Welcoming the class of 2013

Move-in day: a timeless tradition.

By BEVERLY CLARK

Emory’s undergraduate colleges welcome a highly selective and diverse freshman class to their campuses this fall.

Emory College

Emory College’s Class of 2013 — 1,315 in all — was chosen from 15,610 applicants. The class hails from 45 states and beyond, with 12 percent (up from 9.7) of the students representing 22 different countries. About 39 percent of the class hails from the South, with about a fifth from the Mid-Atlantic region and the rest spread among the West, Southeast, Midwest and New England. Georgia enrollees make up 19.6 percent of the class. Academically, the admitted class earned an average, unweighted GPA of 3.85 (up from 3.71) in high school. The middle range of SAT scores run from 1320 to 1460 for the combined critical reading and math sections. The number of students for whom Emory is a top choice also remained high: Early decision applicants make up 35.7 percent of the class.

Oxford College

Oxford College, Emory's two-year undergraduate division, saw its largest applicant pool ever. The Oxford class hails from 36 different states and 22 different countries. About 39 percent of the class hails from the South, with about a fifth from the West, Southwest, Midwest and New England. Georgia enrollees make up 19.6 percent of the class. Academically, the admitted class earned an average, unweighted GPA of 3.85 (up from 3.71) in high school. The middle range of SAT scores run from 1320 to 1460 for the combined critical reading and math sections. The number of students for whom Emory is a top choice also remained high: Early decision applicants make up 35.7 percent of the class.

 Countdown to Compass: Are you ready?

By JENNIFER STEPHENS

After two years of planning, development and preparation, the new PeopleSoft Financials system is set to debut Tuesday, Sept. 1, known as Compass.

Complete Compass training
• There are more than 30 courses available to help you learn the new financial system. Most of the courses are Distance Learning, which means you can complete them at your own convenience, and repeat them as often as you like to gain comfort with the new system. Visit the Project Compass Web site for more information: www.compass.emory.edu/training.

Understand key components
• System navigation: Understanding basic system navigation is one of two vital elements for successfully transitioning to PeopleSoft Financials. The training courses are designed to provide this understanding and to prepare users for the transition.
• SmartKeys and ChartFields: Get familiar with SmartKey and Chartfield values, as they represent the other vital element for successfully transitioning to PeopleSoft Financials.

The Project Compass Web site provides a list of FAS numbers and the associated new SmartKeys by department to help you learn the new values. Knowing the new values will help you find and filter information in the system.

Compass favorites: Similar to your favorite Web sites, save the pages that you will use frequently in your Compass “My Favorites.” It will make it easier for you to find the information you need to access quickly.
EMORY PROFILE: Tyhuna Tyree

Helping students find their way
Registrar's office staffer on front lines for back to school

By PATTI GHEZZI

When students enter the Office of the Registrar, Tyhuna Tyree’s friendly face is the first they see. As a secretary with the registrar’s office, she helps students access their transcripts. Tyree, who previously worked as a receptionist in admissions, is also happy to give directions around campus and help students, parents and alumni navigate procedures in enrollment services.

With my knowledge from undergraduate admissions, I can answer a lot of questions in the office, she says. “I can get the student pointed in the right direction.”

One misconception about the registrar’s office is that it receives transcripts from other schools. “The admissions office gets the transcript,” Tyree has informed countless students and parents over the years.

This school year, Tyree will not just be helping students, she will be a student in special standing through the Courtesy Scholar Program. She is taking a women’s studies course in hopes of earning a degree in African American Studies. “I don’t have anything to lose and everything to gain,” she says, adding that her son, Ameer, will be a freshman at Georgia Perimeter College. “We can compare notes!”

A native of Buffalo, N.Y., Tyree graduated from high school in hopes of becoming a flight attendant. Her family talked her out of that. She became a mother and focused on Ameer, while earning an administrative assistant diploma from Brans Business College in Bryan, Texas. “I put my dreams aside for my son,” she says. “Now I can pursue those dreams.”

Before arriving at Emory eight years ago, she worked at a trucking company and was eager for change. She found the Emory campus so welcoming she never wanted to leave. “I definitely see a future here,” she says, adding that she would love to work in the Department of African American Studies someday.

When she worked in admissions, she got to see students start out as tentative high school seniors and blossom into scholars. One student stood out for his transformation from awkward teenager to campus leader. When he was about to graduate, she sent him an e-mail telling him how proud she was of his accomplishments.

“He came into the office and gave me a hug,” she says. “I felt like I watched him from beginning to end.”

Tyree enjoys taking advantage of opportunities on campus. When she saw a Theater Emory production of the play, “Death and the Maiden,” last spring, she was so impressed she insisted her coworkers see it. She sent e-mails to the student actors telling them what a fantastic job they did.

