

PROFILE

Former refugee from Bhutan finds new life and a helping mission. **Page 2**



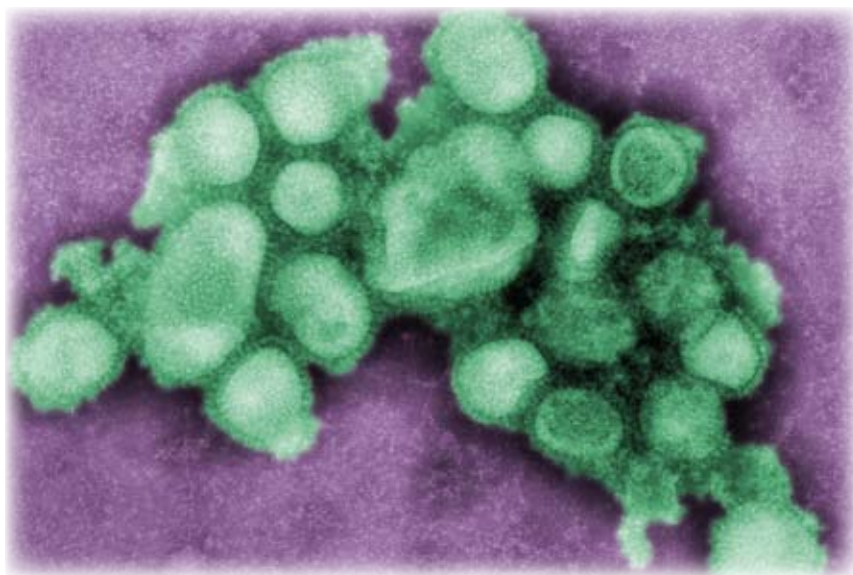
DISCOVERY

The Carlos Museum's lab and UGA team up to preserve a whale fossil. **Page 6**



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The new flu



Are you prepared?



Beginning in late fall, the federal government plans to distribute limited quantities of the novel H1N1 vaccine to target populations. STEVE ELLWOOD

By **MARGIE FISHMAN**

With the nation preparing for a second wave of H1N1 influenza, formerly known as the swine flu, Emory health officials are urging students, faculty and staff to get their regular flu shot early this year and practice good hygiene.

"Probably the most important element about management of a pandemic is communication," says Alexander Isakov, executive director of Emory's Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response (CEPAR).

The University has launched a Web site,

www.emory.edu/flu, to inform the community about general precautions to stem the spread of the H1N1 flu strain. The site will be updated as indicated by the rapidly evolving situation. University health officials took their message to parents at student orientation earlier this month.

The H1N1 flu strain, which first appeared in April in the U.S. and Mexico, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization. Unlike the seasonal flu, H1N1 is a new strain with the majority of cases occurring in people ages

5 to 24.

At present, the severity of novel H1N1 is reported to be on par with the common seasonal flu, Isakov notes. Symptoms are similar and may include fever, cough, sore throat and body aches. But like any new flu strain, H1N1 has the ability to mutate, says Isakov. Those who exhibit flu-like symptoms are urged to stay home and avoid contact with others until 24 hours after the fever is down without the use of medication, says Student Health Services Executive Director Michael Huey. Under current policy, staff can use accrued sick leave.

While a vaccine for H1N1 is not yet available, Emory is on the front line of flu research. Emory University Hospital treated Georgia's first confirmed case of H1N1, and the campus is one of eight sites nationwide conducting clinical trials to evaluate the H1N1 vaccine's safety. The University operates, in cooperation with the University of Georgia, the Influenza Pathogenesis & Immunology Research Center, where researchers aim to improve diagnosis, prevention and treatment of flu viruses.

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CAMPAIGN EMORY

Nearing \$1 billion in giving

By **MARIA LAMEIRAS**

In the year since the public launch of Campaign Emory in September 2008, the University's historic \$1.6 billion fundraising endeavor has raised more than \$120 million in new commitments. The total raised since the campaign began in 2005 was \$958 million as of July 31, 2009.

"People are still giving to Emory. We are grateful for the generosity and loyalty of our donors who are passionate about the work we are doing," says Susan Cruse, senior vice president for development and alumni relations. "They understand the impact of their philanthropy and have demonstrated their confidence in us as good stewards of their investment."

This good news comes despite the fact that charitable giving has decreased nationwide due to struggling global and national economies.

Although giving to higher

Please see **CAMPAIGN** page 5

Mentoring for careers in health

By **CAROL CLARK**

Emory has launched a PreHealth Mentoring Office this fall, designed to provide support and guidance to undergraduates planning to go on to medical school or other advanced studies in the field of health.

"This office will play a strategic advisory role — helping students identify their strengths and interests and to develop their passions," says Preetha Ram, assistant dean of science in the Office of Undergraduate Education. "By providing mentorship as early as possible in their college careers, we can help students achieve better than expected results."

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SWINE FLU VIRUS IMAGE: C. S. GOLDSMITH AND A. BALISH

WHAT'S NEW AT EMORY REPORT?

Emory Report is streamlining delivery and adding more multimedia features. We're now using the best of both print and web platforms to capture the life of the University.

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In a recent survey, many of our readers said they value the print version for its convenience, portability and visual appeal. Printing fewer editions, however, saves money and trees.

See our publication dates online at: www.emory.edu/EMORY_REPORT/aboutER.htm.

As always, we welcome your comments, submissions and ideas.

Best wishes for a happy and productive academic year,

Kim Urquhart, editor

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EMORY PROFILE Tulasi Ghimirey

Bhutan refugee finds Shangri-La in Atlanta

Animal care technician has new life and mission

By KIRSTEN TAGAMI

The Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan is a spectacularly beautiful place, hailed by some as the "last Shangri-La." But the tiny country also has generated one of the highest numbers of refugees in proportion to its population. Thousands of people from Bhutan's ethnic minorities have been forced into refugee camps in nearby Nepal or into exile in India, Australia, the United States or other countries.

