

PROFILE

"I feel it's important to stand up for a cause," says Jessica Seares. **Page 2**



FIRST PERSON

Rex Hardaway shares simple steps to offset the results of high fuel costs for Emory. **Page 7**



PEOPLE: An Emory love story **3**

CAMPUS: Our hyper-connected world **5**

DISCOVERY: Extreme practice explored **6**

EVENTS: Creative campus celebration **8**

SPECIAL "NEWS YOU CAN USE" INSERT

Building to the next level Fellows define engaged scholarship



Emory's 2008 class of Community Building and Social Change Fellows listen to stories of addiction and homelessness while visiting the Hope House, a comprehensive residential program for homeless men with substance abuse problems. BRYAN MELTZ

By BEVERLY CLARK

It's a quiet summer evening on campus, but learning is not at a lull for 11 Emory students who are listening with rapt attention to the director of Hope House as she describes the comprehensive residential program in downtown Atlanta for homeless men with substance abuse issues.

The presentation is part of a weekly series of dinners for Emory's 2008 class of Community Building and Social Change Fellows, where they get to interact directly with metro Atlanta's community leaders, politicians and nonprofit workers. The talks are a piece of the students' yearlong intensive immersion in community building.

The fellowship, a national model for engaged learning programs, ends with 11

weeks' worth of summer work that defines what engaged scholarship can mean for Emory students.

The fellows represent a snapshot of Emory's diverse undergraduate population, with wide-ranging backgrounds and career aspirations. But together this past year, the fellows have busted through "the Emory bubble," as they describe it. They have ventured — literally and figuratively — far beyond the confines of the classroom.

Working in three separate teams, the students were dispersed around metro Atlanta this summer to help community organizations address complicated issues around housing, education, crime and social services. They are in areas where the effects of poverty — and the challenges to affect change — are not ideas

in the classroom but real and in the flesh.

In the Mechanicsville community, located in the shadow of Turner Field, fellows are evaluating the effectiveness of an early childhood education and family support program called PAT (Parents as Teachers) for Enterprise Community Partners.

"I've been able to see firsthand the frustrations and the barriers the parent educators face daily, but also the tremendous rewards when you see the program making a difference in the lives of a mom and her 3-year-old child," says Tiffany McDonald, a senior involved with the PAT project who hopes to work on public education policy in her home state of Mississippi.

The 12-month fellowship "has exceeded my expectations," says Shari Sprosta, a rising senior

whose team is working in the Edgewood neighborhood with the Mayson Avenue Cooperative to survey and evaluate the effects of the relocation of public housing residents from Edgewood to neighborhoods around Atlanta.

"Instead of saying I want to change the world, I can now say I know *how* to change the world," Sprosta says. "What I have learned is so invaluable, and has made me even more passionate about becoming a lawyer to work on social change, public policy and justice."

Most of the fellows were already dedicated volunteers, but the fellowship "allows us to take that volunteerism to the next level," says Sprosta's teammate, Yane Park.

Please see FELLOWS on page 5

Chronicle: Emory a great place to work

By ELAINE JUSTICE

The Chronicle of Higher Education recently named Emory one of the "2008 Great Colleges to Work For." The University was selected based on its responses to a questionnaire covering everything from salary, benefits and programs that support faculty and staff, to leadership development and governance structure.

The Chronicle also conducted a survey of 600 randomly selected faculty and staff at Emory.

"It's particularly gratifying to know that part of the consideration for this recognition was based on such positive input from the Emory community," says Peter Barnes, vice president of human resources.

The University was in the unranked top five in 13 of 27 categories for institutions with 2,500 or more employees. Emory tied with the University of Michigan for the second largest number of areas of recognition.

Please see SURVEY on page 4

Exploring faculty equity

By CAROL CLARK

The good news: Emory scores well for faculty equity, in terms of both gender and race/ethnicity, when compared to its peer institutions. The bad news: those peer benchmarks aren't necessarily very high.

"We talk a lot about being a community of excellence, and one requirement for excellence is to be a diverse community," says Claire Sterk, senior vice provost for academic planning and development, explaining the rationale behind a report on faculty equity completed by the Office of the Provost last spring.

Please see EQUITY on page 4

NEW ONLINE AT EMORY.EDU

[www.emory.edu/
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Wondering where on campus you can pick up a copy of Emory Report? Or what the deadline is for the next issue? Simply click the "About Us" link on our Web site to find information on Emory Report's publication schedule, distribution information and contributor's guidelines. New is a comprehensive list of ER rack locations around campus. Check back soon for information on new insert policies and procedures.

ER BACK TO WEEKLY IN FALL

The next issue of Emory Report will be published on Monday, Aug. 25, when weekly publication resumes. ER welcomes submissions, event listings and story ideas for the 2008–09 academic year. Contact Editor Kim Urquhart at 404-727-9507 or kim.urquhart@emory.edu.

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.edu/EMORY_REPORT.

EMORY PROFILE: Jessica Seares



Jessica Seares is a lecturer in environmental studies.

BRYAN MELTZ

Nature is her classroom

Ecologist opens doors to living, and learning, from the land

By CAROL CLARK

For Jessica Seares, ecology and social justice are not just academic subjects — they are a way of life. The Environmental Studies lecturer has wintered in a crude cabin in Alaska; "homesteaded" 64 acres in the Catskill Mountains; worked as an ox drover at a living history museum in New Jersey; slept on an animal skin in a Masai family's hut in Tanzania; and been arrested for activism in Mexico, Seattle and Columbus, Ga.

"I do feel it's important to stand up for a cause and, at the same time, if you're going to be a scientist, to make sure you're adhering to the rigors of your field," Seares says.

During the 1999 World Trade Organization gathering in Seattle, before being caught up in a police sweep and spending four days in jail, Seares met a woman from the West Indian island of St. Lucia whose banana farm was affected by deregulation. That led to an invitation to work on the farm, and eventually to Seares' dissertation on the effects of trade liberalization in the Eastern Caribbean.

Seares' perspective changed through her research, as she discovered many shades of gray in the struggle between local farms and globalization.

"It's such a complicated issue. That's what I love about science," she says. "When you allow yourself to be falsified, sometimes you find out that what you think you're seeing is not necessarily the full picture."

