Mellon grant to fund civil rights scholarships

By Beverly Clark

Emory has received a $400,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for a visiting scholars program that will significantly boost modern civil rights-era scholarship through research, teaching and faculty development. The program, to be housed in Emory’s James Weldon Johnson Institute for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies, is the first of its kind to bring together a community of scholars solely focused on the study of the modern civil rights era, from 1905 to today.

The program will build on Atlanta’s and Emory’s existing strengths in civil rights era research, and help firmly establish the University and the city as international centers for civil rights scholarship, said Rudolph Byrd, professor of American studies, who founded the Johnson Institute in 2004 and will direct the Mellon program. “It is our hope that the Mellon Scholars program will reveal the vibrant points of intersection between the civil rights movement and other social movements in the United States and elsewhere that are committed to human dignity, nonviolence, reconciliation and progressive social change,” Byrd said. “Through the Mellon program, we also hope to produce at Emory a new generation of scholars committed to the investigation of a social movement that is part of our national heritage, our future as Americans and our enduring and dynamic gift to humankind.”

For scholars participating in the Mellon program, the African American Collection of the Johnson Institute will be a key research resource.

Emory’s resident bhangra team, Karma, performed at a mock Hindu wedding ceremony held April 21 in Cannon Chapel. Their performance followed the baraat, or processional, in which the groom is led to the bride astride a horse with musicians and dancers following him. The ceremony was sponsored by the Hindu Students Council, the Inter-Religious Council and the Office of Multicultural Services in an effort to educate the Emory community about Hindu religious traditions and ceremonies.

Luminaries lined the Quadrangle as the Emory community remembered the victims of the Virginia Tech shootings that one week earlier left 33 dead. The candlelight commemoration on April 23 followed a silent vigil that afternoon, where a moment of silence was broken only by the tolling of the Cox Hall bell.

For more photos from the vigils, please turn to page 7.

Emory has a long tradition of remembering civil rights leaders, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who delivered the commencement address at Emory in 1967. The university also holds a civil rights scholarship, said Rudolph Byrd, professor of American studies and director of the Mellon program. “The Mellon program builds on that,” he said. “It’s a natural extension.”

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ROSS TO CONTINUE MIDDLE EAST DIALOGUE

Emory is sponsoring continuing dialogues about conflict and peace-building in the Middle East. On Tuesday, May 1 at 4:30 p.m. Ambassador Dennis Ross, former envoy to the Middle East for presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, will discuss “The Missing Peace: The Past and Future of the Middle East Process.”

The lecture, to be held in Gwinnett Memorial Auditorium, is open to both the Emory community and the general public. Tickets are not required. Parking will be available in the Fishtube and Peavine decks. A book-signing will follow.

Gupta book-signing rescheduled for May 9

Sanjay Gupta, Emory neurosurgeon and CNN medical correspondent, will discuss his new book “Chasing Life: New Discoveries in the Search for Immortality That Will Help You Age Less Today” at a book-signing and reception. The new date for the book-signing, postponed due to the Virginia Tech tragedy, is Wednesday, May 9, from 6:30 to 8 p.m in the lobby and auditorium area of the Piedmont Whitehead Biomedical Research Center.

JOHNS TO DISCUSS EMORY AS MODEL FOR HEALTH

Michael E. Johns, executive vice president for health affairs and CEO of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center, will speak on “Realizing Vision 2012: Transforming Health and Health Care” Wednesday, May 30, at 4:30 p.m. in the WHSAC Auditorium.

The Emory University community is invited to join Johns as he discusses progress to date on Emory’s new centers of excellence, new clinical and research facilities, strategic initiatives in global and predictive health, including the new Center for Health Discovery and Well-Being at the midtown campus; new recruitments; and other factors that will differentiate the Woodruff Health Sciences Center as a model for health and healing in the 21st century.

Placing Emory in the path of beauty

Tom Frank is professor of religious leadership and administration in the Candler School of Theology.