Tulasi Ghimirey, an animal care technician at the Emory School of Medicine, is one of the more fortunate of the Bhutanese refugees. Although he spent several years in a refugee camp — his parents are still there — he has been able to start a new life in Atlanta with his wife, also a refugee.

Ghimirey was one of the first refugees from Bhutan to settle in Georgia. In 2003, when he began working at Emory, there were only four Bhutanese in metro Atlanta, he says. Ghimirey has become a helping force, volunteering in the city's growing Bhutanese community. Through the CDC Bhutanese Refugee Support Group, he helps orient new arrivals, translates for older folks who don't speak English and helped organize a large volunteer effort to provide warm clothes, used computers and other crucial supplies for newly arrived refugees. The group is made up of volunteers from the Centers for Disease Control and members of the Emory community, plus those in the Indian, Nepali and Jewish communities, he says.

There currently are about 2,000 Bhutanese people in Georgia, and Ghimirey estimates that another 10,000 eventually will join them. Like Ghimirey, many of the refugees are Lhotshampas, people of Nepali descent who lived in the southern part of Bhutan. Most are Hindu, while Bhutan is predominantly Buddhist. In 1985, the ruling elite declared Lhotshampas to be non-citizens and forbade them from speaking their own language or practicing their religion.

Life was peaceful for Ghimirey before all the turmoil began. He grew up on his family's 35-acre mountainside farm, tending crops and caring for goats and cattle when he wasn't in school. The steep mountains, near the border with India, are blanketed with rhododendrons and orange trees that bloom in the fall. When Ghimirey was 18, he completed a 9-month training and got a job teaching schoolchildren in a rural part of Bhutan.

"Many people in the remote areas don't have much respect for education," he says. "I offered to teach the parents side-by-side with their children so they could see whether it was worthwhile. It wasn't unusual to hear deep voices in my classroom." His pupils helped supplement his income with rice, vegetables and whatever else they could bring from home.

By 1990, many Lhotshampas were becoming frustrated with the government's repression and began to hold peaceful demonstrations. The Royal Bhutan Army responded by randomly arresting people, saying they had participated in illegal demonstrations, Ghimirey recalls. The army shut down schools and used them as jails, where they conducted violent, sometimes fatal, interrogations, he says.

Ghimirey was arrested and brutally beaten after visiting his family during an annual festival. Luckily, one of the soldiers recognized Ghimirey as his former teacher and helped him escape. He made his way to India but missed his family, he says. Before long, he moved to Nepal where the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had established camps, which still exist today. He lived in the camps for several years before seeking asylum in the U.S.

Ghimirey is grateful for his job in the School of Medicine. He is trying to help other Bhutanese refugees find employment that doesn't require a college degree. "The philosophy of people in Bhutan is that everybody has to work," he says. "We have a saying: 'work is worship.'"



Tulasi Ghimirey is an animal care technician at the School of Medicine.

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People

Volunteer Emory to host a service fair

By MARGIE FISHMAN

It was a bittersweet homecoming for Center for Women Director Dona Yarbrough when she traveled to Leland, Miss., last spring with nine other Emory volunteers to build homes for Habitat for Humanity.

As part of Volunteer Emory's alternative spring break, the group stained cabinets, and hung sheetrock by day. By night, they dined on country fried steak and green beans with fatback, serenaded by a youth choir.

With shotgun shacks bursting at the seams, Leland offered a window into the rural South and domestic poverty for the student and staff volunteers, who "sometimes forget that it's in our own backyard," says Yarbrough, who grew up there.

"I knew I was going to be doing a good thing," she adds. "I didn't realize that I was going to love it as much as I did."

This fall, Volunteer Emory is offering a number of opportunities for faculty and staff to give back. Founded by two Emory undergraduates in 1980, the program is part of the Office of Student Leadership & Service and organizes at least 15 weekly service trips for students, faculty, staff and alumni.

Faculty and staff can choose to volunteer alongside Emory students or volunteer individually or in small groups, from training shelter dogs

in basic obedience to leading naturalization classes for new Americans. Volunteer Emory will host a fair on Sept. 8 and 9, where prospective volunteers can connect with 20 different community agencies. Later in September, volunteers are needed to lead games at a sports camp that brings 100 students from local elementary schools to campus.

The spirit of service kicked off last week when the University hosted three annual service days for public health students, freshmen and sophomores at Rollins-teer Service Day, Freshman Service Day and Sophomores Serve. Students' efforts supported community agencies such as PushPush Theater, Samaritan House of Atlanta and the Eastside Parks Network.

Fostering meaningful community partnerships for students is aligned with the University's strategic mission to prepare engaged scholars, says Volunteer Emory Coordinator Harold McNaron.

Faculty and staff will lead three alternative fall break trips for students this year, building homes in Americus, Ga., working in a Savannah food bank and conducting outreach for the Atlanta Harm Reduction Center, a public health program closer to home.

While those slots are full, McNaron is still recruiting group leaders for an alternative



The spirit of service kicked off with Rollins-teer day. Look online at http://www.emory.edu/EMORY_REPORT/ for a Rollins-teer day photo slideshow.

SPECIAL

spring break trip helping seniors with home repairs in southwest Virginia, and for Emory Cares Day in November. That is when the University and its global network of alumni coordinate service projects, ranging from removing invasive plants from a local nature preserve to making thousands of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the homeless.

Many volunteer opportunities are hands-on, says McNaron,

who is working with the Office of University-Community Partnerships to encourage faculty and staff to use their academic research or job expertise to benefit local agencies.

"Working alongside students affords a different connection for faculty and staff than they would normally get from the classroom or an administrative perspective," he says.

ACCLAIM

Joyce Cohen and Karen Strait have passed the certification exam for membership in the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine, a veterinary specialty organization recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Those who pass the annual exam are Diplomates of ACLAM and entitled to be officially called laboratory animal medicine specialists, making them certified specialists in the field of laboratory animal medicine.

Both Cohen and Strait are associate veterinarians in the Yerkes National Primate Research Center.

