen in a day’s work.

The student-run, volunteer force of 40 provides 24/7 EMS coverage for campus as a unit of

the Emory Police Department. No mere volunteers, these students are certified EMT professionals who complete a yearlong class of 260-plus hours of training, beyond the 200 hours required by the state.

“There really is no typical student that signs up for Emory EMS. The individuals that we look for are anyone with the drive and enthusiasm to give 110 percent,” said Daniel Sperling,

a junior sociology major and incoming chief of operations.

The students work in two-person teams on eight-hour shifts around the clock with a supervisor. Supervisors are on call in 24-hour shifts, and often put in 40 hours a week or more. And when, say, His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama is in town, time

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## Experts see ‘08 vote as changeable

By BEVERLY CLARK

President Obama will likely be a reality. But wait — McCain could miraculously rise again. Forget 12-point policy plans: Emotional appeals can turn the tide to extraordinary effect for a candidate. And unlike the vast majority of presidential candidates before them, the Democratic contenders have special challenges around race and gender.

Political experts provided such multiple insights during an election forum sponsored by political science honor society Pi Sigma Alpha April 15. Moderated by Emory political scientist Andra Gillespie, panelists included Emory political scientists Alan Abramowitz and Beth Reingold, Emory psychology professor Drew Westen, author of “The Political Brain,” and Tom Baxter, editor of the Southern Political Report and former longtime Atlanta Journal-Constitution political journalist.

Based on the delegate math so far, Abramowitz said Barack Obama will most likely be the Democratic presidential candidate. If current trends hold, he can take it all in November. “It’s Obama’s election to lose, and there is certainly the potential to blow it ... but the Democrats are starting out with huge advantages,” he said.

This is a “change” election, and the first since 1952 where there isn’t an incumbent or vice president running. Voter turnout is expected to be high (in the Democrats favor), and the deep dissatisfaction with the economy and the Iraq war works for Democrats as well,

Please see ELECTION on page 7

## Words to write by: How to get your book in a cover

By LESLIE KING

Target your audience. Know how long your book will be. Get a name at a publishing house. Sum up your argument in the query letter.

This was some of the advice offered by publishing heavyweights at high-profile industry firms who

came to the Emory Conference Center on April 11.

At “Academics as Authors: A Symposium on Book Publishing,” faculty and staff heard a panel from academic publishing and one from trade publishing discuss industry trends and give practical insights on getting published.

The event, moderated by Rose-

mary Magee, vice president and secretary of the University, was sponsored by the Provost’s Office’s Manuscript Development Program.

To find a publisher or literary agent, panel members advised talking to published colleagues about their experiences; looking at publishing houses’ lists of titles;

and reading the acknowledgments page of books for names of editors and agents.

“Ask your colleagues and peers what experiences they’ve had. What’s it like to work with a particular trade or university house?” said Patrick Fitzgerald, a publisher at Columbia University Press.

Get a name, said literary agent

Miriam Goderich. “Dear agent’ doesn’t endear you to anyone going through bags of mail.” Goderich also advised succinct, well-written and typo-free query letters.

“An incomplete idea is not the

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## NEW ONLINE AT EMORY.EDU

<http://cmhc.emory.edu>

Emory College's new Center for Mind, Brain and Culture serves as a resource for faculty and students involved in research at the intersection of these areas. The Web site describes the mission of the center, and lists upcoming workshops, along with scheduled speakers for a series of colloquia and lunch-time talks. A blog enables participants to follow and respond to threads of conversations sparked through the center's activities. Visitors to the Web site can also sign up for the center's listserv and register as an affiliate member.

## ABOUT US

Emory Report serves as an informative, lively and comprehensive resource for news and events of vital interest to staff and faculty. The weekly publication highlights the Emory community's accomplishments, endeavors and aspirations that reflect the University's identity and strategic vision. Visit us online at [www.emory.report/EMORY\\_REPORT](http://www.emory.report/EMORY_REPORT).

## SUBMISSIONS

Emory Report welcomes contributions from readers, including "First Person" opinion pieces and calendar items. Contact the Emory Report staff by phone at 404-727-9507 or by e-mail to [emory.report@emory.edu](mailto:emory.report@emory.edu).

## EMORY PROFILE: Victor Corces



BRYAN MELTZ

Victor Corces, chair of biology, found his calling when a teacher arranged for him to visit the lab of a famous biochemist. "I knew there was no place I'd rather be," he says.

# Small steps lead to big career

## Childhood illness put biology chair on path to discovery

By CAROL CLARK

"If it wasn't for polio, I probably wouldn't be where I am today," says Victor Corces, Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor and chair of biology.

Polio struck Corces just a year after he was born in a small town in the Spanish province of Asturias, where his father was a policeman. The disease damaged his legs, leaving him unable to keep up physically with other children. "I was a weird guy," he recalls. "I didn't have friends. All I did was solve math problems all day."

His parents worried about his future. A psychologist advised them that Corces should pursue biology instead of math, so he would interact with people in a lab. Then one of his teachers arranged for Corces to visit a famous Spanish biochemist at work. "I thought the lab was so cool — the equipment and the coats that they wore," he says. "I knew there was no place I'd rather be."

Corces studied biology and biochemistry in Madrid before

leaving Spain for a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard. His research became centered on epigenetics: For more than two decades, he has been studying fruit flies to uncover secrets of DNA's arrangement and organization in the cell of a nucleus.

"It's an extremely difficult problem," he says, "so it keeps my life interesting."

While geneticists study the content of DNA, epigeneticists look at the patterns formed by DNA threads, known as chromatin fibers. Epigeneticists have discovered that these fibers are arranged in loops, similar to the outline of flower petals. The loops are formed by groups of proteins on the threads that can interact with one another and chemically bind together.

What are all of the proteins involved in the formation of these loops, and what is the function of this loop structure? Corces' lab seeks to tease out the answers to these and other questions.

One hypothesis is that the loops act as storage bins — a way for stem cells to organize themselves as they differentiate to

create a complex organism. For example, when a stem cell differentiates to form muscle tissue, the genes connected to muscles are switched on, and other genes are switched off. The muscle genes may be "filed" in certain loops, to keep them separate from the genes not needed by muscle tissue.

