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SPECIAL "NEWS YOU CAN USE" INSERT

Path to peace in Congo



A camp for displaced persons in Goma, in the eastern Congo, is one symptom of ongoing tensions and conflicts that have spilled across borders in the region.

BRUCE KNAUFT

By **CAROL CLARK**

Not a lot of good news comes out of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a country known for its sexual violence and the world's deadliest conflict since World War II. That's one reason why Patience Kabamba, a native of the Congo, decided to seek out what is working well in his country.

Kabamba recently received his Ph.D. in anthropology from Columbia University, and is a visiting scholar at the Institute for Critical International Studies (ICIS) at Emory. For his dissertation, he studied a group of successful traders, known as the Nande, who live in eastern Congo, near the

border with Uganda.

"I wanted to learn why these people manage to prosper in the midst of conflict," Kabamba says. "Not only are they in a haven of peace that is surrounded by war, they are booming in terms of trade."

His research is coming in handy in his current role with an ICIS initiative known as States at Regional Risk (SARR). The four-year project, begun in 2008 and funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, addresses the causes and remedies of instability and strife, by cultivating dialogue between local policymakers, humanitarian practitioners and scholars. Kabamba is organizing a conference for SARR in

June, which will bring together regional players that have a stake in the ongoing conflict in the Congo.

"Tense," Kabamba says, summing up the state of relations between many people in the eastern Congo, and its neighbors, Rwanda and Burundi. Kabamba has worked hard to set the stage for fruitful dialogue between representatives of all three places, traveling extensively through volatile areas and building bonds of trust.

The eastern Congo is largely cut off from the capital of Kinshasa, which is located in the western part of the country. The eastern Congo enjoys rich reserves of gold and fertile

farmland, but also has endured more than its share of regional upheaval.

"Just as many economic, social and military issues don't stop at borders, the conflict in eastern Congo is directly related to issues in Rwanda and Burundi," says Bruce Knauft, executive director of ICIS. "If you don't have a regional perspective of a path to stability, then you have a much lower likelihood of success."

The June conference, which will likely be held in Burundi, will strive to take a long-term view of issues involving the eastern Congo and its

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Budget process moves forward

By **NANCY SEIDEMAN**

Emory leadership is moving quickly to take into account new realities brought about by the changed national economic environment: this year's budget has been adjusted and balanced; the fiscal year 2010 (FY10) budget process is on track, albeit within a significantly lower resource outlook; and updated long-range budget projections are guiding decisions now and as the University moves forward.

According to the Ways and Means (WAM) Committee, decisions are being made based on priorities outlined by President Jim Wagner (www.emory.edu/home/news/releases/2008/10/emory-and-the-economy.html) with the goal of maintaining and enhancing the quality of key programs, even if it means the reduction of other programs or no growth in certain areas.

Please see **BUDGET** on page 4

Conference launches 'Voyages'

By **ELAINE JUSTICE**

The excitement was palpable as an eclectic group of international scholars, museum directors, students and the public gathered in Woodruff Library's Jones Room for the conference celebrating the debut of the Web site "Voyages: The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database" (www.slavevoyages.org).

"Voyages' is a wonderful example of how libraries and scholars can combine knowledge and skill to create knowledge together that neither could create alone," said Rick Luce, director of University Libraries, in opening remarks. Over time, he said, "multiple institutions have and will grow this database into a force of knowledge that none of them, either, could have created alone."

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NEW ONLINE AT EMORY.EDU

www.emoryhealthsciences.org

Check out Emory's Woodruff Health Sciences Center's new Web site. In addition to a wealth of information about health sciences research and education, you can use the site as an ever-ready reference or to learn the latest WHSC-related news from a variety of formats. Among new features is a searchable image gallery of downloadable photos of people and places at Emory.

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

This issue concludes Emory Report's 2008 publication schedule. Look for the next issue of Emory Report on Jan. 20, 2009, when weekly publication resumes. The new year will also bring new opportunities to advertise in Emory Report. Details on our new advertising program coming soon.

EMORY PROFILE: Kim Wallen



Kim Wallen (left, pictured with a Yerkes researcher) is Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Psychology and Behavioral Neuroendocrinology.

JACK KEARSE

Mentor to students and faculty Scientist driven to make sense of the world

By CARY H. LEUNG

What are the inherent differences between the sexes? If Kim Wallen could answer just one question, that would be it.

"One of the issues that still drives me is how and why males and females are different," says Wallen, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Psychology and Behavioral Neuroendocrinology.

Wallen came to Emory 30 years ago after getting his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin. He first became interested in sex differences while growing up on a goat farm in rural Oregon, and noticed how differently the males and females behaved from one another.

Today he studies sex differences in rhesus macaques, monkeys that are native to countries such as India, Pakistan, Thailand, Afghanistan and China. This species lives in large social groups in which females are typically dominant over males.

"One of the earliest studies I

did when I came to Emory was to demonstrate that the social environment could influence how the internal hormone state would affect behavior in rhesus macaques," he recalls. "There were environments where hormones didn't have any affect and other environments in which the female's behavior was clearly strongly tied to her hormonal condition."

Wallen conducts his research at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center, where he is a research professor of psychobiology.

"I've come to strongly respect rhesus," Wallen says. "They have a complex social structure and social life. They are compelling if you want to look at a species that shares a lot of physiological characteristics with humans and a social life that is as complex as ours."

And the graduate students Wallen mentors respect him. He shows genuine interest in their research ideas as much as their recent vacation or the latest YouTube video. His responses are insightful and often give students a

positive outlook.

"My sense as a mentor is to help students develop their inquisitiveness and find out what they are really interested in knowing," says Wallen. "The thing that is completely unique about being a scholar is that you are allowed to pursue what you want to know. Nothing prevents you from taking an idea and shaping it to fit your own needs."

Wallen also finds time to mentor younger faculty. "I've always felt that part of my responsibility as a faculty member is to help younger faculty members as they go through the same process. Tenure doesn't get any easier — it's still a traumatic experience but sometimes you can provide feedback," he says.

"I think one of the things that is hardest is that you don't realize graduate school is the last time you'll get direct and blunt feedback about what you do. Your adviser can tell you you've written a poor paper. It hurts much more if a reviewer says that," he adds. "You're lucky if you find a colleague that will do that for you. You're

very much on your own."