Over the next decade Emory will remake itself as a university. The campus master plan is astonishing in scope. It calls for a forest of new dormitories, long-anticipated classroom and research buildings, a state-of-the-art hospital and clinic, and surrounding mixed-use villages for integrating life, work and leisure. The plan fingers for demolition some buildings that have arisen willfully over the years to disrupt campus vistas and architectural integrity. It will be nice not to have to look at some of these.

The plan further reinforces Emory’s historic character as a physically compact campus relative to most other major universities. This density, while putting immense pressure on our available land, has nurtured a sense of community and shared purpose remarkable for a contemporary university. Our physical continuity has enabled us to develop numerous interdisciplinary research projects, joint degree programs and shared institutes that connect our intellectual passions with concrete issues in world societies.

At Emory a lot of people know each other and seek opportunities to work together, to an extent that is distinct among schools of this stature. In the future even more people, mainly students, but soon also staff and faculty will have the opportunity to live in close proximity and build the relationships that continually refresh a strong and purposeful community.

The plan also honors our place in the land by protecting acres of Emory’s forests and waterways from any built development and providing for plantings around new construction that will last for generations. New structures will be more ecologically sound and energy-efficient, on sites in which the built environment is more sensitively matched with the natural environment. Emory’s campus will be an even more beautiful environment.

We have an opportunity, through design, construction and ultimately our use of these new structures and patterns, to place ourselves in the path of beauty.

In her succinct and passionate book “On Beauty and Being Just,” Harvard professor of aesthetics Elaine Scarry argues that “to misplace beauty” and hence of creativity in our use of these new structures and spaces can constitute the time of productivity and progress, the march of time, the time that we keep, spend or waste that we neglect the spaces of our lives in which we live in companion with the natural harmony with the land and extend our collective story in this place. We have come a long way in the intervening 13 years — the Piedmont Project, sustainability initiatives, the Transforming Community Project and now the campus plan, and countless initiatives that bring collaboration between departments and schools. In many ways, we have only been deepening our grasp of what it means to be an arts and sciences university here on these hills.

Former Missoula, Mont., mayor Dan Kemmis once wrote that “what makes a city a good city is not its capacity to distract, but the way in which it creates presence” — a certain fitness between time, space and movement that sits a sense of place. So what makes a university a good university? Perhaps at the core it is a certain fitness between our natural, built and social environment, a fitness that relieves our distractions and focuses our attention, sparks creative frictions among our differences, and opens the way to discovery.

Construction has begun and it will be a disruptive decade of red mud. But it will also be a decade of new spaces, new flows of movement and new encounters. This can be Emory’s moment. We have an opportunity, through design, construction and ultimately our use of these new structures and patterns, to place ourselves in the path of beauty.
By Carol Clark

Blessings come in unexpected ways when your namesake is an obscure Irish saint. Just ask Cinnat Howett, director of Emory’s sustainability initiatives, who was named after St. Marnin, a medieval martyr of Dublin. “Believe it or not, Cinnat is pronounced ‘key-nut’,” she says. “I could never correct them because I thought, if your name is the biggest cash crop of Georgia, it couldn’t be a bad thing.”

When she proudly cherishes its Irish ancestry, Howett is deeply rooted in Atlanta and the Druid Hills neighborhood where she grew up. Her father was John Howett, who taught history at Emory for 35 years.

Her vision for sustainability at Emory draws from her childhood, when she lived near Peavine Creek and the University was practically her backyard. “I have great memories of riding my bike around campus,” she recalls. “The rolling hills and all of the streams flowing through here were irresistible for a kid!”

From campus, she could pedal over to Horton’s, a five-and-dime located in the space that has since burned down. “It was a great opportunity for students in marine ecology. It made my law school experience so much richer,” she says.

Howett went on to work as an environmental attorney for a Washington D.C. law firm before landing a coveted job as a senior lawyer for the Environmental Protection Agency in 1996. “It was a dream job,” says Howett, who focused on pollution caused by industrialized hog farming operations.