While in admissions, she got involved with Essence of Emory, a recruitment program for prospective African American and Latino students. Tyrees sits on two committees: Budget Review for Enrollment Services and the Advisory Committee for Enrollment Services. On the first, she and other members look for ways to trim the budget. On the other, she (trials to keep morale up with activities such as a back-to-school breakfast for staff. Employees feel comfortable going to Tyree with a problem or suggestion, which she can take to the committee. “They’re not intimidated by me,” she says. “I can be a voice for them.”

When she is not on campus, Tyree has a penchant for children’s birthday parties. She once had a small event-planning business, but closed it when her son entered high school. Now she throws parties for friends and family members. Someday, she would like to start a nonprofit organization that gives birthday parties for children who would not otherwise get to have one.

“I love to help people; I love to help children,” she says. “I like making sure kids have a special day.”
American Law Institute. She
Two alumni trustees join Emory Board

Layne earned both his J.D. (with
Emory is a recipient of the
Graduate Program in Neuroscience.
She also encourages undergraduates; to participate actively in research.

Larry L. Young has received a
designing the genetics and neural circuitry of social bonding. Young, who also is division chief of the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience at Emory's Yorkston Primary Primate Research Center, aims to generate transgenic prairie voles, which are highly social, and identify the genes responsible for individual variations in social behavior.

People

New position elevates engaged learning

By MARGIE FIShMAN

In a Spanish writing course, students support Hispanic families picking up the pieces from domestic violence. In a business communications class, they create a lively video for the Sierra Club to encourage young people to conserve energy. And in the School of Nursing, they conduct educational workshops on good hygiene and illness prevention for the homeless.

These are the faces of engaged learning, where the student as community citizen becomes a springboard for academic discourse and introspection. One of the goals in Emory's strategic plan is to produce socially conscious leaders with a portfolio of skills that are proven and value tested in community activities.

To that end, the University created a position to encourage faculty to connect academic coursework with service-based charity, creating mutually rewarding partnerships. Earlier this month, Vialla Hartfield-Mendez, a senior lecturer in Spanish and director of the Emory Scholars Program, was named the new director of engaged learning.

In her new role, Hartfield-Mendez will be based in the Office of University-Community Partnerships (OUCP) and will continue to teach one Spanish course during the academic year. She will work with faculty to enhance engaged learning opportunities, help establish new community partnerships and promote multi-disciplinary activities across schools to examine important public problems.

Hartfield-Mendez will provide faculty with the tools needed "to foster stronger connections between learning in the classroom and learning in the community," says OUCP Director Michael Rich, an associate professor of political science and environmental studies.

The new position "will enable the University to more effectively prepare its students to become leaders who make a difference and in turn strengthen the social impact the University will have in the greater Atlanta community and beyond," adds Rich.

Hartfield-Mendez has successfully integrated community service into her courses, having students tutor at local schools with a high percentage of Hispanic students and at ESL classes on Buford Highway to better understand issues of immigration and U.S.-Mexican border relations. Several of her students pursued careers in nonprofit advocacy after graduation. It is important to create long-lasting relationships with community partners, says Hartfield-Mendez, understanding their needs and giving them a full voice in the process.

Emory is a recipient of the 2009 Presidential Award for General Community Service, the highest federal recognition of a university's commitment to community service, service-learning and civic engagement. "We're one of the trail-blazers for higher education," says Hartfield-Mendez.

By 2012, OUCP hopes to offer engaged learning opportunities to students in all of Emory's nine academic units. This fall, the office plans to resurrect a faculty fellows program that will energize faculty in regular conversations on the theory and practice of engaged learning. Mini-grants will be made available for faculty to weave service learning into teaching and research.

The service learning experience is not only a meaningful addition to a student's portfolio, it also may improve recall of key course concepts, says Sam Marie Engle, senior associate director of the OUCP.

"Our students are making a real tangible difference in the world right now," she says.

By BEVERLY CLARK

Emory University's Board of Trustees has elected two new members: attorneys Susan Cahoon of Atlanta, and Jonathan Layne of Los Angeles. Nominated by the Emory Alumni Board, they were elected as alumni trustees during the Board's June meeting.

Susan Cahoon

Cahoon, partner and general counsel of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP, joined the firm in 1971. She became the firm's first female partner in 1977 and has spent her career as a litigation lawyer. Trained as both a mediator and an arbitrator, she is a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and a member of the American Law Institute. She served on the board of directors of the Atlanta Bar Association (1981-1987) and received its Leadership Award in 1991.

After earning dual undergraduate degrees in history and economics from Emory College in 1968, the summa cum laude graduate went on to receive a J.D. degree cum laude from Harvard University.