Deciding to pursue academia came naturally for Wallen, but today the idea that all his doctoral students will continue to do research is unrealistic. "There are really old-school faculty that think that if you don't pursue academia you're wasting your time," he says. "I would like students to get the same thrill that I do, but people go one way and then change their mind."

"I've had students that have gone into industry and not strictly academic positions. As long as it makes them happy, I think it's great. We need people who are really good in industry."

Yet Wallen's passion for academic research and his desire to share that with his students is clear. "The whole thing about science is that you are seeing something that no one has seen before. And there are truths in the world that will be revealed if you pay attention," he says. "That's what drives you as a scientist — that you can make some sense of the world."

EMORY report

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People

Holiday spirit stocks church pantry



The items collected by Development and Alumni Relations Operations staff will help stock the food pantry at Mercy Community Church, led by Candler alumnus Chad Hyatt (left). BRYAN MELTZ

By KIM URQUHART

"We pride ourselves on trying to make the best cup of coffee around," says Chad Hyatt '90C-'93T, pastor of Mercy Community Church. "When it's cold outside, it's not only heart-warming but also body-warming." That's important to the Candler alumnus, whose congregation is 90 percent homeless. On any given morning this winter, the church serves up several gallons of coffee – made possible by community support. "Like any group, we are always in need of donations and gifts," says Hyatt, "but in this economy we are seeing not only increased need, but less giving."

An Emory group is among those helping to stock Mercy's food pantry. The Operations Division of Development and Alumni Relations collected four bags of food at its "Between the Holidayze" potluck breakfast on Dec. 3.

"When DAR Operations decided we wanted to do a philanthropy project, Mercy Community Church seemed like the way to go, as I know they need the help and it would be an all-Emory project," says Holidayze committee member Leslie Hunter, a senior research analyst.

Hunter first learned about the work of Mercy Community Church through the pastor's wife, Camille Hyatt, a senior billing specialist for IT Finance and Administration, whom she met on her commute to Emory on the North DeKalb Mall Park'n'Ride.

"We walk from Woodruff Circle to the 1762 Clifton building most days and have lots of time to talk," explains Hunter.

She began to learn more about the non-denominational grassroots church that clothes, feeds, and worships with the homeless, the addicted and the poor. Three years ago, Mercy was a small circle of people gathered in the living room of

the Hyatt's one-bedroom apartment. Mercy is now run out of a shared space in a Druid Hills church, yet Hyatt takes great care to retain that feeling of community. "In everything we do, we welcome friend and stranger alike in a come-as-you-are, make-yourself-at-home kind of way," he says.

Mercy's members serve each other through cooking and serving meals. "We believe that when we share our resources with each other, we are working to achieve at least a small measure of economic and personal justice in a broken world," Hyatt says.

The church stocks a food pantry, regularly serving eight meals each week to hungry crowds. Because Mercy operates on a shoestring budget, staples such as butter and jelly; coffee, sugar and creamer; meats; and canned goods that can be combined into soups are always welcome.

The amount of food Mercy

Holiday help

The many outreach efforts around campus this holiday season ranged from holiday cards students made for hospital patients to those who purchased a "virtual can" at Emory Healthcare cafeterias to support the Atlanta Community Food Bank.

By now most donations have already been collected, like the truckload of supplies, games, and gifts the Department of Psychiatry delivered to the Metro Atlanta Respite & Developmental Services and Chris Kids, but there are still opportunities to help.

Among them: Volunteer Emory needs help gathering and packaging books from various donation sites around campus to send to students in Africa. Shifts run between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. through Dec. 19. To sign up, or learn about other volunteer opportunities, contact Harold McNaron at hmcnar2@emory.edu.

serves has doubled, Hyatt notes. "We can serve 120 folks in a day, but we're still small in a lot of ways, and so every little bit makes a difference."

The church also provides over-the-counter medications, in demand during cold and flu season. Donations of cold-weather items such as coats, caps, gloves and blankets, as well as T-shirts, pants, underwear and socks, are always needed to stock the clothes closet Mercy maintains.

Monetary gifts further the church's commitment to empower the voices of the voiceless, allowing Mercy to provide transportation, employment and housing assistance as well as jail and hospital visits.

Volunteering is another way the Emory community can help. Mercy's associate pastor Katie Aikins is a recent Candler graduate, and Hyatt says Mercy welcomes Candler students or others interested in "a different approach to church."

ACCLAIM

Nathaniel E. Gozansky, law professor, was honored by the Council on Legal Education Opportunity at its Southeast Region 40th anniversary celebration at the Atlanta History Center.

Emory Law School was recognized for its role in the development and implementation of CLEO's summer institute, which seeks to increase minority law school enrollment. CLEO, a nonprofit entity of the American Bar Association, also presented an award to Gozansky for his contributions as associate director of the national CLEO program during the 1970s.



Spero Karas and **Sameh Labib** have been chosen to be added to a database of America's Top Doctors by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., a health care quality research and information company.

Karas and Labib are faculty members of the Department of Orthopaedics at Emory School of Medicine and physicians in Emory Healthcare's Sports Medicine Center. Both serve as consulting team physicians for Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory athletics.

Jenny McDowell was named National Division III Coach of the Year by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

McDowell completed her 13th season at the helm of the Emory program by guiding the Eagles to their first-ever national championship.

McDowell was chosen as the AVCA South Region Coach of the Year for the third time in her career, and, Emory's final victory total marked the 10th time during her tenure that the Eagles finished a season with 30 or more victories.

Betty Willis, senior associate vice president for governmental and community affairs, has been elected chair of the Regional Business Coalition.

As a voice for businesses across the region, the RBC can help metro Atlanta devise workable solutions to pressing issues, such as transportation and water, Willis said.

Willis, who was most recently vice chair of the RBC, serves on the board of directors for the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the Clifton Corridor Transportation Management Association, the Georgia Brain Train Group and Central Atlanta Progress.



Greenbacks granted to 'green' projects

By KELLY GRAY

With such an imaginative and resourceful faculty, staff and student base at Emory, the University called upon its sustainability-minded citizens to come up with creative ideas to help further its sustainable mission.

Many applications were received from various departments and individuals across campus for the second annual Sustainability Grant Program. At the end of the selection process, one sustainability grant was awarded in each category: student, faculty and staff, for creative plans to promote sustainability at Emory.