When the administration changed, however, so did the atmosphere at the EPA. Her boss, Eric Schaeffer, resigned as director of EPA regulatory enforcement after publicly stating his view that the Bush administration was weakening enforcement of the Clean Air Act and other laws. Howett felt similarly discouraged and left the agency in 2002 to become director of the Atlanta office of the Southern Environmental Law Center.

Howett jumped at the chance to become Emory’s first director of sustainability in 2006. It’s a job that draws on many of her passions, and the University is like a second home to her. “I was lucky enough to have a class with Homer Sharp,” Howett says. “He was a professor at Oxford College, a biologist, and a completely captivating person. He knew every square inch of the natural world of Georgia, what stream flowed into, and which Native American tribe used it. They say that one professor can change your life, and he’s that one for me.”

Director of Sustainability Initiatives Cinnat Howett’s vision for sustainability at Emory draws from her childhood, when the University was practically her backyard.

Howett is not daunted by the University’s ambitious sustainability goals, such as a 25 percent reduction in energy use on the campus by 2015. “I’m proud of Emory for setting a high bar,” she says.

“The Mixed-up Files of Mrs. McNut,” she recalls. “The rolling hills and all of the streams flowing through here were irresistible for a kid!”

She saw her first movie, “A couple of the legislators regularly referred to me as ‘Peanut,’” she says. “I never corrected them because I thought, if your name is the biggest cash crop of Georgia, it couldn’t be a bad thing.”

“My family has a lot of loyalty to this place.”

She lives in Decatur with her husband, Cullen Marose, within biking distance of campus, although biking is no longer considered the ideal experience of her childhood. “I get scared sometimes by the traffic,” Howett says, of the days she cycles to work. “Houston Mill Road is especially scary. We all know that has to change.”

Howett and her husband, Cullen Marose, are both environmental attorneys and work together on Earth Day and celebrate the dedication of an environmental gem near our campus,” says park committee member David Payne.

In its preserved state, the property will provide an environmentally friendly, aesthetically pleasing transition between the residential homes in Druid Hills and the commercial district in Emory Village.

GREENSPACE

Burbank Park dedication protects property for future generations
Euthanasia among topics explored at ‘Changing the Way We Die’

BY CAROL CLARK

An elderly woman with Alzheimer’s is chained to a wheelchair so that she can’t fall out. She was a ballerina in her prime. Now she spends her days confined to a locked ward, smiling and picturing down the hall in the chaîne.

“There was genuine joy in her face,” recalled Timothy Jackson, associate professor of Christian ethics at Candler, who worked one summer in the facility where the woman was kept. “She was no longer autonomous, but she still possessed sanctity and, most fundamentally, was able to give and receive love.”

What if the woman, when she had still been lucid and knew what lay ahead, had been given the option of a physician-assisted suicide? Would that be moral?

The recent Emory conference, “Changing the Way We Die: Religion, Medicine and Improving the Dying Process,” opened with a euthanasia discussion between Jackson and Margaret Battin, distinguished professor of philosophy and adjunct professor of internal medicine at the University of Utah.

Jackson strongly opposed the notion of physician-assisted suicide, and used the case of the chained ballerina to underline his point. “A health care professional should not facilitate the death of a patient,” he said. “I fear that even if a consensual request is made, we’re harming that patient by breaching the sanctity of life.”

Battin countered: “Others will feel that to take someone whose life was about freedom of movement, and to see her reduced to being chained to a wheelchair in a nursing home, is to harm her.”

“Impairing the sanctity of life,” said Battin, “does not mean that a terminally ill person should have a right to choose the best death possible for them. ‘The principle of autonomy is active in all other parts of our adult lives. It should also be included at the very end.’”

Jackson, however, said that active euthanasia, or physician-assisted suicide, is an immoral act, and that modern medicine offers goods pain management and palliative care. “Autonomy is very important,” he acknowledged. “But acceptance, persistence and patience may be the highest virtues. I don’t want to deny that there is tragedy at the end of life. But we’re not here to remove all tragedy if it can’t be done without dubious means.”