Before joining Emory last fall, Seares taught a mobile political ecology course for Boston University. The class spent nine months on the road, studying the response to environmental degradation among communities in England, India, Mexico, New Zealand and Tanzania. They sometimes slept in barns, under a tree, or on the floor of a local family's home.

"I had 19 students and 15 of them got malaria," Seares recalls. "That was probably one of the hardest things about being in Africa." The students were treated at a local clinic and continued on their way.

Fresh-faced and outdoorsy, with a head full of springy brown curls, Seares looks slightly out of place in the

kitchen of her rented Druid Hills bungalow. "We're living in the middle of a mature hardwood forest," she says, marveling more at the giant trees than the elegant homes of the neighborhood. A certified "Georgia porch dog" lies at her feet as her husband, Leon, strolls beyond the open windows, cuddling their 3-month-old son, Lucian.

Seares' former motto of "have backpack, will travel" recently changed to "have baby, will teach in one spot."

She grew up near the Pine Barrens of New Jersey. During the summer, her family would go to the Catskill Mountains, where her grandmother had created a camp for developmentally disabled children. The camp eventually closed and the abandoned property became a dump. Seares couldn't bear it. She paid the back taxes and reclaimed the property, taking a break from her graduate studies to live on the land. She hauled out mountains of trash by hand and winterized a former camp cabin.

"It's an experiment in sustainability," she says. "There's no running water

or electricity and we use a composting toilet and a wood stove. I feel a real sense of place there. It's beautiful."

Seares enjoys hosting reunions for former students at the cabin, where she teaches them to chop wood and haul water. "You really learn to value a natural resource like water when you understand the strength it takes to move around 25 gallons of it," she says.

Many of today's youth lack a connection to the environment because children don't spend as much time splashing in creeks and climbing trees, Seares says. No doubt Lucian will be getting plenty of time in nature. The baby's name means "bearer of light," and is also a reflection of one-half of his heritage — St. Lucia.

"We want him to grow up with a strong sense of place," Seares says, adding that she is optimistic about the world Lucian will inherit. "I'm hopeful that we'll be able to control climate change, and I think that individual actions are definitely going to be a big part of that."

EMORY report

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People

APPOINTED

Paul Fowler has been appointed the executive director of Emory's Career Center.

Fowler is currently the director of the Career Center and associate dean of student affairs at Carnegie Mellon University.

He will begin his duties in Campus Life on Aug. 11.

Stuart Knechtle joined the Emory Transplant Center as director of its liver transplant program on July 16. Knechtle will be a professor in the Department of Surgery in Emory School of Medicine.

Knechtle has been the director of liver transplantation and transplant clinical trials at the University of Wisconsin, Madison since 2005.

Knechtle is founder, chairman and chief scientific officer of Renovar, a biotechnology company that specializes in diagnostic tests for kidney diseases.

Joel H. Saltz, a pioneer in the fields of high-performance computing and biomedical informatics, will join Woodruff Health Sciences Center in September as director of the Center for Comprehensive Informatics and as Emory Healthcare's Chief Medical Information Officer.

Saltz currently serves as professor and chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics and professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Ohio State University, Davis Endowed Chair of Cancer at OSU, and a senior fellow of the Ohio Supercomputer Center.

Lisa Underwood joined the University Aug. 1 as its new associate vice president in charge of transportation services and parking facilities.

Underwood previously directed the same services during a period of increased ridership at Washington University in St. Louis.

Underwood also will serve as a leader for the Clifton Corridor Transportation Management Association.

Karen Worthington has been appointed director of Emory School of Law's Barton Child Law and Policy Clinic, beginning this month.

Worthington served as the Barton Clinic's director from its opening in 2000 until 2006, and has served as part-time co-director for the last two years. She also serves as a senior fellow of Emory's Center for the Study of Law and Religion.

"Appointed" is an occasional column announcing key hires and promotions at or affiliated with Emory University.

For the love of Emory

By LESLIE KING

A hot July midday in the cool of Cox Hall computer lab, Lucy Lee '03Ox-'05C, with fiancé Stephen Collins, explains how she ended up as one of *Modern Bride* magazine's five finalists for Bride of the Year.

Emory is intertwined in their story; it's where they met (in an Ethics in Leadership class), got engaged (on the Quad) and would like to get married (stay tuned). "We have a combined over 10 years at Emory and we really wanted to include Emory in our wedding," says Collins, an Emory graduate student.

One afternoon, Collins hopped onto the stage set up on the Quad for Commencement, and began singing a song he'd composed. Through her embarrassment — "it was still broad daylight" — Lee was struck, "It hit me — oh my god, he's proposing!"

As a finalist with *Modern Bride*, she was flown to New York and put up in style, appearing for three days on CBS's "Early Morning" show, modeling wedding gowns from bridal nirvana Kleinfeld Manhattan, sailing, vying with the other contestants in games to be on the magazine's cover.

When she reached the Top 10 semifinalists, she enlisted a friend to shoot a video, with opening footage on the Quad. "When we made the video, we tried to get everyone to vote in



Emory is intertwined in the story of engaged couple Stephen Collins and Lucy Lee that earned Lee a top spot in a major magazine contest.

BRYAN MELTZ

the contest," she says.

The *Modern Bride* judges made it clear they liked the couple's desire to give back to the community.

"We wanted a nice event but couldn't justify something grand. It would seem self-indulgent," says Collins, who is working toward his Ph.D. in neuroscience. "So we decided to donate to a charity the amount we would spend on the reception. That's the way we were both raised."

He calls it a "carbon offset reception."

"It won't be easy. He's a student and I'm working two jobs," Lee says in the video.

She's a financial aid adviser for the University and works at Tory Burch clothing at Lenox Square.

"At the same time, we realize that charity isn't about convenience. And if we can have a fabulous, amazing wedding while still putting others first, I think that's what makes a modern bride," Lee adds.

That vow is keeping it real for the couple, who are paying for the wedding. They are looking at a non-traditional wedding incorporating their respective heritages — hers Korean, his Eastern European — or "two family and two traditions coming together as one."

Emory PA student on team to provide care at Olympics

By KIM URQUHART

An Emory physician assistant student will represent Georgia at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. His team: the 62-member medical staff selected by the United States Olympic Committee.

Harris Patel, a certified athletic trainer enrolled in Emory's Physician Assistant Program, left for China July 28 to spend five weeks with the Olympic athletes. His first stop is training camp in Dalian before heading to the games in Beijing.