These award-winning projects will receive funding from the Office of Sustainability Initiatives:

- Kati Cooper, a Rollins School of Public Health student, will examine the factors that lead to the purchase and consumption of organic and sustainable foods. Cooper will also study attitudes, including perceived barriers, perceived benefits and perceived consequences that Emory undergraduate students have about purchasing and consuming organic and sustainable foods.

- Gretchen Neigh, an assistant professor in the School of

Medicine, will explore "Going Green While Treating the Blues: Introducing Sustainability in Large and Diverse Departments." This campaign will make it easier to practice sustainability in more than 11 large and diverse departments at Emory, including education, research and clinical practice.

- Jaine Perlman, a staff member working at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center, will expand the educational food garden at Yerkes to provide more variety and a greater volume of sustainable produce to the animals housed there. For one year, the educational food garden at Yerkes has been pro-

ducing a variety of edible herbs and flowers to nourish the non-human primates housed on Emory's campus.

Many of the "green" concepts implemented by Emory have had a direct impact on the community and have come from Sustainability Grant Program suggestions. Past ideas have included adding rain barrels and compost bins to Emory's educational food gardens and sponsoring a program to provide recycled eyeglasses to members of disadvantaged communities.

To learn more about sustainability grants, visit www.sustainability.emory.edu.

"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

Beckett research sparks series

The Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry is offering a colloquia series for faculty and graduate students, an opportunity to cross disciplines and to share issues, ideas, and research. Sparked by the coming 2009 publication of the first of four volumes of "The Letters of Samuel Beckett, 1929–1940," a project based out of the Graduate School since 1990, "International Modernisms between the Wars" will examine the issues this research has raised for scholars.

Colloquia meetings will be March 4 and April 16 from 4–6 p.m. at the CHI.

This colloquia series invites proposals of work-in-progress; for details contact Lois Overbeck at lois.overbeck@emory.edu. Please send one-page proposals to Overbeck and Alice N. Benston, abensto@emory.edu, by Jan. 16. Selected graduate student participants will receive a \$100 research award.

Buildings compete to reduce energy

The sustainable behaviors of the residents of Emory's Black Student Alliance House resulted in the highest percentage of reduced energy use during Emory's second annual building energy competition.

The top three buildings with the greatest amount of energy reduction in October, the time period of the contest, were:

- The Black Student Alliance: 31.85 percent
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority: 28.4 percent
- Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity: 25.2 percent

Emory's Office of Sustainability Initiatives will reward the BSA residents for their energy conservation efforts with a \$1,000 sustainable prize. Emory's goal is to reduce energy use 25 percent by 2015 from 2005 levels.

Global health gets legal perspective

Emory Law has created the Global Health Law and Policy Project. Funded by the Emory Global Health Institute, it establishes a platform for initiatives across campus to address issues of global health, and provides a legal and policy perspective.

The project, directed by Chad F. Slipe '05L, was introduced this fall with a seminar examining the intersection of patent law with issues of global health and development. It will continue with a pilot course on global health law in the spring.

BUDGET: Leadership details status for FY10

Continued from the cover

"We have entered a new era of University finances that requires a shift in how we fulfill our vision and mission," says Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Earl Lewis, who heads the WAM committee.

"With guidance provided by our core principles and values, and by focusing on strategic priorities, we anticipate that Emory will emerge stronger and in an even better position to realize its strategic goals," says Lewis.

Wagner, along with Lewis and other members of the WAM committee — Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike Mandl and Executive Vice President for Health Affairs Fred Sanfilippo — have communicated with the Emory community about the new economic realities in a series of meetings, letters and forums over the past few months.

In this Q&A with Emory Report, the WAM committee leaders responded to questions regarding the FY10 budget process, and outlined what the Emory community can expect as the University moves forward.

Emory Report: What is the status of Emory's budget process?

Lewis: We all know that the Emory community is exceptional in its collective spirit and commitment to our mission, but that fact has been even more apparent this fall as we have worked together to balance this year's budget, and to prepare for FY10, which begins Sept. 1, 2009. As a nation, we are adjusting to a new economic environment that will be with us for the long term. This, we believe, is more than a short-term economic downturn. At Emory, that means we need to focus on quality and invest in excellence within the realm of new economic realities.

ER: What do the new economic realities mean for Emory?

Mandl: The level of resources we have to invest will be lower than we planned. We know this. Thus, we need to plan for what is known, and stay focused on excellence. Focus means pursuing the University's vision with vigor, but without the full span of underlying activity that might have been undertaken previously. While we have to be ever more selective in deploying resources and ever more creative in ensuring the most effective approach in allocating budgets, we cannot lose sight of making sure every dollar is invested in bringing together and retaining the highest quality faculty and students at Emory.

In addition to the challenges presented by the investment market, when preparing budgets we need to take into account cost increases associated with financial aid, not only for future students, but for current students whose families have been adversely affected by the economic changes.

In order to present balanced budgets to the Board of Trustees for the next three fiscal years — based on what we know now and what we can project given the current financial indicators — we need to cut approximately \$50 million from current year endowment spending levels. In light of the endowment spending formula, this will take place over several years, beginning in FY10.

The single largest endowment spending reduction will come from the Emily and Ernest Woodruff Fund, an endowment fund that supports a broad range of activities across the institution including core support for the various schools. We also need to cut another \$10 million from unrestricted operating revenue due to declines in short-term investment income, and approximately \$30-35 million from the Strategic Planning Fund, primarily by eliminating various

contingency provisions and slowing some activities — some substantially.

ER: How is Emory Healthcare being affected?

Sanfilippo: Emory Hospitals, Emory Clinics and Emory Healthcare activities are supported by different revenue streams than the University, and are not directly dependent on endowment spending, net tuition, or other University income sources.

Although Emory Healthcare is in a strong position, we are taking steps to adjust to the changing financial environment. Senior leadership has developed a focused strategy to prioritize the use of our resources, and we have identified opportunities to cut costs, for example by phasing construction activities, reducing meeting and travel expenses, and reviewing vendor contracts.

We're very much aware that our patients and their families are facing health care struggles that are now compounded with new economic concerns. We all need to provide our support, compassion and professional expertise for them now more than ever. Furthermore, it is too early to tell how Medicare and Medicaid payments to hospitals and doctors will be influenced. These impacts will be assessed as conditions unfold.