Sanjay Gupta has received the Mickey Leland Humanitarian Achievement Award in recognition for his work on the front lines of global health issues.

Gupta is assistant professor of neurosurgery in the School of Medicine.

The award, presented by the National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications, honors the legacy of the late congressman from Texas for his lifelong advocacy of social justice and equality.

The Alpha Theta chapter of Emory's Alpha Tau Omega fraternity was recognized as the Top National Chapter, by excelling in chapter operations and meeting all criteria of the True Merit Award for leadership and participation nationally and on campus.

The chapter was also the first in the history of the fraternity to receive the Top Scholarship and Thomas Arkle Clark award, which went to Nicolai Lundy '09C.

In addition the chapter was recognized for recruitment, community service and excellence in several categories.



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Get involved

Here is a sample of Volunteer Emory events that are open to faculty and staff this fall. For more information, visit <http://volunteer.emory.edu>.

SEPT. 8-9

Volunteer Fair

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Coca-Cola Commons, Dobbs Center. Twenty community agencies will be there to recruit volunteers.

SEPT. 26

Sports Camp

11 a.m.-2 p.m. McDonough Field. Local youth participate in recreational activities on campus.

OCT. 3

Hands On Atlanta Gandhi Day

9 a.m.-1 p.m. Location TBA. In honor of Mohandas Gandhi's birthday, Volunteer Emory selects a Hands On Atlanta service project.

OCT. 10-13

Alternative Fall Break

Community service planned in Savannah, Americus and Atlanta.

OCT. 18

AIDS Walk

Noon-4 p.m., Piedmont Park. Walkathon fundraiser to raise money for AIDS.

NOV. 14

Emory Cares Day

1 p.m.-5 p.m. Various locations. Simultaneous service projects occur in Atlanta and across the globe.

DEC. 1

World AIDS Day and Quilt on the Quad
Time TBA, Emory Quad. Presentation of the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

"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

New system means changes for parking

Emory recently installed an automated payment system at Peavine, Fishburne and Michael Street visitor parking lots, with the Lowergate and 1525 Clifton visitor parking lots to be added soon. The new system will provide more flexibility and greater accountability in visitor parking operations.

The automated ticket system will accept cash, credit/debit cards, and validation tickets as payment. The token coins, stamps, signatures and other methods previously used to validate visitor parking will no longer be accepted. Although the entry gates must remain in the down position at all times in order for the system to work properly, parking fees only apply during that lot's or deck's business hours.

Parking Services can be reached at parking@emory.edu or 404-712-8740.

Milestone for Emory on iTunes

One million downloads have been made from Emory's iTunes U site — a free service hosted by Apple on their iTunes store. Emory celebrates its one-year anniversary on iTunes U in October and now offers more than 1,700 audio and video podcasts related to the University and its community.

"Our most popular collections are language videos for self-study, talks from the Dalai Lama's visit to Emory and readings from Alice Walker's placing of her archives at the University," says Shannon O'Daniel, iTunes U system administrator, adding that Apple has featured many of Emory's collections on the noteworthy section of its home page.

Students say they value the ease, convenience and portability of this new study device, averaging nearly 1,200 downloads per week on the internal "Exclusively Emory" site.

Seminar explores religion and health

A six-session interdisciplinary seminar will bring together Emory researchers and scholars in public health, theology, religious studies, nursing, medicine and the social sciences for a dialogue on the intersections of religion and public health. Presented by the Center for Faculty Development and Excellence and the Religion and Public Health Collaborative, key themes include religion's role in the health care system.

The sessions will begin Sept. 15 and run monthly through April, except December and January. Refreshments or lunch will be served.

Interested faculty should send a short CV and a paragraph of interest to Susan Landskroener at slandsk@emory.edu by Sept. 1.

Trayless dining serves up surprising results



Hands-on dining for Oxford students. KAY HINTON

By DAVID PAYNE

There's been a menu change this fall at Lil's Dining Hall at Oxford College.

The trayless pilot program, introduced at Oxford in January, required diners to carry their plates of food rather than pile them on a tray. Throughout the spring semester, there was a 14,587-pound reduction in food

waste compared to the same semester one year earlier. The program was so successful it will be implemented permanently this fall at Oxford College.

The national trayless trend is prevalent at schools with active sustainability and waste reduction programs. Schools with trayless programs have seen decreases in water consumption since trays no longer need to be washed, and significant reductions in food waste per person averaging 25 to 30 percent. Students at other schools reported a sense of satisfaction in knowing that their efforts support sustainability and an overall reduction in food waste.

"The amount of food we consume, and especially the amount we waste are significant variables in our environmental impact," says Oxford College Dean Stephen Bowen. "As the son of parents who grew up during the Great Depression, I was taught to be thoughtful about how much food I took and if I took it, it was my

responsibility not to waste it. That message seems to have been attenuated through the intervening generations. But absent those specific values, it is amazing to see what the absence of a tray can do to improve food use efficiency."

The Oxford pilot project decreased overall food consumption, which resulted in savings of approximately \$800 per month for overall food purchases at Oxford's dining facility. Savings from the program are being reinvested at Oxford College into menu options that feature more locally grown fruits and vegetables, part of Emory's sustainability goal to purchase 75 percent local or sustainably grown food by 2015.

According to Patty Erbach, senior director of Emory Dining, the trayless program at Oxford is one of several new awareness programs occurring in Emory's dining facilities. Starting this past summer at the Dobbs University Center and Wesley Woods, pre-consumer food

waste, or cooking waste, began to be collected and hauled to Georgia's first state-permitted composting facility. In the first seven weeks at the DUC, that program collected and composted 1.5 tons of food waste. Food waste-composting programs support Emory's overall goal of diverting 65 percent of its waste from landfills by 2015.

Starting this fall, diners at the DUC are being asked to scrape excess food from their own plates into bins, where food waste is collected and later composted. "Physically dumping excess food into a bin of uneaten food is a powerful, visual way to reinforce the concept of taking only what you can eat," says Erbach. As to the future of trayless dining at Emory's other dining facilities, Erbach says the program may well expand once logistical hurdles specific to each facility are overcome. "As diners understand the rationale behind the change, we hope to build on the success at Oxford."