Patel's responsibilities at the games will include prepping U.S. Olympians — primarily the track and field athletes — for practice or competition and evaluating injuries. He will also be involved with treatment and rehabilitation programs.

"We are on call for the athletes 24/7 because they depend on us as medical professionals," says Patel. "We have to be on our feet for any medical emergency both on and off the field."

But you won't see him on TV. His work will be behind-the-scenes, he says.

Patel began his career as an athletic trainer in 1998 and has been working with premier athletes since he was an un-



Harris Patel

SPECIAL

dergraduate at the University of Georgia. Patel's experience throughout graduate school and beyond is an impressive mixture of working on the medical staff of NFL football teams and spending his summers working with Olympic athletes.

His relationship with the USOC began in 2003 when he was selected to go to Canada for the Youth World Championships in Athletics. He interned with the USOC medical staff in Colorado Springs in 2004, working with all varieties of U.S. athletes, and traveled to Helsinki, Finland, for the 2005 World Championships in Athletics. In 2006, he traveled to Birmingham, England, for a track and field meet, and then

to the 2007 Pan Am Games in Rio de Janeiro.

Patel will work the games with many of the same colleagues from these events. "It's important that we gel as a medical staff to take care of 600-plus athletes to help them perform at their best," he says.

Patel's patients at Emory Orthopedics & Spine Center, his recent clinical rotation, often asked what he most looked forward to. He answers: "Experiencing the Chinese culture, and experiencing my first Olympic games."

As the only medical professional from Georgia assigned to the USOC medical staff, Patel has also attracted media attention. "I'm just excited about spreading the news about Emory, Georgia, and PAs and ATCs. I think it's important to get the word out about what we do," he says.

Patel wants to stay in the field of primary care and sports medicine when he graduates from the Physician Assistant Program in December of 2008, but he's not sure where.

"I've been very blessed in life, and many doors are open to me," says Patel. "My family is important to me and medicine is important to me. Whatever plan God has for me is what I'll take."

ACCLAIM

Beth Corrie '96T-'02G received the Eleanor Richardson Award from the Methodist Federation for Social Action.

Corrie is the interim director of the Youth Theological Initiative and a lecturer in youth education and peacebuilding.

She received the award at the North Georgia UMC Annual Conference for peace work related to the Middle East.



Charles Shanor, professor of law, was elected to the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. He will be inducted as a Fellow of the College in a Sept. 13 ceremony in Denver.

Fellows of the College study professional ethics in the practice of labor and employment law and work to improve the quality of labor and employment legal services.

Donald Stein, Asa G. Candler Professor of Emergency Medicine, has been named by Ladies Home Journal as one of four winners of the Health Breakthrough Award for 2008.

The honorees are featured in the August 2008 issue of Ladies Home Journal.

Stein, director of Emory's Department of Emergency Medicine Brain Research Laboratory, has pioneered discoveries regarding the neuroprotective effect of the hormone progesterone following traumatic brain injury.

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Natasha Trethewey, Phyllis Wheatley Distinguished Chair in English, was honored July 29 as Georgia Woman of the Year by the Georgia Commission on Women.

Trethewey is being honored for her accomplishments, including winning the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry.

Her father, Eric Trethewey, who is also a poet and a professor at Hollins University, was the guest speaker at the event.



"Acclaim" recognizes the accomplishments of faculty and staff. Listings may include awards and prizes; election to boards and societies; and similarly notable accomplishments at Emory or in the wider community. Emory Report relies on submissions for this column. Contact: ltking@emory.edu.

TAKE NOTE

URC seeking Levy Award nominations

The University Research Committee is accepting nominations for the Albert E. Levy Scientific Research Award, which recognizes outstanding scientific contributions by Emory faculty. The nomination deadline is Sept. 15.

The award honors faculty members for published research of superior quality. Recipients are honored at a Levy Awards Seminar, which includes presentation of the awards and a reception.

For nomination instructions and more information, visit www.urc.emory.edu.

Tune in to Stewart; on the air with Love

Emory faculty members Jan Love and Scott Stewart hit the radio airwaves this summer in separate appearances.

Love, Candler School of Theology dean, preaches on Day1 Radio, which presents voices of the mainline Protestant churches. Love will be featured Aug. 10 with a sermon, "Encountering Christ," that focuses on the disciples' encounter of Jesus walking on a stormy sea, and Aug. 17 on "Listening in Love" that focuses on the importance of unity in the face of conflict.

See www.day1.net.

Stewart, director of wind studies in the department of music, hosts a second season of "Summer Winds" on Atlanta public radio affiliate, WABE-FM.

Celebrating the music of the wind ensemble and concert band, the program is broadcast on Tuesdays, from July 29 through Aug. 26 at 9 p.m. on 90.1.

See wabe.org.

EMCF grants for Grady faculty

Faculty members in the School of Medicine are invited to apply for research grants of up to \$25,000. To qualify, an applicant must spend at least 50 percent of his or her time in the Grady Health System.

The Emory Medical Care Foundation offers these grants three times a year, giving preference to those in their first 10 years at Grady.

The deadline for the next round of grants is Nov. 1.

For information and application procedures, contact William Payne in the School of Medicine dean's office at 404-727-4569; or e-mail wpayn01@learnlink.emory.edu.

EQUITY: Emory compares well



The Office of the Provost will use feedback from its report on faculty equity to develop an action plan to continue to make Emory an equitable place for female and minority faculty. BRYAN MELTZ

Continued from the cover

"I was extremely pleased and proud when we completed the project to see that the impressions that many of us have are true — that Emory compares well to its peers in terms of racial diversity, as well as the representation of women among faculty."

The report explored faculty gender and race by rank and appointment track, hiring and retention, career trajectories, salary equity, access to development resources, professional recognition and awards and leadership roles. The data included full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty from every area of the University. Rather

than making recommendations, the Office of the Provost posted the full report on its Web site and asked for faculty feedback, to help determine the next steps. (Read the full report at <http://www.emory.edu/PROVOST>.)

While Emory's numbers "look really good in the national landscape, maybe the national landscape doesn't look so great," says Sterk, summing up some of that feedback, which she says was positive overall.

This fall, the Office of the Provost will use the feedback to develop an action plan for the University to continue to foster equity, Sterk says, adding that one step will likely be to drill further into the data, looking closer at department and unit levels.