"This is the hypothesis we're trying to prove," Corces says.

His research holds implications for the study of all kinds of genetic diseases. For instance, the cause of some muscular dystrophies could somehow be connected to a problem with the formation of chromatin loops holding muscle genes.

Corces is also a 2006 Howard Hughes Medical Institute professor — one of only 20 scientists in the United States to receive a \$1 million grant to inspire students in the sciences. He used the funding to create a program called Research Internship and Science Education (RISE), which he introduced to Atlanta when he left Johns Hopkins University to join Emory last fall.

RISE brings students from

inner-city high schools to campus, where they work alongside Emory students in Corces' lab (see related story on page 3). "I think it's important to offer opportunities to gifted people who may not have the money or the means to get a good education in the sciences," Corces says.

It's an impressive career so far. And yet, Corces' mother still worries about his future. "She asks me, 'What are you doing working with fruit flies? Why don't you do something worthwhile, like cancer research?'" he says, smiling. "She won't be happy until I get into the Spanish newspapers."

### Visit a virtual lab

Check out Victor Corces' lab Web site, which combines complex science with Spanish bulls, octopi, a skittish lizard, Dooley and other surprises.

Visit <http://www.biology.emory.edu/research/Corces/>.

## EMORY report

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

**Nancy Seideman**

[nancy.seideman@emory.edu](mailto:nancy.seideman@emory.edu)

EDITOR

**Kim Urquhart**

[kim.urquhart@emory.edu](mailto:kim.urquhart@emory.edu)

DESIGNER

**Christi Gray**

[christi.gray@emory.edu](mailto:christi.gray@emory.edu)

PHOTO DIRECTOR

**Bryan Meltz**

[bryan.meltz@emory.edu](mailto:bryan.meltz@emory.edu)

STAFF WRITER

**Carol Clark**

[carol.clark@emory.edu](mailto:carol.clark@emory.edu)

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

**Leslie King**

[ltkking@emory.edu](mailto:ltkking@emory.edu)

# Teen scientists bloom in lab



Emory's RISE program brings gifted students from Atlanta's inner-city schools to campus, where they do hands-on research in the lab of Victor Corces, chair of biology. SPECIAL

By CAROL CLARK

"Today's the day I'm going to be famous," declares William Wagstaff, a senior at North Atlanta High School, as he peers into a microscope.

Margaret Rohrbaugh, a post-doctoral fellow, rolls her eyes. "That's his favorite saying," she says, smiling. Rohrbaugh supervises a team of Emory students and high schoolers working together on an epigenetic research project in the lab of Victor Corces, chair of biology.

"For the high school students, everything is new, so they bring that excitement to the lab," she says.

Corces once visited a research lab as a curious teenager, but he wasn't allowed to touch anything. When he received a Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant in 2006, he used it to create Research Internship and Science

Education (RISE) — a program to give gifted students from inner-city schools hands-on lab experience. College students mentor the 12 high school students currently in the program.

"The idea is for them to experience a sense of discovery," Corces says. "When one of the students finds something, they get very happy. And there is a healthy competition among them."

"The first time I saw GFP in a chromosome, I got excited, but then I realized there was a lot more to becoming famous than that," acknowledges Wagstaff, who plans to go to medical school.

The gene for GFP (green fluorescent protein) has been isolated from Pacific jellyfish as a biological research tool. In this case, the GFP has been inserted into the genome of fruit flies to serve as a marker of protein interactions. Data gathered by the

student researchers could one day benefit people with genetic diseases.

While the research is complex, the lab procedures are decidedly low-tech. Britney McCrary, a senior at Frederick Douglass High School, demonstrates. She removes a fruit-fly larva from a small jar, then uses tweezers to pull out its salivary glands. She affixes the glands to a glass slide with a mounting medium and invites a visitor to examine the squiggly lines through the microscope.

"You learn a lot when you get to do things like this," says McCrary, who is headed for Tuskegee University, where she plans to major in biology.

"Other students think it's cool that we have the chance to work in a real college lab," says Sharonta Johnson, a junior at New Schools of Carver. "When they hear about it, they all want

**"Science is not just being in the lab doing your experiments. You have to communicate your knowledge and passion to the next generation."**

—Victor Corces, chair of biology

to do it, too."

Corces hopes that, ultimately, some RISE students will return to Emory as undergraduate or graduate students and become RISE mentors. "Science is not just being in the lab doing your experiments," he says. "You have to communicate your knowledge and passion to the next generation. It will be a real benefit if we can pull some of these great minds into the field."

## ACCLAIM

**E. Brooks Holifield's** latest work, "God's Ambassadors: A History of the Christian Clergy in America," has been chosen by the Academy of Parish Clergy as its 2007 Book of the Year.

The award, which was established in 1980, is given to the author of the best book written on a subject relevant to the work of parish ministry.

Holifield, who joined the Candler School of Theology's faculty in 1970 and is its longest-serving member, is C.H. Candler Professor of American Church History.



**Michael M.E. Johns**, Emory chancellor and former Woodruff Health Sciences Center CEO, has been appointed to the Georgia Commission for Saving the Cure by Gov. Sonny Perdue.

Johns will be one of 15 members on the commission, created in 2007 by the state Legislature to establish the Newborn Umbilical Cord Blood Bank, a network of banks to make postnatal tissue and fluid available for research and treatment.



The American College of Medical Genetics recently honored two Emory geneticists at the 2008 Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting in Phoenix, Ariz.

**David H. Ledbetter** was presented with the 2008-2009 Luminex/ACMGF Award. The award includes a \$100,000 grant and promotes safe and effective genetic testing and services, including the development of research guidelines.

Ledbetter is Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Human Genetics and director of the Division of Medical Genetics in the Department of Human Genetics at the School of Medicine.

**Madhuri R. Hegde** was awarded the 2008 Signature Genomic Laboratories Travel Award. She is assistant professor of human genetics and director of Emory's DNA Diagnostic Laboratory.