FLU: Everyone urged to get seasonal shot

Continued from the cover

Beginning in late fall, it is expected that the federal government will begin to distribute limited quantities of the novel H1N1 vaccine to target populations, including people ages 5 to 24, health care workers, pregnant women and caretakers of children less than 6 months old. The vaccine is expected to be given in a two-dose series, with doses a minimum of 21 days apart. Persons will need a total of three flu shot doses this fall to be protected from both seasonal and H1N1 flu. Students up to age 24 are among the priority groups identified by the CDC to receive the novel H1N1 vaccine, as are health care workers.

Others should visit www.cdc.gov/flu or www.emory.edu/flu to get updates about who will have access to the H1N1 vaccine as it becomes available. Target groups for the new vaccine will be determined by local, state and federal public health agencies, says Isakov. A team from the University and health system will meet regularly to provide updates on how the flu is affecting the community.

In the meantime, the University has more doses of the common seasonal flu shot on hand than at any time in history. This year, campus vaccination clinics will begin in September instead of mid-October.

"This is not a year when you want to be susceptible to a flu that can be prevented," says Huey.

"The difficult flu season ahead is an opportunity for our community to show its strength," adds Isakov. "Working together we can all contribute toward lessening the flu's impact this fall and winter."

Protection tips

From early September to mid-October, more than 20 flu shot clinics for common seasonal influenza will be offered on campus for students, faculty and staff. Times and locations will be posted at www.emory.edu/flu as well as on the Web sites for the Faculty Staff Assistance Program, www.fsap.emory.edu, and Student Health and Counseling Services, www.studenthealth.emory.edu. Seasonal flu shots are available for free or at low cost for all faculty, staff and students.

Along with annual vaccinations, Emory community members are encouraged to limit the spread of illness by:

- Getting proper rest, nutrition and exercise.
- Covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and immediately disposing of it. If a tissue is not available, use an elbow or upper arm, but not the hand.
- Avoid touching the eyes, nose or mouth as viruses can spread this way.
- Avoid contact with those who are sick.

Center created to respond to crises

By MARGIE FISHMAN

Imagining a campus in crisis is never easy, but it's a job requirement for Robert Nadolski, senior administrator for Emory's Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response (CEPAR). Starting next month, a new command center will streamline how the University's crisis management leaders respond to emergencies, such as natural disasters, pandemics and other campus threats.

The University's new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is slated to open in mid-September on the second floor of the 1599 Clifton Rd. building, a former network communications center for the American Cancer Society. Outfitted with 77-inch interactive whiteboards, which allow for the sharing of live content, and a multi-user wireless audio conferencing system, cable television feeds, backup power, telephone and network communications, the center will function as a situation room for leaders to coordinate a response across multiple campus departments. While the room can accommodate 18 people, emergency personnel will also be able to rely on the advanced technology to communicate remotely.

With grants from the U.S. Department of Education and CDC funneled into administrative operations at CEPAR, that freed up funds to begin work on the center earlier this summer, says Nadolski. A temporary center is now housed in a training room of the University Police Department.

When not in use for emergency operations, the

new center will serve as a collaboration suite to host virtual meetings for University Technology Services personnel, who are now dispersed among five locations on campus.

The partnership is a "win-win" that underscores the University's commitment to sustainability, says Alan Cattier, director of academic technologies for UTS.

"We looked at the amount of traffic congestion and the time it takes to get from point A to point B, and we began looking at online collaboration," he says.

Adds Nadolski: "We did not just want to design a room and have it sit there empty. There are lots of tools and technology that are applicable to everyday business."

The new EOC will assist leadership in mounting a coordinated response to crises impacting the Emory community. Emory Healthcare also activates emergency operations centers when responding to a crisis.

Emory's commitment to disaster preparedness and response is apparent in its education and research initiatives as well. The Preparedness and Emergency Response Research Center based at the Rollins School of Public Health informs local, state and national decisions on how to prepare for public health crises.

Also at the School of Public Health, the CDC has established the Emory Center of Public Health Preparedness to address preparedness training of the public health workforce in Georgia.

Campus

5

REPORT FROM: Emory Alumni Association

Active summer sets stage for fall events

Summer vacation. What a quaint concept.

Actually, that's a bit whiny, isn't it? By all accounts, the summer of 2009 has been a great one at the Emory Alumni Association (EAA) and across the Emory alumni community. The EAA has been busy since Commencement and while it sometimes feels there still aren't enough hours in the day to accomplish all we want, we have a lot to celebrate. And we certainly have nothing to complain about.

We're very proud of our social media platforms. For instance, EAA recently welcomed its 1,200th fan to our Facebook page. With the great help of our summer communications intern Erin Crews '09C-'09G, we now update our blog, EAAvesdropping, every weekday. One of our most popular EAAvesdropping

features is "Photo of the Day," which runs a couple times a week. The feature gives us a chance to dig deeply into our (and the University's) photo archive for some neat images of campus and of our alumni.

Recently, we've focused on current shots from campus, but we've received some submissions from alumni outside Atlanta and we have years and years of Emory history to page through. We already have some fun images from the past we're waiting to display. Should bring back some wonderful memories for all our alumni (as well as faculty and staff, particularly if you've been on campus a while).

Events-wise, we've had an exciting summer. We closed out our Faculty Destinations speaker series in Boston with public health professor Justin

Remais. The EAA's regional chapters hosted dozens of events from coast to coast, including a dessert tasting in Los Angeles that doubled as a benefit for an alumnae-founded nonprofit, a scavenger hunt in New York, happy hours from Connecticut to Washington state and much, much more.

On occasion, we even ventured outside the United States. In August the EAA hosted more than a dozen Let's Go Emory! parties to welcome incoming students to Emory. One of them took place in Mumbai, India, proving that the Emory community is truly a worldwide community.