Another step may be looking at ways to recognize faculty service. "It's clear that a lot of faculty spend an enormous amount of time in service," Sterk says. "So how can Emory really reward these service activities, particularly those that have to do with institution building?"

"This is an extremely valuable report," says Nadine Kaslow, a professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, special assistant to the provost and past chair of the Faculty Council. "The process of providing information, then asking

for input and taking responses seriously is a real strength of this institution."

The report showed no statistically significant salary gap in terms of race or gender. It showed that the number of endowed chairs held by women and racial/ethnic minorities is high compared to benchmark institutions, and has continued to rise over time.

Emory also compared well in terms of the number of women and racial/ethnic minorities who hold tenure-track positions. Kaslow notes, however, that when the data are broken down by rank, disparities show up. For instance, 16 percent of females with the rank of "professor" are on the tenure track, while 32.4 percent of male professors are on the tenure track.

"Even if we look good next to our benchmarks, to me that's still a serious concern," Kaslow says. "Emory wants to be a leader, so 16 percent is not good enough."

She adds that an excuse used by some institutions — not enough women and minorities are in the hiring pipeline — is becoming less valid. "When I was in elementary school, my mom got her Ph.D.," she says. "That was a long time ago. A lot of women and ethnic minorities are in the pipeline now. I think that the pipeline has leaks, and we need to fix them."

SURVEY: Positive feedback secured Emory's spot in Top 5

Areas of recognition in Chronicle survey

Emory ranked among the top five universities in the nation for:

- Healthy faculty/administration relations
- Teaching environment
- Facilities and security
- Job satisfaction
- Work-life balance
- Confidence in senior leadership
- Internal communications
- Connection to institution and pride
- Physical workspace conditions
- Supervisor or department chair relationship
- Perception and confidence in fair treatment
- Respect and appreciation
- Engagement index

Continued from the cover

"This is a very satisfying affirmation of Emory, but our real goal is not recognition — it's being a community that values the needs and contributions of every individual," says President Jim Wagner. "In that sense, everyone at Emory helps to make this a positive place to work."

Nationally, the survey included 15,000 respondents at 89 colleges and universities, 39 public and 50 private. Institutions were invited to participate based on specific Carnegie classifications, according to Chronicle editor Jeffrey Selingo. In an editor's note, he said that the idea for the sur-

vey began with the observation that people "needed more information about the best places to work in higher education."

This was the survey's inaugural year, but Barnes says he hopes Emory will participate year after year. "We learned a lot about ourselves and how to compare what we're doing to others," he says.

"We can use these survey results to differentiate who we are, promote what we think is good about our university, and work on things that others have done better than we have," Barnes adds.

For example, in the section on what makes Emory unique as an organization, the University provided information on community efforts such as Georgia Special Olympics, Habitat for

"Our real goal is not recognition — it's being a community that values the needs and contributions of every individual."

— President Jim Wagner

Humanity projects, leading the nation in LEED certification, sustainability efforts, alternative transportation options, Office of University-Community Partnerships, affinity groups such as President's Commission on the Status of Women, and many others.

Under the work-life category, Emory provided information on alternative work arrangements such as telecommuting, job sharing and compressed work weeks; the University's many health and fitness programs; near to campus child care with financial subsidies depending on income; Step Up Emory; and the Faculty-Staff Assistance Program.

The assessment process, which also included an analysis of demographic data and workplace policies at each participating college or university, was administered by ModernThink LLC, a human-resources consulting firm that has conducted many "Best Places to Work" surveys.

Keep those 'bright ideas' coming!

Earlier this summer three staff members received \$1,000 award money from the "Bright Ideas for Emory" program for suggestions that will save the University time, money and improve work life.

These ideas are more important than ever, says Mike Mandl, executive vice president for finance and administration, as the University faces challenges from the ongoing national economic downturn.

"Employee talent and expertise play a major role in helping to make Emory a great place to work," says Mandl. "Now is the time to focus even more on encouraging and fostering creative thinking and active engagement in developing new approaches in how we get our work done."

To submit your idea, go to: www.brightideas.emory.edu. Proposals can offer solutions to a range of workplace issues with the goal of:

- Improving working conditions
- Increasing efficiencies
- Saving time and money
- Boosting workplace productivity
- Streamlining administrative processes
- Increasing safety
- Enhancing customer service

Emory Report will continue to cover community initiatives and recommendations on how to navigate challenges represented by the current economic climate (see "First Person," p. 7).

Campus

5

REPORT FROM: Office of Information Technology

Evolving in an always-on, always-connected world

The headline theme for this year's Apple Macworld Conference: "There's something in the air," wasn't only an allusion to a new laptop that Apple was going to introduce that was as light as air, hence its name, the MacBook Air. It wasn't just a tagline to be linked to a new product, the iPhone 3G, to designate a core new focus of a technology company. It wasn't even a corporate statement on the condition of Steve Jobs' health. Rather, in that curious way that a phrase sometimes captures, it was a mantra that could be applied to our time.

For if anything dominated the technological headlines of the last six months, it was the explosion of activity around digital networks and wireless devices. It began in February with the now-ubiquitous public service announcements where television stations announced that they would soon no longer be broadcasting analog signals and that everyone had to "go digital" through a converter box, their cable system or satellite. At roughly the same time, the FCC was evaluating and then announcing the results of its 700 MHz wireless spectrum auction,

which raised nearly \$20 billion. This competition, largely "won" by Verizon and AT&T, is the auction for the next generation of high speed wireless services in the United States, an auction that guaranteed that there would be "openness" beyond these two common carriers on a new, faster, more far-reaching infrastructure that they would deploy.

Closer to home, cell phone users in the Atlanta area began to see the arrival of the long-awaited 3-G networks, ones whose speed and performance had long been part of communicating in Asia and parts of Europe, but whose capability was only now being launched in the U.S. For many of us, our venture onto the Internet with mobile devices had occurred roughly a year and a half earlier with Palm Treo devices and EVDO cards; equipment that allowed a sample of what was possible with wireless DSL-like speeds and coverage offered by 3-G networks.