New in 2008, the award is given to a selected student, trainee or junior faculty member whose abstract submission is chosen as a platform presentation during the annual meeting. Hegde's abstract was titled "Application of Microarray Genomic Selection (MGS) in DNA Diagnostic."



## NEWSMAKERS



"I haven't heard anything about any sort of unusual trends so far, not to say that it isn't going to intensify. I suspect there's going to be more negotiating around financial aid this year than any other year that we've experienced."

— Daniel Walls, associate vice provost for enrollment management, in "Fewer Options Open to Pay for Costs of College" in the New York Times on April 12.

"Acclaim" recognizes the external accomplishments of faculty and staff. Emory Report relies on submissions for this column. Contact: [ltk@emory.edu](mailto:ltk@emory.edu).

## TAKE NOTE

### New mail services selection near

Emory's efforts to streamline and improve its mail services have entered a final phase.

Three of the five mail services companies that answered Emory's request for proposals were invited back for a last round of vendor presentations in April. The finalists will be selected following these presentations.

Emory receives more than 30 million pieces of inbound mail each year. Currently, several different vendors provide mail services to different divisions at Emory. That will change as current vendor contracts expire this summer, and the University consolidates these services in order to enable better coordination and management of the operation.

### Faculty writers can join new program

The Office of the Provost is accepting applications for the summer 2008 Faculty Writers Program. With the goal of supporting and encouraging intellectual community, this new program will sponsor peer-facilitated writing groups for 15 faculty members in the humanities and social sciences.

Small, interdisciplinary writing groups will provide support for, and feedback on, all aspects of the scholarly writing process. An online discussion board allows participants to keep a daily log of their writing progress and receive feedback.

Submit applications by April 30. For details on how to apply, contact Stacia Brown, [stacia.brown@emory.edu](mailto:stacia.brown@emory.edu), or visit [http://www.emory.edu/PROVOST/facultydevelopment/event\\_faculty-writinggroup.php](http://www.emory.edu/PROVOST/facultydevelopment/event_faculty-writinggroup.php).

### Racing legend's wife promotes screenings

The wife of a NASCAR racing legend who died last year from complications of head and neck cancer will be at Emory Crawford Long Hospital on April 21 to promote the importance of early detection through screening for the cancers.

A free screening for oral, head and neck cancer will be held that day from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Emory Voice Center of the hospital. A second one is planned for April 25, from 1-4 p.m. at the Emory Clinic B in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery suite.

Call Emory HealthConnection at 404-778-7777 to sign up for either screening for cancers of the oral cavity, larynx and pharynx.

"It doesn't hurt; it's free; and the 10 minutes it takes to do it could save your life," said Lori Hamilton, whose husband Bobby Hamilton was the 2004 Craftsman Truck Series champion and four-time winner of the NASCAR Cup series.

## COVER STORY

# EMS: Student-run unit key to campus safety



BRYAN MELTZ

Downtime is spent in Emory EMS's headquarters in the N. Decatur Building. But when the call comes, all energy is focused on getting to and helping a patient in need.

Continued from the cover

spent on-duty increases exponentially.

"The volunteerism on this unit speaks volumes of the character of our medics and their unconditional devotion to Emory's well-being and safety," said Emory EMS chief Josh Rozell, a senior neuroscience major.

Most days are quiet, with a

call or two per shift. Downtime is spent in the group's headquarters, a converted office in the N. Decatur Building.

But when the call comes, the adrenaline flows and all energy is focused on getting to and helping a patient in need.

"You never know exactly what the situation will be like until you get there," said business junior Kevin Smith during a recent shift that involved a car accident with

minor injuries. "You don't want it to be a bad situation, but if it is, you know that you have the ability to make a difference."

Last fall, Emory EMS responded to 351 calls, with an average response time of three and a half minutes, a fraction of the time it normally takes other units to respond. The unit's territory includes the Emory campus and adjacent businesses and roads.

Recently the unit responded to

a call in less than two minutes and provided life-saving medication to a staff member having a severe allergic reaction. In another case, medics stabilized a staff member having a heart attack.

"Being here right on campus allows us to get to patients when they need it most, especially during the critical 'golden hour.' In some cases, it really is a life or death situation," said Dan Hootman, a senior business major and chief of training.

There are fewer than 100 such student-run EMS units at colleges around the country, and "Emory's is among the best in the nation," said Emory Police Capt. Ray Edge, administrator to the unit. During the recent National Collegiate EMS Foundation conference, Emory EMS was honored with the top "Striving for Excellence Award" and best campus video of the year.

Emory EMS also does extensive community outreach. The group hosted the largest single venue CPR training event in the country last fall for more than 600 people. They provided alcohol awareness education for fellow students and recently ran a drunk driving demonstration for Druid Hills High School. And, they will cosponsor this year's Relay for Life.

"They exhibit a level of dedication rarely seen in the workplace — and they do so as volunteers," said Emory Police Chief Craig Watson. "They are a critical part of Emory's public safety, and the members of the EMS unit truly serve as role models for their fellow students."

# Emory debuts first ad campaign

By JAN GLEASON

Print ads featuring the work of several of Emory's great faculty members are part of a pilot advertising campaign that Emory is running this spring. The campaign focuses on reaching affluent adults, over the age of 45 with high school-age children.

"Our objective is to increase Emory's brand awareness and understanding," said Una Newman, Emory's chief marketing officer. "This advertising campaign emphasizes the amazing work of members of Emory's great faculty, Emory's location in Atlanta and Emory's high ranking. This messaging strategy was developed based on audience understanding we obtained from Web surveys and focus group research that we conducted with target audience members."

The print ads highlight the research of Frans de Waal, director of the Living Links Center at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center and C.H. Candler Professor of Psychology, and Katherine Yount, assistant professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health at the Rollins School of Public Health, and also focus on Emory College senior Julius Oatts' experience doing research outside the classroom. The public

radio sponsorship messages focus on measures of undergraduate student satisfaction with their Emory experience and the online ads focus on Emory's location in Atlanta and its high ranking.