Cahoon is a nationally recognized intercollegiate debater at Emory and a leading member of the team that won Emory its first national debate championship in 1967. She was the first woman president of the Atlanta Emory Club (elected in 1973) and received the Emory College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Award of Distinction in 2001 in recognition of her contributions to her profession, community and college alma mater. She is a native of Jacksonville, Fla.

Jonathan Layne

Layne is a partner of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP in Los Angeles. He joined Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher as an associate in 1979, and is currently co-chair of the mergers and acquisitions group and a member of the firm's executive committee.

Layne has extensive experience in advising corporate boards and is an expert and frequent lecturer on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and securities law topics. Layne has been selected by Chambers and Partners as a “Leading Mergers and Acquisitions Lawyer” for 2005-2009, and as a “Leading Capital Markets: Debt & Equity Lawyer” for 2007-2009 for its “Chambers USA America’s Leading Lawyers for Business” directories. He also has been named among “The Best of the Bar” for Corporate Transactions by the Los Angeles Business Journal.

After receiving his B.A. in economics from the College of William and Mary in 1975, Layne earned both his J.D. (with distinction) and M.B.A. from the Emory School of Law and Goizueta Business School in 1979. He graduated from Emory Law School as a member of the Order of the Coif and served as managing editor of the Emory Law Journal. He graduated from Georgia Business School as a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, the business honor society. He is married to Emory alumna Sheryl S. Layne ’79C, and both have been involved alumni. Layne was a member of the Emory Law School Advisory Board from 2006-2008. Layne is a member of the board of directors of the California Chamber of Commerce and is a past chairman of the board of trustees and president of the John Thomas Dye School, an independent elementary school in Los Angeles.

"These new trustees represent the wide range of alumni expertise and talent," says Rosemary Magee, vice president and secretary of the University, who works closely with the board of trustees. "They will serve Emory extremely well as we continue on the trajectory of becoming a national and international destination university.”

By MARGIE FIShMAN

Two alumni trustees join Emory Board
CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Three to watch

During the 2009–10 academic year, three major campus construction projects continue at Emory including campus housing, research space, faculty offices, the undergraduate admissions function and campus bookstore services.

Each of the buildings is being designed and constructed to receive LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Emory is a national leader in certified green building space by square footage and is expected to cross the threshold of 2 million certified square feet of LEED construction during the 2009–10 academic year.

— David Payne

OXFORD ROAD BUILDING

Campus impact: This 55,000-square-foot project of Public Health Food Service will house undergraduate admissions enabling a significantly improved career center to relocate within E. Jones. It will also consolidate three campus bookstores into a single location within a Barnes & Noble Collegiate Superstore. Starbucks will open a coffee shop on site with outdoor café seating on Oxford Road. This project includes a visitor parking deck partially concealed from view by a vine-covered ‘living wall’ that will cover exposed sides of the parking structure.

Completion date: April 2010 with bookstores services opening next summer.

LEED fact: The project is expected to achieve LEED ‘Silver’ due in part to its large green roof over the parking deck.

CLAUDIA NANCE ROLLINS BUILDING

Campus impact: This expansion of the Rollins School of Public Health will house 195,000 square feet of new classroom, research and office space.

Completion date: May 2010 with renovations in the existing School of Public Health continuing through next summer.

LEED fact: The public health building will receive LEED points for the use of low volatile organic compound paints, carpets and adhesives that improve indoor environmental quality. This project reflects Emory’s commitment to alternative transportation as no new parking was built for the expansion.

FRESHMAN RESIDENCE HALL FOUR

Campus impact: The new residence hall located across from The Depot is Emory’s fourth new freshman hall in the past two years, and is part of Emory’s freshman housing plan to enrich the first-year experience by grouping freshman residents 45 feet near the core of Emory’s campus and near one another. The new 114,000-square-foot hall will have 351 student beds.

Completion date: April 2010 for occupancy with summer programs and freshman in fall semester 2010.

LEED fact: This project is being built with local granite from Lithonia, which yielded a green LEED point for using construction materials from the Southeast region.

What’s new in Emory Village?

Summer 2009 brought a series of changes that altered the Emory Village landscape.

New businesses:

• Octane (www.octanecoffee.com) features fair trade, direct trade and organic coffees, and tea, desserts and light food.

• Sprouts Green Café (www.sprouts greencafe.com) features rice bowls, wraps, sandwiches, soups, salads, smoothies and juices using organic and local foods.

• Wonderful World (www.worldburger.com) will feature burgers, hot dogs, sandwiches and salads at reasonable prices.

One notable business closed over the summer, the BP gas station at North Decatur and Oxford roads. BP is retreating from the Atlanta market and preparing to sell the property after removing the station structure and underground storage tanks. The closing of the BP gas station and resale of the property are in no way affiliated with Emory. The long-term project, the Emory Village road improvements, continues to progress.