Finally, if anyone bought a cell phone in the last six months, they would recognize the almost complete break with the type of equipment being offered a year ago, with analog cell

phone service (or equipment) no longer existing, "plain" cell phones becoming harder to find, Smart phones becoming the default, with new GPS and Touch Technologies as part of a range of new capabilities. Who could have missed the brouhaha of the weekend of July 11 when Apple Inc. sold 1 million of their iPhone 3G devices in three days? There's something in the air.

What all these developments in networks and devices betoken is an always-on, always-connected, now geolocated individual with their device and ubiquitous access to wireless high-speed networks. The range and speed of the networks is only going to increase, as the FCC auction intimates, expanding the reach of the connectivity well into rural areas.

Beyond that, the always-on coverage will yield greater access to digital resources and information from many locations globally, such that the possibilities of communication and exchange will be more fundamentally founded within a global "wireless wrapper." This will yield new opportunities for the wired infrastructure for connectivity that so

many of us now currently depend on.

As a university, there will be many opportunities to explore new frontiers in collaboration and communication because of these developments that have gathered to be this sea change in the "air" around us. If nothing else, it means the possibility of collecting, researching, accessing and sharing information in places well beyond the campus border. Permeability and adaptability are necessary campus responses to a world with such broad coverage.

With so much of this change occurring around us, remaining open and rigorously exploring the pressures that are shaping our culture, our disciplines, and our institutions is essential. The opportunity of understanding "something in the air" is seeing what can't be seen, a new and evolving space for the student, teacher, researcher in a hyper-connected world.

Alan Cattier is director of academic technology services.

Women's basketball scores in academics



Emory Eagles

KAY HINTON

By JOHN FARINA

The 2007-08 Emory women's basketball program was recognized for its collective performance in the classroom, earning a spot on the Women's Basketball Coaches Association Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll for Division III. The awards recognize teams throughout the nation in NCAA Division I, Division II, Division III as well as NAIA and junior colleges that have compiled the highest grade-point averages for the past academic year based upon nominations submitted by WBCA-member coaches.

The Eagles of Head Coach Christy Thomaskutty held down the No. 4 position on the Top 25 list, fashioning a GPA of 3.50 for the school year. The Emory squad had a strong showing during the

spring semester, posting a 3.53 effort on the academic front. The Eagles were the lone representative from the University Athletic Association to make the Top 25. Concordia University claimed the No. 1 ranking among Division III programs with a 3.637 GPA.

The GPAs were calculated by dividing the total number of quality points earned by each student-athlete on an institution's roster in the given academic terms by the total number of hours earned by the team.

"Emory is a prestigious institution that challenges its students to be the best that they can be," Thomaskutty said. "The team doing as well as it did is a testament to the drive and commitment that the players have for all aspects of their lives."

FELLOWS: Work 'invaluable' to many



An Emory OUCP fellow tours the Atlanta Gateway Center, a residential facility that supports homeless men, women and children.

BRYAN MELTZ

Continued from the cover

This summer, the students are building on the work of past fellows by collaborating with previous partners or working in neighborhoods where the Office of University-Community Partnerships already has a presence. That deepens Emory's commitment and role in these communities, says Sam Engle, senior associate director of OUCP. (The third team is working in English Avenue to the west of downtown to help the city of Atlanta launch a federal "Weed and Seed" initiative in the neighborhood to reduce crime and build community.)

Results of past fellows' work include the completion of 22 projects that have produced policy change, new programs and entities, and funding for projects. Fellows also have expanded the capacity of existing community initiatives to

effectively address issues such as HIV/AIDS, affordable housing, public education quality, urban sprawl, citizen engagement and more.

OUCP is in the midst of a comprehensive survey of fellowship alumni to assess the impact of the program on their lives now, and in turn, assess how the program is contributing toward Emory's comprehensive initiative to prepare students to be engaged scholars with the critical thinking skills, hands-on experience and ethical leadership development to make a difference in their communities.

Overall, the fellows' work is serious and invaluable to the community organizations and to the development of the students, says Kate Grace, director of the fellowship. "This program provides our communities with the resources necessary to better serve their residents while also offering a wide range of skill-building opportunities to our future leaders."

JUST PUBLISHED

Embracing the fear of disease



Medical anthropologist Ron Barrett, author of "Aghor Medicine: Pollution, Death and Healing in Northern India," says the Aghori ascetics "have turned social stigmatization from a problem into a potential solution."

BRYAN MELTZ

"The Aghori are working with people considered the most untouchable people in humanity."

—Ron Barrett, assistant professor in the school of nursing

Death symbolism continues to pervade the Kina Ram Aghori practices, Barrett adds, describing the oversized concrete skulls that decorate the peaceful, garden setting of the ashram. A fire burns wood left over from a nearby cremation pyre and bathers use the ashes like a medicinal powder, rubbing them over their afflicted areas, in addition to receiving the services of Ayurveda physicians who volunteer at the ashram. "The medicines and blessings are mixed together," Barrett says.

The patients ritually dump their pollution of disease at the ashram and the Aghori "digest" this pollution, converting it into further power for healing and the provision of social services.

The patients may be doing more to de-stigmatize the Aghori than the other way around, Barrett says, adding that he believes the resulting social reforms of the Kina Ram Aghori are positive indicators of collective change. Many people who come to the ashram as patients become Aghori themselves, resulting in a thousand-fold increase in membership during the past 30 years, including prominent members of society. The Aghori tradition itself is serving as a medicine for the biosocial illness of discrimination, Barrett concludes.

"The Aghori have turned social stigmatization from a problem into a potential solution," he says. "This isn't just people in white coats telling other people what to do. Here, you have this intense problem and this very local and relevant solution."

By CAROL CLARK

For centuries, the Aghori of India were known as wild-eyed, dreadlocked ascetics who lived naked on cremation grounds, meditated on corpses, drank intoxicants from human skulls and engaged in ritual cannibalism.

In the past few decades, however, the Aghori tradition has radically evolved, extending beyond the cremation grounds to become a mainstream movement known for social services, including healing of stigmatized diseases.

"It's been a remarkable transformation," says Ron Barrett

'99G-'02PhD, a medical anthropologist and assistant professor in the school of nursing, who recently published the book "Aghor Medicine: Pollution, Death and Healing in Northern India," through University of California Press.

Aghori-type movements can be traced back to at least the 11th-century AD. The extreme practices of the Aghori holy men aimed to achieve a spiritual state of non-discrimination by seeing the divine in everything — even pollution and death.