While he argued against active euthanasia, Jackson said he could accept the morality of “passive euthanasia,” or withholding artificial means of life support for a terminally ill patient that preferred to die, or a brain-dead patient. “There is a distinction between taking the action of killing the patient and withholding or withdrawing treatment,” Jackson said.

Battin asked if being in favor of passive euthanasia, but not active euthanasia, was hypocritical. “Isn’t it crueler to rely on the slow breakdown of bodily functions, the failure of organs, rather than the painless administration of a drug?”

During the Q&A session that followed, a physician in the audience asked if studies had been done on the number of doctors who give escalating doses of morphine, under the guise of a painkiller, knowing that the larger doses will result in death.

“You’re certainly right that it goes on,” Battin responded. “I would agree with you that it should be recognized as euthanasia. There’s no protection for this. No paperwork or vetting of whether the patient is competent. It just happens. That’s what we ought to be disturbed about.”

She said that it would be better to regulate the practice, so that people could discuss the matter openly with their physicians.

“No situation is so bad that it can’t be made worse with a bad law,” countered Jackson.

Another audience member asked if it was possible that in a secular, humanistic society this discussion would not be necessary.

Battin agreed, but said, “I think that faith also has enormously positive things to bring to this.”

Jackson commented: “Religion is not great, but God is.”

Healthy profits drive healthy menu options, study shows

BY ASHAANTE DOBBS

Ever wonder why many fast-food restaurants don’t offer healthy menu options? The decision to put healthy alternatives like salads and veggies on the menu is heavily influenced by restaurateurs’ concerns for healthy profits, said Emory University public health researcher Karen Glanz and colleagues in the April issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

The article, “How Major Restaurant Chains Plan Their Menus: The Role of Profit, Demand and Health,” confirms what many have speculated to be the motivation behind restaurant chains’ menu selections — growing sales and increased profits.

Researchers interviewed 41 senior menu development and marketing executives at leading U.S. casual dining and fast-food restaurant chains. The results: Growing sales and increasing profits are the most important considerations (61 percent) when determining menu options. Only 21 percent of executives said health and nutrition were important.

Some executives expressed interest in providing low-fat, low-calorie foods and fresh fruits and vegetables on their menus. But the majority of chains interviewed said they would not add new items to their menus unless they are confident that their customer base will accept them and that the items will contribute to sales and profit growth. Fast-food chains also indicated that their consumers wanted menu changes more often than did full-service restaurant respondents.

“Many companies are reluctant to increase healthy food choices on menus due to perceptions of low consumer demand, inconsistent quality and availability of produce, high spoilage, increased storage needs and complexity of preparation,” said Glanz, who led the study’s Research Advisory Committee, which also produced scientists from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other universities.

“Underlying all of these is a general belief that such products have not generated profits for their business and their competitors,” she added.

The restaurant chains were selected based on industry leadership position, diverse menu categories and strong growth history or trends. Efforts were made to recruit executives from companies with varying sales volumes and different types of service. The study respondents came from 28 chains and represented 28 percent of sales from all U.S. restaurant chains with more than $50 million in annual revenue.

The research was funded by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to the Produce for Better Health Foundation.
Funding Executive Leadership Program at Goizueta Business School has teamed up with Goizueta Business School’s Nonprofit Studies Program and the Georgia Center for Nonprofits to offer a new program that will be the first of its kind in the Southeast. The Executive Leadership Program for Nonprofit Organizations, a week-long executive development institute, will debut June 25–29 at the Emory Conference Center.

Nonprofit organizations add a daunting number of society’s most critical needs and are one of the fastest growing segments of the economy. The ELPNO is designed to help senior and emerging nonprofit executives navigate the sector’s challenges, such as competition for resources, issues of governance and accountability, and an impending leadership gap, according to Kelly Bean, executive director of the Emory Executive Development.