ER: What is the status of Emory's salary and benefits programs?

WAM Committee: One of Emory's major priorities is to invest in our very best faculty and staff. Resources to support compensation increases in FY10 will need to come from existing budgets, and should be deployed carefully in light of the market context and according to clearly articulated compensation principles that are under review by deans and vice presidents as we speak. As for benefits, we know costs will increase due largely to higher medical costs, but at least for

FY10, Emory will incur the largest portion of the cost increase. At this time, we are not contemplating any significant changes in the current University benefits program.

ER: What do you want the Emory community to keep in mind as we plan for the future?

Lewis: The new economic realities that we are dealing with as an institution will change aspects of how we fulfill our mission. That said, we want the Emory community to know we are absolutely committed to funding the priorities previously outlined by the president. And you'll note that the first two involve investments in people — ensuring that we provide the financial aid required to retain and attract the best students, regardless of their economic standing; and that we maintain competitive, merit-based salaries to reward, retain and attract the best faculty and staff.

FY10 budget cycle

- **January:** Budget hearings week of Jan. 5 & 12; WAM reviews drafts of budget scenarios
- **February:** Tuition and fee presentation to Finance Committee and full BOT on Feb. 11 & 12 for approval; presentations to Faculty Council and Council of Deans, Feb. 17 & 18
- **March:** Budget finalized by WAM and reviewed with the president
- **April:** Budget presentations to Council of Deans, April 1; and budget operating plan reviewed and approved by Finance Committee, Academic Affairs Committee, and Executive Committee (BOT) April 8 & 9; presented to Faculty Council, April 21

ICIS: Local model for stability key to project



Emory's Patience Kabamba (left) and Bruce Knauff (right) with the staff directors of the United Nations refugee camp for displaced persons in Goma.

Continued from the cover

neighbors. The participants will focus mainly on local models of good governance, instead of external ones.

"There are many millionaires among the Nande," Kabamba says. "They travel to Dubai, to Hong Kong and Taiwan for business, but they come back home to invest, despite the war."

Although the Nande are

primarily Protestant, they work closely with the local Catholic Church to support the development of schools and hospitals in their main town of Butembo. "The Nande are not perfect," Kabamba says, noting that some of their practices help fuel the conflict. "But it is important to look at what the Nande are doing right, and how that could be duplicated. Maybe we could build on that."

He is encouraging conference participants to come armed with such positive examples from their own communities, and a long-term, regional vision for peace and prosperity. Their ideas will be assimilated to create possible roadmaps for success.

"We want to find alternatives to post-colonial states," Kabamba says. "We need to think boldly about new ways of organizing, and make it dependent on the realities on the

ground. It's a global world now, but global influence should come with local understanding."

New name, same acronym

The Institute for Comparative and International Studies at Emory has a new name — the Institute of Critical International Studies. The change reflects a new emphasis of ICIS: to engage in more grass-roots, practical approaches concerning developmental issues in the world's major hot spots.

ICIS also has a new home, the historic Dickey-Jones House at 1627 North Decatur Rd., that provides a more collaborative environment.

For further details, visit www.icis.emory.edu.

Campus

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REPORT FROM: Health Sciences

New publication highlights community impact

“Ready to Help” is the title of the 2009 Woodruff Health Sciences Center Community Benefits Book. The report, now available online at <http://whsc.emory.edu/home/about/index.html>, showcases the touching stories of real people who have benefited from WHSC’s life-saving and life-affirming work.

Over the past year, WHSC has been ready to help by offering millions of dollars in compassionate, cutting-edge, and high-quality care to those who need it most — throughout the city, the state and the world. The more than \$29 million in charity care that we have provided to the poor, the uninsured and underinsured, children and

seniors, our heroic veterans, and many others in need has made a lasting and tangible difference in the lives of many thousands of people again this year.

Why do we do it? Because, quite simply, it’s the right thing to do. As health care providers, we feel not only a passion for providing care to all people — but also an obligation to do all that we can to serve the health needs of everyone who turns to us for help.

But the benefits of our efforts aren’t limited to the patients we serve; they also extend throughout our community in a host of positive and meaningful ways. For example, the Woodruff Health Sciences Center creates nearly

17,000 jobs in the metro Atlanta area, making Emory the largest private employer in Atlanta and the second largest in Georgia. The research dollars we generate extend far beyond the laboratory, as well. Every \$1 million of research funding generates an average return of \$2 million and 32 jobs in our state, meaning that WHSC’s \$389 million in research funding generates more than \$775 million in economic impact and nearly 12,500 jobs for Georgia. All told, our research, education, and health care missions have a \$4.9 billion impact on the community — in addition to the immeasurable value of providing help

and hope to people in need.

As we enter the holiday season, we at the Woodruff Health Sciences Center are grateful for the opportunity to serve our community in this way, and we’re grateful for the many friends and supporters who make our extraordinary community impact possible.

Many thanks to you, and best wishes to you and your loved ones for a happy holiday season and good health in the new year.

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

Cancer patient family funds faculty chairs

By HOLLY KORSCHUN

Two endowed faculty chairs at Emory’s Winship Cancer Institute and the Georgia Institute of Technology will support innovative research in cancer nanotechnology. Worth a total of \$6 million, the chairs are the result of donations from Coca-Cola Enterprises Chairman and CEO John Brock, his wife Mary and their children, Rebecca, John IV and Major, who have teamed up with the Georgia Research Alliance and the Georgia Cancer Coalition to boost cancer research in this groundbreaking field.

“These heartfelt gifts from the Brock family in honor of John’s late mother will contribute significantly to cancer nanotechnology research at Emory and at Georgia Tech,” says Brian Leyland-Jones, director of Emory Winship.

Brock’s mother, Anise McDaniel Brock, was an active member of her community in Moss Point, Miss. Anise Brock, who never smoked and who lived a healthy lifestyle, was stricken with lung and colon cancer in 2006. She was treated primarily in Mississippi until her family brought her to Emory.