Underground ducts are being constructed in the roadway overnight in order to bury power, phone, television cables and the unsightly electric wires currently seen in the Village. This utility work is expected to continue through October. Following this, Emory University will begin work on new streetscapes in Emory Village and a roundabout at the intersection of North Decatur and Oxford roads, and Dowman Drive.

— David Payne

CLASS: Diversity remains hallmark of freshmen

Continued from the cover

11 countries. Most of the Oxford class is from the Southeast (57 percent), with 17 percent from the Mid-Atlantic region and the remaining from around the country. International students make up eight percent of the class.

Diversity remains strong

The Emory College class includes another consecutive year of record minority enrollment. Students of color represent 43 percent of the class, including Asian Americans (8 percent), Hispanics (14 percent) and Native Americans (less than 1 percent) along with 22 percent not reported or unknown.

At Oxford, 45 percent of the class is made up of minority enrollment, including Asian Americans (25 percent), African Americans (14 percent) and Hispanics (5 percent).

QuestBridge Scholars

The class also includes Emory’s second group of QuestBridge Scholars, represented by 10 students in the College and one student beginning at Oxford. Emory joined a select coalition of universities and colleges in 2007 that have partnered with QuestBridge, a national nonprofit that links highly qualified, low-income students with full-four-year scholarship opportunities at some of the nation’s best colleges.

David Payne

— David Payne

Class of 2013 snapshot

Emory College

• 1,135 strong from 15,610 applicants.

• The class hails from 45 states and beyond, with 12 percent international students representing 22 different countries.

• Students of color represent 43 percent of the College class.

• 10 QuestBridge Scholars.

(For a full Emory College snapshot, visit www.emory.edu/ADMISSIONS/about/ class-profile.html.)

Oxford College

• Had its largest applicant pool ever.

• The Oxford class represents 36 different states and 11 countries, with 57 percent from the Southeast, 17 percent from the Mid-Atlantic region and the remaining from around the country, 8 percent international.

• 45 percent of the class is made up of minority enrollment.

• One QuestBridge Scholar.

(For a full Oxford snapshot, visit http://oxford.emory.edu/admission/ oxford_facts.dox.)
REPORT FROM: Health Sciences

Academic health centers have opportunity to lead

In 1910, working for the Carnegie Foundation, Abraham Flexner released a landmark report on the state of medical education in the United States. It was not good: students often were selected on the basis of their ability to pay without regard to prior education or experience. Teaching was largely by apprenticeship with physicians who had neither university affiliation nor background in the scientific basis of disease.

Flexner's report became headline news, and in an about-face, it overhauled medical education. More than 50 medical schools were closed. Financial incentives fell into place for schools to adapt an academic model. The practice of U.S. medicine quickly transitioned from largely a skill-based trade to a knowledge-based profession.

Fast forward to 2009. With health care reform now in the national spotlight, we have the same opportunity to dramatically overhaul our health care system. Why must we do this is obvious. We have a wide and increasing range of problems that indicate significant and fundamental dysfunction in our system. Some argue that overall expenditures are too high for the value received. Some are concerned about what services are covered, and others see the large numbers of uninsured people as the problem.

Essentially, the concerns fall into three categories — costs, quality and access. But rather than three separate and clearly defined problems, they are complex and interrelated.

Who understands the depth, breadth and complexity of these issues as much as the nation's academic health centers? As the traditional homes of innovation in health care, academic health centers like the Woodruff Health Sciences Center at Emory have a responsibility for addressing these concerns and engineering a better system. We must be fully engaged in the other state transitions in making changes because true transformation will succeed only when all sectors — public/private, state/federal, employer/employee, academic/corporate — come together for the greater good.

In particular, academic health centers can guide policymakers to solutions that are fit for cost, quality and sustainability. We can start by setting standards to reform financing and provide oversight. We can pay for quality and value in promoting health, not just treating disease. We can provide personalized, predictive care by engaging people to be participants in their own health. We can restore services and generate a new model to offer integrated health care provider teams that allow each user to understand the risks and benefits of all options.

The magnitude of such change is less than that of 100 years ago when the Flexner report changed the way medicine was taught and practiced. The challenges and opportunities of today are even more complex, and yet by closing the gap between our great understanding of health and disease and the application of such knowledge, we can transform health and healing together, as we are doing at the WSCI.

A promise of a health care system that is viewed by all as our nation’s greatest asset can and will be realized if academic health centers continue to lead the way.

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

U.S. NEWS: Rankings cite innovation and resources

Emory’s rankings on the survey’s components included 12th place in faculty resources, ahead of Stanford (14th), Johns Hopkins (22nd) and several other highly ranked universities. The faculty resources indicator is mainly derived from the amount of money received and shared distribution.