But of course, we stay close to home, too. More than 2,700 alumni double as Emory faculty or staff, and the EAA reaches out to them (you) through 4EU (Emory Educated, Emory Employed

Unlimited). And in July, 4EU hosted one of its most successful events yet — a guided tour of the Woodruff Library's Alice Walker exhibit, which included a presentation from gallery director Elizabeth Russey (that's archived on EAAvesdropping, as well).

And now that we've welcomed the next generation of Emory alumni at orientation weekend, we're looking ahead to the end of September for the Emory Homecoming Weekend, when we herald the return of thousands of alumni to campus for reunions, our parade and tailgate and a lot more.

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

CAMPAIGN: 'Every gift counts, no matter amount'

Continued from the cover

education increased an average of 7 percent a year in each of the last 20 years, charitable giving fell last year by the largest percentage in five decades, to \$307.65 billion from the \$314 billion given in 2007, according to a study by the Giving USA Foundation. Given that charitable endowments fell by as much as 40 percent, the stock market declined by a similar margin, corporations posted significant losses, and unemployment soared, some experts were surprised the decline wasn't

steeper. However, indicators including the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Fundraising Index predict that philanthropic support will begin to recover in the 2009-10 academic year. The fundraising index is a new forecasting tool launched this summer by CASE.

Emory has maintained relative stability through the crisis due to strong donor relationships, an internal strategy of stewardship, and creative gift opportunities, Cruse says. Gift and estate planning have enabled some donors to make larger commitments to Emory while

still maintaining their assets and, in some cases, creating a revenue stream.

"We have not been impacted as deeply as some other institutions," Cruse says. "We had a strong June and we have made significant progress in the second half of this year."

"The number of gifts for this fiscal year is about equal to last fiscal year, although some of the amounts are lower," Cruse says, adding that gifts and pledge payments continue to come in steadily with \$132 million received this year. "The stock market affected every prospective donor. Individual net worth is down,

foundation endowments are down, and corporate profits and stock prices are down. This had ramifications across the country."

More than 66,500 donors have given to Campaign Emory, and while there have been many large gifts to the campaign, about 22 percent of the campaign total — \$214.1 million — has come from donors of less than \$1 million. Donors of \$1,000 or less have contributed more than \$8.9 million during Campaign Emory.

"That is clear evidence that every gift counts, no matter the amount," Cruse says.

Watch for benefits info via online distribution

By KATHERINE HINSON

Earlier this summer, the Benefits Department announced that it was going "green" when it came to communicating this year's Annual Benefits Open Enrollment.

"We are excited to see the Human Resources' benefits department support our goal of reducing the University's impact on the local environment by eliminating the 400,000 sheets of paper it takes to print the Open Enrollment Guide," says Ciannat Howett, director of sustainability initiatives. "This is a great example of how the University's administrative units can get involved in achieving our vision."

The benefits department has put in place several online tools for faculty and staff, including a special e-mail address, MyBenefits@emory.edu, and a Web site dedicated to benefits communications, www.hr.emory.edu/mybenefits. The traditional paper Annual Enrollment Guide will be replaced with an online, interactive PDF that combines the familiar structure of the print document with the accessibility of a Web site.

A single newsletter, which will be mailed to home addresses, and a related e-mail campaign explains how to access information online as well as what will be new for the 2010 benefits programs. "Other special communication efforts are being implemented, including computer training and assistance for employees in certain facilities and work areas that don't traditionally use e-mail. A language translation tool is also available on the MyBenefits Web site," says Peter Barnes, vice president of human resources.

This effort will save about 30



percent of the department's print and mail budget. "It is important that we continually look for ways to improve cost effectiveness without compromising the resources dedicated to our core mission," says Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike Mandl. "Technology certainly has a role to play in this regard and is an effective way to reach our large and diverse audience — providing faculty and staff with the flexibility to access the information on the desktops on campus, at home, or virtually anywhere in the world. And, of course, there are central kiosks on campus for those who do not have access elsewhere."

The benefits department encourages all faculty and staff to take an active role in understanding the benefits available to them and their dependents by opening and reading all MyBenefits e-mails and visiting the MyBenefits Web site. Make sure you receive the MyBenefits e-mails by verifying your e-mail address in PeopleSoft and saving MyBenefits@emory.edu to your e-mail address book.

MENTOR: Partnership to support career growth

Continued from the cover

For 2009-10, the primary focus will be on second-year students. In addition to advising students, the goals include creating community among prehealth students and expanding their opportunities to do internships, research and study abroad programs, and to shadow physicians and other health professionals.

A new Web site, www.emory.edu/prehealth, provides links to events and other information.

Ram is serving as director of the PreHealth Mentoring Office, with the support of Paul Fowler, executive director of the Career Center, and Peter Sederberg, special assistant to the Office of the Provost.

"This is a pure partnership between the College, the Career Center and the Provost's office," says Fowler. "There has been growing interest in how to serve the prehealth population of students, because there are so many students interested, and it's getting increasingly competitive."

More than 500 students in the class of 2013 have declared themselves as prehealth majors, including a range of medical fields. About 200 students within every Emory class plan to apply to medical school. In November of 2008, Emory College Dean Bobby Paul assigned a task force to find ways to help support the efforts of these students to get accepted into top-tier medical schools.

The first goal of the task force was to launch a composite letter of recommendation process. The composite letter provides a cover letter for multiple letters of recommendation, summing up the

accomplishments of a student in a format geared specifically for medical school applications.

After the composite letter process got up and rolling last spring, the task force began focusing on development of a PreHealth Mentoring Office. A series of undergraduate dialogues organized by Senior Vice Provost Santa Ono "were instrumental in raising awareness of the need for advising for pre-med students," Ram says, adding that the dialogues "convinced those present, including Provost Earl Lewis, Dean Paul and Vice President for Campus Life John Ford of the need for immediate action."

President Jim Wagner also supported the drive to create the office, and plans moved forward, guided by the input of students, faculty and administrators, from the college and the medical school.