Chicago, San Francisco and Raleigh, N.C., were selected last summer as the cities for a pilot advertising campaign in fall 2007 based on a number of factors, including their size and market potential, synergies with alumni, admissions and Emory Healthcare activities, and a high concentration of schools and faculty.

The spring advertising campaign creative materials were developed by Radio Outhouse of Atlanta and include:

- Print ads that run in Delta Airlines' in-flight magazine, Sky, during March, April and May, which complement NPR radio schedules by reaching a very similar audience;

- A six-week run of 15 sponsorship messages a week on "Morning Edition" on National Public Radio in Chicago, San Francisco and Raleigh; and

- An Internet advertisement, which complements the print and radio ads that will run for 500,000 impressions on U.S. News & World Report.com "Best Colleges" Web site.



Will this child's parents deny it education, health care and basic human rights?

Or is it a boy?

ATLANTA — Although Emory University is in Atlanta, its mission extends around the world. For example, Professor Kathryn Yount of Rollins School of Public Health at Emory researches how gender inequities in other countries affect the long-term health of children. She's also investigating the causes and beliefs about domestic violence. Emory's

extraordinary professors and demanding academics are why it's ranked as one of the country's top 20 national universities by U.S. News & World Report. More importantly, Emory is where people who believe they can transform the world are encouraged to do so. Visit our site to find out how they are changing your world.

Find out more at [www.emory.edu/greatscholars](http://www.emory.edu/greatscholars)



REPORT FROM: Emory Alumni Association

## The EAA: Read all about us in more ways

Emory has no shortage of publications. Some of them, like Emory Report, are enterprisewide, reaching the entire campus community either over e-mail, in mailboxes or on newspaper racks. Others are more targeted — most of Emory's schools have magazines, and many individual departments have publications ranging from PDF newsletters to full-fledged, four-color print pieces.

The Emory Alumni Association isn't much different from our campus brethren. While our print pieces are limited, our electronic communications are versatile, varied and accessible to all.

EmoryWire, a monthly publication, is geared toward alumni and parents, while The EagleEye View, a quarterly piece, reaches out to undergraduate and graduate students. Emory's wider campus community of faculty and staff can find engaging stories in both.

EmoryWire is a mix of EAA news and features, alumni profiles, and University stories, some of which have appeared in other publications but the majority is original content.

EmoryWire also is a portal to literally hundreds of photos from Emory events both near (Dooley's Cup II) and far (an Emory Travel Program journey to Egypt). The May EmoryWire will feature photos from Jake's Open House, the EAA's and Emory Annual Fund's annual birthday party for Dean of Alumni Jake Ward '33C-'36G, and the June EmoryWire will provide full coverage of Emory Commencement Weekend. Last year's EmoryWire Commencement coverage featured 18 different slide shows — if you attended any weekend events, your photo should be in there somewhere.

The EagleEye View was created last fall to reach out to current students — the "next generation of Emory alumni,"

as we refer to them. The best way to cultivate an active and engaged alumni body is for the EAA to introduce itself to students before they graduate. And that's the goal of The EagleEye View, which is sent to students through their LearnLink accounts.

The EagleEye View is a quarterly publication, and its third issue will be released at the end of April. Like EmoryWire, it is a mix of original content and reprints from other publications (including EmoryWire, which is not sent to students). For instance, the spring 2008 issue will feature "The Case for Project Casse," a piece written by Robbie Paulsen '10M that originally ran in the February 2008 EmoryWire that details the work of Emory medical students in a mobile clinic in rural Haiti.

New content for the spring issue will include an introduction to the Senior Experience Committee, which plans

events and activities specifically for the Class of 2008. EagleEye also contains "Emory Near Me," a calendar that lists EAA events around the country. The calendar is a way to reach out to parents, who frequently can be just as engaged with the Emory community as alumni.

All issues of EmoryWire ([www.alumni.emory.edu/news/emorywire.html](http://www.alumni.emory.edu/news/emorywire.html)) and The EagleEye View ([www.alumni.emory.edu/eagleeyeview/eagleeyeview.htm](http://www.alumni.emory.edu/eagleeyeview/eagleeyeview.htm)) are viewable on the EAA's Web site. However, if you'd like to subscribe to either publication, please send e-mail to Val Thompson ([valrie.thompson@emory.edu](mailto:valrie.thompson@emory.edu)) at the EAA. She will add you to the appropriate listserv and your e-mailbox will be happier and better informed for it.

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

## PUBLISHING: Insight given on industry trends

Continued from the cover

best way to approach an editor," said Susan Ferber, an executive editor at Oxford University Press-USA.

"Make it very, very clear exactly what you have to say," she said, because pulling it out takes time and effort.

In other words, said Princeton University Press' Chuck Myers, "If we think it's a mess, we're not going to take it on."

Wendy Harris, Johns Hopkins University Press editor, urged authors to keep in mind that "publishers think backwards — from readership to the story — so be absolutely explicit in your project description."

While getting the input of your peers is "incredibly important," Ferber said, the least valuable effort is to have all your peers and friends write and say they'll use it in their courses. "It never happens," she said to laughter.

Crossing over from academic to trade,

or trying to write for audiences in both, is very difficult, several said.

"You really need to pick your audience. Directing a book to the general reader, students, professors — trying to span all areas — is very difficult. On the other hand, if a book has success with one group, others may take a look at it," Harris said.

Unlike in academic publishing, most trade-published books come through an agent, said Dedi Felman, a senior editor at Simon & Schuster.

Henry Dunow, a literary agent, noted that every book on a trade list has two purposes: to make money and be entertaining. "This is not assigned reading," he said.

Authors, he said, can appeal to a wide general audience or to a certain niche.

The symposium also offered opportunities for one-on-one appointments with the representatives of the publishers and literary agencies.

## Single stream recycling puts conference center ahead



The Emory Conference Center Hotel has adopted single stream recycling, which combines mixed recyclables and collects them from the same centralized bin on the same day.

SPECIAL

By KELLY GRAY

As one of only six conference centers in Georgia, the Emory Conference Center Hotel is leaving its competitors behind as it quickly adopts the most progressive recycling and sustainable building practices.