Emory was ranked 11th in the “Top Up-and-Coming Schools,” a list of colleges and universities singled out in a survey comparing institutions that had made the most promised and innovative changes in academics, faculty, students, campus or facilities.

Emory was also cited for its economic diversity, ranking 6th among national universities, with 14 percent of undergraduate students receiving need-based grants. In 2007, the University initiated Emory Advantage, a program of financial aid to help lower- and middle-income students and families reduce debt during the undergraduate years.

Emory ranked 12th in alumni giving, with an average of 37 percent of alumni contributing to the school over a two-year period.

Visit www.laneus.com to see more rankings.

LANEY: Graduate school reflects educational vision

Emory has been in my heart, and I am deeply touched and humbled to be associated with the University in such a special way.”

Lisa A. Tedesco, dean of the newly designated Laney Graduate School, says that “naming the graduate school is a fitting way to acknowledge President Laney because it recognizes his vision for the central role of doctoral education in establishing and sustaining a great research university at the forefront of discovery and science and the needs of humanities.”

“Under Laney’s leadership, Emory embarked on an extraordinary transformation, guided by goals he outlined in his ‘Emory 2000’ address delivered in 1987,” says Tedesco. “It was a transformation of the very identity of Emory.”

That transformation reached a new milestone in 1995, when Emory was admitted to the prestigious Association of American Universities, which would not have been possible without extraordinary commitments to graduate education and research that took place under President Laney’s leadership, says Tedesco.

“One has to realize that Emory didn’t grant a Ph.D. until the 1950s,” says Laney in a recent interview. “We’re a young university when it comes to graduate education at the doctoral level.”

During the early years of his presidency, Laney worked with a team of faculty and administrators to grow both the faculty and student enrollment. “We had to have a foundation, and the foundation was not only financial and resources, but it was also the breadth of faculty and the number of academic programs.”

As the breadth and depth of Emory College grew, so did the Graduate School. “As the interdisciplinarity of graduate programs became reciprocal — they strengthened each other.”

In 1997, during the last two years into Laney’s presidency, Emory received a gift of $105 million in Coca-Cola stock from the Emily and Ernest Woodruff Foundation, at the time the largest single gift to any institution of higher education in American history.

“There’s no way to overstate what the Woodruff gift did for Emory in its growth.”

President Emeritus

James T. Laney

Blue and gold go ‘green’ at orientation

At this year’s new student orientation, held Aug. 22–23, Emory expected to make long-lasting impressions of sustainability for new students by holding the University’s ‘greenest’ orientation ever.

New student orientation for many college campuses means multiple mass mailings, even before students arrive on campus and tons of food waste from banquets and family meals. Emory is changing its behavior with the expectation that it will remain as a value with its students throughout their college careers and beyond.

Up until two years ago, the University communicated with its incoming students and their parents through photocopies, providing assistance with the orientation process. “Those packets cost a fortune to mail so we decided to eliminate the paper package last year,” says Lee Smith, director of communication and orientation for undergraduate students.

“Emory can now communicate accurate information more effectively to students by using our internal Blackboard Web site,” says Smith. Blackboard is a content management system that students will use while enrolled at Emory. “Since the site can be kept current, it allows for dynamic communication.” The University is saving thousands of dollars annually by communicating to new students electronically. Once students arrive on campus, the commitment to sustainability continues. In addition to promoting commute alternatives like biking and Emory’s 100 percent alternatively fueled shuttle, there was a major focus on recycling and composting at orientation events.

During the large informational fair at WoodPEC on Saturday, compostable buttons were used as a substitute for other than producing large amounts of waste, we composted most,” adds Smith.

The large dinner on McDonough Field, held in conjunction with the Coca-Cola Partnership, was prepared with locally produced foods and ingredients.

Think Emory’s ‘green’ orientation is a one-time event? Think again. “The goal is to see how we can expand Emory’s green orientation each year, we only had one compostable event. This year, we had three,” says Smith.

Other sustainable features

• Reusable totes
• Refillable water bottles
• Compact fluorescent light bulbs
• Publications printed on Forest Stewardship Council-certified paper

Continued from the cover

LANEY: Graduate school reflects educational vision

Emory has been in my heart, and I am deeply touched and humbled to be associated with the University in such a special way.”

Lisa A. Tedesco, dean of the newly designated Laney Graduate School, says that “naming the graduate school is a fitting way to acknowledge President Laney because it recognizes his vision for the central role of doctoral education in establishing and sustaining a great research university at the forefront of discovery and science and the needs of humanities.”

“Under Laney’s leadership, Emory embarked on an extraordinary transformation, guided by goals he outlined in his ‘Emory 2000’ address delivered in 1987,” says Tedesco. “It was a transformation of the very identity of Emory.”

That transformation reached a new milestone in 1995, when Emory was admitted to the prestigious Association of American Universities, which would not have been possible without extraordinary commitments to graduate education and research that took place under President Laney’s leadership, says Tedesco.