"The idea was to overcome all fears and aversions. Non-discrimination means you can have no hatred or fear of anything

or anyone," Barrett explains.

In the 1970s, a reform movement began among the Kina Ram Aghori sect. Instead of embracing untouchable practices — such as the ritual consumption of human flesh and feces — the Kina Ram Aghori began embracing untouchable people through social services.

It was these reforms that intrigued Barrett, who holds a degree in nursing, and a Ph.D. in anthropology from Emory. "India fascinates me not just because of all its medical problems, but also because of all its solutions to these problems."

Barrett conducted two years of fieldwork in India, much of

it focused on the Krim Kund clinic and ashram of the Kina Ram Aghori in the holy city of Banaras. Leprosy patients, many of them discarded by their families, come to Krim Kund to receive therapies ranging from Ayurvedic medicine and ritual bathing to Western biomedicine.

"The Aghori are working with people considered the most untouchable people in humanity, in Banaras, a place that is all about purification," Barrett says. "In a sense, the leprosy treatment clinic has taken the place of the cremation grounds, but instead of the fear of death, the Aghori are taking on the fear of a disease."

Antibiotics can enhance gene-silencing tool

By QUINN EASTMAN

Emory researchers have discovered a way to make a medically promising gene-silencing technique work better. The surprise: an added boost of efficiency can come from a widely used family of antibiotics.

A way to turn off one gene at a time called RNA interference has earned acceptance in biology laboratories over the last decade. The technique emerged from the Nobel Prize-winning discovery that short pieces of RNA, when introduced into cells, can silence a stretch of genetic code.

Doctors envision RNA interference as a tool to treat a variety of diseases if it can be adapted to humans.

Geneticist Peng Jin's laboratory found that antibiotics known as fluoroquinolones can make RNA interference more effective in the laboratory and reduce potential side effects. The results are scheduled for publication in the August issue of Nature Biotechnology.

Significant barriers such as specificity and toxicity prevent RNA interference from working well in people, and his group's discovery could help to overcome those barriers, Jin said.

"The good part is that doctors have years of experience treating bacterial infections with fluoroquinolones, so they are generally considered safe," he said. The group of compounds includes the widely used antibiotic ciprofloxacin.

Study shows promise for patients with treatment-resistant depression

By KATHI BAKER

A study by Emory neuroscientist Helen Mayberg and researchers at the University of Toronto found that deep brain stimulation (DBS) is safe and improves depression symptoms in patients who have been unresponsive to most other treatments. DBS uses high-frequency electrical stimulation targeted to specific areas of the brain involved in neuropsychiatric disease, in this case the subcallosal cingulate region (Cg25).

The clinical trial is the culmination of Mayberg's 20 years of research using imaging technology to characterize functional brain abnormalities in major depression and to identify the mechanisms of various antide-

pressant treatments.

"In previous studies using brain imaging, we found the subcallosal cingulate region was a key region in an emerging emotion regulation circuit implicated in major depression," explains Mayberg.

"We postulated that if stimulation worked for the treatment of other neurological disorders where abnormal function of specific circuits was well established, such as Parkinson's disease, then stimulation of the Cg25 region within this apparent depression circuit might provide significant benefit for patients with treatment-resistant depression."

Twelve of 20 patients experienced a significant decrease in depressive symptoms by six

months, with seven patients essentially well with few remaining symptoms. Benefits were largely maintained at 12 months with continued stimulation, and patients experienced no long-term side effects.

PET imaging showed that metabolic activity changed locally at the site of stimulation but also throughout the previously identified depression network.

"We see depression as a complex disturbance of the specific circuits in the brain responsible for regulating mood and emotions," Mayberg says. "We hypothesized that if DBS could locally modulate a critical central location within this mood circuit, such modulation would result in clinical improvement — and it appears it does."

Forum

FIRST PERSON

Pain at the pump

Emory offices, labs have weapons to fight fuel cost increases

By REX HARDAWAY

As the onslaught of higher prices at the pump erodes our personal economics, it is important to realize that the pain is also beginning to erode operating budgets.

Let's look at travel costs as an example. Recently we learned that most airlines were raising their fares and that the latest round of increases will be paired with route reductions and personnel layoffs. It seems it is now cheaper to park the planes than put them into service.

With all the negative publicity at the pump, other industries we rely on to supply our offices and laboratories are adjusting prices in order to stop the drain on profits. The doubling of the cost of diesel fuel means higher shipping costs and fuel surcharges, sometimes as high as 38 percent of the original cost of the shipment. Overnight letters and packages bear the higher cost of jet fuel and diesel and are carrying higher surcharges

Rex Hardaway is senior manager, contract administration, in the Division of Finance.

as a result.

Food, fuel — almost everything we buy is going up in price. The purpose of this article is not to tell you what you already know, but to suggest things you might do to mitigate the impact we are seeing in the marketplace. A few simple things could add up and help you avoid or at least offset, some of the increases for Emory.

Below are but a few ideas that may help offset the impact of rapidly increasing prices. If you have found other ways to save, please share them at e-market@emory.edu so we can help others navigate through these unpredictable times. We look forward to a continuing dialogue around this important topic.

A version of this article first appeared in Emory Finance Update.



Rex Hardaway offers simple steps to save.

ANN BORDEN

How you can help offset fuel increases while at work

Use Emory's Preferred Suppliers whenever possible.

In nearly every instance the rates charged for freight and handling have been the subject of much negotiation. In many instances the cost of freight is included in the price — or at least fixed as a price or percentage — for the next 12 months or more.

Make use of the core lists within the contracts.

In addition to the negotiated discounts, Emory's two largest suppliers, Fisher Scientific and Staples, also offer firm fixed prices for Emory's highest volume items. These items are reviewed annually and the prices held firm for at least the next 12 months. Most of these prices were negotiated prior to the recent rise in crude oil and as such will not be impacted until 2009. An example of this can be seen in the core list price for recycled copy paper, on the core list from Staples at approximately \$23/carton compared to a current market price in excess of \$32.

Consider changing the service requirement for an overnight package delivery.

Simply by changing your delivery requirement from "10 AM" to "Next Day" will more than pay for the added fuel surcharge on the shipment. If you really want to save, schedule the package to arrive in two days and save at least 40 percent.

Consolidate your orders.