Peter Topping, associate professor at Goizueta and co-organizer of the ELPNO, said effective, proactive leadership is the key to surviving and thriving — in an uncertain world.

“You need a combination of three things to be effective in nonprofits today: technical expertise in your field, business acumen on how to manage an organization, and leadership capabilities,” Topping said. “The need for these skills and understanding of current best practices, that’s where we come in.”

Each of the program’s five days will focus on an overall theme, with issues ranging from strategic leadership to managing resources. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with a dynamic group of professional colleagues and executive educators who Topping described as a “melting pot” of topics.

“There’s nothing in the Southeast that matches this level, with this kind of horsepower in the program.”

The ELPNO is designed as a “highly interactive, meaningful learning experience” that will help nonprofit executives perform at their highest possible level.

“Each participant will be bringing to the program key challenges that they’re facing and we’ll help them work through that, so there will be a lot of applied learning,” Topping said.

“The goal is to be practical, not theoretical, and to help them advance their organization.”

The ELPNO is not simply a training program, Topping emphasized. It’s an education.

“Our goal is to help people to think differently, to look at their organization in more comprehensive, systemic ways, as well as drilling down to some pretty specific nuts and bolts that can be applied the next day.”

Topping, whose background includes starting a nonprofit management institute at Duke University, explained that the ELPNO is the result of more than a year of planning. Topping and his colleagues examined a dozen programs at Harvard, Stanford and Northwestern universities to design the ELPNO.

“We’re not trying to compete with anybody, but to be a need in our region,” Topping explained.

“There’s nothing in the Southeast that matches this level, with this kind of horsepower in the program.”

The UPS Foundation is a key sponsor of the program, which has also received support in the corporate, foundation and local communities.

“The partners have worked very hard to keep tuition as affordable as possible,” said Topping, and are providing partial scholarships for enabling their colleagues in the nonprofit sector to attend.

Topping said that response has been strong for the inaugural version of the program, and organizers hope it will be the first of many more to come.

For more information on the program or to register, visit www.ncgn.org. For more information on Emory’s Executive Development, visit www.emoryexced.com.

EMORYLIBRARIES

MARBL exhibition draws from the papers of the late Benny Andrews

BY RANDALL BURKETT

On May 8 the Manuscript Archives and Rare Book Library opens an exhibition drawn from the papers of late Georgia artist Benny Andrews (1930–2006). Andrews — born in Madison, Georgia — was an artist and activist who drew upon his deep roots in Georgia, his diverse interests and his family, and his intimate familiarity with the religious and folk culture of the rural South.

The exhibition “Benny Andrews: Voice of the Artist” highlights the development of Andrews’s creative work as well as his dedication to advocacy and education. Andrews believed passionately in fostering a supportive environment in which young artists could develop their talents, and his work with students at all levels demonstrated this commitment.

His devotion to education extended beyond the classroom, perhaps best exemplified by his work with prisoners. In the early 1970s, Andrews began teaching an art class at the Manhattan House of Detention, known as “The Tombs.” From that single class grew a major art program in the New York prison system that became a model for similar programs throughout the country. The exhibition includes photographs and letters that document Andrews’s passion and dedication as well as the ways in which he inspired his students.

Andrews worked tirelessly to promote the inclusion of African American artists in major contemporary American museums such as the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. As one of the founders of the Black Emergence Cultural Alliance, a group promoting the interests of black artists — he gained a reputation as a determined activist who drew upon his talents not only as a visual artist but also as a writer and organizer.

Andrews was highly critical of art critics who marginalized the work of African American artists through neglect or biased commentary. However, he also recognized the value of criticism, and as the first African American director of the Visual Arts program of the National Endowment for the Arts, he secured funding for more art criticism.

The MARBL exhibition includes original works of art by Andrews drawn from public and private collections. It also features examples from the 17 sketchbooks Andrews produced while serving in the Air Force and while studying at the School of the Art Institute in Chicago. These sketchbooks include pencil, ink, pastel, charcoal and watercolor pictures and sketches, as well as diary entries that detail his evolving philosophical approach to art.