"I think the PreHealth Mentoring Office is a fantastic idea that will help a lot of students," says Lauren Spiegel, a senior pre-med major in the Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology program. As a freshman, Spiegel became involved in a mentoring program known as INSPIRE (Interdisciplinary Science Program for Integrating Research into Education), and she was among the students who helped make the composite letter program and the PreHealth Mentoring Office a reality.

"I'm really pleased that our research and efforts are paying off and it's getting under way," Spiegel says. "I think it's really important for students to vouch for what we want, and to get involved in making positive changes happen. It's exciting to have these opportunities to make an impact at Emory."

Ancient whale fossil repaired in collaboration

By RENEE STEIN

The Carlos Museum's Parsons Conservation Laboratory undertook last spring an unusual collaborative project with the University of Georgia to repair a 35,000-year old whale fossil.

The fossilized left lower jaw bone of an Atlantic Grey Whale was discovered in 2006 off the Georgia coast between Gray's Reef and J-Reef, about 45 miles southeast of Savannah. The UGA team led by Ervan Garrison, Scott Noakes and Greg McFall excavated the fossil from its underwater burial in summer 2008 with assistance from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The fossil was transported to Athens, where it was washed, dried and cleaned in preparation for assembly. UGA scientists identified and dated the fossil, now recognized as the oldest grey whale specimen yet found on the Atlantic coast and the first from Georgia, outdating the oldest fossil find by over 20 millennia and thereby extending the historic record for this species. Although the Atlantic species has been extinct for centuries, the grey whale currently migrates along the North American Pacific coast.

Unique collaboration

The UGA team contacted the Carlos Museum for guidance in joining the many fossil fragments. Conservator Renee Stein suggested that the project be coordinated as a collaboration involving students from both universities. Lauren Appelbaum '09C and Rebekah Cordiero '09C were among the volunteers who assisted with the project last spring, including research, treatment and packing. Atlanta-based conservator Katherine Singley, who specializes in underwater objects, consulted on the project.

Behind the scenes

The whale fossil was treated to promote both structural stability and visual unity by rejoining fragments and filling cracks. The fragments were first documented with digital images and line drawings to record the fossil's condition, including breaks and other losses. These images also capture details about the bone's morphology, such as inner cavities and vascular networks.

Having been rinsed and dried by the excavation team, the fragile fragments of bone were consolidated with acrylic resin upon arrival at the Carlos.

The fragments were then rejoined using acrylic resin



Rebekah Cordiero '09C was part of the whale fossil conservation team.

SPECIAL

bulkied with paper pulp. Stainless steel pins were inserted between large fragments to support the repairs. Selected gaps were filled with putty made of the same acrylic resin and paper pulp. These fills were recessed slightly and toned with acrylic emulsion paint to

correspond with adjacent fossil surfaces.

The fossil is now safely stored at UGA, where future steps include professional photography, publication of research, as well as possible molding and casting to create an accurate replica for study and display.

"We acknowledge... all [of Emory's] excellent work in preparing this fossil find for publication and ultimate display," says Garrison, professor of geology and anthropology at UGA. "The importance of this collaboration cannot be understated."

JUST PUBLISHED

Paying homage to black educators

By ANN HARDIE

The way she tells it, Vanessa Siddle Walker uses the tools of an ethnographer and historian. "My self-definition is that I am a story-teller," says the Winship Distinguished Research Professor in Emory's Division of Educational Studies.

Her latest story, chronicled in her fourth book, "Hello Professor," published this month by the University of North Carolina Press, explores the leadership of black principals in the Jim Crow South through the lens of Ulysses Byas.

During segregation, Byas served as "professor" — a common title for a black principal — of Gainesville's Fair Street High School, later rebuilt as E. E. Butler.

Despite intransigent racism, crumbling school buildings and outdated materials, Byas and his counterparts across the South fostered schools rich in professional development, parental involvement and student aspiration.

"This is the network that explains how black segregated schools were able to do what they did under oppressive circumstances," Siddle Walker says.

In 2000, Siddle Walker won a Grawemeyer Award, one of education's most prestigious honors, for "Their Highest Potential," which examines a resilient and thriving black school in rural North Carolina

during segregation. That book and now "Hello Professor" challenge widely held beliefs that black schools were poor educational institutions.

In fact, Siddle Walker contends that educators can improve today's failing urban schools by examining how black schools taught and supported African American students during segregation.

"If I didn't know the history, I would be more inclined to throw up my hands," she says.

Her current work-in-progress, "The Death of Memory," focuses on the advocacy of black educators, often working behind the scenes, and their fight for civil rights and school integration.

With a Spencer Foundation grant and help of educational studies graduate students, Siddle Walker has focused her research on the extensive files of the late Georgia State Sen. Horace Tate, an educator who headed up the Georgia Teachers and Education Association.

Siddle Walker met Byas in 1998 through his daughter and initially intended his story to be part of a collaborative volume showcasing black Southern principals. "It refused to behave, to be contained to 50 pages," she says.

A high school dropout from a single-parent family who went on to earn his EdD, Byas insisted on a curriculum at his Gainesville school that actually exceeded white schools, Siddle



Vanessa Siddle Walker

Walker says.

In researching "Hello Professor," Siddle Walker often met with Byas, now 85, at his home in Macon. She also had access to his personal and professional files, which Emory's Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library acquired this year.

"When I used to call him, or visit him, he would say, 'Hello, professor.' It was as though he was inviting me into a different kind of status," says Siddle Walker, who attended UNC Chapel Hill as an undergraduate before earning her Masters and EdD at Harvard. She now believes she owes a debt to Byas and others who paved her way.

"I am accountable to the African American community," she says. "The goal is not just to be educated. The goal is to open doors so others can tread where you have gone."

SNAPSHOT



Tour for expanded partnership

BRYAN MELTZ

Emory chemist Dennis Liotta, far right, leads a tour of one of his labs for a delegation of scientists from top universities in South Africa. The delegation was on campus last week to discuss plans to expand the Emory/South Africa Drug Discovery Training program. Two groups of South African fellows have already spent a year at Emory as part of the program, a partnership that provides educational and research opportunities encompassing drug development. South Africa's "indigenous knowledge and biodiversity give it the potential to build a competitive drug discovery program," says Liotta, who helped found the program.