"When you are the only Green Seal-certified hotel in the state, it leaves the door open for new and inventive ideas in hotel management and operations," says Kathryn Johnson, general manager. "Our 'green team' meets every two weeks to discuss new purchasing policies and other ways to become more green."

To make recycling even easier, the ECCH now uses single stream recycling. Single stream recycling combines all mixed recyclables including aluminum, plastic, paper, metal and glass and collects them from the same centralized bin on the same day.

Prior to single stream recycling, ECCH employees had to use seven different recycling bins to separate the items. Now employees are able to dump recyclables into bins located on the loading dock.

"It's easy for our employees to recycle because they don't have to worry about separating any of the items," says Johnson. "And the really great thing is that the

single stream takes all plastics, not just one and two. It also takes all paper products, including mixed, white, coated, etc."

To encourage guest participation, recycling information is posted in every hotel room and recycling bins are located by the elevator landing on each floor and in each of the meeting rooms.

In January, the ECCH spent two days conducting a walkthrough to obtain Green Seal re-certification for the entire conference center. Green Seal certification ensures that a product meets rigorous environmental leadership standards. This gives manufacturers the assurance to back up their claims and purchasers confidence that certified products are better for human health and the environment.

The ECCH has lofty goals regarding sustainability. In addition to Green Seal re-certification, the ECCH is also attempting to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification.

"We anticipate achieving LEED certification for existing buildings for the lobby and meeting space areas and expect to attain LEED silver certification for the expansion of the conference center," says Johnson.

To remain eco-friendly and achieve LEED certification, the ECCH does not use Styrofoam products like cups and plates.

## SNAPSHOT



SPECIAL

### Greece tour a high note for Wind Ensemble

The Aegean Sea provided the backdrop for the Emory Wind Ensemble's performance in Volos, Greece, conducted by Scott Stewart (front row, far left), part of a nine-day performance tour during spring break.

## Class debuts student-produced newscast



Emory's first student-produced television newscast debuted this semester, thanks to a new partnership between the journalism department and Georgia Public Broadcasting.

KRIS WILSON

By KIM URQUHART

The two students poised behind the news desk in a Georgia Public Broadcasting studio don't look nervous. But, confides "Emory News Now" anchor Dane Cohen, "The scary part is, we're live."

"This is the first time most of these students have ever been on camera," said senior lecturer Kris Wilson of Emory's first student-produced television newscast that debuted this semester. "But the important part of the whole pro-

cess is not just to be on camera, but to see what goes on behind the scenes."

Cohen and co-anchor Allison Archer resume practicing their lines. The script is slightly adjusted. The sound engineer conducts a microphone check. From the control room comes the cue: "Roll it," and now, after several run-throughs, the students are on the air.

In a corner of the set Jessie Pounds stands by for her live broadcast, the first time a live

shot will be incorporated into the newscast.

"Every week we add a new element to up their skills," said Wilson, an experienced news director, executive producer, anchor and reporter.

Producing the show is a new element of the journalism program's News Video class. Using the Georgia Public Broadcasting studio is a first-time experiment for Emory, which does not have studio space on campus.

"This was the missing piece in

the News Video course, the ability to take the news packages the students produce in the class and combine them into a show," said Sheila Tefft, journalism program director.

The course provides students with a well-rounded skill set in a digital age as well as multimedia portfolio material.

"As the news media evolved, it became clear to me that the traditional distinction between tracks in journalism education was blurring, and skills were starting to

**"As the news media evolved, it became clear to me that the traditional distinction between tracks in journalism education was blurring, and skills were starting to merge."**

— Sheila Tefft, journalism program director

merge," said Tefft, who worked with Emory College Dean Bobby Paul to launch the augmented course.

Broadcast on Emory Vision and at [www.journalism.emory.edu](http://www.journalism.emory.edu), "Emory News Now" is written and produced entirely by the students, who rotate roles each week as anchor, producer, floor manager and other positions.

Producing the 12-minute news magazine is truly a team effort — and a time commitment. Armed with cameras and notepads, the students spend the week before filming interviews and B-roll on campus and around the city. Tuesday nights often bleed into Wednesday, when the students head to the studio to produce each week's show. "Wednesdays are the best part of the class. That's when you see all your hard work pay off," said Caitlin Yuhas.

After production of each live newscast, the students critique the show. Producer Angela Hong was pleased with the episode, the sixth newscast of the semester. "It's not a perfect show but it came out well," Hong observed. "By the time you do the second run-through you are holding your breath until the anchor says 'Until next time...'"

## Monkeys ape humans in toy choice



Sex differences in rhesus monkeys' toy preferences are similar to humans, Yerkes researchers have found.

SPECIAL

By EMILY RIOS

Researchers at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center have found rhesus monkeys' gender-specific toy preferences directly parallel the preferences human children have, suggesting preferences can develop without socialization factors, such as encouragement to play with gender-specific toys. The

study proposes these sex differences reflect hormonally influenced behavioral and cognitive biases.

"Sex differences in human toy preferences are often thought to occur primarily through socialization influences, such as parents encouraging sons to play with cars and trucks and daughters to play with dolls and stuffed animals," says Yerkes lead research-

er Janice Hassett. "If, however, preferences for gender specific toys exist in other species, then nonsocial factors also may play a role in preference."

Researchers compared the interactions of male and female rhesus macaques with human wheeled toys (masculine) and plush toys (feminine). Like young boys, male monkeys strongly preferred wheeled toys, while female monkeys, similar to young girls, played more equally with both types of toys. Young girls and female monkeys show a broader range of play patterns.

"This suggests that rather than specific socialization determining toy preferences, it's more likely biases in preferences that exist at birth" says Hassett.

These results may be applied to other sex differences. "Traditional thinking is sex differences, such as career choice, are a result of socialization — labeling professions as masculine or feminine," Hassett says. "While this almost certainly occurs, it is possible our early preferences shape our environment such that later in life men and women seek different activities and ways of spending time and resources."

## Study shows culprit in stroke cell damage

By QUINN EASTMAN

Emory researchers have identified a key player in the killing of brain cells after a stroke or a seizure. The protein AEP, or asparagine endopeptidase, unleashes enzymes that break down brain cells' DNA.