After her death in December 2007, the Brock family began looking for ways to help researchers develop new leads in the early detection and treatment of cancer. A Georgia Tech alumnus, Brock talked with cancer researchers

and physicians at Emory and Georgia Tech about their nanomedicine research program. In addition, he worked with the Georgia Cancer Coalition and the Georgia Research Alliance to help enhance the value of his donation. The result is the Anise McDaniel Brock Chair and Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar in Cancer Nanotechnology at Emory University, with a second chair at Georgia Tech.

The National Cancer Institute and scientists at Emory Winship and Georgia Tech believe nanotechnology holds great promise for radically increasing options for prevention, detection and treatment of cancer. In 2006 the NCI selected the Emory and Georgia Tech joint research program as one of seven National Centers of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence. The CCNE’s goal is to function as a “discovery accelerator” to integrate nanotechnology into personalized cancer treatments and early detection. Nanotechnology deals with the engineering and creation of materials or devices that are less than 100 nanometers — 1-billionth of a meter — in size.

“These visionary gifts to Emory and Georgia Tech by John and Mary Brock in support of two chairs in cancer nanotechnology epitomize the collaborative and productive relationships between these two great institutions,” says William J. Todd, president of the

Campaign Progress

\$ 881

MILLION

TOTAL GOAL
\$1.6 BILLION

Campaign Emory update

With a strong November for fundraising, Campaign Emory is trending well toward meeting its \$1.6 billion goal by 2012. By the end of November, the campaign had raised some \$881 million, receiving gifts last month totaling more than \$24 million.

“Even in this difficult economic climate, people still realize the value — and impact — of investing in higher education,” says Susan Cruse, senior vice president for development and alumni relations. “We are grateful to our donors for their past generosity and hope that in the spirit of this holiday season, our supporters will continue to make investments in the future.”

Learn more at campaign.emory.edu.

Georgia Cancer Coalition.

Brock says the care his mother received at Emory Winship and the strength of the joint research programs at Emory and Georgia Tech led to the gifts.

“After she passed away, we started talking more about our interest in trying to help researchers get new leads in the early detection and treatment of cancer,” Brock says. “My mother was a caregiver

in her community. She would be thrilled that some value can be created in the search for better ways to manage cancer.”

This gift is part of the private support being sought for Campaign Emory, a \$1.6 billion fundraising endeavor that combines private support and the University’s people, places and programs to make a powerful contribution to the world.

SNAPSHOT



BRYAN MELTZ

A world of holiday traditions

Drumbeats from professors Leroy Davis (pictured) and Lawrence Jackson set the upbeat mood for the Multicultural Holiday Party Dec. 9. Nagueyalti Warren’s African American Culture and Society class performed a Kwanza ceremony, and campus cultural groups like the Emory Chinese Student Association and Indian Cultural Exchange showcased their holiday traditions. The Office of Multicultural Programs and Services’ annual holiday event was co-sponsored by the Black Student Alliance, Latino Student Organization, African Student Association, Transforming Community Project, and the African American Studies Department.

ER course puts students on front lines



David Wright, assistant professor of emergency medicine, leads a new elective that allows undergraduates to study the fundamentals of clinical research, in the classroom and in the ER.

JON ROU

By CAROL CLARK

It's one thing to watch an episode of "ER" on television. It's another thing to help clear a spot in the hallway for a gurney, as wailing ambulances pull up at Grady Memorial Hospital.

"I'm surprised by the volume of patients and the variety of problems you see on any given day," says Hannah Kinkel,

a senior enrolled in a new Clinical Research Practicum in Emergency Medicine offered by the Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology (NBB) Program.

"It's amazing the amount of people required to make a system like Grady work. When a trauma case comes in, a team of 10 to 15 people goes into action," adds Kinkel, a pre-med student who plans to specialize

in neurology.

The 32 NBB undergraduates who enrolled in the new elective studied the fundamentals of clinical research — both in the classroom and at Grady.

David Wright, assistant professor of emergency medicine in the School of Medicine and a practicing ER doctor, developed the practicum and teaches it along with Paul Lennard, direc-

tor of the NBB program.

Wright is involved in cutting-edge, clinical studies of traumatic brain injury, and trains the students in clinical research methods. The students then pull "shifts" at Grady, observing physicians and nurses at work and interviewing patients to determine if they are eligible for actual clinical trials, covering everything from strokes to seizures and heart disease.

Only two or three other hospitals in the country receive the same volume and acuity of cases as Grady — a Level 1 trauma center covering a region of about 4.1 million people. "It's a busy hospital and it serves the underserved. You see a huge amount of disease and pathology," Wright says.

"I enjoyed getting to spend so much time with patients and really talking with them," says Taslima Choudury, a junior who plans to be a pediatric surgeon. She says that she learned the value of listening carefully when she interviewed people with a history of congestive heart failure, to determine their eligibility for a quality-of-life study.

Choudury was surprised that one woman who had recently been diagnosed with CHF did not know some of the basic things she could do to alleviate her symptoms. "She was clearly intelligent, but no one had told her these things before," Choudury says. "I realized that I take information for granted. That woman lives by herself, doesn't have much money, and doesn't have a primary care physician or health insurance. You can't just tell her, 'Go look up this stuff on WebMD.'"

Senior Stacey Elkhatib agreed that a major benefit of the practicum was learning to communicate well with patients. "Some people would tell me their

"The course helps students develop critical thinking skills, while also exposing them to the joys and heartaches of being on the front lines of medicine."

— Paul Lennard, director of the NBB program

life stories," she says. "You really have to be understanding and listen closely. Sometimes people will dance around what they are really trying to say."

The practicum is open to all undergraduates, but it filled up quickly with NBB pre-med students when it debuted this fall. It offers a rare chance for undergraduates to get first-hand experience conducting clinical research.

"Even many doctors don't have a solid grounding in clinical research, which is important for evaluating the studies that they read about," Lennard says. "The course helps students develop critical thinking skills, while also exposing them to the joys and heartaches of being on the front lines of medicine. They are witnessing very traumatic situations — even death."

The practicum may convince some students that medicine is not for them. Others, including Elkhatib, gain a stronger commitment to becoming a doctor. "I realized how stressful and hard [being a doctor] can be," she says. "But when you see how much people need health care, and what a difference a physician can make for people, that's really powerful."

'Strained' quantum dots show optical properties

By QUINN EASTMAN

Quantum dots, tiny luminescent particles made of semiconductors, hold promise for detecting and treating cancer earlier. However, if doctors were to use them in humans, quantum dots could have limitations related to their size and possible toxicity.