Forum

FIRST PERSON

Natural wonders give glimpses of heaven

By LORRAINE MURRAY

I am walking down the brick path as the big clock starts chiming 10 times. It is my morning break from my job at the theology library at Emory, and I am all alone. The air is clear, there are huge trees surrounding the path, and the sky is a crisp shade of blue.

Near the creek I spy a chipmunk filling his cheeks with something good he's discovered on the ground. As I watch him, a mockingbird begins tuning up, perhaps sending a secret message to his fellow flock. Nearby huge sunflowers stretch their heads toward the glimmering summer sky.

I wonder if this is what heaven will be like. Will there be brick paths, generous trees and little creatures scurrying along the ground? Will a distant clock toll the hours?

There are moments in life when it seems that heaven touches earth. Many people travel long distances to find such moments. They seek solitary places, perhaps climbing mountains or renting a house by the sea.

But there are moments even in a city when it seems that the veil is torn in two and you get these little glimpses of heaven.

It is still summer break at Emory. In a few weeks the campus will be inundated with students, scurrying down this very path, chatting, laughing and gabbing on phones. They may not stop to peek down the ravine and glimpse the chipmunk. They may not notice the symphony of the mockingbirds.

Florida author Marjorie Kinnan

Lorraine Murray is a public services assistant in the Pitts Theology Library.

Rawlings, who wrote "Cross Creek," reminds us of the importance of nature with her words, "We cannot live without the earth ... and something is shriveled in a man's heart when he turns away from it and concerns himself only with the affairs of men."

Nature gives us mesmerizing mementoes of God. There is the tiny hummingbird in our yard that zips out of the bushes, lights on the feeder and takes a sip. Then he is gone as quickly as he came.

There are the birds flocking to our birdbath to take a dip in the sizzling afternoon heat and the curious squirrels that stop by for a drink. There's the huge hawk that soars over the traffic on nearby Clairmont Road.

Indoors, with the drone of TV and radio, it is too easy to forget God's presence, but if you take a step outside and look around, you'll see that the natural world can be like a chapel, a place where you may draw nearer to God.

The Father created us in a garden. The Son prayed in the desert and revealed himself to his friends on a mountaintop. He wept in a garden before dying upon a tree.

The world of human affairs calls us, of course; it pulls us toward our responsibilities as parents, workers, spouses and toilers in God's vineyard. But there were times when Jesus took a break from his obligations, leaving the crowds behind and seeking quiet places where he prayed.



Lorraine Murray

SPECIAL

Even in the city, these peaceful spots are prevalent. All you need is a little patch of earth, a glimpse of sky, a single tree, a sparrow, and a few moments of silence.

"In the silence of the heart God speaks," said Mother Teresa.

It is hard to hear God's voice amidst the ringing of cell phones, the growling of traffic and the banging of construction, unless we consciously turn our backs on man-made diversions and place ourselves in a secluded spot.

"Eye has not seen nor ear heard ... what God has prepared for those who love him" (1 Cor 2:9) is St. Paul's way of telling us about heaven. But even in our earthly lives, we glimpse evidence of God's great love.

In a secluded place for a few golden moments we can recall the words from Genesis that accompanied each day of creation: "God saw that it was good." In the world that God created we can find the peace we are seeking — and a little foretaste of heaven.

Reprinted with permission from *The Georgia Bulletin*, Aug. 20, 2009.

Read more from Murray

Lorraine Murray writes a religion column for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and for *The Georgia Bulletin*, the newspaper of the Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta. Her fifth book "Death in the Choir," a mystery novel set in Decatur, was released by Tumbler House, July 2009. It is available at local bookstores and online. Her next book, "The Abbess of Andalusia: Flannery O'Connor's Spiritual Journey" is forthcoming from Saint Benedict Press in October.

SOUNDBITES

Convocation serves tradition

The Aug. 25 Convocation ceremony welcomed the Class of 2013 with timeless traditions, including the "ah"-eliciting chemical transformation of the gold and blue. Music professor Dwight Andrews' lesson in experiential jazz proved why his classes are so popular: "You know at Emory, you have to be hip. I'm here to see that you're not rhythmically challenged."

President Jim Wagner noted that Emory's mission is not to serve "just the success of individuals but the service of all humanity."

Describing students' place in the Emory community, he said, "By contributing to this community and its further growth, let me assure you that you will be supported by it. In the Emory community, there is no problem to be faced that needs to be faced alone."

—Leslie King

Are you a parent of a college student?

The transition from high school senior to college freshman is not just a challenge for students, but also for parents. To help ease parental anxiety, psychology professor Marshall Duke presented at orientation "Parenting a College Student: What To Expect," a lecture he has delivered for nearly 25 years.

Duke advised parents on topics such as expecting college freshman to have lower GPAs at first, and advice such as this:

"The temptation is to intervene when a child calls home with a problem. Remember that many resources exist at college to help students cope with various situations. Express support, but give your children time to solve their own problems."

—Tania Dowdy

From U.N. refugee to U.N. ambassador

At a July speech for the Halle Institute, His Excellency Sichan Siv recounted his escape from Cambodia's killing fields in 1976 and his journey thereafter.

The former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations' remarks included how he came to speak at the UN's 60th anniversary, following a number of U.S. presidents.

"It was really quite a humbling experience to be walking in the footsteps of those historical figures, but I was chosen because my life intertwined with the United Nations," said Siv, who was cared for by the U.N. High Commission for Refugees when he was a refugee in Thailand.

Siv said speaking in the Woodruff Library was a "very special touch" for him. "When I was growing up in Cambodia, I spent a lot of time in libraries," he said.

—Leslie King



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ADVANCE NOTICE

Emeritus honors service, distinctions

The Emeritus College will inaugurate a Distinguished Service Award at the Fall Emeritus College Reception on Sept. 1. The event will be from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Winship Ballroom of the Dobbs University Center.