“One has to realize that Emory didn’t grant a Ph.D. until the 1950s,” says Laney in a recent interview. “We’re a young university when it comes to graduate education at the doctoral level.”

During the early years of his presidency, Laney worked with a team of faculty and administrators to grow both the faculty and student enrollment. “We had to have a foundation, and the foundation was not only financial and resources, but it was also the breadth of faculty and the number of academic programs.”

As the breadth and depth of Emory College grew, so did the Graduate School. “As the interdisciplinarity of graduate programs became reciprocal — they strengthened each other.”

In 1997, during the last two years into Laney’s presidency, Emory received a gift of $105 million in Coca-Cola stock from the Emily and Ernest Woodruff Foundation, at the time the largest single gift to any institution of higher education in American history.

“There’s no way to overstate what the Woodruff gift did for Emory in its growth.”

President Emeritus

James T. Laney
Expanded internships support community work

By CAROL CLARK

Max Evans spent part of his summer pulling weeds, planting seeds and harvesting squash, peppers, tomatoes and blueberries. “It was definitely intensive, manual labor,” says Evans, a junior environmental studies major, of his internship at Gaia Gardens, an Atlanta farm in on-site.

Evans received a stipend, since the work was part of the Center for Ethics/Ethics and Servant Leadership (EASL) Summer Internship Program. And he had the fringe benefits of getting to take home some of the fruits of his labor. “I’d never been a cook, but you get creative when you have fresh produce to work with,” he says. “My summer staple was zuccini, onion, garlic, green tomatoes and peppers, and eat them with black beans and rice.”

In addition to this hands-on labor, Evans compiled data for the amount of harvest from each crop, and helped the co-op develop a system to keep concrete records of its production. “Now you can compare yields from one year to the next and see which ones perform better, and which ones should stay in the crop rotation,” says Evans.

EASL interns work a minimum of 240 hours for a $4,000 stipend. While core funding for 10 internships comes from an endowment of the family of R.L. Abbott Turner, EASL taps other funding whenever possible.

This summer’s group of 22 interns was the largest ever, thanks to funding for the preparing engaged engaged, scholars strategic theme managed by the Office of Emory’s University-Community Partnerships. OUCP leveraged the Coca-Cola Foundation gift for SPAN (Sustainable Partnerships for Atlanta Neighborhoods) to support five community-based internships for environmental studies majors, as well as nine other internships in support of engaged scholarship and learning. In addition to Gaia Gardens, the environmental studies students interned with West Atlanta Watershed Alliance, Trees Atlanta and Park Pride.

“We have a lot of students wanting to do good in the community, but all of them can’t afford to do unpaid internships,” says Tracy Yendle, associate professor of environmental studies. “This is a wonderful opportunity, giving students a chance to work in community-based projects and test out careers, without putting themselves in financial jeopardy.”

Internships are becoming increasingly necessary for students career goals, while the recession makes students who cannot afford to take an unpaid internship more disadvantaged than ever, says Edward Queen, director of EASL.

The EASL program had more than 140 applications this year, but funding is available for only 22 students. “It’s frustrating,” says Queen, who hopes to expand the program to 40 or more students in the next few years.

EASL interns meet weekly at the Center for Ethics to debrief about their jobs experiences and discuss the challenges of running a nonprofit. “One of the key topics is how to make decisions in real-time with limited resources,” Queen says.

“I learned that in farming, a lot of things are out of your hands,” Evans says. “You can work really hard and not know why a plant fails to grow or not produce well. Sometimes there is going to be loss no matter how much effort you put into something.”

Stimulus funds power research, creates jobs

By HOLLY KORSCHUN

More than $10 million of the federal government’s stimulus funding is supporting at least 50 research projects so far at Emory. Besides research, other benefits include jobs, education, equipment and facilities.

Funded through the National Institutes of Health and other federal agencies, the funds are expected to advance discoveries in heart disease, cancer, neuroscience, organ transplantation, pulmonary diseases, addiction and epilepsy.

A $1.6 million grant supports research, led by Allan Kirk, assistant professor of surgery in the School of Medicine, into post-transplant drugs tailored for children and child-friendly equipment and facilities.

Another project under way, funded by a $11.1 million grant and led by Christopher Larson, chair of surgery and chief of Emory Transplant Center, will test several molecules found on memory T cells. These cells play a role in rejecting transplanted organs and scientists are looking for ways to counter that.

With a $618,000 grant, Yue Feng, associate professor of pharmacology, heads research that focuses on how a protein regulates a gene that may reveal where lack of that becomes critical in mental retardation.

Emory has received half of all the NIH grants from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) awarded to Georgia academic institutions thus far. Signed into law in February, the act directs that most of the funds allocated by the stimulus bill are to be used within two years.