Even if the contract price does not include freight, added surcharges are normally assessed on a per order basis. A large order is assessed the same surcharge as a smaller one. Many contract suppliers, Staples as an example, offer instant savings based on order size. Consolidating shipments reduces the supplier's cost of delivery, saves energy, and in today's environment just makes sense.

Profiling China on eve of Olympics

By LESLIE KING

China's human rights record, its attitude toward personal freedoms, its pollution, gridlock and infrastructure — all these and more have been front and center as that nation prepares for the XXIX Olympiad Aug. 8–24 in Beijing.

As the games approach, the alumni interest group Alumnae and Women of Emory gathered at the Miller-Ward Alumni House July 24 for a roundtable discussion of the host country.

An overview by Dan Morris '69C of the fascinating, controversial nation drew on his foreign service experience in Beijing, Taiwan and other Asian nations including Indonesia.

"One thing I've learned," Morris said, is that "many people make pretense to be China experts. But it is a vast subject on a very complex culture."

"China is going to impact all of our lives," he asserted.

Morris was a history major and his historian's viewpoint brought out the national characteristics that have made modern China and are influences today as China takes the national stage next week. These characteristics, he noted, also figured in events and speculations as China has prepared for the games, including the torch and Tibet.

"One world, one dream" is the theme for the Beijing Olympics and China, Morris said, has had a history of striving for unity among its people since the first emperor united large portions of the country.

"The ethnic population is pretty homogenous," he said, over 95 percent are ethnically the same. "This homogeneity exerts a cultural affinity and brings it together."

"There are lots of minorities" but he noted that most are not in significant numbers. Tibet, of course, "is one signifi-

cant minority that hasn't assimilated" into the overarching culture, Morris said. And there is a Muslim minority in the northwest of the country. There is also Inner Mongolia, which is a province of China, he added.

Though there are lots of spoken languages in China, there are two primary languages, he said, Mandarin and Cantonese. Mandarin is the main and official language, spoken largely in the north. Cantonese is spoken in the south and in Hong Kong but Mandarin is being more widely heard in these areas.

"More and more Mandarin is becoming accepted. The Chinese government wants the country united and they are pushing for a common language," Morris said.

Morris spoke of two dominating threads that run through Chinese history: "eating bitterness" and the "mandate of heaven."

"China historically has lots

of disasters — earthquakes, floods, famines," he said.

"Leaders in China pay attention to natural disasters. It reflects on them in the minds of the people."

When natural disasters occur, the people may begin to think: "Is this a message from heaven? Have the rulers lost the mandate of heaven?" That's the "right" to rule as long as the rulers have that mandate. The "mandate of heaven" concept is longstanding in China's long history.

Morris contrasted China's population to that of the U.S. The slightly smaller nation has 1.3 billion people compared to the U.S.'s 300 million. "The population issue is just daunting," he said. "The thing that amazed me is when traveling around China, there are cities of over 5 million people you've never heard of, even if you've studied and know the country."

SOUNDBITES

Media puts conflict in world's view

Former photojournalist Pewee Flomoku recalled how he captured an image of the carnage immediately after a shell exploded amid a crowd of people in Monrovia, Liberia. Flomoku was a member of a recent Carter Center panel discussion on the role the media played during the Liberian civil war.

"In a couple of hours [after filing the photo it] was on CNN," recalls Flomoku, who now works as the program coordinator for The Carter Center in Liberia. "And the next day, it's like you opened the floodgates and there were pools of journalists and people coming. And after that day, there were a lot of things that changed."

— Carol Clark

Mediterranean is the way to eat

While studying neuroscience in France, Will Clower '96PhD picked up "Mediterranean values," which translate into the Mediterranean diet, a "sustainable approach focused on behavioral learning," said the author of "The Fat Fallacy" at a recent wellness program.

The diet's approach is based on the principles of what you eat; how you eat; your activity level; and stress reduction.

Emphasized are healthy oils; lean meats; daily dairy; whole grains; and fruits and vegetables.

"Exercise is critical," he noted. "Find an activity you love and you'll do it longer."

"Stress produces overconsumption. And sleep deprivation manifests itself as hunger. It's important to de-stress everyday," he said.

— Leslie King

Art: Backdrop for reflection, change

"As a white Southerner in the '40s and '50s, my primary experience of African Americans was through their subservient roles in domestic settings," explained Nancy VanDevender during a recent lecture about her Visual Arts Gallery exhibition, "Picking Cotton...Mississippi to Detroit."

"Later, my graduate school research introduced me to James Van Der Zee and Henry Clay Anderson, two African American artists whose vibrant photographs of black Americans during the Harlem Renaissance and the Civil Rights Movement profoundly influenced me and opened my eyes to a previously unfamiliar world.

"My installation at Emory is documentation of my continuing personal journey of heightened awareness through my research, and seeks to accomplish what I believe is the primary role of art: to offer the viewer a backdrop for reflection and change."

— Mary Catherine Johnson

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 or christi.gray@emory.edu. Listings are subject to space limitations.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Grant writing tips at URC workshops

Grant writing for academic success workshops are planned for Aug. 19–20 at Cox Hall from 9 a.m. to noon each day.

The Aug. 19 session will target trainees and faculty in the biomedical, math and natural sciences. The Aug. 20 session will target students and faculty in the humanities, social sciences and the visual and performing arts.

Paul Casella of the University of Iowa will teach both.

The seminars, presented by the University Research Committee, are free but advance registration is requested. Register at www.urc.emory.edu.

For more information, contact Melanie Kingston at 404-727-7503 or univmhk@emory.edu.

Soiree launches center for arts

The "Creativity & Arts Soiree: Celebrate Emory's Creative Campus," a launch party for the new Emory College Center for Creativity & Arts, is set for Friday, Sept. 5 from 5:30–8:30 p.m. in the Schwartz Center for Performing Arts.

Mix and mingle with other arts enthusiasts and enjoy a sampling of what's in store for the 2008–09 season of performing, visual, film and literary arts.

Toast the arts with a light reception while delving into the creative spirit through hands-on activities located in various areas of the building. Please RSVP to 404-712-9214 or creativity@emory.edu by Tuesday, Sept. 2.

A separate Soiree for students from 3:30–5 p.m. will precede the aforementioned evening event.

Register early for Candler fall forum

With the goal of developing more inclusive concepts of leadership, the Candler School of Theology's Fall Conference is set for Oct. 12–14 with early registration now open.