Biomedical engineers at Emory and Georgia Tech have found a way around those limitations by exploiting a property of semiconductors called "lattice strain." By layering materials with different chemical compositions on top of each other, the researchers can create particles with new optical properties.

A description of the "strained" particles is in the December issue of *Nature Nanotechnology*.

In addition to their expected utility in biomedical imaging, the new type of quantum dots

could find use in optoelectronics, advanced color displays, and more efficient solar panels, says biomedical engineer Shuming Nie.

Previous quantum dots contained cadmium, a toxic heavy metal. Strain-tuned quantum dots can be made mostly of the less toxic elements zinc and selenium. The particles can be between four and six nanometers wide, allowing them pass through the kidneys — meaning less toxicity. The newer strain-tuned quantum dots have not been tested in living animals or people.

Strain-tuned quantum dots can be made that emit light at wavelengths in the near-infrared range, a "clear window" where the human body is relatively transparent, says author Andrew Smith, a postdoctoral fellow in Nie's group.

Curbing hormones in obese patients could aid against cancer

By QUINN EASTMAN

Once-promising drugs that were abandoned in the fight against breast cancer still could be effective in obese patients, work by Winship Cancer Institute researchers suggests.

Hormones produced by fat cells stimulate breast cancer cells to migrate and invade surrounding tissues. In laboratory tests, a class of drugs called epithelial growth factor receptor (EGFR) inhibitors could block the stimulatory effects of the hormones, oncologist Dipali Sharma and digestive disease specialist Neeraj Saxena found.

"This group of compounds was basically written off as far as breast cancer goes," Sharma says.

Her team's results were published online in the December issue of *Cancer Research*.

Obese people have high lev-

els of leptin, a hormone produced by fat cells, and insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1), which is produced primarily by the liver. Leptin sends satiety signals to the part of the brain that controls appetite, but also has several other functions such as regulating bone formation, reproductive functions and the growth of blood vessels.

"The influence of obesity on breast cancer is more pronounced because most of the breast tissue is made of adipocytes," Sharma says. "There is an increasing amount of evidence for the importance of the environment surrounding the tumor in spurring its growth."

Sharma and her team found that together, leptin and IGF-1 stimulate breast cancer cells to grow more than either does by itself. Acting together, they activate the EGFR molecule, the target of several anti-

cancer drugs.

Various EGFR inhibitors such as erlotinib and cetuximab have been approved by the FDA to treat head and neck cancer, lung cancer, colon cancer and pancreatic cancer. One, lapatinib, was approved in 2007 for women with advanced breast cancer who had already received other therapies.

However, clinical studies did not find most EGFR inhibitors effective against breast cancer for a large enough proportion of patients for them to be approved by the FDA.

The team's results suggest that EGFR inhibitors could be effective if directed specifically to obese patients. Sharma says the finding could be especially important for "triple negative" breast cancer, a form that does not respond to common treatments such as tamoxifen.

Forum

FIRST PERSON Paula Gomes & Kathryn Carlson

Optimistic and walking for the cure



Kathryn Carlson (far left) and Paula Gomes (left) represented Emory along with teammates Claudia Lawson, Tom Gray and Beth Kooby in the Atlanta Breast Cancer 3-Day.

BRIANNE GLOSKI

By PAULA G. GOMES

In 2006, I received a phone call from The Emory Clinic that changed my life forever. The radiologist delivered the dreaded news that the results from the biopsy showed that I had breast cancer. Of course, the impact was devastating. It took a few months for me to regain my center after accepting the diagnosis and receiving extensive treatment at Emory's Winship Cancer Institute (WCI).

The special support I received from my husband, family, friends, co-workers and colleagues assisted me on this journey. I met and bonded with many patients along the way, fighting to survive the challenges of cancer. During one WCI visit, I saw a flier about the Atlanta Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk and I promised myself to try it one year.

This fall, I decided to take on the challenge to walk the Atlanta 3-Day Breast Cancer Walk sponsored by the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation. In August, I contacted the WCI Team captain, Kate Carlson, an Emory nurse practitioner, to find out more about the walk. As a result, my preparation and training began.

Why did I walk?

I walked this 60-mile walk on Oct. 24-26 for several reasons. First, I wanted to challenge myself physically, emotionally and spiritually to take on the training for the event. Before then, the longest walk I had participated in was a 5K walk in Connecticut some years ago. Another reason I walked was for those who for various reasons were physically unable to walk. Also, I wanted to support the research efforts that are happening around the world to find a cure for breast cancer. Emory has many researchers who are gi-

Paula Gomes is director of the Faculty Staff Assistance Program; and Kathryn Carlson is a nurse practitioner at Winship Cancer Institute.

ants in their fields, including my medical oncologist, Dr. Ruth O'Regan, who has many clinical trials focused on finding ways to save lives. Finally, I walked to increase public awareness about this challenging disease and the importance of early detection.

What did I learn from the walk?

On Oct. 24, the first day of the walk, my teammates along with thousands of other walkers started from North Point Mall in Alpharetta. This was the most challenging experience of the three days because of the harsh weather, which was rainy and cold. We met wonderful supporters who provided snacks and warm beverages along the route. We made it through those first grueling 20 miles by talking, laughing and encouraging each other in the rain.

On the second day of the walk, I left later than the rest of my team, and as a result met many people along the way. I met walkers from states across the Southeast, including Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia. There was a strong spirit of camaraderie and purpose among the participants. I met many survivors, as well as walkers with family histories of breast cancer, who were walking in memory of mothers, aunts, daughters, nieces and grandmothers.

We talked, laughed, shared stories, and even danced the electric slide at one of the pit stops. We connected as if we had known each other for a lifetime due to the special bonding that occurs when you take on such a challenge as this.

On the final day, a Sunday, I started out walking with three childhood friends from Tennessee. They were walking in memory of a fourth friend who had died from breast cancer in March, at the age of 32. I enjoyed meeting them and hearing their story of friendship and dedication.

By midday, I caught up with members of my team. We walked the remainder of the 20 miles together. One special memory that I'll always cherish is having the chance to carry a large pink and white flag with the word "Optimism." This was very affirming for me because that word reflected my approach to my own healing.