Finding drugs that block AEP may help doctors limit permanent brain damage following strokes or seizures, says pathologist Keqiang Ye.

His team's results were published in the March 28 issue of the journal *Molecular Cell*.

When a stroke obstructs blood flow to part of the brain, the lack of oxygen causes a buildup of lactic acid, the same chemical that appears in the muscles during intense exercise. In addition, a flood of chemicals that brain cells usually use to communicate with each other over-excites the cells. Epileptic seizures can have similar effects.

While some brain cells die directly because of lack of oxy-

gen, others undergo programmed cell death, a normal developmental process where cells actively destroy their own DNA.

"The mystery was: how do the acidic conditions trigger DNA damage?" Ye says. "This was a very surprising result because previously we had no idea that AEP was involved in this process."

At first, he and postdoctoral fellow Zhixue Liu thought the results of a critical experiment that led them to AEP were an aberration because the experiment was performed under overly acidic conditions.

"But if you can repeat the mistake, it's not a mistake," Ye says.

Liu and Ye found that a drug scientists use to mimic the acidic overload induced by stroke activates AEP, driving it to break down DNA in brain cells. In mice genetically engineered to lack AEP, both the drug and an artificial stroke resulted in reduced DNA damage and less brain cell death than in regular mice.

## Forum

## FIRST PERSON

## Revealing pain undoes a social fiction



KAY HINTON

**Nancy Eiesland returns to her duties as associate professor of sociology of religion at Candler School of Theology after nine months of medical leave.**

By **NANCY L. EIESLAND**

You are about to learn more about me than I should prudently tell a perfect stranger.

TMI — too much information — is how our self-help society believes we use our experience to aid others. Being a sociologist makes it possible for me to diagnose this reality, but it doesn't make me immune to its power.

For the last 18 months, I've been in the fight of my life to best a drug-resistant staph infection that had invaded my spine — where I had years before had metal implanted to keep me upright.

Colleagues and acquaintances who knew my status as a person with a disability would often say, "I don't think of you having a disability." Of course, their misguided compliments gave me fodder for the truth-telling that they (like many) participated in the

misapprehension that being capable and intelligent was incompatible with being a person with a disability.

But over time, I have realized that I was a collaborator in those stories; many people trotted out this old saw because I didn't think of myself as a person with a disability, though I had long identified as one. I had learned to overachieve, so that my competence was unassailable and my independence was a marker of a true blue American.

As a toddler, I began the operations that were to eliminate my birth defect. But soon the one constant in my body was the register of pain.

In the effort to first quantify and then control pain, the medical world created the insidious pain faces scale. If I'm an 8 am I obliged to drum up tears to begin to approach the picture to be truly convincing? I could never fix a

number to pain, nor did I do well with the multiple choice approach. I always imagine a Freddy Krueger slasher scene during which he might stop and ask me if I'd prefer to be stabbed, burned or beaten.

While a physician may need us to give pain a number and an approximate manifestation, our common work is to construct a social fiction. Social fictions are not false account; sometimes they are experienced as more real because of their co-constructed power. Our social fiction is that, in general, pain can and should be treated and undone.

Obviously, serious critical pain ought to be aggressively treated, but what about life-long pain? After my 11th surgery when I was 13, my surgeons stopped telling me that their cutting would make me pain free. Pain had become my life's poltergeist — as noisy and mischievous as any spirit that might pop up in the random television. It was my real disability, but one that I couldn't mention to those good folks who didn't think of me that way.

Compassionate physicians and psychologists sought to help me control my pain. Despite my ability to do biofeedback on a dime and to compartmentalize better than the Container Store, pain never gave way to my commands.

Mostly I started taking pain medication. In my 44 years, I have tried every legal painkiller. Most of them I liked, because they helped me keep the fiction. I could name myself a person with a disability but I didn't feel dependent, needy or idle — our society's real markers for disability. I could use pain medication to return to doing everything that I wanted in my life; and when pain first oozed in and then exploded on the scene, these meds made it possible to keep me going when pain said "Stop."

My stop came when dependence joined my pain, and that drug-resistant staph infection necessitated first long-term hospitalization, multiple surgeries, and then a medical leave. I was an idle, dependent cripple in pain. Nobody said, "I don't think of you as someone with a disability." For some, it became the only diversity that mattered, it trumped my past productivity and former independence.

However, many more Emory friends cared deeply for my family and me during this time. Professors Regina Werum, Cathy Johnson, Liz Bounds, Bobbi Patterson

and Carol Newsom simply did whatever we needed to keep body and soul in reasonably close proximity to one another. They helped me to know that my life's story wasn't pain, and I had to take proactive steps to put pain in its place.

I will continue to be a person with a real disability as I return to Emory waist-high in the world in order to preserve what remains of my spine. I have had skilled, committed and mostly kind Emory Healthcare physicians who have worked desperately hard to get me to where I am. Doctors Juliet Kottak Mavromatis, Patricia Baumann, John G. Heller, James Roberson, Dale C. Strasser, Bruce S. Ribner, Thomas H. Dodson, and numerous others worked beyond their oaths and obligations to aid my recovery; any failure of health, will, or wit is solely my responsibility.

I am excited to return to Emory for the wealth of intellectual conversations and new students after a year of home confinement. Yet I return with less faith in vague theories of mutuality and interdependency built mostly on expectation of mutual equality, at least in the long run.

We must think more and better about how to counter the humiliation of long-term vulnerability and dependency and how to reverence physical idleness when necessity requires. These tasks are some we are taking up at Candler with Dean Jan Love's support of disability studies in religion.

Finally, I return with pain, but for the first time in at least five years I do not come back on pain killers, mood elevators, or other pharmacological means to dull the ache. I say these things neither to inspire, invite your sympathy or disapproval, nor to chisel into your life in any way. I offer here my experience of pain to remind us that for most of us pain will be an ordinary partner in an ordinary life. The social fiction that long-term pain ought to be treated with more and better drugs is an attractive one.

But even when it is severe and unremitting, I am persuaded that pain is a better friend than is the pain killer. As my life began to reveal, one never can be sure what else within you dies when you try to kill the pain.