"Re-envisioning Leadership for a Hope-Filled Future" will feature speakers Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund; Eboo Patel, executive director of Interfaith Youth Core; and Richard Cizik, vice president for governmental affairs of the National Association of Evangelicals.

The conference is co-hosted by the Youth Theological Initiative and sponsored by the Frank Sherman Fund for the Ministry of the Church in Society and the Office of the Provost.

An Early Bird rate at the Emory Conference Center Hotel is available to attendees through Aug. 11.

For more information, see www.candler.emory.edu.

Seminars

Thursday, Aug. 7

"Potholes in the Road to Perfusion." Takki Momin, Emory surgery, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-778-1903.

"Uterine Fibroid Embolization Seminar." Various Emory interventional radiologists, presenting. 6:30 p.m. Glenn Auditorium, Crawford Long Hospital. Free. 404-778-7777.

Saturday, Aug. 9

"Gentrification: The Real Story" Panel Discussion. Nathan McCall, Emory African American studies; and Valetta Anderson, playwright, presenting. 5:30 p.m. Free. Horizon Theatre, 1083 Austin Ave. (Little Five Points). 404-535-1477. <http://www.horizontheatre.com>

Thursday, Aug. 14

"Tomorrow's Approach to Chronic Pancreatitis." Katherine Morgan, Medical University of South Carolina, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-778-1903.

Special

Tuesday, Aug. 5

Farmers Market. 11 a.m. Cox Hall Bridge. Free. Every Tuesday.

Thursday, Aug. 14

"United Methodism at 40" Conference. 6 p.m. Cannon Chapel Sanctuary. Free. 404-727-4481. Through Aug. 17. For full schedule visit, <http://candler.emory.edu/EVENTS/UMC%5F40Consultation/>.

Visual Arts

Now Showing

"Nubian Dreams: Images of Sudan - The Photography of Chester Higgins." Schatten Gallery, Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-4282. Through Aug. 15.

"Nubian Treasures From the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston." Carlos Museum, Third Floor. \$7 suggested donation. 404-727-4282. Through Aug. 31.

Thursday, Aug. 7

Learning Services Workshop: "Feedback Essentials." 8:30 a.m. 1599 Clifton Road, Room 1.432. Free. 404-727-7607.

Tuesday, Aug. 12

Learning Services Workshop: "Help Me to Help You." 8:30 a.m. 1599 Clifton Road, Room 1.432. Free. 404-727-7607.

Thursday, Aug. 14

Learning Services Workshop: "Achieving Leadership Potential." 8:30 a.m. 1599 Clifton Road, Room 1.432. \$60, includes workbook. 404-727-7607.

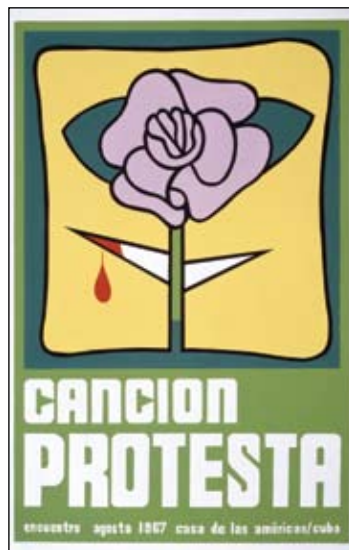
Endnote Introduction. 1 p.m. 310 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-6863.

Workshops

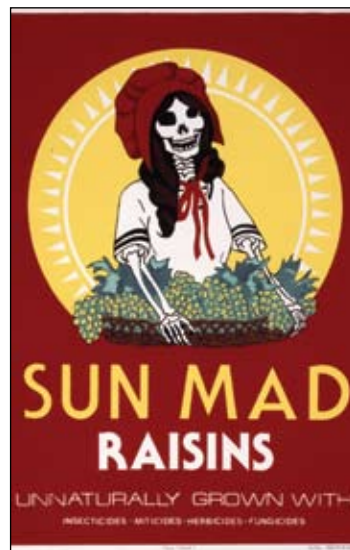
Wednesday, Aug. 6

Learning Services Workshop: "Interaction Skills for Success." 8:30 a.m. 1599 Clifton Road, Room 1.432. \$60, includes workbook. 404-727-7607.

Coming soon



Canción Protesta
1967; Alfredo Rostgaard;
serigraph; 76 x 52 cm.



Sun Mad Raisins
1982; Ester Hernández;
serigraph; 56 x 43 cm.



Jornada de solidaridad con el pueblo de Venezuela
1969; Faustino Pérez Organero;
offset lithograph; 53 x 32.5 cm.



Programa de Navidad
1977; José Melendez Contreras;
serigraph; 68.5 x 48 cm.

Latin American posters are vivid documentation of history

From Aug. 22–Dec. 14, the Schatten Gallery will host "Latin American Posters: Public Aesthetics and Mass Politics," an exhibition that traces four decades of Latin American social and political history during a time of widespread crisis and unrest.

Drawing primarily from the University of New Mexico's unparalleled, 10,000-strong Sam L. Slick Collection of Latin American and Iberian posters, the exhibition features 75 works that document and explore Latin America's contemporary social and political history.

Dating from the 1950s to the present, the posters originate from 11 Latin American countries, complemented by several works from the United States. The exhibition includes posters by such well-known artists as Raúl Martínez, René Mederos Pazos, Alfredo Rostgaard, and Eduardo Muñoz Bachos of Cuba; Jesús Ruiz Durand of Peru; Antonio Martorell, Rafael Tufiño and Lorenzo Homar of Puerto Rico; and Rupert García and Ester Hernández of the United States.

The political and cultural posters presented document the period vividly and irrefutably. The simplicity and directness of the political poster made it a powerful instrument for announcing the mood of the moment, transmitting messages and mobilizing mass action.

This exhibition is organized by UNM University Libraries' Center for Southwest Research in collaboration with the National Hispanic Cultural Center. Support for this project was provided by the University of New Mexico Center for Regional Studies.

Presented in partnership with the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program, co-sponsors include the Hightower Family Fund, Institute for Comparative and International Studies, Department of Political Science, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, John Gordon Stipe Memorial Lectureship Fund, and the Theory Practice Learning program.

Schatten Gallery is located on Level 3 of the Woodruff Library. The exhibition is free and open to the public during regular library hours.