“Funds from the stimulus bill will have far-reaching effects,” says David Wynn, Emory’s vice president for research. “New equipment, additional postdoctoral trainees and laboratory technicians, and possible new facility space will create opportunities that we can build on in future years after this funding is no longer available.”

See more projects

Examine summaries, highlights, stories and multimedia about Emory’s ARRA-funded initiatives, and learn more about the University’s stimulus-related projects, at www.emory.edu/home/research/stimulus.

PeopleSoft Financials IS Coming... Are you Ready?

Did you complete your training?
Do you know your new SmartKeys & Department numbers?
Who are your Department Super Users?

This is your final week for "go-live" preparations. If you have questions, visit www.compass.emory.edu for more information.

Continued from the cover

• Report tools: Compass includes a library of pre-defined queries and nVi- sion Reports to help you track spending, monitor transactions and verify what is available in each budget.

Computer readiness

• Confirm that you are using a supported Web browser: To provide consistent support for Emory users, it’s recommended that Windows users use either Internet Explorer 7.0 or Firefox 3.5.1. Mac users are recommended to use Firefox 3.5.1.

• Establish remote access: Compass is accessible via the Internet, as a secured Web site. Depending on your tasks, some users may need to connect using the Virtual Private Network (VPN). Specific details regarding when and how to use the VPN will be available upon go-live.

What can you expect this week?

In preparation for Sept. 1, there are downtime impacts to several University systems.

• Emory Express will be unavailable from Wednesday, Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. until Monday, Aug. 31 at 8 a.m. Employees will be able to view informa- tion, but cannot make changes during this time.

Ongoing assistance available

Beginning Sept. 1, the Compass Toolbox will be available as your one- stop for “go-live” support and materials. The toolbox will be accessible via the Project Compass Web site and will con- tain job aids, frequently asked questions and help desk contact information: 404- 727-7000.

Learn more

For more information on Project Compass or PeopleSoft Financials, visit www.compass.emory.edu.
On heartfelt commitments and gifts

The spirit of communication written in a letter

By DEBRA SPITULNIK

At the start of a new semester, I wish to share a personal letter that I wrote last May to the students in my Spring 2009 “Language and Culture” class. Letters from professors to students, if they are written at all, are usually business-like and private. Most are about course logistics and course performance. Most are short and dry. Perhaps there is something to be said about reviving the art of letter writing within the academic community, as part of the life of the mind, as part of learning, as part of connecting to each other.

Perhaps there is also something to be said about slowing down our pace of communications, all too frenzied by an endless stream of e-mails, Twitters, Facebook updates, and breaking news. In my mind, it’s not about pulling the plug on technology, but about developing a more conscious relationship to language and communication.

I share my letter here with a community of readers in the hopes that we will continue to seek out and value greater expression about our lives and roles as teachers. I hope that we share these expressions with our students, and that we create more spaces where expressing both a scientific and a heartfelt commitment to our chosen subfields makes and a difference. Students need to see our vision statements not only on the first page of the course syllabus or in official university documents, but also in unexpected places like a personal letter.

I used the letter writing process to think about what I wanted for my students. Beyond a theoretical introduction to a major subfield of anthropology, beyond a toolkit for investigating the centrality of language in human experience, beyond a whirlwind tour of communication styles and communication habits around the globe — what else did I wish to give them?

We had read about Western Apache people’s use of silence and place names, the unique jargon of U.S. defense intelligence, the English word “chipmunk” probably comes from Ojibwa “atchitamon.” We had delved into the intertextual resonances of MLK and Obama speeches.

The evening before the last day of classes, I posted the letter on our LearnLink conference. The next morning, I projected it and read it out loud. It was a powerful moment.

On the cusp of handing out the take-home final, the letter also provided a mini-review. Its tone was not overly academic, however. Instead, it was lyrical, didactic, moralizing and sappy all at once. Portions of the letter structure and a handful of formulations mirrored some of the cultural traditions that we had studied in class. And the exposition modeled in part a major course theme: the power of words to create worlds and communities.

An Excerpt: My Wishes for You

Language and Culture Spring 2009

It happened at long list of terms defining new reality at place of large rose and white marble stones reaching up to the sky. . . . Intertextuality, linguaculture, linguistic determinism, incomensurability, intended meaning, communicative competence, knowledge, elaboration, ethnography of communication, social circulation of discourse, heteroglossia, linguistic variety, sociolinguist, endo-switching, intrasentential, diglossia . . . Perhaps a new class language that could become communal property . . .

It began with “the fierce urgency of now” streaming from 1963 all the way up to 2009. A series of wishes for the students of Language and Culture:

I wish for you to appreciate other ways of being and communicating and to bring some of this back into your lives, into your friendships, into your workplaces. I wish for you to imagine — and perhaps even practice — a linguaculture of accommodation. I wish for you to resist the forces that say that all languages are not created equal. I wish for you to feel the power of aloneness.