## SOUNDBITES

## Dean: State of the Graduate School

In her annual address to the graduate faculty, held on April 15, Dean Lisa A. Tedesco spoke about the Graduate School's priorities in the context of Emory's aspirations.

Tedesco spoke about plans to support professional development for graduate students, opportunities to engage complex problems in innovative ways, measures to reform the funding of graduate education at Emory, and about the challenge to grow with excellence and creativity.

"We are at an exciting moment in graduate education at Emory," she said, ready to launch "a campaign guided by an ambitious vision of progress."

— Ulf Nilsson

## Political perils in clinical trials

"We live in a world where biomedicine and government are intertwined," said Steve Epstein, author of "Inclusion: The Politics of Difference in Medical Research," speaking at a Center for Health, Culture and Society lecture.

The rise of the modern, randomized clinical trial brought a shift in the makeup of human study subjects, from primarily vulnerable populations to primarily middle-aged white males, Epstein said. In recent decades, however, the push for less homogeneous clinical trials caused the NIH to create new research models. "Not only do researchers have to find willing subjects, they have to be diverse," Epstein said.

Ironically, attempts to address the needs of formerly excluded groups through stringent guidelines can also skew data in ways that don't benefit anyone, while actually reinforcing stereotypes. "Instead, what we ought to think about is being more flexible," Epstein said.

— Carol Clark

## Art is trauma, says author Chris Abani

"I try to create a kind of narrative where the readers have to bring their baggage, too," author Chris Abani told Candler School of Theology students who met with him before his public lecture on April 11. Abani, raised in Nigeria and London, spent several years as a political prisoner in Nigeria. He is now a professor at the University of California, Riverside.

Abani spoke of the nature of trauma, suffering and art. "All identity is figured around trauma," Abani said. "All art is trauma. It's a break linearly where you have to stop the flow of time. All religions, all art is about the transformation of trauma. Over time, we've come to view it in different ways."

— Margaret Harouny

## ELECTION: Experts caution Democrats

Continued from the cover

Abramowitz said.

"It will take extraordinary talent for the Democrats to lose the election, but then again, Democrats have never been short on talent," Westen quipped later.

Just mere months ago, Hillary Clinton was the presumptive nominee until Obama switched

tactics, Westen said. With few real policy differences between Clinton and Obama, the race comes down to personal appeal. When Obama allowed himself to be the great communicator the American public first saw at the Democratic convention in 2004, "his numbers went up exponentially," Westen said.

As for Clinton, casting herself as a "change agent" hasn't really

worked. "She has had difficulty making that argument all along. While women can take advantage of their outsider status, Obama has captured that appeal much more," said Reingold. But like Obama in regards to race, Clinton has had the challenge of being "feminine enough to appear human but not too feminine and be perceived as weak."

Baxter cautioned that he

sees complacency among Democrats going in to the general election. "They need to remember that they will be going up against a Republican war hero who pulled off a miracle in winning the nomination ... Republicans may sit around and say they aren't going to vote for a candidate, but they reliably turn out every November for the party's nominee."

Items are compiled from the University's master calendar, Events@Emory, and from individual submissions to Emory Report. Submit events at least two weeks prior to the publication date at [www.events.emory.edu](http://www.events.emory.edu) or [christi.gray@emory.edu](mailto:christi.gray@emory.edu). Listings are subject to space limitations.

## ADVANCE NOTICE

### Sudan focus of conference April 26

Student activists from Emory and around the country will gather for the second annual "Paperclips for Peace in Sudan" conference, which will include a photo exhibit, film screenings and panel discussions focused on the ongoing genocide in Darfur. The conference takes place April 26 from 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m. in the Math and Science Center.

In conjunction with the conference, Adam Sterling, actor, activist and executive director of the Sudan Divestment Task Force, will speak at 7 p.m. April 25 in the Goizueta Quadrangle. Sterling will introduce a free, public screening of the documentary "Darfur Now."

Tickets for the conference are \$5 and will be available at the door, with all proceeds going to CARE. For more information, contact Danielle Smith at 810-334-0442 or e-mail questions to [pfmemory@gmail.com](mailto:pfmemory@gmail.com).

### Alumnus to sign autobiography

Emory Law alumnus Marvin Arrington '67L will sign copies of his book April 28 at 4:30 p.m. at the Miller-Ward Alumni House.

Arrington's autobiography, "Making My Mark: The Story of a Man Who Wouldn't Stay in His Place," has just been published by Mercer University Press.

A Fulton County Superior Court judge since 2002, Arrington also served several decades as a trustee of Emory.

The native Atlantan tells the story of his determination to escape the confines of economic adversity through academic and professional success.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the signing.

### Doc's bag opened for children

Neil Shulman, associate professor of general medicine, will perform in a show that shows kids "What's in a Doctor's Bag?" on April 26, in 208 White Hall at 1 p.m.

Shulman will teach children about Otis the Otoscope, Lubba Dubba the Stethoscope and other costumed versions of instruments. The audience will also learn about shots — why they're given and how they work.

Every child at the free show will receive a certificate for completing the "medical school." Coloring books and activity sheets that complement the show can be accessed at [www.whatsinadoctorsbag.com](http://www.whatsinadoctorsbag.com).

To RSVP or for more information, e-mail [LM-coope@emory.edu](mailto:LM-coope@emory.edu) or call 404-727-7134.

## Athletics

Tuesday, April 22

**Men's Baseball vs. Oglethorpe University.** 3 p.m.\*

Wednesday, April 23

**Men's Tennis vs. Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.** 3 p.m.\*

Friday, April 25

**Men's Tennis UAA Championships.** All day. Through April 27.\*

\*Woodruff P.E. Center. Free. 404-727-6447.

## Film

Wednesday, April 23

**"Alice."** 8 p.m. 205 White Hall. 404-727-6761.

Thursday, April 24

**Sports and Social Change Film Series: Documentary on Jack Johnson.** 8 p.m. 205 White Hall. Free. 404-727-6761.

Friday, April 25

**Sports and Social Change Film Series: "The Prohibition of Fight Pictures: The Difference between Jack Johnson and Jack Dempsey."** 4 p.m. 205 White Hall. Free. 404-727-6761.