The MARBL exhibition “Benny Andrews: Voice of the Artist,” opens Tuesday, May 8, with a talk by Emeritus Professor Richard Long at 7 p.m. in the Jones Room of the Woodruff Library. A reception in MARBL’s 16th Floor space follows.

EMORYREPORT

April 30, 2007

BUSINESS SCHOOL

Goizueta teams up with local partners to offer new program

BY KIM URQUHART

Goizueta Business School has teamed up with Georgia State University’s Nonprofit Studies Program and the Georgia Center for Nonprofits to offer a new program that will be the first of its kind in the Southeast. The Executive Leadership Program for Nonprofit Organizations, a week-long executive development institute, will debut June 25–29 at the Emory Conference Center.

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**SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH**

**Emory joins ranks of supercomputing schools**

**BY ROBIN TRICOLLES**

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mory scientists will soon enjoy more computa-
tional muscle thanks to the University’s acquisition of a new high-performance com-
puter that will outpace 98 percent of the world’s top supercomputing schools. The 1,024 CPU-core cluster will signifi-
cantly enhance Emory’s existing computational resources, accel-
erating the pace of scientific discovery in a variety of fields including cancer biology, genomics, epidemiology, neuroscience, genomics, physiology, engineering, and training.

Anticipated to be up and running by June, the new clus-
ter will likely place Emory on the list of the world’s 500 most powerful supercomputing sites.

"This high-performance computer cluster will enable researchers to accomplish a variety of experiments — using computational simulations, which would prove impractical, impos-
sible or too costly to do using conventional laboratory meth-
ods," said Vice President for Information Technology Richard Mendola.

Researchers previously have had the options of invest-
ing in smaller supercomputing hardware and creating and man-
aging their own computational clusters, using one of Emory’s smaller, general-purpose clus-
ters, or writing grant proposals to obtain extramural funding for comput-
ing in small-scale computer systems.

"By Janet Christenbury"

**EMORY EVENTS**

**HPV vaccine and cervical cancer prevention focus of free seminar**

**BY JANET CHRISTENBURY**

E

mory medical experts will host a free semi-
nar to discuss the most common sexually transmitted disease, how it can lead to cancer and the new vaccine for prevention available.

Two experts will be solving real problems with the use of new imaging techniques.

Using the new cluster, Karellas, a Georgia Cancer Co
er Distinguished Scholar, and radiology faculty Ioannis Jenkins hopes to determine how to detect the disease earlier in its course, thus increasing the chance for effective treatment.

"With the former clus-
ter, some of the simulations we wished to undertake would have taken several months and even years of com-
putation time, making this type of research impossible. Computational power that would have taken us months now will take no more than a few days. The new cluster will vastly widen our horizon in terms of what we can achieve in this field," Karellas said.

Like Karellas, researcher Andrew Jenkins said he will use the new computational cluster to improve patient safety and treatment. Jenkins, an assistant professor of anes-
thesiology in Emory’s School of Medicine, explores precisely how general anesthetics affect the central nervous system. The new supercomputer will enable rigorous computer simulations, Jenkins hopes to create safer and more effective general anesthetics.

"We do not yet really understand how anesthetics work at the molecular level. But an important part in better understanding these substances involves simulating how the structure and function of neu-
rotransmitter receptors are regulated by specific anesthetics — alone and in combination," Jenkins said.

"The only way we can efficiently simulate the anesthetics’ effect on the cen-
tral nervous system is by using the new high-performance computer cluster, which the new cluster will allow us to do."

The supercomputer initially will be offering researchers compli-
catory computer time to help them familiarize themselves with the new cluster, Mendola said.

"After that, we’re pricing the subscriptions so that the cost to faculty members will be cheaper than buying their own hardware or leasing it."

"The day we flip the switch, faculty will begin using the new cluster, and they’ll be solving real problems with this new capacity. For them, the setup of the cluster can’t happen fast enough," Mendola said.