Ali P. Crown of the Center for Women will receive the service award.

2009 Distinguished Emeriti who will be honored at the reception are Andrew Nahmias, pediatrics; Perry Sprawls, radiology; and Theodore Weber, social ethics.

Distinguished emeritus faculty are recognized for their professional contributions, before and since retirement, to Emory and its affiliated institutions, to communities and professional organizations that reflect the "spirit" of Emory. Four members of the Emory community are chosen to receive the honor.

To attend or for more information, contact Monica Ali at mali22@emory.edu or 404-712-8834.

Race, teaching focus of workshop

Scholar Mark Chesler will visit the University for an afternoon workshop and roundtable dialogue titled "Race in the Classroom" on Wednesday, Sept. 23.

The events will take place from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Winship Ballroom. Lunch will be included.

Chesler is professor emeritus of sociology at the University of Michigan and the author of "Challenging Racism in Higher Education."

Faculty and graduate students are welcome to attend these events hosted by the Transforming Community Project, the Race and Difference Initiative, the Graduate School, the Coalition of Graduate Sociologists, and the Graduate History Society.

For more information or to register, contact Sarita Alami at salami@emory.edu or visit <http://transform.emory.edu/workshop>.

Coming up: Free campus concerts

Start the semester with free campus concerts!

Timothy Albrecht performs organ monuments of Bach in "Bach Live" (Sept. 13, 4 p.m.) including selections from "Well-Tempered Clavier." Harpist Elisabeth Remy Johnson and flutist Christina Smith perform works by composers Graham Lynch, Marjan Mozetich and Tiziano Bedetti (Sept. 15, 8 p.m.). Violinist David Kim, Philadelphia Orchestra concertmaster, makes his Emory debut Sept. 18 at noon. Kakali Bandyopadhyay, sitar, is joined by Anjaneya Sastry, tabla, for an evening of Indian classical music (Sept. 18, 8 p.m.).

For the full schedule visit www.arts.emory.edu.

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

MONDAY, Aug. 31

Genomic Diversity and Evolution of the Endomembrane System. Joel Dacks, University of Alberta, presenting. 4 p.m. Whitehead Building. Free. ecapla2@emory.edu.

TUESDAY, Sept. 1

Women's Volleyball vs. University of West Georgia. 7 p.m. Woodruff P.E. Center. Free. 404-727-5196.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 2

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS: The Many Flavors of Emory. 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Asbury Circle. Free. jrose14@emory.edu.

THURSDAY, Sept. 3

Grady Medical Ethics Grand Rounds. Noon. Steiner Auditorium, Grady Campus. Free. lasherm@emory.edu.

FRIDAY, Sept. 4

EMORY CLASSIC: Women's Volleyball Tournament. 2 p.m. Woodruff P.E. Center. Free. 404-727-5196. *Through Aug. 5.*

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



Scene from "Hominid"

TONY BENNER

Get a jump on buying arts tickets

Tickets for 2009–2010 Emory arts events, including Jazz Fest with bassist John Clayton; Theater Emory's "Miss Julie x 3," "Hominid," "Frankenstein" and "Oklahoma;" New York-based choreographer David Neumann's advanced beginner group; Emory Dance Company and more go on sale Friday, Sept. 11. Emory employees, students and Emory arts-related Friends group members can purchase tickets in advance on Sept. 9–10 (open until 9 p.m. on Sept. 10 for Creativity & Arts Soiree). Tickets for Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, the live recording of "From the Top" with NPR's Christopher O'Riley and Candler Concert Series subscriptions are on sale now.

For tickets and information: 404-727-5050 and www.arts.emory.edu.

Dance events spring from poetry, memory

By JESSICA MOORE

Dance enthusiasts and those new to the art are sure to find something to spark their interest in the range of performances featured in the Emory Dance Program's 2009–2010 season. Highlights are the Atlanta debuts of two New York-based companies, a concert based on family and poetry, and new works by Emory dance faculty created around the theme of memory.

"...me so much nearer home" (Sept. 25–27) presents a sequence of elegant dances that honor the nature of family and community, inspired by the real-life family of choreographer and Emory Dance Program Chair Anna Leo. Each dance is introduced by the reading of a poem and features music composed by Emory's Steve Everett, Kendall Simpson and Klimchak.

"Where Dance and Science Meet: A Creativity Conversation" (Oct. 15) brings together Emory Chemistry Chair David Lynn and New York-based choreographer David Neumann with Vice President and Secretary of the University Rosemary Magee in a conversation that reveals the nature of their collaboration and ideas about the intersection of art and science.

Neumann, artistic director of advanced beginner group, presents "Big Eater" (Oct. 16–17), a multi-disciplinary dance work, commissioned by the Emory College Center for Creativity and Arts and Emory's



Soojin Choi of Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet

EREZ SABAG

Creativity: Arts & Innovation, and inspired by the choreographer's participation in Emory's 2008 Evolution Symposium and Evolving Arts Festival. Awarded the New York "Bessie" for performance and choreography, Neumann creates work that engages audiences with intelligence, grace and wit.

Centered around the theme of memory and performed by students, the **Emory Dance Company Fall Concert** (Nov. 19–21) showcases the collaborative efforts of Emory fac-

ulty members Gregory Catellier, Anna Leo, Sally Radell, George Staib and Lori Teague.

The Atlanta premiere of the internationally acclaimed **Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet** (Feb. 24–26) presents an intimate look at Ohad Naharin's "Decadance 2007." The behind-the-scenes, stripped-down look at "Decadance" includes discussion of the dancers' experience with the world-renowned choreographer.

Several Dancers Core co-sponsors two **Fieldwork**

Showcases (Dec. 6; May 2) featuring new works created by community artists in various disciplines. The **Women's History Month Dance Presentation** (March 18) is a showing of dance works celebrating women's history. The **Emory Dance Company Spring Concert** (April 22–24) is an evening of new works choreographed and performed by Emory dance students.

For more information and tickets call 404-727-5050 or visit www.arts.emory.edu.