Another special highlight was the final mile of the walk. It was such a moving experience for our team as we walked those final steps and heard the jubilant cheers and hearty applause from all the supporters waiting at the Georgia World Congress Center finish line. Those of us who took on this challenge were all tired with sore feet and aching legs. However, just as we shared the fatigue, there was a shared sense of accomplishment that will always rank among the top achievements in my life.

My hope for the future is that a cure for breast cancer will be found in my lifetime.

By KATHRYN CARLSON

Why did I walk?

This is my second Breast Cancer 3 Day to participate in and lead. I am a nurse practitioner at Winship Cancer Institute specializing in breast cancer, and I chose to walk each year in honor and support of every woman who has fought her battle with breast cancer. I am also walking for my grandmother and great aunt who both are

ovarian cancer survivors, and another great aunt who is a breast cancer survivor. Each day, I am inspired by the strength and courage that my patients demonstrate despite what the day may have brought them: nausea, fatigue, pain. They continue to fight for themselves and for each other. They form friendships and support each other through survivorship and end-of-life issues. They become advocates for breast cancer research and form support groups and attend research meetings. They walk 60 miles for themselves and for others!

What did I learn from the walk?

The weather was certainly not agreeable on the first day of the walk, leaving us all cold, wet and grumpy. In spite of the tough weather conditions, we continued to walk for our sisters, as a symbol of the adversity that many have experienced through treatment. I felt that walking 60 miles was only a small demonstration of what my patients have to face and overcome on a daily basis. The other days of the walk, I interacted with many people including some Emory colleagues walking with different teams, some of my patients, and walkers from throughout the Southeastern states.

My hope for the future is that more Emory colleagues will walk with the WCI Team next year. Our small mighty team of seven felt great about taking on this incredible challenge together. At the finish line, our team hugged and reflected on our sense of accomplishment of meeting our goal for this important cause and getting the opportunity to make a difference by contributing to research funding focused on finding a cure and saving lives.

SOUNDBITES

Diverse meanings of 2008 election

"It's 40 years after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. But we really do not know the significance [of Barack Obama's election] beyond the historical ties," said associate history professor Leroy Davis.

Davis' sentiments were expanded on by panelists at Goizueta Business School's Fall 2008 Diversity Dialogue: A Moment in American History.

"For me, it's a beacon," said MBA student Shaun Caldwell. "It provides an opportunity for an African American man to right the wrongs of the picture society tries to paint of African American men."

While doctoral candidate Brittany Cooper questioned how to negotiate the "post-race" world, assistant political science professor Andra Gillespie warned this culmination of a political struggle "does not mean inequality has gone."

Gillespie also prompted laughter noting, "For the next 20 years, it'll be 'I'm not racist. I voted for Barack Obama'."

3 steps to change U.S. health care

Transforming America's health system in three "easy" steps? Emory health care chief Fred Sanfilippo offered provocative solutions for health care reform at the joint Emory/CDC Health Systems Transformation Lecture Series.

The first step is to reform finance and payment by paying for quality, value and efficiency. "Health care in this country is treated as a commodity, not a professional service," he noted, and there isn't value commensurate with the spending.

The second step is to provide personalized, predictive care. "We focus on the providers, not the patients," he said.

And the third step, he said, is to change the old delivery model. "We need to create new specialties that are not now addressed."

Hart on reform and consolidation

"Reform and consolidation" are the cycles the nation goes through historically every three to four decades, according to Gary Hart, former U.S. senator and candidate for Democratic presidential nominations.

After decades of consolidation, the country is entering a period of reform.

"The expectation is that [Barack] Obama meant change more than [John] McCain," he said of the presidential election.

Along with the cycles of history, several revolutions are dominating the world, Hart said, listing globalization, information and the erosion of the sovereignty of the nation-state and the transformation of war and conflict.

"Obama has two choices," Hart concluded. "He can rebuild the 20th century economy or build the 21st century economy."

— Leslie King

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

ADVANCE NOTICE

Service and more for King Week

Emory's week-long celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 19-27 will have forums, worship services, concerts, lectures, exhibits and community service events.

On Jan. 19, to celebrate King Day, volunteers will plant trees in the Martin Luther King Jr. historic district in conjunction with Trees Atlanta.

Julian Bond, NAACP board chairman, will speak Jan. 23, on "Civil Rights: Then and Now" at 4 p.m. at Cannon Chapel.

A choral concert and birthday cake celebration, honoring King's legacy and recognizing Emory's Martin Luther King, Jr. and Benjamin E. Mays scholars will be at 8 p.m. at the Coca-Cola Commons of the Dobbs University Center.

There will also be a jazz-veper service and a community awards presentation.

Visit www.emory.edu/MLK/ for the full calendar of events.

Events surround professor's opera

The Atlanta Opera and Emory's Flora Glenn Candler Concerts Series present a choral production of Philip Glass' opera "Akhnaton" on Jan. 23, at 8 p.m. and Jan. 25, at 5 p.m. in the Schwartz Center's Emerson Concert Hall.

Related events include an open dress rehearsal for college and high school students, Jan. 21, 7 p.m., Emerson Hall; panel discussion on "The Historic and Imagined Akhnaten" Jan. 22, 7 p.m., Carlos reception hall; pre-concert "Conversation with Composer Philip Glass and Shalom Goldman," the Emory professor who helped write the libretto, Jan. 25, 3:30 p.m., Glenn Memorial Auditorium; and a "Creativity Conversation" with Glass, Jan. 26, 4 p.m., Carlos reception hall.

Future of black church explored

The 5th Annual National Black Church Studies Summit, Jan. 22-24, will bring together community leaders, scholars and students to explore the theme: "Where Do We Go From Here? Black Church Traditions, Textures and Transformations."

Sponsored by Candler School of Theology and co-sponsored by Emory's Graduate Division of Religion and the Kelly Miller Smith Institute at Vanderbilt Divinity School, the summit will take place at the Emory Conference Center Hotel.

The summit will feature presentations and dialogue about the varieties of black religious experiences, the 21st century black church, and the continuing social, political, and spiritual impact of persons of faith on the church, the academy and society.

For details, visit www.candler.emory.edu.