Emory’s High Performance Computing Group will be overhauling the installation and testing the bottom lines of the new cluster.

The cluster was purchased from Sun Microsystems and networking switches from Foundry Networks. The cluster will run the Linux operating system, which is a scheduler that will allow researchers to simultane-
ously submit hundreds of processes. Researchers will be able to use various software applications depending on the type of research they are con-
ducting.

"As far as a cancer vaccine goes, this is the best we have," said Ault, who has been work-
ing on the HPV vaccine for more than a decade. "In four or five generations, we have gone from cervical cancer being the most common cause of cancer deaths in the United States for women to being a vaccine-pre-
ventable disease. That’s a really remarkable story. One of this research over the last 50 to 60 years."

Yet still 10 women die each day from cervical cancer in the U.S., Ault said. Rates in Fulton County alone are about twice the national average.

Along with Ault, Emory experts Mary Dolan, primary care gynecologist; Cyril Spann, cervical cancer symptoms and treatments; and Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, ado-
lescent gynecology care, will speak at the May 14 education-
al seminar.

For more information, call 404-778-7777.

**SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH**

**Yerkes researchers awarded $10M for comparative aging study**

**BY EMILY RIOS**

T

e nation’s National Institute on Aging has granted 0 million to the Yerkes National Primate Research Center. More than $10 million will be used to fund new initiatives that compare changes that occur in normal aging humans, wild primates and humans with mild cognitive impairment to changes that occur in nonhuman primates, in particular chimpanzees and rhesus macaques.

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"As humans age, verbal knowledge remains stable while short-term memory, working memory, mental processing speed and long-term memory decrease," said lead researcher at Jim Herndon, Yerkes research professor. "Using Alzheimer’s disease as the model, we are hopeful this study will help us determine how to detect the disease earlier in its course, thus increasing the chance for effective treatment."

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As a result of geography as the spiritual home of the modern civil rights movement and rich archival collections, Atlanta already has numerous scholars at Emory and the Atlanta University Center who are engaged in research on the modern civil rights movement. At Emory alone there are about 29 scholars pursuing research related to civil rights that span the arts, humanities, social sciences, theology and law.

“The announcement of the grant and the development of the Johnson Institute come at a critical stage in Emory’s history,” said Provost Earl Lewis, Asa G. Candler Professor of History and African American Studies at Emory, and head of the nation’s leading scholars on civil rights and the history of the African American experience.

“We have a number of wonderful scholars already working on aspects of the civil rights struggle, and we look to add others. Their strengths, combined with the skills and insights of the fellows in the program, will make this university a significant gathering place for the study of all dimensions of civil rights. Equally important, the new grant dovetails with the city’s efforts to establish a Center for Human and Civil Rights. Both developments speak to an exciting and productive future.”

Administered by the Johnson Institute and sponsored by the departments of African American Studies, English, history, music and the American studies program in the Graduate Institute of the Liberal Arts, the program will support three to five faculty members and independent scholars, both junior and senior, each academic year. Emory will become the first cohort of visiting scholars during the academic year 2008-2009.

The visiting scholars program is open to scholars in the humanities, the humanistic social sciences and law. In addition to Byrd, faculty from Emory College, Cardozo School of Theology, School of Law, as well as Morehouse College and Spelman College will participate in the Mellon program. Along with research, visiting scholars will teach one course per year and participate in a colloquium series sponsored by the Johnson Institute and host public lectures.

The MGTF grew out of the Emory-Dillard Graduate Teaching Fellowship, a Mellon-funded partnership between Emory and Dillard University, a historically black institution in New Orleans. Host institutions in the MGTF consortium have expanded to include Agnes Scott College, Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College and Spelman College. This multi-institutional partnership helps further strengthen Emory’s ties in the Southeast among liberal arts colleges, research universities and historically black colleges and universities, said Professor of American Studies Rudolph P. Byrd, co-founder of both the MGTF and the Emory-Dillard program.