I wish for you to feel the strength of stories. I wish for you to be agents in human language’s complex oscillation between centripetal and centrifugal forces. You can work to support those centers of language standardization and stabilization that serve just causes. And you can work to play with and promote all the marvelous variety and open-endedness that is human language.

Don’t let your relation to language and languages ever become flattened or routine. Experiment with slowing down time, with sitting and writing, with reviving genres that seem to be slipping away. Know that the principle of linguistic relativity rings true every day, and should continue to. Know that strict scientific standards of causality do not always apply when it comes to the relation between language and culture. Know that we can be rigorous in our inquiries nonetheless.

Know that there is no anthropology without linguistics — and no linguistics without anthropology.

It happened at long tables pushed up against the walls, stumbling over backpacks to write with dried out markers. I wish for you all to leave this space this semester, with echoes of our new communal property reaching up to the sky and bearing fruit in other areas of your life . . . no matter where you go or who you become.

I wish you all the very best!
ADVANCE NOTICE

Big party planned to welcome back

Festapalozanazaroo 2009 is a long word for welcome back to campus and the start of the academic year for students, faculty and staff. Also known as the All Emory Welcome Back Party, the event is Friday, Aug. 28, at McDonough Field from 8 to 11:30 p.m.

There will be free food and giveaways.

Singer-songwriter Eric Hutchinson, on the Warner Brothers recording label, will headline the entertainment. Opening act will be the Shadboxers, past winners of the Emory Arts Competition.

The event is sponsored by the New Student Orientation, Office of the Provost, Student Government Association, College Council, Oxford College, Goizueta Business School and the BBA Council, the Student Programming Council, Friday@10, Coca-Cola and Mazzio’s Pizza Joint.

Iranian elections will be dissected

Emory Law’s Center for International and Comparative Law is hosting a seminar on the 2009 Iranian elections at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, in Tull Auditorium. The event will feature more than 10 speakers and panelists, including Nobel Laureate Shirin Ebadi and author and essayist Melody Mozejz ‘06L–’06PhD. A complete schedule is available at www.iranseminar2009.com.

‘Lucid Eye’: A yearlong glimpse of images

The Visual Arts Gallery inaugurates “The Lucid Eye: A Year of Photography at Emory, 2009–2010” with 20 exceptional works on loan from the prominent Atlanta law firm of Arnall Golden Gregory.

“Each image in this exhibition is a masterwork in the practice of self-consciously artistic photography as it emerged during the twentieth century,” says Jason Francisco, associate professor of photography and co-curator of the “Lucid eye” series with Mary Catherine Johnson. “Whether in the vein of abstraction, documentary, portraiture or fantasy — and frequently in combinations — photographs, as this exhibition offers them to us, are images with a particular purchase on miracles, one announcing another.”

The exhibition, featuring works by Margaret Bourke-White, Harry Callahan, William Chris- tenberry, Paul Strand and others, opens on Aug. 27 with a reception from 5–7 p.m., and runs through Sept. 25.

Information: www.visualarts.emory.edu.

Freshmen get oriented with outdoor fun

By BEVERLY CLARK

While many of their future classmates are finding their way around campus, other Emory freshmen will throw on backpacks and hike into college life through Outdoor Emory Adventure Orientation.

The popular program gives first-year students an opportunity to bond with future classmates while they camp out under the stars, raft down a river, go rock-climbing, explore caves or ride horses along scenic trails.

Each year, about 200 incoming first-year students — more than 10 percent of the class — take part in the program, which this year includes a whirlwind of 15 different three-day trips starting Aug. 26 through Aug. 28. After classes start. During the trips, students have the opportunity to make friends and learn about Emory through upperclassmen before facing the pressures of starting college.

“It connects people in every way — people you wouldn’t normally meet in your social circle, people outside your freshman hall, people who you can share this unique experience with that brings them together,” says senior Kristen Jensen who took the program last year.

A whitewater rafting trip on the Chattooga River — like the one enjoyed by Outdoor Emory participants Tiffany Baerwaldt, Matt Cone, Paulina Belsky and Laura Lambie-Hanson — will be among the trips available at Outdoor Emory Orientation.

Students have organized and run the program since 1991 when it was one of the first orientations of its kind in the country. OEO currently is working with the Emory Alumni Association to raise funds to provide scholarships for more students to take part in the orientation.

OEO is one of the largest and most active clubs of its kind in the country; with 400-plus members, it is the University’s largest student group. In addition to weekend trips with activities ranging from backpacking to spelunking, OEO is involved in community service, including trail clean-ups and Habitat for Humanity builds.