Athletics

Thursday, Dec. 18

Men's Basketball v. Piedmont College. 2 p.m.*

Saturday, Jan. 3

Men's Basketball v. Huntingdon College. 4 p.m.*

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

Performing Arts

Monday, Dec. 15

Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony. 8 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050.

Tuesday, Jan. 20

PHILIP GLASS' AKHNATEN: Open Dress Rehearsal for College and High School Students. 7 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050. *RSVP to jkmoore@emory.edu with number attending and school name.*

Religion

Sunday, Dec. 21

University Service. 11 a.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6225. *Every Sunday.*

Seminars

Tuesday, Dec. 16

Nutrition For the Heart. 8:45 a.m. Fifth Floor Conference Room, Emory Clinic. Free. 404-778-7777.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

GYN OB DEPARTMENT GRAND ROUNDS: "Vitamin A as a Mediator of Angiogenesis in Endometriosis." Neil Sidell, gynecology/obstetrics, presenting. Steiner Auditorium, Grady Hospital. Free. claire.hackworth@emory.edu.

Nutrition Myths. Noon. Fifth Floor Conference Room, Emory Clinic. Free. 404-778-7777.

Comprehensive Weight Management Seminar. 5 p.m. Suite C4018, Emory Clinic C. Free. 404-778-7777.

Thursday, Dec. 18

Bariatric Surgery Seminar. 6 p.m. Suite C4018, Emory Clinic C. Free. 404-778-5673. *Also Jan. 15.*

Tuesday, Jan. 20

"Beer, the Bible and Archaeology." Michael Homan, Xavier University of Louisiana, presenting. 7 p.m. Carlos Museum. Free. 404-727-4282.

Special

Tuesday, Dec. 16

Peace Vigil. 1 p.m. Cox Bridge Bell Tower. Free. 404-727-0636.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

Toastmasters @ Emory. 8 a.m. 231 Dental School Building. Free. 770-317-6285. *Every Wednesday.*

Visual Arts

Sunday, Jan. 11

TUT WORKSHOP: "Catnapping in Kemet." Ande Cook, artist, presenting. 2 p.m. Carlos Museum. \$15; \$12

for Museum members. 404-727-0519. *For ages 8-12. Registration required.*

Now Showing

"Min Kim Park: Zummarella." Visual Arts Gallery. Free. 404-712-4390. *Through Jan. 24.*

"Time and Silence: Photographs by Leslie A. Real." Chace Upper Lobby, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050. *Through Jan. 31.*

"Tutankhamun: The Golden King and The Great Pharaohs." Atlanta Civic Center. Ticket prices vary. www.kingtut.org/. *Through May 25.*

"Wonderful Things: The Harry Burton Photographs and the Discovery of the Tomb of Tutankhamun." Carlos Museum. \$7 donation; free, Emory students, faculty and staff. 404-727-4282. *Through May 25.*

"Art by the Emory Visual Arts Faculty." Lobby and First and Second Floors, School of Medicine. Free. 404-712-9894. *Through Feb. 28.*

VOYAGES: Breakthrough in slavery research

Continued from the cover

David Brion Davis, Sterling Professor of History Emeritus at Yale University and one of the foremost experts in the field, spoke to an overflow crowd on "Putting American and British Slave-Trade Abolition in Broader Perspective." He called the "Voyages" launch "by far the most significant and productive breakthrough in slavery research in the half-century that I've been working on this broad subject."

Davis delivered a tour de force on the trans-Atlantic slave trade and the complex path that led to its abolition. He illustrated its magnitude, which only hints at the extent of human suffering: By 1820, enslaved Africans constituted "some 80 percent of all people who embarked for the Americas since 1500."

He also revealed the "pathological consequences of a world view that subordinates all human relationships to free-market choices." Davis said the value of Southern slaves in 1860 equaled "80 percent of the Gross National Product, or what today would be equivalent to \$9.75 trillion. There were good reasons why, in 1860, two-thirds of the richest Americans lived in the slaveholding South."

David Eltis, co-director of the "Voyages" project, said that the effort to launch the site had been a true collaboration of scholars and disciplines: Close to 1,000 people have contributed materials to the project since 2001, and he credited the collaboration with Martin Halbert and the team at University Libraries for providing the technical expertise and vision that enabled the project to secure funding and move forward.

Aggregating information and curating it in new ways to



The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database has information on nearly 35,000 slaving voyages. SPECIAL

make it broadly available "is really the wave of the future," said Halbert, director of digital innovations for Emory Libraries. "What we and others are seeing in 'Voyages' is a model for scholarship and research in the 21st century."

"The conversation sparked at this gathering and the explorations of 'Voyages' that began during the conference will continue far into the future," said Luce.

Leslie Harris, associate professor of African American studies and history, chaired a graduate student panel and noted the number of people — non-academics — from Atlanta who attended "and were highly interested in the research and its meaning for society today."

The conversations we had at the conference were informed by a true diversity of opinion, from within and outside academia, and that really made for a stimulating, thought-provoking experience."

One result of the conference is that the University of Hull in England will "mirror" the Web site. Eventually, says Eltis, the

plan is for the "Voyages" site to be mirrored in locations around the world, which will safeguard against bandwidth overloads or server crashes and help improve the site's performance.

Just one day after its debut, "Voyages" Web site had its busiest day ever, with 183,957 pages viewed by 7,901 visitors on Dec. 6. From Dec. 1-9 the site had 454,280 pages viewed by 22,828 visitors.

For those who missed the conference, a recording of sessions will be available at Emory on iTunes U. An accompanying exhibit on "Voyages" is currently on display in the hallway outside the Jones Room, and will on display through March 15.

Two recent books based on the project are published by Yale University Press: "Extending the Frontiers: Essays on the New Transatlantic Slave Trade Database," edited by Eltis and David Richardson of the University of Hull (September 2008) and the forthcoming "Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade" featuring 170 maps that draw on data from the project.

Call for action against trafficking

"Despite the abolition of [one of] the largest human trafficking movements in recorded history, the practice continues illegally around the world," said Rick Luce in his opening remarks at the "Voyages" conference, marking the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

"The U.S. State Department has estimated that at least 600,000 to 800,000 men, women and children are trafficked across international borders each year. As we explore the Trans-Atlantic slave trade of two centuries ago, let us resolve at the close of this important anniversary year that we will do what we can to bring an end to human trafficking in our own time, as well."