The upcoming fellowship year will mark the return to New Orleans of two fellows after Hurricane Katrina had kept participation at Dillard’s campus on hold. “We’re delighted that our longest-standing consortium member is able to join the group and host fellows again,” said Associate Professor of Sociology Regina Werum, co-director of the MGTF.

Fostering the professional teaching skills of graduate students is a major goal of the program. The fellowship also helps to strengthen the graduate education at Emory, and reflects many of the aspirations of the University’s strategic plan.

“The program helps to prepare future faculty through the tremendous experience of leaving the bubble called Emory and going out into the real world,” said Werum, whose monthly Mellon seminar has become a cornerstone of the program.

Led by Werum and Byrd, the GSAS also is looking to expand the program to other departments and disciplines. “The fellowship program has helped prepare students for teaching and building mentoring skills,” said Lisa Tedesco, dean of the Graduate School where the program is based.
PERFORMING ARTS

MONDAY, APRIL 30
Concert
No Strings Attached, performing. 9 p.m. 208 White Hall. Free. 404-727-5127

TUESDAY, MAY 1
Concert
Aura Pleasure, performing. 8 p.m. 208 White Hall. Free. 404-727-5127

FRIDAY, MAY 4
Concert

SATURDAY, MAY 5
Dance Performance
"Atika: Light, Space, Beauty." Irina Jetha, choreographer. Emory Dance Program and Dance Company members, performing. 12:30 p.m. Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Free with garden admission. 404-727-5050. Also at 1:30 p.m., and May 6 at 12:30 and 1:30 p.m.

Undergraduate Recitals
Alexandra Marquez, violin, and David Demetrakakis, piano, performing. 1 p.m. Emeson Concert Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050

SUNDAY, MAY 6
Concert
"Atlanta’s Young Artists." 4 p.m. Reception Hall, Carlos Museum. Free. 4 p.m. Emerson Concert Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050

LECTURES

MONDAY, APRIL 30
Religion Symposium
"Hebrew Bible and Comparative Religion." Young-Bil Chang, Presbyterian College and Theological Seminar, Seoul, Korea; Nahm-In-Je Hong, Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, California; Laurie Patton, religion; Shalom Goldman, MESAS, and Vernon Robbins, religion, presenting. 3 p.m. Reception Hall, Carlos Museum. Free. 404-727-5050

TUESDAY, MAY 1
Concert
Scott Stewart, conducting. Emory Symphony, performing. 8 p.m. 208 White Hall. Free. 404-727-5050

Family Film
"The Children of Heaven." Majid Majidi, director. 7 p.m. Reception Hall, Carlos Museum. Free. 404-727-5050

TUESDAY, MAY 8
Concert
Carlos Museum. Free. 4 p.m. Reception Hall, Carlos Museum. Free. 404-727-4282

Technology Panel Discussion and Awards Reception
"Celebration of Technology and Innovation." Dennis Lotta, chemistry; and Ernest Garcia, Raymond Schinazi, and Wayne Alexander, medicine, presenting. 4 p.m. Great Hearth Room, Emory Hotel and Conference Center. Free. 404-727-2211. RSVP required.

WOODRUFF LIBRARY LECTURE


THURSDAY, MAY 10
Surgical Grand Rounds
"Just a General Surgeon." John Mayfield, medicine, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-778-1903

Physiology Lecture
"Blood Flow, Inflammation, Hypertension and Atherosclerosis." Hanjung Jo, medicine, presenting. 9 a.m. 600 Whitehead Research Building. Free. 404-727-7401

RELIGION

SUNDAY, MAY 6
University Worship
Peter Storey, bishop, preaching. 10:30 a.m. Glenn Memorial. Free. 404-634-3936. Also, meeting with adult Sunday school classes at 9:45 a.m.

SPECIAL

TUESDAY, MAY 1
HR Training
"Collaboration." 8:30 a.m. 100 Human Resources Center. Free. 404-727-7607

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2
HR Training
"Leadership for Results 101." 8:30 a.m. 100 Human Resources Center. $310. 404-727-7607