## Performing Arts

Wednesday, April 23

**THEATER EMORY: "Oh What a Lovely War."** Donald McManus, directing. 7 p.m. Mary Gray Monroe Theatre. Pay-What-You-Can Night. 404-727-5050. Also April 24-26 at 7 p.m. and April 27 at 2 p.m. \$18; \$14 discount categories; \$6 students.

Thursday, April 24

**Emory Dance Company Spring Concert.** 8 p.m. Dance Studio, Schwartz Center. \$8; \$4 discount categories and students. 404-727-5050. Also on April 25 at 8 p.m. and April 26 at 2 and 8 p.m.

Friday, April 25

**Emory Concert Choir.** Eric Nelson, director. 8 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050.

Saturday, April 26

**Emory Guitar Ensemble.** Brian Luckett, director. 8 p.m. Performing Arts Studio. Free. 404-727-5050.

Sunday, April 27

**Undergraduate Recital.** Colin Baylor and Caroline Marcum, piano, performing. 2 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050.

**Undergraduate Recital.** Elizaveta Agladze, voice, performing. 3:30 p.m. Performing Arts Studio, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050.

**Graduate Recital.** Jeremy Selvey, choral, performing. 5 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050.

## Religion

Sunday, April 27

**University Worship.** Don Saliers, retired faculty, Candler School of Theology, preaching. 11 a.m. Cannon Chapel. 404-727-6225.

## Seminars

Tuesday, April 22

**"Gender Violence and Gender Justice: Rethinking the Meaning of Post-Conflict."** Pam Skully, women's and African studies, presenting. Noon. Zaban Room, The Carter Center. Free. 404-727-6447.

**"ARF GTPases and the Regulation of Receptor Function."** Audrey Claing, University of Montreal, presenting. Noon. 5052 Rollins Research Center. Free. 404-727-5983.

**"New Translation of Hoelderlin's Empedocles."** David Farrell Krell, DePaul University, presenting. 4:15 p.m. 111 White Hall. Free. 404-727-7966.

Wednesday, April 23

**"Rootless in Reloville: The New Mobile Homeless."** Peter Kilborn, author, presenting. 4 p.m. 415E Briarcliff Campus. Free. 404-727-3440.

**AntiquiTEA: "From Distribution to the Dynasties: How the Wine Trade Created Egyptian Civilization."** Phil Guenter Dryer, German Institute of Archaeology, Cairo, presenting. 4 p.m. Reception Hall, Carlos Museum. Free. 404-727-6118.

**Goodwin and Rose Helen Breinin Lectureship in Basic Sciences.** Elizabeth Neufeld, University of California, Los Angeles, presenting. 4 p.m. Harland Cinema. Free. 404-727-5962.

**"Democracy Needs Leaders Who Are Prepared to Serve the People."** Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge, presenting. 4 p.m. Room 120, School of Medicine. Free. 404-727-1425.

**"Prospects for Global Health."** Solomon Benatar, University of Cape Town, presenting. 7 p.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. [benatarrsvp@emory.edu](mailto:benatarrsvp@emory.edu).

Thursday, April 24

**"Passe or Pertinent: Modern Anticoagulation Control!"** Alexander Duncan, pathology and laboratory medicine, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-778-1903.

**"Using Zebrafish to Reveal Principles of Neural Circuit Function."** David McLean, Cornell University, presenting. 9 a.m. 600 Whitehead Research Building. Free. 404-727-7401.

**"The Apples of Our Eyes: Innovation, Art and Ownership in American Fruits."** Daniel Kevles, Yale University, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 276 School of Nursing. Free. 404-727-6722.

**"Battling Disease at the Grassroots Level: A Case Study in Ethiopia." Webcast-Only Panel Discussion.** 7 p.m. Webcast. Free. 404-420-5124. [carterweb@emory.edu](mailto:carterweb@emory.edu).

Sunday, April 27

**"Imagined Biographies and Unwritten Readings: Authors and Texts in Indian Literatures."** Velcheru Narayana Rao, University of Wisconsin, presenting. Jones Room, Woodruff Library. 3:30 p.m. Free. 404-727-2108.

Monday, April 28

**HEALTH SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION SEMINAR: "The Missing Link in Health Reform."** Kenneth Thorpe, public health, presenting. 4 p.m. PO1 School of Nursing. 404-727-8889.

## Special

Ongoing

**Earth Week at Emory.** Various locations. Free. 404-727-9916. Through April 25.

Wednesday, April 23

**Administrative Professionals Day: "Forward Moving: Education Celebration."** 8 a.m. Ballroom, Cox Hall. \$150. 404-727-5430.

**Crucial Conversations for Staff. Two-day course.** 8 a.m. 1599 Clifton Road. \$225 (book, workbook and CD). 404-727-7607.

## Visual Arts

Now Showing

**"Democratic Vistas: Exploring the Danowski Poetry Collection."** Schatten Gallery, Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-5050. Through May 26.

**"Visions and Revisions: An Exhibition of Poems in Process From MARBL's Literary Collections."** MARBL, Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-5050. Through May 21.

**Lost Kingdoms of the Nile Exhibition and Sub-Saharan African Galleries.** Carlos Museum, 3rd Floor. \$7 suggested donation. 404-727-4282. Through Aug. 31.



David Sanchez



Gary Motley

SPECIAL

## Sanchez joins Emory's Motley, Big Band

Four-time Grammy nominee and Latin Grammy Award-winning composer and tenor saxophonist David Sanchez joins the Emory Big Band directed by Gary Motley for a free concert on April 22 at 8 p.m. in the Schwartz Center Concert Hall.

Sanchez, an Emory Coca-Cola Artist-in-Residence, began his musical studies at the age of 8 in his native Puerto Rico. He continues to push the frontiers of jazz by incorporating an array of Latin and Afro-Caribbean influences.

For information call 404-727-5050 or visit [www.arts.emory.edu](http://www.arts.emory.edu).

—Jessica Moore